

November 2017 Newsletter



As Thanksgiving approaches, we take time to thank God for the blessings in our lives: for the gift of His love, our Catholic Faith, and the love of our family and friends. We should also thank God for our religious freedom, the opportunity to worship without fear and to express our opinions without punishment. Let us also give thanks for our parish community and the individuals and families that make Our Lady of Fatima a welcoming sign of God's presence. The more we come to understand that each of us has a responsibility for this parish, the more powerful our witness can be. I invite you to participate in our Thanksgiving Day Mass, Thursday, November 23rd.

Happy Thanksgiving - Our Thanksgiving Day Mass will be held at 9AM in the Church. If you would like to help with our Outreach Program, we will have available at the exits of church a can drop for those that wish to bring a canned good to church for the needy in our parish area.

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Lord God, on this day of Thanksgiving, we ask your blessings on our family, our friends, our home, our health, and on this food, we are about to eat. We thank you for this time together and the many gifts that you have given us. Help us to remember in this time of bounty those less fortunate. And may your love consume us all that we might share in your glory.



On Sunday, October 22nd, our annual **Harvest Bingo featuring Designer Bags** was held in the parish hall. We had attendance near 90 people. A great time was had by all. Our next scheduled bingo will be held on **Sunday, April 15, 2018**.

Our Beloved Dead – Please see the attached flyer with the names of those who have gone before us for the year 2017. A Mass was celebrated on **All Souls Day, November 2nd at 6PM** for all those listed.

Our last presentation on the 100th Anniversary of Fatima was held on Wednesday, November 15th. Msgr. Brubaker had a great crowd each month as we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima.

Check out our Scrip Card Program brochure attached. We have many options available for you to use for Christmas Gifts, Birthday Gifts or just "Because" gifts.





All Saints Catholic School – All Saints is offering a “Little Saints” program to their elementary school. An opportunity to experience this program was held on November 1st from 9AM to 11AM. The experience was free. Let’s pray that the program will take off for our “Little Saints” four-year old’s.

All Saints School also celebrated a **Veteran’s Day Appreciation on Monday, November 13th from 7:40AM** to Noon. Lunch was provided and a visitation of the classrooms. All Saints Catholic School also held a resale on Saturday, November 11, 2017 from 9AM – 1PM for those who wished to purchase slightly used items for newborns, toddlers and young teens.

McCrery & Harra are looking for a bi-lingual person who might be interested in pursuing a career in the funeral service industry. They were urged to call Todd at 302-478-2204.

Due to security issues, church side and back doors will be locked just after the Mass begins. If you are running late, please use the front entrance of church to enter God’s house. Thank you.

The Word Among us: Our subscription to the ***Word Among Us*** is ending the end of December. If you are interested in obtaining a subscription you may go online and order at wau.org/advent4. They are offering a two for one discount which expires on April 30, 2018. They also have available digital editions at a very cost-effective price.

The Magnificat – If you are interested in purchasing a copy of the Magnificat each month, they have a pocket size convenient booklet for purchase. You may go online at www.magnificat.com to see their special pricing. Your prayer life will never be the same.



Advent Begins: The first Sunday of Advent begins **December 3rd, 2017**.

Upcoming Holy Day – Immaculate Conception – Mass held at 7PM on Friday, December 8, 2017.



Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration will be held on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 7PM. A celebration in the hall to follow.

First Reconciliation for PREP students – Saturday, December 9th, 2017 at 10AM in Church.

Everyone is invited.



Combined Parish Reconciliation with ***Holy Spirit, St. Peter’s & Our Lady of Fatima*** will be held here at Our Lady of Fatima on Thursday, December 14th at 7PM in the church. All are invited.



Reclaiming Holy Days:

No mechanisms today exist to support your holy day celebrations, but don’t be surprised if other people notice what you’re doing and ask you about it. There is a hunger in our world for spiritual meaning and purpose in life, a constant need to celebrate what is good and holy. By reclaiming Holy Days of Obligation, you may start a groundswell of interest and enthusiasm in your home, your parish, and your community.





Our Beloved Dead 2017



Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

*Frances Sammons
Carol Bailey
Ronald Bailey
Myrtle Bailey
Justin Hurley
John Martin Heller
Marie Dunlap
Rosemary Van Dusen
John J. DiPersio II
William Gula
Lillian Riccio
Carmen Leoto
Eleanor Brett
Robert T. Henry
Helen Henry
William Lee Barben
Richard Nasatka
Catherine Rees
John T. Leonard
Mildred McCarthy
Tyler Hyland
Louis Donald Patterson
John Chadwick
James Gilfillan
Charles Brice
Peter Kim
Sr. Helene Joseph Balbach OSF
Fernand Lorang*

*Thomas Riley
Vivian McHugh
Robert E. Lynch
Timothy O'Riordan
Tina McElroy
Raymond Frederique
Br. John Dochkus OSFS
Bernice Alfes
Rudolph Feldman
Olivia & Edgar Byrd
Cesar Pascual
Paul Mulrooney
Amy Hagopian
John Robert Curtis
Gregory Kuchak
Irene Olzewski
Raymond Justison
Mariah Irene Gall
Frank Archer
Thomas Driscoll
Nichole Malizia
Nicholas Cantlin
Willard Talley
David Wayne Blevins
Robert Malone
Ines Gabriela Ramirez
Mary & Peter Curtin*

A FINAL TRIBUTE

*Relatives and friends, when I left you,
my last breath did not say "goodbye"
for my love for you is truly timeless,
beyond the touch of death.
I leave myself to your memory with love.*

*I leave my thoughts, my laughter, my dreams
to you whom I have treasured
beyond gold and precious gems.
I give you what no thief can steal,
the memories of our time together:
the tender, love-filled moments,
the successes we have shared,
the hard times that brought us closer together
and the roads we have walked side by side.*

*I also leave you a solemn promise
that after I am home in the bosom of God,
I will still be present,
whenever and wherever you call on me.
My energy will be drawn to you
by the magnet of our love.
Whenever you are in need, call me;
I will come to you,
with my arms full of wisdom and light
to open up your blocked paths,
to untangle your knots
and to be your avenue to God.*

*And all I take with me as I leave
is your love and the millions of memories
of all that we have shared.
Fear not nor grieve at my departure,
you whom I have loved so much,
for my roots and yours
are forever intertwined.*

SANTA NOT SURE WHAT TO BRING THIS YEAR? Don't Leave him empty handed!! Gifts cards make great gifts for those "hard to buy for" people on your Christmas list. Make them happy with a SCRIP card. SCRIP cards are gift cards that you can purchase right here at Our Lady Fatima after every Mass. You can make your family and friends happy and support our parish at the same time.

Make the reindeer's load lite this year!!! Make sure you stop by our table at the south exit (across from the Chapel) after Mass and make sure you get all that you need.

If you we don't have what you need on hand, we will be happy to order it for you! We began taking orders after every Mass. In addition to our usual location, we will also have a table set up in the front lobby of the church after every Mass for your convenience.

Orders must be placed by Sunday, December 15th to ensure arrival before Christmas

Please feel free to complete the Order Form below and turn it into us at the end of Mass. Don't worry, if you don't remember to bring it with you, we will have plenty of forms on hand! REMEMBER, there is no fee and SCRIP cards do not depreciate! **WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND WISH YOU A BLESSED HOLIDAY SEASON!**

We are raffling off a \$100 gift card of your choice. Chances can be purchased at the scrip table. Cost is \$1.00 per chance or 3 chances for \$2.00. Drawing will be held on December 23rd.

Weekly SCRIP order Form

Date: _____

Instructions:

1. Enter the quantity of scrip for the desired dollar amount in the boxes below.
2. Enter the total dollar for each amount.
3. Orders will be placed on Tuesday and will be available to pick-up the following weekend.
4. Payment must be made when you pick up your order. Please make check payable to "Our Lady of Fatima".

Name: _____ Telephone _____

NAME OF CARD	QUANTITY	VALUE OF CARD	TOTAL COST
		\$	\$

TOTAL Order: \$ _____

Some Participating Companies:

Amazon.com	Express	JoAnn Fabrics	Sunoco
Baby's R Us	Exxon	Kmart	Target
Barns & Noble	Foot Locker	Lowes	Toys R Us
Bath and Body Works	Gap	Marshalls	Walmart
Bed Dunkin Donuts	Gymboree	Men's Wares	Wawa
Best Buy	Holiday Hair	Michael's	Many Restaurants
Boscov's	Home Depot	Neiman Marcus	Many Grocery Stores
Claire's	iTunes	Old Navy	
Cold Water Creek	J. Crew	Regal Cinemas	
DSW (Designer Shoes)	JC Penney	Sears	

More can be seen at www.glscrip.com

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Here is the origin of Thanksgiving Day, as well as decoration suggestions, grace before and after the dinner, and an explanation of the perfect thanksgiving, which is the Mass. **DIRECTIONS** It looks like a happy coincidence that our American feast of Thanksgiving should come at the end of the Church year where properly a thanksgiving ought to come, but actually it is no coincidence at all. The Pilgrim's feast was another manifestation of the sense of God that is common in all men, and the need they have for giving thanks to Him. Everywhere men have had thanksgiving feasts to whatever gods they worshipped, celebrating their harvests, the end of their journeys, and their protection under a divine providence.

For thousands of years before a rite and feast of thanksgiving was dictated in the Law of Moses, their forms appeared everywhere, out of the instinct of man. After the Exodus, the One True God made it a law for the Jews. Three times every year you shall celebrate feasts to me: Thou shall keep the feast of the unleavened bread. . . . And the feast of the harvest of the firstfruits of thy work. . . . The feast also in the end of the year, when thou hast gathered in all thy corn out of the field. (Exod. 23:14-17) Perhaps Elder Brewster held this in mind when he and Governor Bradford and the others planned the Pilgrim prayer meeting and the feast of thanks to follow. God gave explicit instructions to the Jews. Thou shalt celebrate the solemnity also of tabernacles seven days, when thou . . . make merry in thy festival time, thou, thy son, and thy daughter, thy manservant and thy maidservant, the Levite also and the stranger, and the fatherless, and the widow that are within thy gates.

Seven days shalt thou celebrate feasts to the Lord thy God in the place which the Lord shall choose; and the Lord thy God will bless thee in all thy fruits, and in every work of thy hands, and thou shalt be in joy (Deut. 16:13). For the Pilgrims, the "stranger within the gates" was Massasoit and some ninety of the Wampanoags who had helped the Pilgrims clear ground, plant crops, and hunt game that first difficult year. There were fatherless and widows, you may be sure: of the original one hundred and two, only fifty remained, twenty-nine of them women and children, some with familiar names, some with strange. There were the Carvers and the Bradfords and the Allertons, Priscilla Mullins who would marry John Alden, and Myles Standish in charge of their military affairs. The Hopkins children were Constantia, Damaris, and Oceanus, and among the other children were Desire Minter, Resolved White, Humility Cooper, Love and Wrestling Brewster and a baby named Peregrine White who was born on the Mayflower and probably never knew he bore the name of a half dozen martyrs.

Governor Bradford and Elder Brewster had been with the original group who left Scrooby in England, went to Leyden in Holland, and finally set out for the new England. They were Bible-living Christians, no more tolerant of the religious convictions of others than the Church of England was of their own, but neither is that new under the sun. Even with the ancient form of worship unrecognizable after its truncation, limping after its dismemberment, the instinct to worship is still common; if there is a meeting point left anywhere, this it is. This is the beginning point of the struggle for unity among men who two hundred years before would have offered in thanksgiving "from among Thy gifts bestowed upon us, a victim perfect, holy and spotless, the holy bread of everlasting life and the chalice of everlasting salvation." We must not think of ourselves as islands of "tolerant" men, worshipping in the way that is most pleasing to each. There is a true way, taught by One Who said, "I am the Way, and the Truth and the Life." We must go all the way in our desire to bring all men to His Way, meeting them where we can meet them, sharing warmly with them at least the desire to give some kind of praise, some kind of thanks. They marched to the fort to the roll of drums, held prayer meeting, sang Psalms in thanksgiving, then gathered round the festive tables. Massasoit and his people brought five deer as their offering. Governor Bradford sent Pilgrim men to the forest with Indians to hunt wild turkey, and they brought down wild geese, duck and water fowl as well. The women cooked cod and shell fish, prepared barley loaves, corn bread, and vegetables from the harvest of their tiny fields. These are the things our children learn in school about this great national feast of Thanksgiving, and they love to hear the stories that go with the preparations.

It is part of our history. Tell them, if they do not know, that George Washington made it a national feast by proclamation in 1789, with words of homage to the One True God: Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly implore his protection, aid and favors. . . . Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, Who is the Beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country, and for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer on us. And in 1867 Abraham Lincoln reaffirmed the observance by another Thanksgiving proclamation.

If they should visit Plymouth one day, they would find the William Harlow house there, built in 1677 from the timbers of the old fort, where in the springtime Plymouth school children follow the Pilgrim custom and plant in the yard corn and flax, 'when the oak leaves are the size of a mouse's ear.' The corn is fertilized with alewives from Town Brook, three to the hill. Let them mark the calendar in their own kitchen, for April or May or whenever the oak leaves peek out, mouse-like, in your countryside, and plant some corn and flax of their own. They may not spin the flax, but it has a beautiful blue blossom, exactly the color for bouquets for Our Lady; and once they know the plant they will begin to notice how often flax and fine linen and linen cloth are mentioned in their favorite stories from Holy Scripture. Preparing for the Feast Pine cone turkeys are made for Thanksgiving by almost every schoolchild in America. Although no novelty, they are one of the symbols of the feast. Our children never tire of making them. They are decorative as place favors, or all together (if you have a large family with a turkey for each) they are an amusingly large flock of turkeys. Pine cones, pipe cleaners, cupcake papers and crayons are the materials. The pine cone is used "sideways," with the top for the turkey's head, the flat bottom part for his tail. A pipe cleaner is twisted around the top. The end sticking out as the turkey's neck is daubed with lipstick for red wattles.

Another pipe cleaner is twisted around the bottom, with two ends sticking out and turned under for feet. A cupcake paper is folded in half, colored bright colors in the little ridged sections, and this is slipped between the petals of the cone for the turkey's tail. Several years ago we typed out individual copies of a "long" Grace before Meals, Monica decorated them with little figures praying, and we have used these each year as our special Thanksgiving Grace. They are a bit greasy now, what with all those turkey dinners rubbed off on them; but they have become so traditional a part of our Thanksgiving that we are loath to make new copies. Since it may be used at any time, it is not accurately called

Grace before Thanksgiving Dinner — but that is what it is for our family.

Father. Bless ye.

All. Bless ye.

Father. The eyes of all hope in Thee, O Lord.

All. And Thou gives them their food in due season. Thou openest Thy hand, and fillest with blessing every living creature.

Father. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

All. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Father. Lord, have mercy on us.

All. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us. (The Our Father, silently.)

Father. And lead us not into temptation.

All. But deliver us from evil. Amen. Father. Let us pray. Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive. Through Christ, Our Lord.

All. Amen. Grace after Thanksgiving Dinner (Suggestion: Say this as soon as all are finished with dessert; then the children may leave to play, and the grownups may stay and talk.)

Father. Do Thou, O Lord, have mercy on us.

All. Thanks be to God.

Father. Let all Thy works, O Lord, praise Thee.

All. And let all Thy Saints bless Thee.

Father. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

All. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Father. We give Thee thanks, O Almighty God, for all Thy benefits. Who livest and reignest world without end.

All. Amen. Now we are prepared for our feast. Dinner is planned; the silver is polished; the linen is ready; the Grace is copied for each one. The turkeys are made for decorations; the cranberry sauce is molded; the stuffing is prepared, and the sauce for the onions; and the celery is crisping ahead of time. When the morning of our feast day has come, let us offer Him in Thanksgiving.

The Mass: The Perfect Thanksgiving

Men have not only prayed in thanksgiving, but have offered in thanksgiving: something that was a sign of themselves, to show they were thankful for life, were sorry for their sins against the Giver of life, would give their lives in return, if they might, to the One they owe so much. They made offerings in thanks for the things that sustain life, for the preservation of life. "Abel also offered of the firstlings of his flock, and of their fat." . . . "So Noe went out, he and his sons, his wife and the wives of his sons . . . all living things went out of the ark. And Noe built an altar unto the Lord: and taking of all cattle and fowl that were dean, offered holocausts upon the altar. . . ." They made bloody offerings, because the offering is a symbol of the offerer, and blood is the essence of life. Blood is life. There were other offerings. . . . "Melchidesech, the king of Salem, bringing forth bread and wine, for he was the priest of the most high God, blessed him and said: Blessed be Abram by the most high God, who created heaven and earth." . . . Because bread maintains life, and wine enhances life. God told them what to sacrifice, and how to sacrifice; but especially He told them to make the sacrifice of the Pasch, because it was a memorial to their freedom and their protection, a memorial of thanksgiving to the God who loved them. ". . . and it shall be a lamb without blemish, a male, one year . . . and the whole multitude of the children of Israel shall sacrifice it in the evening." . . . "And this day shall be a memorial unto you: and you shall keep it a feast to the Lord . . . for with a strong hand the Lord hath brought you out of this place." He brought them through water, led them by fire, fed them with manna, and when they sinned against Him, He chastised them and accepted their sacrifices of expiation. He made it part of their Law, their Covenant, that they were to offer sacrifice: of reparation, of petition, of praise, of thanksgiving. Then Christ came. When it was time for the thing to happen for which He came, He said to the Apostles: "This is My body, which is being given for you; do this, in remembrance of Me." And He said: "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which shall be shed for you." This was the new covenant, the new Pasch . . . "in My blood," He said. From that moment on they were to make sacrifice "in My blood."

The offering is a symbol of the offerer. Blood is the essence of life. This is our gift to offer: His Body and Blood, every day. Think of all the things the Redemption accomplished, and do not forget this last: to put into our hands the perfect Gift, the pure Victim — "holy and spotless, the holy bread of everlasting life and the chalice of everlasting salvation." With the sacrifice of Holy Mass, Catholics make their thanksgiving.

Activity Source: Year and Our Children, The by Mary Reed Newland, P.J. Kenedy & Sons, New York, 1956

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December Calendar

<http://olfnewcastle.com/wp-content/uploads/December-2017.pdf>