

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 15, 2020



Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606

www.ststanserie.org
email: 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)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Tuesday - Friday at 8:00AM
Temporary Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM

*** Daily Eucharistic Liturgy remains temporarily Non-Public**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671

www.holytrinityrc.org
email: 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)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:00AM
Temporary Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM

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Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



November 15, 2020
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

God gives us the gift of His very self and asks us to invest it. Investing God's greatest gift of Himself wisely, allows God's kingdom to grow and flourish. God trusts us with this pearl of great price in hopes that it will produce abundant fruit. While God's gift of self is realized in the gifts of faith, hope, and love, they are not meant to be solely for personal benefit. They are intended to be shared and are at the heart of Jesus' blueprint for happiness, the Beatitudes.

When we properly invest God's greatest gift, we invest in the wellbeing of all of our brothers and sisters and the world in which we live. We take up most seriously our call to be stewards and properly manage, not only our own affairs, but the affairs of those around and before us. God has put tremendous confidence in us.

We often go the extra mile and put in the additional effort when it comes to those concerns closest to us: our families, friends, careers, home and securities. But when it comes to things that are not as close to us, we can become lax and less conscientious. Tending to God's treasure requires a great deal of focus and persistent hard work. It demands that I see the bigger picture, God's picture, in which self-sacrifice is a given as we labor for the establishment of God's kingdom, God's vision. We are afraid of letting go of what is "mine" and apprehensive of jeopardizing what we have in order to venture into something bigger and more promising.

Fear and a lack of trust serve no purpose in God's kingdom. What is required is a courageous resolve that produces the fortitude necessary to stay the course and do what God is asking. Doing all in our power to cultivate the seeds of faith, hope, and love in our world, working diligently to put all of our relationships in proper order, becoming attentive to systems and ideologies that hurt and oppress people, being mindful of injustice, and laboring on behalf of the poor and the needy are at the core of what each of us is asked to do. It is how we invest God's most precious gift wisely. If persistent, alert and attentive, then life will gradually improve around us, there will be greater peace and we will experience joy.

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-5/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 [33 Sun.]
Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Ps 1:1-6/Lk 18:35-43 [Sts. Margaret & Gertrude]
Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Ps 15:2-5/Lk 19:1-10 [St. Elizabeth of Hungary]
Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11/Ps 150:1-6/Lk 19:11-28 [Ded. of Sts. Peter & Paul Basilicas]
Thursday: Rv 5:1-10/Ps 149:1-9/Lk 19:41-44
Friday: Rv 10:8-11/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: Rv 11:4-12/Ps 144:1-9/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday: Ez 34:11-17/Ps 23:1-6/1 Cor 15:20-28/Mt 25:31-46 [Pres. Of BVM]

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 John's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.454.2873).

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, Fr. Michael Polenik, at 1.800.374.3723.

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 Rose Marie at 814.923.4438.

"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 Saint Stanislaus, or Kathy Benes (898-1091) or Kathy Smith (392-8974) from 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 Linda at 814.864.8476.

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 Luniewski at 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.

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. 16th - Ziegfried & Danuta Kendra (Family)
 Tues., Nov. 17th - Mona Warus (Stan & Shirley Widomski)
 Wed., Nov. 18th - Mary Ann Hallman (Audrey Chamberland)
 Thurs., Nov. 19th - Stan Krawczyk (Stan & Shirley Widomski)
 Fri., Nov. 20th - Theresa Ignasiak (Kleiner Family)
 Sat., Nov. 21st, 4:00PM - Jesse Mountain (Marian)
 Sun., Nov. 22nd, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (Pro Populo)

MIRACLES ABOUND

Our annual Advent reflection booklets, "Miracles Abound," are available in the vestibule for a meager donation of \$1.25. Feel free to take one and leave behind your donation in the envelope provided. Happy Advent!



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **MITCHELL ANUSZKIEWICZ (ANDREWS)** as gifted by the Zill Family.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This coming week, we will be transitioning the Parish Offices from the rectory to the Nazareth Center. The offices will be "somewhat closed" during the first part of the week, in that Debbie and Fr. Jason will be moving the last of our office "gadgets" between the two buildings. Please be patient if we miss a phone call or two. More information to follow...

I asked an EOD guy once about the stress of bomb defusing. He shrugged & said "It's not. I'm either right, or suddenly it's not my problem any more."

CSA 2020: UPDATE

Parish Assessment: \$31,019.00
 Pledges: \$36,245.00
 Paid To Date: \$34,225.00

Thank you for the 89 families who have committed! Any additional CSA money remains in our parish. So, if you haven't yet pledged, please continue to prayerfully consider doing so.

WEEKLY OFFERING (NOVEMBER 8, 2020)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$78,964.00
Amount Received	\$2,729.00	\$50,880.00
Net over/under	(\$1,427.00)	(\$28,084.00)

Mass Attendance: 41 at 4:00PM
 38 at 9:00AM



A Funeral Masses was celebrated this past week for ANNE HORNYAK (November 7th), a long time member of Saint Mary's, and for ROBERT SISCO (November 10th). Please remember Anne and Robert in your prayers, as well as their family and loved ones.

A NEW BEGINNING

Advent always marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. There seems to be a lot of symbolic significance as we enter yet another new phase of our public celebrations.

We would like to restore our liturgical ministries (except for the service of Eucharistic Ministers during Mass). If you are a lector or altar server, or would like to become one, **please call the parish office** to let Debbie know that you are comfortable returning to your ministry. If you are not yet comfortable ministering, that's OK, too. We will be ready to welcome you back when you are ready to return! It is my intent to have a schedule for liturgical ministers compiled before the beginning of Advent.

SSJ SOUP KITCHEN

Baked Goods are needed for the SSJ Soup Kitchen for **November 16th**. As they are serving "take-out" only, they are asking for individually wrapped treats like "Hostess Twinkies" or "Little Debbies" snack cakes. All donated goods brought to the Nazareth Center on Monday, November 16th between 2:00-3:00PM.

MONTHLY SCRIP ORDER SCHEDULE

Christmas is fast approaching. Consider the gift of Scrip cards! They work just like gift cards, except that the parish receives a "kick back" for each one purchased. Order forms are available in the Parish Office or in the back of the church. The following is the order/pick up schedule:

ORDER ON AVAILABLE BY
 November 14-15 November 21-22
 November 28-29 December 5-6
 December 12-13 December 19-20
 December 26-27 January 2-3

Holy Trinity Parish Community



11/16 - Nora Sebastian
11/19 - Fr. Jason
11/20 - Val Osiecki
11/22 - Susan Carpenter
11/25 - Erin McCracken

A NEW BEGINNING

Advent always marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. It will also mark the transitioning of our liturgical celebrations back into the church building.

We would also like to restore our liturgical ministries, as well (except for the service of Eucharistic Ministers during Mass). If you are a lector or altar server, or would like to become one, **please call the parish office** to let Mary Ann know that you are comfortable returning to your ministry. If you are not yet comfortable ministering, that's OK, too. We will be ready to welcome you back when you are ready to return! It is my intent to have a schedule for liturgical ministers compiled before the beginning of Advent.



COAT DRIVE

Family Services is once again holding a Coat Drive. Boxes will be in the Social Center from November 1st - 29th to collect any donations of new or gently used coats to be distributed to the less fortunate.

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR NOVEMBER 8, 2020

Regular Offering: \$2,689.00 (31/144)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$57,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$44,935.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,689.00	\$35,771.00
Net (over/under):	\$324.00	(\$9,164.00)

Attendance: 5:15PM = 19; 10:30AM = 38

CSA UPDATE

Assessment: \$12,425.00
Pledges: \$24,812.00
Paid: \$23,802.00
Families Contributing: 69



MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Nov. 16th - Harry & Bernice Schultz (Shirley & Nancy Schultz)
Tues., Nov. 17th - Fran Matusiak (Deacon Tom)
Wed., Nov. 18th - The Souls in Purgatory
Thurs., Nov. 19th - Mr. & Mrs. Chester Matusiak (Deacon Tom)
Fri., Nov. 20th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families
Sat., Nov. 21st, 5:15PM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)
Sun., Nov. 22nd, 10:30AM - Aggie Krawiec (Bill & Corinne Dyakon)



Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of **JOHN FIGURSKI** as gifted by Sandy & Jack Kempisty.

A very special **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **JEANNIE MCGINLEY**, who celebrated on November 3rd! We wish you all the best and look forward to having you "tickle the ivories" once we return to the church for the beginning of the Advent Season.



We are reminded today that we will each be called to give an account for the gifts God has given us - our physical, intellectual and material gifts - as well as the gift of time itself. Jesus illustrates this truth in our Gospel passage. He tells the story of a wealthy man who is about to go on a journey. Before he leaves, the man calls his three servants to "entrust his possessions to them." The master in our parable gives to the care of each servant a portion of his money ("talent") commensurate with that servant's abilities. The first two prove to be good and faithful servants - they "immediately" put the talents to use, doubling what had been entrusted to them. The third servant reacted to this responsibility with fear - in fact, he did the opposite. He buried his master's talent in the ground. He took the safe way, the easy way out. What a tragic response! This servant did not understand his master at all. He failed to see what a privilege he had been given. The master wanted to give all his servants the joy and satisfaction of helping him grow his kingdom. This is what our Heavenly Father wants for us, too - the incredible privilege of helping to advance the coming of the Kingdom of God. Let us embrace the stewardship way of life, using all the gifts entrusted to us - Time, Talents and Treasure - in such a way that at the end of our life, we will hear these words from our Father: "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Come, share your master's joy."

"Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

- Matthew 25:13

News for Our Partnership

GRATULACJE!

Many congratulations to St. Stan's parishioner Bobby Sulecki who was recently honored as a "Trailblazer That Shaped Erie's Historic East Side." His honor reads, in part, "Bobby J. Sulecki cares about heritage and history which is why he has worked so hard to preserve the identity and contributions of Erie's Polish community... Bobby tirelessly sought out and archived evidence of Erie's Polish history... If not for him, much of his family's history and the history of Erie's Polish community would be forgotten." To honor his achievements, the utility box on the corner of 11th & Parade bore the likeness of Bobby's image, along with additional words of honor.

Congratulations, Bobby; well deserved!

#iGiveCatholic 2020

The Catholic Foundation of Northwest Pennsylvania is facilitating the 2020 #iGiveCatholic Giving Day. With your participation, we look forward to surpassing our 2020 donations. Especially during this year of pandemic, your support of local Catholic organizations is critical.

On December 1st, the #iGiveCatholic Giving Day, your gift will help your parish receive extra funds for ongoing projects for the upkeep for our parish maintenance and improvements. **Every gift of \$25 or more will go further with matching funds provided by local matching funds sources!** You can make a difference with your gift.

All gifts you make to your respective parish from November 16th - 30th (advanced giving period), or on December 1 "Giving Day," either online or offline through a gift of cash or check directly to your parish, will increase our impact by allowing us to maintain our facilities. Visit <https://erie.igivecatholic.org> for more information, or to make an online donation.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Our parish communities wish Fr. Jason a very happy birthday, many blessings, and good health. In an unusual cosmic phenomenon caused by the year 2020, he actually aged three years just this past year! 🤔 If that is the case, then we guess it's Happy 48th Fr. Jason! 🤔 Sto Lat!

P.S. He really is only 45...

THANKSGIVING MASS

Monsignor Magraw will celebrate a **9:30AM MASS AT SAINT STANISLAUS CHURCH** on Thanksgiving morning. All are invited and welcome to attend.

Holy Trinity Annual Christmas Market

Orders are being taken until December 7th for Holy Trinity's Christmas Market sponsored by our PCEP families. Credit cards are accepted and payment is due at the time of ordering. Stock up for the holidays! Cookies, pierogi, nut rolls, sweet breads, oplatki, and more! Orders can be picked up in the Social Hall on December 18th from 4-7PM, and December 19th from 9AM-Noon. Order forms are available at www.holytrinityrc.org, at the Parish Office, or by calling Edith at 814.456.5300.



"Amazon Smile" is a website operated by Amazon that lets you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping as is found on "amazon.com." The difference is that when you shop on Amazon Smile, the "Amazon Smile Foundation" will donate a percentage of the purchase price directly to our respective parishes. To start, simply follow the link:

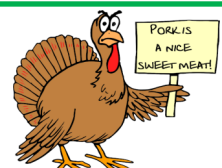
Saint Stan's: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-0967487>

Holy Trinity: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1091810>

TOWARD MORE EFFICIENT COMMUNICATION

Of the many challenges the pandemic has imposed on us in our parishes' ability to communicate frequently and efficiently with our people. Mass mailings are too cost prohibitive. We would like to begin building a parish e-mail distribution list. To be included on this list, **please send Fr. Jason an email at glover001@gannon.edu.**

Indicate who in your household will have access to the email. This way, we can minimize our postage costs of future mass mailings.



THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

11/15) Dorothy & Mead Carlson, Nancy & Art Kujawinski, & Carol Clark;
11/16) Corinne Dyakon, Mary Jo Sulecki, & Kay Stankiewicz; 11/17) Dave Slubowski; 11/18) Pearl Wisniewski;
11/19) Bill Dyakon; 11/20) Ed Korytowski; 11/21) Darlene Vlahos, Dorothy Mielnik

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

11/16) Fr. Mike DeMartinis; 11/17) Fr. Mark Nowak; 11/18) Pray for Vocations; 11/19) Fr. Ian McElrath;
11/20) Msgr. Joe Wardanski; 11/21) Fr. Phil Pinczewski; 11/22) Fr. Dan Hoffman

Sunday, Nov 15, 2020

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Believe in magic—your own!

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1Thess. 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30 (157).
"Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more."

We each have a little something special we can call our own. Maybe it's school smarts or street smarts. Maybe you know your way around the halls of power or around the kitchen. Some are good with kids, others with elders, still others with sick or dying people. You might be great with people, or math, or words, or research. You could be physically strong or have that dogged ability to keep at a task when everybody else gives up. Do an assessment of your gifts and skills. Whatever your special magic is, put it at the disposal of grace.

Monday, Nov 16, 2020

MEMORIAL OF GERTRUDE THE GREAT, VIRGIN

Mystic mysteries

Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Luke 18:35-43
"Have sight; your faith has saved you."

Me, a mystic? Yes, you! Intimate union with Christ is called "mystical" because it participates in the mystery of Christ through the sacraments. But, you may be thinking, I don't have visions or experiences of ecstasy, and I definitely don't have stigmata, like a saint we remember today, Gertrude the Great, German Benedictine mystic of the 13th century. No matter, the catechism says, "The special graces or extraordinary signs of this mystical life are granted only to some for the sake of manifesting the gratuitous gift to all."

Tuesday, Nov 17, 2020

MEMORIAL OF ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY, RELIGIOUS

Love the one you're with

Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22; Luke 19:1-10
"Half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor."

As a young queen, Elizabeth of Hungary was so moved by the love of Saint Francis of Assisi that she took care of the sick and poor herself, tending to them like a servant in her own castle. Equally notable, though, is the loving relationship Elizabeth had with her husband, King Louis of Thuringia. Growing up together, their mutual affection was exceptionally deep as friends and confidants—long before they married and became parents. Most notably, they championed each other in the practice of their Christian faith. Today, pray gratefully for loved ones who have nurtured your own faith.

Wednesday, Nov 18, 2020

MEMORIAL OF ROSE PHILIPPINE DUCHESNE, VIRGIN

Pray always

Acts 28:11-16, 30-31; Matthew 14:22-33
"He replied, 'Well done, good servant!'"

One of Rose Philippine Duchesne's (1769-1852) ignored family wishes and joined a French convent, intent on ministry to Native American peoples. Not until the age of 49 did she set sail for St. Louis, where her ministry of opening schools and orphanages remained much the same as in her native France. At the age of 72 Rose was asked to live among the Potawatomie Indians in Sugar Creek, Kansas. It was a short-lived assignment—her health was failing—yet Rose's ministry of prayer was recognized by the Potawatomie, who called her Woman-Who-Prays-Always. The witness of Saint Rose reminds us that where there is a will, there is a way. Ask for the grace today to seek and embrace God's will.

Thursday, Nov 19, 2020

The Omega point

Revelation 5:1-10; Luke 19:41-44

"[Jesus] saw the city and wept over it, saying, 'If this day you only knew what makes for peace.'"

These days Catholic laity and leaders don't typically dwell on the so-called "end times." Modern Catholics tend to be engaged in questions of how to live here and now for the common good and our personal salvation. Pope Francis frequently urges us on in righteous living. That is the context as our year moves toward its own "end times." The year 2020 has been hard around the world. We can hope and pray that 2021 will be gentler and promote that outcome in our own interactions with others in this contentious age. Put your trust in God, the Alpha and Omega.

Friday, Nov 20, 2020

Feed the children

Revelation 10:8-11; Luke 19:45-48

"Yes, your decrees are my delight; they are my counselors."

Today is World Children's Day. It marks the anniversary of the 1959 signing of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child. A fundamental right of every child is to live and grow. But a 2018 study by UNICEF found that more than 3 million children in the world die from malnutrition every year. Some people ask why God allows this to happen. But that misses the point. God commands us to feed the hungry, and Catholics have a serious obligation to do just that. Log on to Catholic Relief Services (CRS.org) and find out how you can help feed the starving children of the world.

Saturday, Nov 21, 2020

MEMORIAL OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Your presence is requested

Revelation 11:4-12; Luke 20:27-40

"Then they heard a loud voice from heaven say to them, 'Come up here.'"

Celebration of Mary's presentation at the temple—a story from time-honored tradition rather than directly from scripture—took place as early as the sixth century in Jerusalem. The Eastern Church ran with it right away, but the West was slow to follow. At times the feast seemed to disappear entirely from the calendar, but finally in the 16th century it took its place as a universal feast. Though the feast points to Mary's lifetime of preparation for her sacred role in salvation, it also invites each of us to ponder for a moment: Suppose Jesus came knocking right now to bring you to the heavenly temple. Would you be prepared? If you feel a bit sloppy or unkempt, spiritually speaking, now is a great chance to do what is necessary to become a bit more presentable!

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

May Mary's example give us the strength to radiate light and warmth to the Church, and help us to be dwelling places of God's joyful presence on earth...

NOVEMBER 21



