



MASSES FOR THE WEEK
November 21—November 27
EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR
THE INTENTIONS OF EVERYONE
PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 4:00 p.m. Dorothy Adams; Ree Alario; Bobby Comeaux; Marlene Morris; Barbara Rush; Gladys & Louis Schwartz Anna & Joseph Szabo; Captain Houston E. Walker
- 5:30 p.m. Julian Chiro, Jr.; Leona O'Dwyer; Father Timothy Pieris

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 8:00 a.m. Members of St. Patrick's Church (Propopulo)
- 9:30 a.m. Juan M. Ayala; Roberta W. Bruley; Jane O. Chatelain; Gerald Constant; Kelsey Favrot; Raymond E. Gardofalo, Sr.; Joseph Maselli; Norma McClellan; John H. Schroder, Jr.; Jerome J. Triche, Sr.
- 11:00 a.m. Dorothy Montalbano; Barbara Rush; Gladys & Louis Schwartz; Father Marneni B. Showraiah; Anna & Joseph Szabo; Captain Houston E. Walker
- 5:30 p.m. Raymond R. Cazzola, Jr.; Anna M. DiGange; Leona O'Dwyer; Conchetta C. Salvaggio; Mark A. Toups

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Angie Gillette; Dr. & Nancy Minyard; Edward O'Dwyer; Gladys & Louis Schwartz; Anna & Joseph Szabo

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

- 11:30 a.m. Edward O'Dwyer
- 12:00 p.m. Michelle Daigle; Elisabeth Robert; Gladys & Louis Schwartz; Anna & Joseph Szabo

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Loretta Dousson; Eric Hansen; Stephen Losee; Jane McRedmond; Dr. & Nancy Minyard; Gladys & Louis Schwartz; Anna & Joseph Szabo; Betsy S. Weigel; Hazel & Robert Wells

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- 9:00 a.m. Woodrow & Stella Bergeron; Gladys & Louis Schwartz; Anna & Joseph Szabo

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- 11:30 a.m. Purgatorial List
- 12:00 p.m. Loretta Dousson; Diana Kaikaris; Stephen Losee; Edward O'Dwyer; Elisabeth Robert; Gladys & Louis Schwarz; Anna & Joseph Szabo

GREGORIAN LATIN MASS—Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
Last Sunday after Pentecost
Solemn High Mass—First Sunday of the month.
Benediction—Third Sunday after the 9:30 A.M. Mass.

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS

Hospitality and friendship in Reynolds Hall, after the Sunday morning Masses.

SUNDAY OFFERING—November 15, 2009

First Collection \$ 14,974
Second Collection* \$ 3,532

* Women's New Life Center

ST. PATRICK'S THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE



Thursday, Nov. 26, 2009—Mass: 9:00 A.M.
Friday, Nov. 27, 2009—Mass: 11:30 A.M. & 12:00 P.M.

The church will be open only during the scheduled Masses on Thursday and Friday. The rectory office will be closed both days of the Thanksgiving holiday. **Happy Thanksgiving!**

SAINT PATRICK'S RESPECT LIFE GROUP

Saint Patrick's Respect Life Group, led by Father Klores, will pray a rosary in front of Louisiana's largest abortion facility, on the corner of Ridgelake Drive and 20th Street in Metairie, **Saturday, November 28, 2009 at 9:00 A.M.** Prayers will offered for the babies who are scheduled to be killed, their mothers and fathers, and the conversion of our country. Everyone is invited!

OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE

Let's decorate our Christmas tree here at St. Patrick's!

Sunday, November 29, 2009

In the rectory, after the 8:00 A.M.; 9:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. Masses It is time to decorate our tree and light the lights. Bring an ornament, and some good ideas, to make our tree the brightest on Camp St., then everyone will know the Christ child is coming. All are invited to enjoy the friendship and good spirit of St. Patrick's members and guests. A lite brunch will be served. For more information: 525-4413.

THE OFFICIAL DEDICATION CONCERT OF ST. PATRICK'S NEW PATRICK J. MURPHY ORGAN, OP.53

Sunday, December 6, 2009 at 3:00 P.M.

To be performed by concert and recording organist Thomas Murray, the University Organist and Professor of Music at Yale University. All are invited and encourage to attend. There will be a reception in the rectory immediately following the concert.

SACRED CHRISTMAS MUSIC—SARAH JANE MCMAHON

Friday, December 11, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

St. Patrick's Church

New Orleans soprano, Sarah Jane McMahon, will perform a concert of Sacred Christmas Music from her new album, *Night of Silence*.

The public is invited - Free admission - **Security will be provided.**

For information - www.sarahjanemcmahon.com

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

The St. Patrick's Chorale, who sing at the 11:00 A.M. Sunday Mass, will perform a service of lessons and carols. This service was first performed at King's College, Cambridge on Christmas Eve 1918. The service will be by candlelight, and accompanied by organ. A collection will be taken to benefit the Music Fund here at St. Patrick's. **Security will be provided.**



Flowers on the altar this weekend and Thanksgiving Day are in loving memory of Gladys and Louis Schwartz and The Szabo Family



The Living Flame of the Sanctuary Light is for the intentions of Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Ramirez

PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers especially: Randall Cashio; Mary Ann Ciravolo; Tony Clesi; Colleen Collet; L Darcy; R.J. DeBlanc; R.F. DeBlanc; Al Duroncelet; Bryan Evans; Mimi Finley; John Fulcher; Marie Gattuso; Bob Held; Howard Henriques; Milton J. Hock, Jr.; Karen Ibraheim; Joan Kimball; Belinda Lazaro; Stephen Losee; Mary A. McKay; Sally Ann Main; Maudie Megeson; Lucille Ogden; Beverly Orillion; Karen Paprocki; J.Van Provosty; Tom Roach; Elisabeth Robert; M. Schuss; Joseph M. Sonne; Pierre Stouse; Stephanie Summers

CHRIST THE KING

TURKEY ON THE SIDE

How to Catholicize Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day means lots of things to Americans: overeating a big turkey dinner, watching football...

Wait a minute. In his classic *Handbook of Christian Feasts and Customs* (Harcourt Brace, 1958), Jesuit Father Francis Weiser described how people across many places and centuries have celebrated annual thanksgivings whose first purpose was to thank God for his bountiful blessings.

The Jews were commanded to celebrate a thanksgiving upon conclusion of the harvest (Deuteronomy 16:9-17). By medieval times, Christians in much of Western and Central Europe were celebrating Martinmas, what Father Weiser calls “the actual Thanksgiving Day of the Middle Ages.” For this harvest festival on Nov. 11, the feast of St. Martin of Tours, folks followed holy Mass with games, dancing and a festive dinner featuring roast goose and St. Martin’s wine, the harvest’s first batch.

Once settled in the New World, the English Pilgrims switched from scarce goose to plentiful wild turkey — or possibly deer — and officially proclaimed their second Thanksgiving in New England a day of prayer to thank God for delivering them from starvation and drought.

After George Washington decreed a national Thanksgiving Day for Nov. 26, 1789, most citizens desired “a national Thanksgiving Day,” wrote Father Weiser, “that would unite all Americans in a festival of gratitude and public acknowledgment for all the blessings God had conferred upon the nation.” President Abraham Lincoln officially proclaimed it so in 1863.

What about today’s Catholics? How can we keep God in Thanksgiving Day and also Catholicize the occasion?

“First and foremost, attend Mass on Thanksgiving Day.” So urges Father Francis Peffley, pastor of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Gainesville, Va. After all, he reminds, the word “Eucharist” means thanksgiving.

The Catechism backs this up: “The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father, a blessing by which the Church expresses her gratitude to God for all his benefits ...” (No. 1360). And: “Through Christ the Church can offer the sacrifice of praise in thanksgiving for all that God has made good, beautiful, and just in creation and in humanity” (No. 1359).

The Mass expresses not only thanksgiving, but also adoration, praise, contrition and petition. Father Peffley explains what should naturally follow. “The greatest way we can offer and show thanks to God is to offer the greatest prayer,” he says, adding that, by attending Mass on Thanksgiving Day, we can offer our thanksgiving “for all the blessings the Lord has given us in our lives. This would be the most perfect way to give thanks to God.”

Thanksgiving can prompt prayer in unique ways. “After the Thanksgiving dinner,” suggests Father Peffley, “do a family Rosary in thanksgiving for the blessings the family has received. As Father (Patrick) Peyton would say, ‘The family that prays together stays together.’ It would be a very beneficial way to ask Our Lady’s intercession, too, for the family.”

The Catechism hints at this Thanksgiving custom. “As in the prayer of petition,” says No. 2638, “every event and need can become an offering of thanksgiving.” In fact, long before our national holiday, the Pilgrims and Martinmas, St. Paul insisted on this Thanksgiving custom. He directed us to give thanks in all circumstances because it is God’s will for us in Christ Jesus (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

... the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the greatest act of thanksgiving we could possibly offer to God. As Father Weiser reminds, “In the Catholic Church, liturgically speaking, every day of the year is ‘Thanksgiving Day.’”

Joseph Pronechen

ONE’S ETERNITY IS CHOSEN BY FIDELITY OR INFIDELITY TO CHRIST THE KING

The solemnity of Christ the King reminds us, in a special way, of life’s proper dimensions. Only God is God. Caesar is *not* God. As beautiful and precious as this world can be, it will one day end—and it will be judged by its King, who has promised to return.

Christ’s Second Coming is not a metaphor or fairy story. It is real. It will happen. And when it does, each of us will see in the flesh what we know now only by faith: Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is the center and meaning of human history. And the central thing that matters, at the end of every human life, is our relationship with him.

It’s easy to fall into the habit, as we get older, of treating our Catholic faith as a useful moral code; or a collection of warm and nostalgic sentiments; or a helpful vocabulary for making sense of life’s ambiguities; or a shrewd set of clothes for our politics. But real Christian belief is different from all of these things.

Christianity is anchored in *the person of Jesus Christ*. He died to redeem us, and we live now by the grace of his love—and also in the light of his judgment. If we do not actively seek him, know him and love him, then calling ourselves and our efforts for justice “Christian” is a sham. There is no such thing as “Christian” charity or “Christian” work for justice without first believing in Jesus Christ as our true and only king.

We need to live by our actions what we claim to believe with our words. The Catholic faith is more than a system of ideas or a set of rules. It demands much more than showing up for Mass every weekend, though obviously worshipping God and believing what the Church teaches are vitally important things. Being “Catholic” means accepting Jesus Christ as Lord, and following him as disciples through the community he created—the Church.

American Catholics, because we have so much freedom and so many material advantages, can have a hard time separating the assumptions of our political culture from the real nature of creation. We’re blessed to live in a constitutional democracy governed by law. We enrich it by bringing our faith to bear on our personal and family relationships, and our nation’s economic and political policies. But God is not an elected official. And while He loves us so zealously that He sacrificed his only son to deliver us from death, He does not serve at our pleasure. We are accountable *to Him*, not the other way around. That includes all of us and each of us.

The solemnity of Christ the King reminds us that *all* things of this world are finite. They *all* pass, even great nations, and our time here is very limited, and therefore precious. Just as the year draws to its conclusion, so too does the world. And we choose our eternity by our fidelity or infidelity to Christ the true King in our daily lives.

These are sobering thoughts. They’re meant to be. It’s good to think hard and clearly about who we really are and where our loyalties really lie. The more honest we are with ourselves, the more truly we can enter into Advent. And the more humbly we live Advent, the greater our joy—God’s liberating joy—in the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

*Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput O.F.M. CAP.
Archbishop of Denver*