

November 18, 2018

From Fr. Jim . . .

We have so much for which to be thankful: The opening prayer for Mass on Thanksgiving Day is : *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, One God, for ever and ever. Amen.*



The Gospel for Thanksgiving Day is about Jesus curing the ten lepers and only one returned to give him thanks. God has given us everything. God has given us so much that we live our very lives in thanksgiving to God for his gift of salvation. This is what the one leper discovered when he returned to give Jesus thanks. He believed in Jesus as the Messiah who came to save the world. He was not only cured of his leprosy but by believing in Jesus he would be saved from sin and death. With the gift of faith, he would continue to thank the Lord with his very life. We continue to thank the Lord for the gift of faith and salvation at every Eucharist. We continue to learn how to love the Lord and all others with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and we learn to hand over our lives so that others can live. We learn to put others' needs before our own. There is no greater love and there is no better way to thank God than this.

The Eucharist and living as the Body of Christ in the world is how we can practice giving thanks all the time. I am grateful for all of you and how you thank God so genuinely and sincerely with your prayer and the many ways you share your faith and God's gifts of love and mercy with others. I am grateful for the growth of this parish and all the new life that God is giving us. Let us keep blessing God and giving thanks to God for all God has done and is doing for us with our worship and lived faith now and forever.

Mass on Thanksgiving Day is 10am and immediately after in our church hall, there will be a Thanksgiving Dinner for the whole parish. Our friends from St. Susanna Parish in Mason, Ohio are preparing 25 turkeys with all the side dishes and trimmings. Please plan to join us for Mass in Thanksgiving for God's goodness and generosity. Even if you have plans for thanksgiving, come for Mass and just stop by afterwards for a light snack and especially if you are looking for a place to go for thanksgiving, this is your home and the place to be. We have so much to be thankful for and one blessing is to pray together, share some food and enjoy each other's company. Thanks to St. Susanna for your wonderful generosity and kindness.