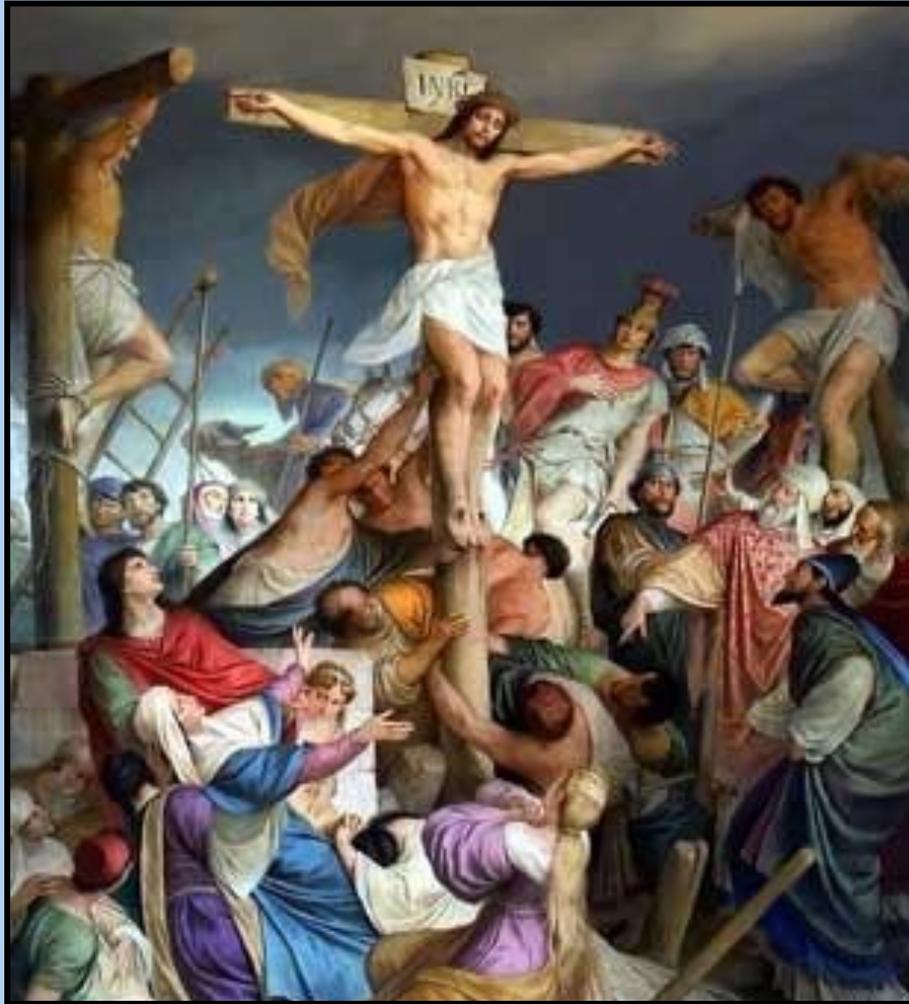


# THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

## November 20, 2022



### *Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church*

516 East 13th Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503  
814.452.6606  
[www.ststanserie.org](http://www.ststanserie.org)  
email: [ststaner@outlook.com](mailto:ststaner@outlook.com)

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor  
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate  
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary  
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM  
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

**Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:**  
**Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM**  
**\* Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**

### *Holy Trinity Catholic Church*

2220 Reed Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503  
814.456.0671  
[www.holytrinityrc.org](http://www.holytrinityrc.org)  
email: [parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org](mailto:parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org)

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor  
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate  
Mary Ann Merski, Secretary  
Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM  
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

**Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:**  
**Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM**  
**\* Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**



# Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

## Partners in Faith & Mission



November 20, 2022

### Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

It's not unreasonable to think that if God wanted to make a statement he could do so in a very dramatic way. After all, he spoke through a burning bush that didn't actually burn, parted the Red Sea, sent manna to the Israelites from the sky, cured lepers, healed the sick and cast out demons. All of that is pretty dramatic stuff, and they made statements! Now, Jesus hangs dying on a cross. He has been referred to as a king. Considering all of the miracles Jesus did in his short time on earth, isn't one more in order? If Jesus came down off of the cross, defied death, and parted the waters of suffering and death, onlookers, believers and unbelievers alike, would take notice. It would prove who God is and show us what God wants us to do. Or would it?

Great spiritual masters remind us not to focus on miracles or consolations received from God. They can distract us. Doing anything other than what Jesus did would distract humanity as well, misplacing our focus. It's not about a miracle, at least not the dramatic kind people are eager to see. It's about something more profound. It all goes back to where it began for the earthly Jesus. God becomes one with humanity in Jesus Christ. All that goes into being human is holy and blessed, and that becomes a place where God is born, again and again. God, through Jesus, tells us to hold firm to all of the experiences of being human, the joys and the wonders, the disappointments and the failures.

God's lesson is found in Jesus' vulnerability. It is only when we are vulnerable that we learn how to love. When Jesus breathed his last, God's unconditional and tender love was realized. Jesus always had a soft spot for the weak, lost, vulnerable, and broken. God wants us to come to Him freely, not because we have witnessed some fantastic display of prowess. God desires that we find Him through who we are, as our hearts and souls direct. This will mean that our love is authentic as it will be born of the heartache, pain, and turmoil that are a part of life. The fragments of our lives need to be made whole. Our fragmented king, Jesus Christ, is the only one who can help put the pieces together.

### Readings for the week of November 20, 2022

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-5/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43  
 Monday: Rv 14:1-5/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 21:1-4  
 Tuesday: Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96:10-13/Lk 21:5-11  
 Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1-3, 7-9/Lk 21:12-19  
 Thursday: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 21:20-28  
 Friday: Rv 20:1-4, 11-21:2/Ps 84:3-8/Lk 21:29-33  
 Saturday: Rv 22:1-7/Ps 95:1-7/Lk 21:34-36  
 Next Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

**Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation** programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

**Confirmation** preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint Luke's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.6920).

**Sacrament of Holy Orders:** God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Scott Jabo, at 1.814.824.1181.

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

**Leave A Legacy:** Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

**Bulletin Information Deadline:** Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

*Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity  
Partners in Faith & Mission*

**"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY**

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

**"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY**

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452.3395) from St. Stanislaus, or Kathy (392-8974) at Holy Trinity.

**PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)**

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

**"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY**

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Sue (450-2987).

**THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"**

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray (882-1032).

**PROLIFE COMMUNITY**

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

**"PRAYER CANDLE" MAKING MINISTRY**

This ministry makes prayer candles from the church's left over bee's wax. They meet on Wednesdays, from 10AM - Noon in St. Stanislaus Parish Hall. No experience necessary.

**ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM**

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check:  New Registration  Change of Address  Change of Telephone Number

Change of E-mail  Moving out of Parish  Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.  
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

*A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome*

# Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Nov. 21st - Private Intention  
 Tues., Nov. 22nd - Virginia Freda (H. Angeloff)  
 Wed., Nov. 23rd - Kelly Lanutti (H. Angeloff)  
 Thurs., Nov. 24th - [9:00AM Mass at Holy Trinity]  
 Fri., Nov. 25th - Helen Fromknecht (Honey Girl & Tammy)  
 Sat., Nov. 26th, 4:00PM - Chester & Richard Radomski (Family)  
 Sun., Nov. 27th, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)



Our sanctuary candle burns for A  
**SPECIAL INTENTION IN  
 THANKSGIVING.**



## HOLIDAY SCRIP ORDER SCHEDULE

**Order On: November 12th & 13th**  
**Pick Up On: November 19th & 20th**

**Order On: November 26th & 27th**  
**Pick Up On: December 3rd & 4th**

**Order On: December 10th & 11th**  
**Pick Up On: December 17th & 18th**

**NO SCRIP on December 24th & 25th**

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!

### IN MEMORIUM

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Patricia Krysiak and another for Rose Marie "Babe" Niedzwicki on Monday, November 7th. Please keep them and their family and friends in your prayers. "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord..."

### SSJ DINNER: NOVEMBER 21st

The dinner the sisters will be serving on November 21st will be a Thanksgiving Dinner. It will be served as a sit-down meal. The sisters are asking for about 25 pies that day. If you want to donate a frozen pie, please bake it at home first (then, they can be refrozen and later thawed on the morning of the 21st). Homemade fruit or cream pies are appreciated, too. You can bring them to church on the weekend of November 19-20th, or bring them to the Nazareth Center between 2-3:00PM on the 21st.

### BABY ITEMS COLLECTION

Our Pro-Life Community is collecting various baby items (such as diapers, wipes, baby bottles, etc.) through the month of November. If you have items you would like to donate, please bring them over the weekend and leave them in the foyer of the church, or drop them off at the Parish Office during regular business hours.

### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Women's Society Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 4th at the Third Street Polish Falcons from Noon—3PM. Members, parishioners, and guests are welcome to attend. The cost for the meal is \$15 per person. Call Sharon or Tom at 814.790.1226 for reservations. Reservations are needed by Tuesday, December 29th.

### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Our Women's Society is sponsoring a Christmas Raffle — two \$500 cash prizes will be drawn on Sunday, December 4th at their annual Christmas party. Tickets are available from member of the society, at the church, and in the Parish Office. Tickets are \$5 each. Thank you, in advance, for your support!

### MINISTRY FORMATION

All Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, as well as those interested in engaging in one or both of these ministries, are encouraged to attend a very brief ministry formation meeting on Sunday, November 20th, following the 9AM Mass. It is our intention to restore our use of Eucharistic Ministers on the First Sunday of Advent (which is November 27th).

### CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS

It is hard to imagine, but our Environment Committee is already beginning to plan our Christmas decorating! It is their desire to "update" some of our decoration that have been used for years. If you are interested in contributing to this endeavor, simply mark an envelope "Christmas" and drop it in the collection basket.

### WEEKLY OFFERING (NOVEMBER 13, 2022)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$83,120.00
Amount Received	\$2,223.00	\$49,529.00
Net over/under	(\$1,933.00)	(\$33,591.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 43; 9:00AM = 59  
 Envelopes: 59/168



# Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **RITA LUNIEWSKI**, as gifted by Ray, Eddie, and Roman.



11/24 - Daniel Brieger  
11/27 - Theresa Tomczak & Keith Zambrzycki

## MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Nov. 21st - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)  
Tues., Nov. 22nd - All Souls  
Wed., Nov. 23rd - All Deceased Mothers  
Thurs., Nov. 24th, 9AM - Chester & Regina Loncki (The Sulecki Family)  
Fri., Nov. 25th - All Deceased Fathers  
Sat., Nov. 26th, 5:15PM - Doris Daub (Jack & Sandy Kempisty)  
Sun., Nov. 27th, 10:30AM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)

## IS CHRIST KING IN OUR HEARTS?

When you think of a king, who is the first person to pop into your head? It may depend on how much history you know, or which historical period intrigues you the most. As Americans, the first person we might think of is King George III, whose reign has become synonymous in our national lore with the concept of tyranny. We don't have much familiarity with kingship in modern American society. Kings tend to make us uneasy. Presidents, on the other hand — we can handle those, because we know we are a president's boss. No matter how much power he has, we are the electorate. We are the source of that power. We're comfortable with this arrangement. But with kings it is profoundly different. Traditionally, the king derives his power from God. His rule bridges humanity with the divine. We should reflect carefully on whether or not we have made Jesus Christ king in our hearts, or whether we regard him as a president. The difference isn't just one of titles, it's one of roles. Subjects do not demand anything of a king. They beseech. They entreat. They submit, and they accept. Do we demand of Christ, or do we beseech? Do we tolerate God's edicts with grumbling, or do we embrace His word as the means of our reconciliation with Him? The "good thief" treated Christ as a king. His counterpart treated him as a president. And it's worth remembering that Jesus Christ is not the President of the Universe.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## MERCY CENTER FOR WOMEN GIVING TREE

This year we will again have a giving tree for the Christmas season to benefit the Mercy Center for Women. Starting the weekend of November 26-27, the tree will be up with cards to take with gift ideas for the women and children in residence there. Please feel free to place unwrapped items under the tree and they will be delivered promptly for the holiday season. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

## MARRIAGE MOMENT

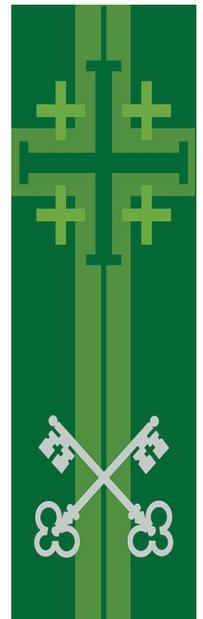
During this week of Thanksgiving, take a moment to share with each other one thing that makes you thankful for your beloved and your marriage.

## CONGRATULATIONS

...to Ella Rae Chrispen, daughter of Melissa Winarski and Trevor Chrispen, who was baptized at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday, November 13.

K C W C R E V I L E D X  
I J T O D A Y R C S I P  
N K I N G J E R A N C A  
G E S D E M I M S E R R  
D C B E E M E C O E I A  
O Q R M I N R M L R M D  
M E B N S I E W D E E I  
D E A A P S M T I D S S  
R L V T S E N T E N C E  
S E I I R U L E R S E P  
F O A O M J E W S X I T  
N H K N R E B U K I N G

rulers	sneered	save
Messiah	soldiers	jeered
wine	King	Jews
inscription	criminals	reviled
rebuking	condemnation	sentence
crimes	remember	kingdom
Amen	Paradise	today



## WEEKLY OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER 13, 2022

Regular Offering: \$1,999.00 (28/130)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$4,000.00	\$74,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,400.00	\$43,200.00
Total Offertory:	\$1,999.00	\$44,170.00
Net (over/under):	(\$401.00)	(\$970.00)

Attendance: 5:15PM = 27; 10:30AM = 53

"Today you will be with me in paradise."

— Luke 23:43

## News for Our Partnership

**\*The Parish Offices will be closed on November 23, 24, and 25 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.**  
**\*Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated at Holy Trinity at 9:00AM**

### CENSUS 2022: A NOTE FROM FR. JASON

Dear Parishioners,

In the early part of 2020, Parish Council approved a census form that had been months in the making. Since it has been well over 15 years since our parishes last held a census, it was our intention to distribute the forms at the end of March, 2020.... and then the pandemic struck, thus foiling our plans. We feel it is now time to finally conduct the census. Although the forms are entitled "Census 2020," we are still going to use them, given the amount of time and effort it took to develop and print them. If nothing else, the errant date is a stark reminder of all that we have endured these past 2+ years.

Census forms will be distributed November 27-28 and December 4-5. If you know someone who is unable to come to Mass, considering taking a form to them so we can save on postage costs. Parish Council Members will be available to assist anyone who may need help in completing the census, or are unsure how to answer some of the questions, following Masses on December 10-11 (sweets and coffee will be provided as we assist you). Thank you for participating in this important endeavor.

- Fr. Jason

### PRAYER FOR EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to stay with us always, until the end of the age. Reawaken our wonder at His presence in the Most Holy Eucharist. May our hearts burn within us as He opens the Scriptures and breaks the bread. Give us the eyes of faith to recognize His presence in our brothers and sisters, especially in the face of the poor and the suffering. Nourished by the Eucharist, send us forth to walk faithfully as missionary disciples, proclaiming the Gospel to every heart and extending Your kingdom to every land. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!



The Catholic Foundation of Northwest Pennsylvania is facilitating the November 29th, 2022 #iGiveCatholic Giving Day to celebrate and support the charitable, educational, and spiritual ministries of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie. This year

marks the eighth annual national #iGiveCatholic Giving Day and the fourth year the Catholic Foundation has facilitated this initiative for the Catholic parishes, schools, and nonprofit ministries in northwest Pennsylvania. In 2021, 1653 donors gave \$340,054 in support of 95 Catholic organizations in northwest Pennsylvania. Support for #iGive Catholic has continued to rapidly grow since joining the campaign in 2019. With your participation, we look forward to another banner year in 2022! Stay tuned for more information...

### HOLY TRINITY CHRISTMAS MARKET

Order taking for the 2022 Holy Trinity Christmas market is underway! We will be taking orders through December 5, 2022. If you would like to order by phone, please call Liz at (814) 722-0015 or complete an order form and mail it to Holy Trinity Church, 2220 Reed Street, Erie, PA 16503. Order forms are available on Holy Trinity's website or at the bulletin stations at Holy Trinity Church. Thanks for your support!

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

IS RCIA FOR ME? If you answer yes to any of the following questions, then Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults may be for you. A non-baptized person? Baptized as Catholic but were never confirmed or received Holy Communion? Baptized, made First Communion never had any religious instruction beyond these sacraments? Non-Catholics interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith? RCIA will begin soon. If you or anyone you know is an adult and in need of First Communion or Confirmation, or interested in becoming Catholic, please contact Fr. Jason at 814-452-6606.

### THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

11/21) Darlene Vlahos & Dorothy Mielnik; 11/22) Suzanne Sundy & Kathy Wisniewski; 11/23) Heidi Jankowski & Gina Lintelman; 11/24) Len Sebastian, Tom Widomski & Diane Valahovic; 11/25) Kathy Ciecierski, Jack Kempisty & Helen Zimmerman; 11/26) Patricia Straub & John Kleiner; 11/27) Sr. Maxine Kaminski & Regina Jaworski

### PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

11/21) All Vocations; 11/22) Msgr. Charlie Kaza; 11/23) Fr. Jim Gutting; 11/24) In Thanksgiving; 11/25) Msgr. Henry Krebs; 11/26) Fr. Matt Ruyechan; 11/27) Bishop Persico

### Sunday, Nov 20, 2022

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE  
2 Samuel 5:1-3; Colossians 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43

"Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

#### Suffer the little children to enter paradise

Jesus promises Paradise to a man dying in disgrace next to him on the cross. Today, on World Children's Day, we can bring Paradise a little closer by contemplating 10 principles the United Nations calls the "Rights of the Child," including: Every child without exception should have a name and nationality; access to physical, mental, moral, spiritual, and social development; food, housing, and medical care; love and understanding; education and moral guidance; protection from exploitation and discrimination. Our Catholic preferential option for the poor and respect for life fully embraces the welfare of children.

### Monday, Nov 21, 2022

MEMORIAL OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
Revelation 14:1-3, 4b-5; Luke 21:1-4

"She, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood."

#### Ready for the ride of your life?

Just as Catholics celebrate the conception, birth, and presentation in the temple of Jesus, we celebrate the same events in the life of Mary. God's plans (for all of us) begin and unfold before anyone's understanding of them. With her Immaculate Conception, God set Mary on the path to a pivotal role in salvation history, culminating in her immortal "yes" at the Annunciation. Life hands us circumstances, and sometimes decisions are made that are beyond our control - have you considered how those might shape your purpose? Commit to following where the Spirit might lead you.

### Tuesday, Nov 22, 2022

MEMORIAL OF CECILIA, MARTYR  
Revelation 14:14-19; Luke 21:5-11

"Reap the harvest, for the time to reap has come."

#### Speak up

Once Saint Paul's letters were collected in the third century, he got heat from Christians for "Wives, be submissive to your husbands" - adding that neither should they speak in church. For the third century also saw the martyrdom of Saint Cecilia. Paul's critics pointed out that Cecilia's eloquent words persuaded her husband and led him to convert. As for not speaking in church? It was Cecilia who allowed an underground church to worship in her home. Men and women of faith, glorify God today with your own words and example!

### Wednesday, Nov 23, 2022

MEMORIAL OF CLEMENT I, POPE, MARTYR  
Revelation 15:1-4; Luke 21:12-19

"I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking."

#### We owe You

We naturally think of Saint Paul when we think of letters written to the early Christians in Corinth, but Saint Clement I—a disciple of the apostles and later a pope—had occasion to write to the Corinthian church as well. From one of those letters comes advice that's fitting for Americans celebrating Thanksgiving tomorrow: "If you are wise, then display your wisdom by good deeds; and if you are modest, let others speak of your modesty instead of proclaiming the fact yourself. To God we owe everything, and therefore on every count we are under obligation to thank him."

### Thursday, Nov 24, 2022

MEMORIAL OF ANDREW DŨNG-LẠC, PRIEST, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS  
Revelation 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Luke 21:20-28

"Then [Jesus] said to him, 'Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.'"

#### Saved in the cloud

Thanksgiving is a time to recall the blessings in our lives. Most who are reading these words can give thanks to God for the freedom to worship, something absent for the saints and martyrs memorialized on this date. Today's memorial is unusual in that it honors 117 Vietnamese martyrs, the "companions" of Father Andrew Dũng-Lạc. In fact, those 117 actually represent the 100,000 to 300,000 Vietnamese Christians killed or severely persecuted for their faith between the 17th and 19th centuries. May your actions of gratitude today give honor to this "cloud of witnesses."

### Friday, Nov 25, 2022

MEMORIAL OF CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, MARTYR  
Revelation 20:1-4, 11—21:2; Luke 21:29-33

"I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God."

#### Called to speak out

The early church was a place of great religious fervor and danger. Prior to 313 Christianity was outlawed, and many adherents were put to death. This was the age of the martyrs, including Catherine of Alexandria. Catherine was well educated and known for her keen intellect. As she grew in the faith, she became an outspoken critic of the dominant religion of the Roman empire. Though given many unconscionable "outs" to avoid death, Catherine held firmly to her beliefs and continued to speak out. What compels you to speak out, even when it costs you?

### Saturday, Nov 26, 2022

Revelation 22:1-7; Luke 21:34-36

"Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations."

#### The last day

It's the last day of the year—the liturgical year, that is. Tomorrow is the beginning of a new liturgical year, a new cycle of readings, and a new season of joyful hope. Good thing, because the readings for the past few weeks, like today's, have been words of warning and apprehension regarding the "eschaton," which means the end of the world. It all sounds terrifying, but it is good news, for however you prefer to interpret it, literally or figuratively, unless this world passes away in some way, the kingdom Jesus preached isn't fully realized. Pray God's kingdom come!

