

Sacred Heart

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Corner of E. First Avenue
& Hamlet Street

Church Mailing Address:
168 E. Lincoln Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Parish Office
(614) 294-5319

Msgr. Frank Lane, Administrator

(Territorial Parish ~ Est. 1875)

MASSES:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.; **Sunday:** 11:00 a.m.

WEEKDAYS & HOLY DAYS:

See Mass Schedule inside the Bulletin.

PARISH OFFICE/STAFF:

Administration is done through the office of Saint John the Baptist, 168 Lincoln Street. Requests for copies of sacramental records, scheduling of Masses and other sacramental celebrations, and non-emergency needs should be made during regular office hours or email info@sjbitaliana.org.

Please notify the Parish Office of any changes such as address or telephone number, etc., by calling during regular office Hours.

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Gina M. Bishop, Music Director
John C. Huffman, Organist

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We welcome you into our Parish Families.
Membership in the parish consists of two parts:

Registration: Please complete the parish registration and return to Parish Office.

OFFICE STAFF

Aggie Howard, Executive Assistant, ahoward@sjbitaliana.org
Victoria Scruggs, Secretary & Bulletin Editor, vgammell@sjbitaliana.org
Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.; **Sunday:** 10:30 a.m.

BAPTISM:

Preparation is required for the reception of the sacrament.
Parents are encouraged to call the office
and set up an appointment before the birth of their child.

MATRIMONY:

Arrangements should be made at least six or more months in advance.
A marriage preparation program is required.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:

In cases of emergencies, please call anytime.
Please notify the Parish Office for Communion calls to the sick, shut-ins.

Due to privacy laws, if parishioners wish to be visited in the hospital,
they should contact the Parish Office directly
and give the information regarding the hospitalization.

If you are scheduled for surgeries or other medical procedures,
please contact the Parish Office in advance so that a priest can administer
Anointing of the Sick prior to the procedure.

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Announcements must be submitted in writing by Tuesday at noon.

www.sacredheartchurchcolumbus.org

SACRED HEART

Thanksgiving Prayer

O God, when I have food,
 help me to remember the hungry;
 When I have work,
 help me to remember the jobless;
 When I have a home,
 help me to remember those who have no home at all;
 When I am without pain,
 help me to remember those who suffer,
 And remembering,
 help me to destroy my complacency;
 be concerned enough to help;
 By word and deed,
 those who cry out for what we take for granted.
 Amen.



Share Catholic
 www.ShareCatholic.com

On behalf of my staff, **Ms. Aggie Howard, Mrs. Vicky Scruggs, Mrs. Gina Bishop, Mr. John Huffman, and myself,** may you have a **Blessed and Faith-filled Thanksgiving** holiday!
Msgr. Frank Lane

Mass Time Change: Mass times at Sacred Heart are **Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.** and **St. John the Baptist** are **Mondays, Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.** and **Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.** followed by **RCIA at 7:00 p.m.** at **St. John the Baptist Parish Library** on the second floor.

?? \$? HOW IS SACRED HEART DOING? \$? \$?
 Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/23-6/30/24)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)
This Wk.:	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 1,126.00	-\$ 1,674.00
FYTD:	\$ 49,000.00	\$ 37,422.25	-(\$ 11,577.75)

Income and Expenses from September 1, through September 30, 2023.

Income:	\$ 15,440.20
Expense:	\$ 25,023.45
Difference:	-\$ 9,583.25

DONATION QR CODE AND WEBSITE INFORMATION



Please help Sacred Heart maintain this beautiful 100-year-old building with a donation by using the QR code. Thank you!



If you are interested in becoming Catholic, receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, or Baptism, please contact Sacred Heart Office at 614-294-5319 for more information.

SH Collection Counters for Monday, November 20, 2023

David and Gilda Cottrill

SH Collection Counters for Monday, November 27, 2023

Rita Ward and Aggie Howard

For Weddings and Funerals, please contact Aggie Howard at ahoward@sjbitaliana.org or call the Office at 614-294-5319.



Office Hours: Parish office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The office will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for Thanksgiving.

MASSES AT SACRED HEART

Saturday 11/18	4:00 p.m.	+ Mary Ann Neff by John & Nancy Pawlowski
Sunday 11/19	11:00 a.m.	+ Dick L.
Thursday 11/23	10:30 a.m.	Deceased Members of Merullo Family by Theresa Thurn
Saturday 11/25	4:00 p.m.	+ Madge Browning by John & Nancy Pawlowski
Sunday 11/26	11:00 a.m.	+ Florendo Sinang by Jim & Gloria Merckling
Thursday 11/30	6:30 p.m.	+ Chuck (Charles) Sutphen, Sr. by Mary Hardgrove Sutphen

There will be no Evening Mass on Thursday, November 23.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT SACRED HEART

November 12, 2023

Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 10

In Env:	\$ 555.00
Loose:	\$ 571.00
Total	\$ 1,126.00
Less Diocesan 8% Assessment	\$ -(90.08)
	\$ 1,035.92
Capital Repair	\$ 2.00
Community Outreach	\$ 30.00
Total	\$ 32.00

THANKSGIVING MASS SCHEDULE

Church	Date	Mass Time
Sacred Heart	November 23	10:30 a.m.
St. John	November 22	6:00 p.m.

RCIA: Classes are now being offered for both Sacred Heart and St. John the Baptist parishes on Wednesday evenings right after the 6:00 p.m. Mass at St. John. RCIA class starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Library located on the second floor. This class is required for anyone who wants to enter the Catholic Church, for those baptized Catholic but did not complete the Initiation Sacraments, as well as those who simply desire to deepen their understanding of Catholicism. Questions? Contact Sharon Curtin at 614-563-8405, or SCurtin@sjbitaliana.org.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: After careful consideration, Monsignor Lane has decided we no longer will offer religious education, Grades 1-8, at St. John the Baptist or Sacred Heart Parishes. After five weeks of trying to engage children and parents in the program, it was decided there was not enough interest at this time. Granted, it has been many years since religious education was offered here, and many of the parishioners are older; however, this area is growing, and there will be new folks interested in joining this parish. They will want to have an active, religious education program. We will try again in March 2024 to begin registration for the Fall. It is our hope there will be a few children who will join the program, as well as parents willing to assist. We will continue to invite grandchildren of parishioners, as well as non-Catholic children. If you have any questions, please call Sharon Curtin at 614-563-8405 or SCurtin@sjbitaliana.org.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception is December 8, a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass at Sacred Heart will be at 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 Noon at St. John.

A BIG Thank-you to all who helped with church cleanup on **November 11**: From the **Syro-Malabar Community**: Jinson Sani, Deepu Paul, Sunil Antony, Stalion Joseph, Jacob Aswin, Ajiesh Lonechan, and Manoj Antony; and from **Sacred Heart**: Jeremy Polk, Alissa Breakiron, Mary Rykowski (supply sgt and in-charge), John MacKinnon, Sheila Wisniewski, John Pawlowski, and Dave and Gilda Cottrill. The church looks ready for inspection and smelled of cleanliness. We fixed that on **Thursday** with incense used at Adoration of the **Blessed Sacrament** and the church now smells like a **Catholic** church should!



In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first Mass offered at Sacred Heart; we welcome Bishop Fernandes!



Congratulations Sacred Heart!

“On Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1923, at 10:00 p.m., the new church was solemnly dedicated to the Service of Almighty God by Bishop Hartley. It is of pure and Gothic design and has been pronounced one of the most correct and beautiful churches in the State of Ohio.” From *The History of Sacred Heart Parish*

May we be so blessed to continue for 100 more! For more information on the history of our Parish, please visit our website.

AN EXPERT’S OPINION

The following article appeared in the **January 15, 1924**, issue of the “**Ohio State Lantern**” written by **Professor W. L. Graves of Ohio University**:

“If you want to see a beautiful building, stop in at the **Church of the Sacred Heart** at the corner of **Hamlet Street** and **First Avenue**. All fall I was interested in seeing the fine structure rise, but not until **Sunday** did I see the completed effect. I stepped inside and found the church was empty except for a black-gowned nun who was directing some subdued small boys in the gathering up of books used in a service. I mentioned my wish to see the church and she walked about with me, pleased at my admiration. She took me back into the lovely little **Lady Chapel** and told me what she knew about the structure. The building is of brick, in a soft warm color, light tan, with stone combination. The design is **13th century Gothic**, and there are especially attractive details in the separate belltower, the small rose window above the main entrance, the dignified round columns of **Caen** stone among the nave, the carved oak of the confessional booths, and certain of the windows. The church has a perfect unity of effect, a beautiful serenity and dignity of design that makes worship there, one feels, a memorable experience.

AROUND US

The Holy Father’s Intentions for the Month of November 2023: *We pray for the Holy Father. As he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

November 26 – Solemnity of Christ the King: The last **Sunday of the Liturgical Year**. This feast is a public, social, and official declaration of the royal rights of **Jesus**, as **God the Creator**, as **The Word Incarnate**, and as **Redeemer**.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: Please be generous in this week’s special collection. In the **United States**, more than **11%** of the population lives in poverty. Through this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, **25%** of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and support those working on the margins.

CATHOLIC MEN’S LUNCHEON – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1,

2023 – SPEAKER BISHOP EARL FERNANDES: Join us **Friday, December 1** at **St. Patrick Church** in downtown **Columbus** for a luncheon featuring his **Excellency Bishop Earl Fernandes, Bishop of the Columbus Diocese**, who will present his annual address to the Luncheon Club. The **December** luncheon is sponsored by **The Catholic Foundation**. Started in **1984**, the **Catholic Foundation** has provided over **\$200 million** in funding for organizations throughout the **Columbus Diocese** and beyond. More information about the **Catholic Foundation** is available at <https://catholic-foundation.org/>.

If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, please contact **Pat Foley** at foleyp513@gmail.com. **Holy Mass** (optional) begins at **11:45 a.m.** followed by lunch at **12:10 p.m.** and **Bishop Fernandes’** presentation. No reservations are necessary. **\$12.00** covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend!

There is no luncheon in January, but plan on attending our luncheon on Friday, February 2, 2024, when Bishop Fernandes will return to present the Catholic Man of the Year Award.

Today’s Gospel: The **Gospel** is from **St. Matthew 25:14-30**. After explaining the need to be in constant state of readiness for **His** return, **Jesus** immediately begins a new parable, telling a story to explain what **His** people should do with their lives while they wait. It is the story of a wealthy landowner going away on a journey. The master once again represents **Jesus**. The master who is leaving calls three of his servants together and gives each direct responsibility for some portion of his property. Making the analogy especially simple, he hands over cash for them to manage while he is gone. This distribution, and what each does with those resources, parallels how **God** assigns abilities or assets to people and the ways in which each person can respond. It is a privilege to be entrusted with talents, resources, and opportunities to work toward **God’s** purposes in the world. The implication of the parable is that if we do so, we take our place among all the faithful, trustworthy servants of **God**, no matter how big or small our accomplishments may seem.

~www.bibleref.com



Prayer: *Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to You, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. Through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

“Lord, teach me to be generous, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to look for any reward, save that of knowing that I do your holy will.”

+PRAYER OF SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

Monday, November 20 ~ Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 18:35-43 As Jesus approached Jericho a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging, and hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what was happening. They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” He shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!” The people walking in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent, but he kept calling out all the more, “Son of David, have pity on me!” Then Jesus stopped and ordered that he be brought to him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?” He replied, “Lord, please let me see.” Jesus told him, “Have sight; your faith has saved you.” He immediately received his sight and followed him, giving glory to God. When they saw this, all the people gave praise to God.

Meditation: Have you ever encountered a special moment of grace, a once in a life-time opportunity you knew you could not pass up? Such a moment came for a blind and destitute man, named Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52). He was determined to get near the one person who could meet his need. He knew who Jesus was and had heard of his fame for healing, but until now had no means of making contact with the Son of David, a clear reference and title for the Messiah. It took raw courage and persistence for Bartimaeus to get the attention of Jesus over the din of a noisy throng who crowded around Jesus as he made his way out of town. Why was the crowd annoyed with the blind man's persistent shouts? He was disturbing their peace and interrupting Jesus' discourse. It was common for a rabbi to teach as he walked with others. Jesus was on his way to celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem and a band of pilgrims followed him. When the crowd tried to silence the blind man he overpowered them with his emotional outburst and thus caught the attention of Jesus.

Prayer: Stir up the will of your faithful, we pray, O Lord, that striving more eagerly to bring your divine work to fruitful completion, they may receive in greater measure the healing remedies your kindness bestows. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: This incident reveals something important about how God interacts with us. The blind man was determined to get Jesus' attention and he was persistent in the face of opposition. Jesus could have ignored or rebuffed him because he was disturbing his talk and his audience. Jesus showed that acting was more important than talking. This man was in desperate need and Jesus was ready not only to empathize with his suffering but to relieve it as well. A great speaker can command attention and respect, but a man or woman with a helping hand and a big heart is loved more. Jesus commends Bartimaeus for recognizing who he is with the eyes of faith and grants him physical sight as well. Do you recognize your need for God's healing grace and do you seek Jesus out, like Bartimaeus, with persistent faith and trust in his goodness and mercy?

Tuesday, November 21 ~ Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time **Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 12:46-50 While He was still speaking to the people, behold, His mother and His brethren stood outside, asking to speak to Him. But He replied to the man who told Him, “Who is My mother,

and who are My brethren?" And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "Here are My mother and My brethren! For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother, and sister, and mother."

Meditation: Jesus is God's love incarnate - God's love made flesh (ref. 1 John 4:9-10). That is why Jesus describes himself as the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep and the shepherd who seeks out the sheep who have strayed and lost their way. God is like the father who yearns for his prodigal son to return home and then throws a great party for him when he repents and comes back. Jesus offered up his life on the cross for our sake, so that we could be forgiven and restored to unity with God. It is through Jesus that we become the adopted children of God - his own sons and daughters. That is why Jesus told his disciples that they would have many new friends and family relationships in his kingdom. Whoever receives the Sacrament of Baptism and who does the will of God is a friend of God and a member of his family.

Prayer: As we venerate the glorious memory of the most holy Virgin Mary, grant, we pray, O Lord, through her intercession, that we, too, may merit to receive from the fullness of your grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Our life with Jesus Christ changes the order of relationships and shows that true kinship is not just a matter of flesh and blood. Our adoption as sons and daughters of God transforms all our relationships and requires a new order of loyalty to God first and to his kingdom of righteousness and peace. The Sacrament of Baptism begins our life with Christ. "God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people" (Rite of Baptism). "*Name of Baptized*, you have become a new creation, and have clothed yourself in Christ" (Rite of Baptism). "Dearly beloved, this child has been reborn in baptism. He (she) is now called the child of God, for so indeed he (she) is" (Rite of Baptism). Do you want to grow in love and friendship? Allow God's Holy Spirit to conform your heart, mind, and will, enabling you to faithfully live and love as Christ does.

Wednesday, November 22 ~ Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

Holy Gospel: Luke 19:11-28 While people were listening to Jesus speak, he proceeded to tell a parable because he was near Jerusalem and they thought that the Kingdom of God would appear there immediately. So he said, "A nobleman went off to a distant country to obtain the kingship for himself and then to return. He called ten of his servants and gave them ten gold coins and told them, 'Engage in trade with these until I return.' His fellow citizens, however, despised him and sent a delegation after him to announce, 'We do not want this man to be our king.' But when he returned after obtaining the kingship, he had the servants called, to whom he had given the money, to learn what they had gained by trading. The first came forward and said, 'Sir, your gold coin has earned ten additional ones.' He replied, 'Well done, good servant! You have been faithful in this very small matter; take charge of ten cities.' Then the second came and reported, 'Your gold coin, sir, has earned five more.' And to this servant too he said, 'You, take charge of five cities.' Then the other servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your gold coin; I kept it stored away in a handkerchief, for I was afraid of you, because you are a demanding man; you take up what you did not lay down and you harvest what you did not plant.' He said to him, 'With your own words I shall condemn you, you wicked servant. You knew I was a demanding man, taking up what I did not lay down and harvesting what I did not plant; why did you not put my money in a bank? Then on my return I would have collected it with interest.' And to those standing by he said, 'Take the gold coin from him and give it to the servant who has ten.' But they said to him, 'Sir, he has ten gold coins.' He replied, 'I tell you, to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. Now as for those enemies of mine who did not want me as their king, bring them here and slay them before me.'" After he had said this, he proceeded on his journey up to Jerusalem.

Meditation: How does God establish his kingdom here on the earth? The Jews in Jesus' time had a heightened sense that the Messiah would appear soon to usher in the kingdom of God's peace and righteousness on the earth. Jesus, in fact, spoke in messianic terms of the coming reign of God. Perhaps his entry into Jerusalem would bring about such a change and overthrow of Roman domination. Jesus speaks to their longing for a new kingdom in the parable of a nobleman who went away to receive a kingdom. The parable reveals something important about how God works his plan and purpose with humans. The parable speaks first of the king's trust in his subjects. While he goes away he leaves them with his money to use as they think best. While there were no strings attached, this was obviously a test to see if the king's subjects would be faithful and reliable in their use of the money entrusted to them. Third, the king rewards those who are faithful and he punishes those who sit by idly and who do nothing with his money.

Prayer: O God, who gladden us each year with the feast day of your handmaid Saint Cecilia, grant, we pray, that what has been devoutly handed down concerning her may offer us examples to imitate and proclaim the wonders worked in his servants by Christ your Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The Lord Jesus has brought us his kingdom of righteousness and peace and he calls us to live as citizens of this kingdom where he rules as Lord and Master. The Lord entrusts us with his gifts and graces and he gives us freedom to use them as we think best. With each gift and talent, the Lord gives sufficient grace and energy for using them in a fitting way. As the parable of the talents shows, God abhors indifference and an attitude that says it's not worth trying. God honors those who use their talents and gifts for doing good. Those who are faithful with even a little are entrusted with more! But those who neglect or squander what God has entrusted to them will lose what they have. There is an important lesson here for us. No one can stand still for long in the Christian life. We either get more or we lose what we have. We either advance towards God or we slip back. Do you trust in God's grace to make good use of the gifts and talents he has given you?

Thursday, November 23 ~ Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time
~ Thanksgiving Day ~

Holy Gospel: Luke 17:11-19 As Jesus continued his journey to Jerusalem, he traveled through Samaria and Galilee. As he was entering a village, ten lepers met him. They stood at a distance from him and raised their voice, saying, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" And when he saw them, he said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." As they were going they were cleansed. And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go; your faith has saved you."

Meditation: When we think about giving thanks to God, are you like the one leper who returned, or are you with the other nine who did not give thanks? Why would only one leper out of ten return to show gratitude? Gratefulness is related to "grace" – which means the release of loveliness. Gratitude is the homage of the heart which responds with graciousness in expressing an act of thanksgiving. The Samaritan approached Jesus reverently and gave praise to God. If we do not recognize and appreciate the mercy shown us we will be ungrateful. Ingratitude is forgetfulness or a poor return for kindness received. Ingratitude easily leads to lack of charity and intolerance towards others. It easily leads to lack of charity and intolerance towards others, as well as to other sins, such as discontent, dissatisfaction, complaining, grumbling, pride and presumption. How often have we been ungrateful to our parents, siblings, priests, teachers, co-workers, neighbors, waiters and waitresses, store clerks, and so many others? How often have we failed individually and collectively to give thanks to God? Now ask yourself: Why do I act this way? Am I that self-centered? Is not giving thanks part of my being? Let us give thanks to God today and every day, and adopt a life expressing gratitude and thanks to all from the heart, beginning first and foremost with God.

Prayer: Father all-powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; as we come before you on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman, and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Contemplation: Is today, Thanksgiving Day, simply a day for feasting and football? Or have you given any thought to what this day is truly about – giving thanks to God for all that he has done for you, the great and the simple things in life, and life itself. Begin the day by giving true thanks to God – begin the day with Mass; family football games and community 5k runs and such can begin later, or our participation in them can be curtailed until *after* we have begun our day in prayer and in thanksgiving by attending Mass. As Americans, but more importantly as Catholics, may we be blessed with a fresh awareness of the loving Most Blessed Trinity from whom all good things come, may we give thanks for what has been bestowed upon us. On this Thanksgiving Day, and as we quickly approach the Season of Advent, may all of us have a renewed interest in helping those who are less fortunate – especially those with inadequate food, clothing and shelter, and reach out to help our brothers and sisters in Christ through our parish Saint Vincent de Paul Society, those served through other outreach locations throughout our Diocese (JOIN, Saint Joseph Cathedral Back Door Ministry, Saint Lawrence Haven, Bishop Griffin Center, Saint Francis Outreach Center (Vinton County), and many others).

About Thanksgiving Day: Many people assume that the United States has celebrated Thanksgiving Day since the time of the pilgrims as a sign of thanksgiving for the harvest season. This is not exactly true. President Abraham Lincoln instituted the holiday in 1863 during the Civil War. However, he did not have the harvest in mind. He wanted Americans to celebrate the holiday as a sign of unity and thanksgiving to God.

I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens” (President Abraham Lincoln, Proclamation, October 3, 1863).

There is no American holiday that so closely resembles the symbolism and meaning of the sacrament of the Eucharist. We celebrate Thanksgiving as a sign of American unity and thanksgiving to God who has given us great gifts.

Friday, November 24 ~ Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions, Martyrs

Holy Gospel: Luke 19:45-48 Jesus entered the temple area and proceeded to drive out those who were selling things, saying to them, “It is written, My house shall be a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves.” And every day he was teaching in the temple area. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people, meanwhile, were seeking to put him to death, but they could find no way to accomplish their purpose because all the people were hanging on his words.

Meditation: What do God's acts of judgments teach us? Do they inspire reverence for God, and for his holiness and majesty? Few seem to pay much attention to God's judgments today. His acts of judgments, nonetheless, are intended to bring us into greater purity, holiness, and reverence for God's word of truth and love. Jesus went to Jerusalem, knowing he would meet certain death on the cross, but victory as well for our sake. His act of judgment in the temple is meant to be a prophetic sign and warning to the people that God takes our worship very seriously. In this incident we see Jesus' startling and swift action in cleansing the temple of those who were using it to exploit the worshipers of God. The money changers took advantage of the poor and forced them to pay many times more than was right— in the house of the Lord no less! Their robbery of the poor was not only dishonoring to God but unjust toward their neighbor.

Prayer: O God, source and origin of all fatherhood, who kept the Martyrs Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and his companions faith to the Cross of your Son, even to the shedding of their blood, grant through their intercession, that, spreading your love among our brothers and sisters, we may be your children both in name and in truth. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The message in today's Gospel is short and simple: Grow in what you know is right, give praise to God for all the beauty and knowledge that continues to be created for us to enjoy and learn from the beauty and knowledge that enriches our lives. To be true to ourselves and not steal the qualities, the success, or what we see as the riches of others. Jesus has shared with us the Good News about how to love one another, to appreciate one another, to praise one another and to praise God for all that has been given uniquely to each of us. We are asked to continue to grow in our love of God and our fellow human beings and to not let those who are fearful, resentful or wrongfully prideful; steal our gifts or put to death our abilities to use our gifts to continue to enrich all of human kind.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2023

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*During November – the “Month of All Souls”— and beyond, really, please pray the following prayer
which was dictated to Saint Gertrude by Our Lord for the release of souls from Purgatory...*

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son Jesus Christ, in union with the most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family.

Amen.

+ + +

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Fri: 4-10:30 pm; Sat: 5-10:30 pm

COLUMBUS PIAVE CLUB
"Celebrating 100 Years"
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