



My Dear Parishioners,

Greetings Everyone and Happy Thanksgiving Week! What a beautiful week for all of us! With that said, Thanksgiving 2020 may indeed be a bit different for many of us. The absence of the Annual Parade, perhaps the

absence of a loved one at the table or the absence of the traditional big gathering that accompanies the day, all of these may make Thanksgiving not only different but difficult this year. The call to "Give Thanks" may have less appeal, it may feel more cliché, sentimental, less substantial. In light of these real factors, I share two action items for this week that are important not just for this week but forever. Two things that can keep our Thanksgiving full even in challenging times.

1) Guard Your Mind and Your Heart. Throughout this past year, we have faced many uncertainties. In such times, the mind and the heart can be easily pulled in a million different directions. Add to it the steroids of 24 hour news cycle, the immediacy of the internet and social media and the directions that the mind and the heart can go become even more concerning. Conspiracy theories once the stuff for the strange, are now becoming "normal". The Call is upon us to Guard our Mind and Heart. How? Not with big gates or defensive spirits but with Thanksgiving. Listen to St. Paul, it's the peace of God that will guard our hearts!

Philippians 4, 8: Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2) Remember the ultimate object of thanks is LOVE: The fact that we have been loved and can in turn love is the ultimate reason for Thanksgiving. Such love is evident here in our community. This year, over 81 families will enjoy a Thanksgiving Dinner because of our love manifest in our food drive. Many more will know companionship and friendship because of phone calls, prayers and outreach. Yes, LOVE is the source, object and substance in our Thanksgiving.

From my own heart and mind, receive and know my own thanks to God for each one of you. Be assured of my prayers for a full and substantial Thanksgiving, I'll see you tonight on Zoom for our Community Thanksgiving and on Thursday in person or on livestream for our Thanksgiving Mass.

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

Next week, we welcome to the parish one of our young adult parishioners Claire Dawyot. Claire is a pre-med student at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. She will share her witness story of faith and education at Masses next weekend and ask for our prayers and generosity as she embarks on a Spring Medical Mission Trip to Ecuador.

ADVENT WREATHS-Next week Father will bless Advent Wreaths for your homes. All are welcome to bring your home wreaths and place it in the sanctuary for a Blessing.

THANKSGIVING MASS at St. Patrick-Thursday, November 26, 2020 at 9:00AM. Mass will be livestreamed.

AN EVENING OF REFLECTION-"ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT" on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 from 7:00-9:00PM in the school. If you would like to host a table, please contact the parish office at 610-444-4364 by November 30. Please see Flocknote for more information.

POINSETTIA SALE-CEMETERY BLANKETS AND WREATHS-Finish your holiday decorating with beautiful poinsettias and fresh green decorated door wreaths from Whalen's Greenhouses. This sale will benefit the Ladies of St. Patrick.

Order forms can be found in the back of Church. Please have order forms and money returned by December 6, 2020 to Ladies of St. Patrick or the parish office. Checks made payable to Ladies of St. Patrick.
