



# Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

## November 22, 2015

### Pastor's Column

Rev. Michael Ratajczak  
760-758-4100 x100  
michaelr@stmoside.org

#### In the Season of Thanksgiving—A Lifetime of Gratitude

In this month of November, in a special way, due to the national holiday of Thanksgiving, we turn our thoughts to thankfulness and gratitude. Hopefully, gratitude is not a seasonal “thing”, but a way of life for us.

Our lives as Catholics are based on the Eucharist. We are a Eucharistic people. The word Eucharist means “thanksgiving.” We begin and end each day with a prayer of gratitude for all that God has given and continues to give, if we are only aware!

As we make our way to Thanksgiving Day, may it be a time that propels us to be a thankful people not only in season, but also all year long.

What prayer will you pray as family and friends gather together around the Thanksgiving Dinner Table? I encourage you to make sure that a prayer is said before the meal is served!

In the event that you are looking for a special prayer to be prayed, I share with you the “The Canticle of the Creatures” by St. Francis of Assisi:

*Most High, all powerful, good God,  
all praise is yours, all glory, all honor, and all blessing.*

*To you, alone, Most High, do they belong.*

*No mortal lips are worthy to pronounce your name.*

*All praise be yours, my God, through all you have made,  
and first my lord Brother Sun, who brings the day;  
and through whom you give us light.*

*How beautiful is he, how radiant in all his splendor;  
of you, Most High, he bears the likeness.*

*All praise be yours, my God,  
through Sister Moon and the stars;  
in the heavens you have made them, bright,  
precious, and fair.*

*All praise be yours, my God, through Brothers Wind and Air, and fair and stormy,  
all the weather's moods,  
by which you cherish all that you have made.*

*All praise be yours, my God, through Sister Water,  
so useful, humble, precious and pure.*

*All praise be yours, my God, through Brother Fire,  
through whom you brighten up the night.  
How beautiful is he, how cheerful!  
Full of power and strength.*

*All praise be yours, my God,  
through our Sister Mother Earth,  
who sustains us and governs us,  
and produces various fruits with colored flowers and herbs.*

*All praise be yours, my God,  
through those who grant pardon for love of you;  
through those who endure sickness and trial.*

*Happy are those who endure in peace,  
by You, Most High, they will be crowned.*

*All praise be yours, my God, through Sister Death,  
from whose embrace no mortal can escape.*

*Woe to those who die in their sins!  
Happy those she finds doing your will!  
The second death can do them no harm.*

*Praise and bless my God, and give God thanks  
and serve God with great humility.*

As you plan your calendars for Thanksgiving Day, I encourage you to make morning Mass a part of the day.

Our Mass on Thanksgiving Day here at St. Thomas More will be on Thursday, November 26, at 9:00am.

Hope to see you there!

*Fr. Mike*