



**ST. LEO THE GREAT PARISH
NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER**

REMEMBERING TO THANK GOD . . .

"God is so good. God is so good. God is so good. God's so good to us." What truth lies in these simple lines of a familiar prayer meeting song!

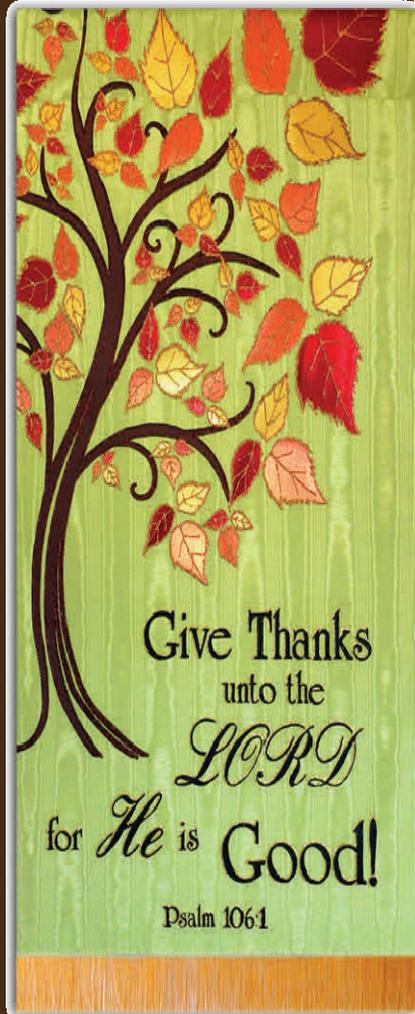
Pope Francis on Gratitude

Pope Francis reminds us of how important it is to give thanks to God for the many ways we are blessed every day. "Often we take everything for granted!" he said. "This also happens with God. It is easy to approach the Lord to ask for something, but to return and give thanks... This is why Jesus so emphasizes the failure of the nine ungrateful lepers: "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was no one found to return and give praise to give praise to God except this foreigner?"

Speaking another time the pope said, "If we can realize that everything is God's gift, how happy will our hearts be! Everything is his gift. He is our strength! Saying 'thank you' is such an easy thing, and yet so hard! How often do we say 'thank you' to one another in our families? These are essential words for our life in common."

And our gratitude should extend beyond relationships, he said. "Creation is not a property, which we can rule over at will; or, even less, is the property of only a few: Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude."

Continued on page 4 . . .



BECAUSE OF YOU . . .

St. Leo's struggle and its gift is its poverty. In order to continue and expand its mission and ministry to the community and our immigrant and refugee parishioners we need to reach out to others to help us through prayer, finances, and service. Through God's grace it becomes mutual blessing.



You Make a Difference

As Thanksgiving Day approaches

Our blessings we recall,

The things we are most thankful for

We recollect them all.

You are really special

In all you've done and do

You make a difference at St. Leo's

We're thankful always for you!



*All of us at St. Leo's are so very grateful
for your bountiful support.*

¡GRACIAS! MURAKOZE! THANK YOU!

We are deeply grateful for your continued and generous support. Our St. Leo the Great parish community promises to remember you and your loved ones in our private prayer, as well as in our communal prayer, which is to say that we are praying for you all the time. May our gracious God fill you with every blessing!

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS . . .



The month of November is one of my favorite months of the year. Liturgically, the church gathers during this month to celebrate some great feasts and occasions: All Saints, All Souls, and Thanksgiving Day. Also, the memorial of St. Leo the Great, the patron Saint of our parish, is November 10th. We are 132 years old this year! Yes, for many reasons, the month of November is a great month.

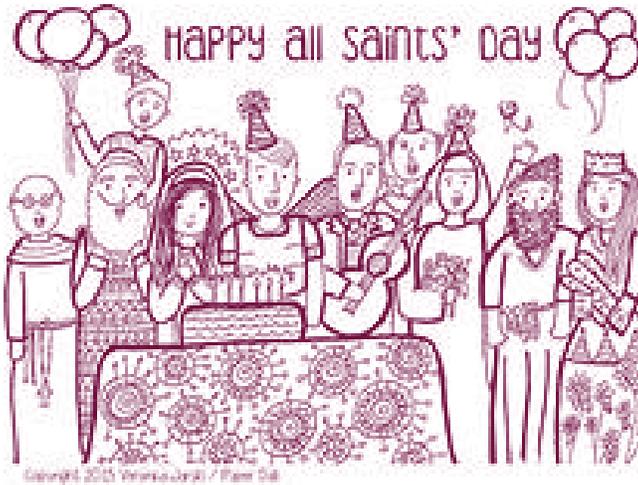
If we take a picture of our parish community on Thanksgiving Day gathering to celebrate Eucharist and to share a Turkey dinner, would we see our Lord and Savior in the picture? Would it be like taking a “selfie” with God? If we could take a picture of all the Saints and all Souls, would we see God in the picture? Would, this, too be like taking a “selfie” with God?

Scripture tells us that disciples, apostles and followers of Christ make up the Body of Christ in the world today and we all have been made in the image and likeness of God. When we look at each other and all others, we are to see the face of God and when God looks at us, God wants to see God’s own image. So much God’s great love forms, shapes, and transforms us. So much God’s love joins and unites us together as one. How important is it for everyone to live in the created image and likeness of the Savior? What difference will it make for how we treat each other and for bringing peace to the world? What implications will it have for the healing of hearts and minds? When others look at us, will they see the Lord? In whom do we see the Lord ever so clearly?

Similarly, there is a church in Rome that is dedicated to the service of the poor who live on the streets. In the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, there are black and white pictures of parishioners and street people caring for one another. The implication is that the Lord who is seen in the pictures of God’s people on the street and in those who care for them images the presence of God in the Eucharist and vice versa. Nearby this chapel,

is a burnt cross with a burnt corpus of Jesus without hands, legs and feet. The caption on the wall reads: “You are my hands and feet.”

The month of November begins with the Church celebrating two feast days: The Feast of All Saints on November 1st and the Feast of all Souls on November 2nd. Both of these feasts could be entitled: “Jesus takes a selfie.” Both of these feasts remind us that we are all to be “picture perfect” as we live in the image and likeness of God on earth only to share eternal life and glory with God in heaven. As we live in God’s image, God will make us perfect as God is perfect and bring us all to perfection one day.



Near the end of the month, we will celebrate Thanksgiving Day. How often, do you think, when God takes a picture of God, it turns out to be our families sharing a meal together and giving thanks for the life and love that is found among family and friends? How often, do you think, it turns out to be the Church of God celebrating Eucharist and giving thanks for the life, love, and salvation that is found in the dying and rising of Our Lord, Jesus Christ? Jesus takes a “selfie” with us or we take a “selfie” with Jesus. It is meant to be that we

are the image of each other – Jesus and us; us and the Lord.

Have fun taking pictures of you and others and of our God at prayer, work and play. Don’t forget to share your pictures with everyone and rejoice at the presence of God in our midst. Every time I think of you, I give thanks to God for being the Body of Christ. May God continue to shape and mold us more and more into his image now and forever.

— Father Jim

St. Leo's Prayer Wall is a place where all, regardless of age, race or creed, are invited to sing God’s praises, give Him thanks, and/or call upon His presence for help in times of need. The wall, a place of prayer for all peoples (much like the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem), captures the faces of the community, as well as peacemakers and saints who have inspired us through the ages.



The Wall is a place for staff and volunteers, youth groups, community meetings, and for individuals who pass through our parking lot on the way to work, school, etc., to pray, reflect and pause. We invite you to share in this special way of prayer, joy, and thanksgiving. Praise God!

God cares about every need in your life and knows what you need even before you ask Him for help. Our St. Leo the Great parish community promises to remember you in our private prayer, as well as in our communal prayer, which is to say that we are praying for you all the time.

All prayer requests are held in strictest confidence. **Send your prayer request to:** Saint Leo the Great Church, 2573 Saint Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225. You can also submit your prayer request online at: <http://saint-leo/WorksofMercy/PrayerWallMinistry.aspx>.

REMEMBERING TO THANK GOD...

St. Leo Parishioners

When asked what they were grateful to God for responses spanned a wide age group and ranged from “my life” to “chicken nuggets.” Here’s a sampling of their answers:

- First and foremost I am grateful for his relentless grace that he continues to show me and my family. I am grateful that I am still alive and I don’t take that for granted. I am grateful also that he continues to bless my family in many ways. *Albert*
- For my loving husband. *Becky* For my loving wife. *Larry*
- Being alive, enjoying everything, and the love shown me. This church is so close to what it was like when Jesus taught and was with the people” *Dr. Dan*
- Loving and giving us everything, I love God. I love my friends and my family. *Therese*
- For my family and all the things God gave me. *Pedro*
- I want to be better to God even when I grow up. *Alicia*
- Because God is always with us and he won’t abandon us either. *Juan*
- Family and friends, fairly good health at 87 and the love of God with his blessings and the gift of the Holy Spirit blessing St. Leo church. *Betty*
- My family, health, meeting nice people and being able to work to take care of my family. *Juan*
- I am grateful for and giving me eternal life. I am grateful to and for my family and friends. *Angelica*
- For sending his son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus came to show us the way (example to us) and the Holy Spirit is here in our hearts, always available to us if we will listen and then follow even if we do not understand why at the time! *Shirley*
- I love God. I love sharing his grace and I want to show kindness, helping people who have no friends. *Patience*
- My family, my life, my friends. *Angel*
- I am grateful to God for my life and for all the things he has given me, especially, my parents and friends. *Dayna*
- I am grateful for family, being healthy, living in a house, having an education. *Adrianna*
- God loves people. *Amelia*
- My family and every-day life. *Amber*
- Life, family, friends, good, talent. *Martin*
- I am grateful for my family and because God created us for a reason. *Joselin and Bersi*
- I thank God for the continuing support that he shows me and my family. I am grateful for his grace that continues to bless us. *Claudette*
- My life. *Jeff*
- My Family. *Dave*
- Everything. *Yesenia*
- Love, joy, peace, and friendship. *Judie*



TAKING THE NEXT RIGHT STEP . . .

Lead Kindly Light

By Cardinal John Henry Newman (1833)

Lead, kindly Light, amid th' encircling gloom,
 Lead Thou me on;
 The night is dark, and I am far from home,
 Lead Thou me on;
 Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see
 The distant scene; one step enough for me....

Whenever I found myself getting upset, discouraged or angry about what was going on in my life or in the world my friend Brother Mike used to encourage me to ask God not for the solution, not for a vision of what will come but “for the next right step.” That’s wise counsel but tough to hear for someone who wants to get things fixed as quickly and as thoroughly as is possible. Give me a crisis and I’ll get right to work, making calls, assembling resources, and advocating. This is a position that worked well when I was a counselor and people often needed immediate responses to keep them safe or avert barren shelves, school expulsion or homelessness.

It doesn’t work so well, however, when dealing with systemic problems like injustice, abuse, polarization, and fear. That’s when taking the “next right step” comes in and it’s often, in my view, painfully slow and inefficient. I’m not good at patience and waiting. When I was pregnant with my second son, the doctor told me on February 2 that he’d be born “any day now.” I paced, I “awfulized,” I was uncomfortable. I complained, moaned, and felt out of control not just for days, but for more than two weeks. Eighteen days later I cradled new-born Jeremy in my arms. In retrospect I realized that time of waiting was needed to give me the gift of my son—and I remain grateful.

Like many Catholics I’m appalled by the sexual abuse scandal in the church. It makes me physically sick. Whatever is done feels like no more than spitting in the ocean. Big changes are needed and one thing’s for sure, as Pope Francis said, there has to be an end to the clerical culture. Okay, I say—let’s get busy and clean up this mess. Give me a broom. I want the horror and shame of this sin to be gone. The reality is that the effects of this scandal



will linger far longer than when any new protective systems are put in place and maybe a lot of things need to be destroyed and rebuilt in this process. And so I feel the pain and sit in the muck as I pray and lament. Much as I want to “fix” things, this, for me, seems to be the next right step for now.

It’s the same with what is going on in our country right now. Like most Americans I hate living in a divided nation. I don’t like being with people when there are things—important things we “can’t talk about.” I applaud events that bring people from differing sides of the spectrum together to get to know each other as persons and often discover the other is not the enemy and we have much more in common than we are different. It seems so small but the seeds of new life and healing are there, so acknowledging the pain, grieving, patience and involvement are the next right steps for me now.

I work with and love immigrants and refugees and I am saddened that many people fear them and don’t want them in our country. So, maybe my next right step is to share their stories with people who haven’t had the opportunity to know immigrants and refugees so perhaps the fear slowly—often very slowly—begins to melt and these newcomers are seen as people like themselves trying to protect their families from violence and hunger as any parent would. It’s a painful process for all of us.

Maybe our communal next right step is being willing to enter the cloak of night that seems to be enveloping us now—to sit in the grief and uncertainty of the Saturday after the crucifixion; not knowing but hoping there will be a resurrection. It’s painful here. I can’t see my hand in front of my face. I don’t know if anyone else is here. There could be an unseen monster lurking nearby ready to devour me. I’m not sure if I—or we—will survive. But bleak and frightening and painfully slow as this is it just might be exactly what is needed to restore us. It reminds me of the time I fussed and complained in the weeks before Jeremy’s birth but later was joyful and filled with gratitude as I nestled him close to my heart and was caressed by his sweet baby breath and the music of his baby sounds. It was worth it. The time of waiting wasn’t pleasant. I wouldn’t have chosen it, didn’t like it, but it was needed.

So for now I’m choosing to live in the uncomfortable place of unknowing and tension. I don’t like it, but I believe it is the next right step. Anyone willing to join me?

—Angela Anno



St. Leo Food Pantry is seeking organizations that would be willing to “Sponsor” one month of our operating cost (see numbers to the right).

Sponsor’s name will be recognized in the food pantry foyer, on St. Leo’s website, in the monthly newsletter and in the weekly Sunday bulletin during their month; and if interested, the organization’s members would be welcome to volunteer by working in the pantry serving our clients.

If interested, please contact Casey Betz at 513-921-1044 x 30, cbetzstleo@aol.com, or mail to: Casey Betz, St. Leo the Great Church 2573 Saint Leo Place, Cincinnati, OH 45225.

St. LEO FOOD PANTRY

MONTHLY OVERHEAD SPONSORSHIP

Rent	\$1,250.00
Phone/Internet	107.89
Gas & Electric	797.11
G.C. Water Works	104.65
Pest Control	35.35
Insurance	<u>28.53</u>
Total Monthly Overhead	\$2,323.53

CLANCY'S CLICHÉ'S



I like to play with words. Interestingly enough, if you spy the word Gratefulness, there's a wonderful hidden message in it. Read on:

Imagine you've been stuck in a cavernous vacuum. Take everything away and out of sight. That's including your home, family, friends, conveniences, smartphones - everything. You're in a dark void and can't even see, hear, feel, or sense anything. Time has seeped away and all you have are your thoughts.

What do you feel? After what seems like ages, a pinpoint of light starts growing larger in the distance. Stop and think...What do you feel? Wondrous smells of baking bread wafts through your nostrils. Stop and think...What do you feel? Strains of beautiful music, birds singing, and laughter fill the air. Stop and think...What do you feel?

Day in and day out we receive a boatload full of blessings - the convenience of our homes and cars, family and friends, our health, our senses. Receiving something on a regular basis makes us pretty immune to the gift that it is and creates expectation and entitlement. Are we sucked into that vacuum of darkly ignoring life around us? What do we feel? Do we get upset when treats aren't offered after dinner or if the internet crashes? Do we fail to be grateful or do we come to expect these good things? What do we feel?

Give thanks, even for the little things, even when it challenges us and takes faith to do so. Focus on what we do have and not what we don't have. Choose to be grateful, to appreciate, to recognize the goodness all around and how full life is. Express it through your actions every day. Escape the vacuum into the fullness of appreciation.

See! Gratefulness is GreatFULLness!

Detective Clancy at your Service!



Clancy's Cackles

What do turkeys and teddy bears have in common?
Stuffing. Lots of stuffing.

What is the best Thanksgiving cookie?
One baked with May-flour.



What's the easiest recipe for a pumpkin pie?
Simply divide the pumpkin's circumference by its diameter.



(Thank Jakey for that one!)



ST. LEO PARISH AND COMMUNITY CONTACT INFORMATION



Pastor: Rev. James R. Schutte

Address: 2573 Saint Leo Place,
Cincinnati, OH 45225

Phone: 513-921-1044

Parish Nurse: 513-862-4398 **Fax:** 513-921-8048

E-Mail: stleocinti@aol.com **Website:** www.saint-leo.org

Facebook: St. Leo The Great Catholic Church

St. Leo's YouTube Channel: StLeoTheGreatParish

Worship Schedule: Saturday 6:00pm Mass in Spanish;
Sunday Mass: 10:30am; Weekday Mass: Thursday 7:00pm
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: First Thursday following 7:00pm Mass.

FOOD PANTRY: At the corner of Carll & Baltimore

Serving Hours: Mon., Wed., & Fri., 1:00pm to 3:30pm

Pantry Requirements: Serving North Fairmount, English Woods, Roll Hill Apts., and Millvale once every 30 days. See website: www.saint-leo.org or call (513-921-1044) to see if your street is covered. To meet St. Leo's Acts of Mercy pantry donor guidelines, current proof of residence (Duke or telephone bill), photo ID & Social Security Cards for all members of household must be presented at each visit. **Plan ahead: Children must be supervised while at our Food Pantry.**

Extra Volunteers Needed: Nov. 16, 19, 21, Dec. 14, 17, 19
Call 513-921-1044 If you can help out!



Volunteer Needed

3-4 hours each week to do light housekeeping at the rectory, including cleaning the restrooms and kitchen, vacuuming and dusting the offices and meeting spaces. If you are interested, please call 513-921-1044.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASSES

We welcome all wishing to learn English. **FREE!**
Saturday 10:00-Noon.



COMMUNITY PHONE NUMBERS

North Fairmount Community Center/
Referral Services: Linda Klem: 513-921-5842
Housing: 513-921-5889, Healthy Moms & Babes: 513-591-5600
Hopple Street Neighborhood Clinic: 513-541-4500
Literary Network: 513-621-7323



HELPING HANDS STORE 2568 Beekman St, 45225, at the corner of Beekman and Dempsey, and

ANGELS' ARMS STORE, 1882 Baltimore Ave. Both accepting donations of clothing, kitchen, bath and bedding. Open 9:00-4:00pm. Monday-Friday. Call Linda Klems at 623-9897.

Visit Us!

St. Leo's website: www.Saint-Leo.org
Facebook: St. Leo the Great Catholic Church
St. Leo's YouTube Channel: StLeoTheGreatParish



Enjoy the online edition with color photos!

Save the **www.saint-leo.org** site in your "favorites" list to visit often. Feel free to send corrections, updates, news and/or info to be included on the website to Casey Betz, Development Director, at cbetzstleo@aol.com. If you'd like to receive St. Leo's Newsletter, call 921-1044 and we'll add you (or anyone else you know) to the mailing list.

HOW YOU CAN HELP . . .



Treasure Chest

Treasure Chest Tickets are sold on a monthly basis at \$5.00 each.

- Winner based on Pick 3 played straight every day.
- Each \$100.00 prize will be sent in the mail.
- Get In On the Fun! To purchase Treasure Chest tickets, send \$5.00 per ticket by the first of the month to: St. Leo Treasure Chest, 2573 Saint Leo Pl., Cinti., OH 45225
- Volunteers Needed to help sell tickets!

September Winners: Taylor Nienaber, Karen Halpin, Doug Wright, Jack Sams, Jerry Wright, Lu Ann Beiderbeck, Frank Butler, Thomas Nienaber and Cheryl Hayes.

A special **THANK YOU** to Bobbie Brockman who sells over 75 tickets every month.



Pantry Press

In August the Food Pantry served 808 individuals, in 283 households, including 350 children and 82 seniors.

Needs for November:

- **Especially needed:** Peanut Butter & Canned Tuna - 2 high-protein sources!
- **Canned:** baked beans, vegetarian vegetable soup, cream of mushroom soup, salmon, chicken, ham (especially with the upcoming holidays!), mixed veggies, spinach, pineapple, mixed fruit
- **Spices** (cinnamon, onion powder, mustard powder), Parmesan cheese shake, Vinegar, cooking oil
- Deodorant, shaving cream, tissues & Clorox wipes ('tis the season!)
- Spaghetti, egg noodles, 1-lb bags of rice
- BAGGIES - quart size

WISH LIST

Air/Heating unit for new classroom/meeting room in old pantry area - \$550.00

Computer w/Windows & internet capacity (\$350-\$450)

Galvanized gate for outside storage area - \$100-\$160

Wireless Doorbell w/Flashing Light for Centennial Hall - \$30-\$50

Toddler sized Baptism Bibs (about 20) and

Baby sized Baptism Bibs (about 15)

Matt for the baby changing table in the rest room.

Materials for Sacramental Prep (First Communion & Confirmation) 65 students x \$30.53ea. = \$1,984.45

6 8ftx30in lightweight folding tables https://www.samsclub.com/sams/lifetime-8-stack-stacking-table-8/prod20051460.ip?xid=plp_product_1_3

20 lightweight stacking chairs <https://www.advantagechurchchairs.com/advantage-black-plastic-stack-chair-black-frame-adv-hdstk-blk/>

Gift Cards for the continuing work and maintenance of the parish, and our Youth Group functions: **Home Depot, Staples, Hobby Lobby, Kroger, Priceless!**

EXTRA FOOD PANTRY HELP NEEDED:

November 16, 19, 21

December 14, 17, 19

Call 513-921-1044 if you can help out!

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED

"Many Hands Make Light Work!" Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, noon to 4/4:30 are typical volunteer hours, but if you happen to only have a couple of hours to share on those days, we certainly can use extra help. Call 513-921-1044x30.

Easy Online Giving

Make a one-time donation, or set up a weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual gift to be deducted from your banking account, or to charge your gift to your credit card:



Go to <http://saint-leo.org/DonateNow.aspx> And click on the Donate Now Button.

SHOP AMAZON SMILE, SUPPORT ST.

LEO: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/31-0538556>

SHOP KROGER'S AND SUPPORT ST. LEO:

<https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> Enter St. Leo's #KC265 or search for St. Leo the Great Church.

iGive: Shop the sites you love and support St. Leo! Sounds easy? It is! Sign up at <http://www.igive.com/>



St. LEO FOOD PANTRY

MONTHLY OVERHEAD SPONSORSHIP

Catholic Charities of Southwestern Ohio will no longer be able to support the St. Leo Food Pantry financially after this coming January. To offset the financial gap, we are seeking organizations that would be willing to "Sponsor" one month of our operating cost.

Rent	\$1,250.00
Phone/Internet	107.89
Gas & Electric	797.11
G.C. Water Works	104.65
Pest Control	35.35
Insurance	28.53
Total Monthly Overhead	\$2,323.53

Sponsor's name will be recognized in the food pantry foyer, on St. Leo's website, in the monthly newsletter and in the weekly Sunday bulletin during their month; and if interested, the organization's members would be welcome to volunteer by working in the pantry serving our clients.

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ST. LEO THE GREAT CHURCH
 2573 ST. LEO PLACE AT BALTIMORE AVENUE
 CINCINNATI, OH 45225-1960

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 Cincinnati, Ohio
 Permit No. 3402

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <h1 style="text-align: center;">NOVEMBER</h1> 			1 7:00pm MASS All Saints Day Office Closed		2 Food Pantry open; AA Meeting 7:30pm All Souls Day	3 Mass in Spanish 6pm; English as 2 nd lang. class 10-noon
			4 Mass: 10:30am Daylight Savings Time Ends 	5 Food Pantry Open	6 	7 Food Pantry Open
11 Mass: 10:30am	12 Food Pantry Open Veterans Day	13 	14 Food Pantry Open	15 7:00pm MASS	16 Food Pantry open; AA Meeting 7:30pm	17 Mass in Spanish 6pm; English as 2 nd lang. class 10-noon
18 Mass: 10:30am	19 Food Pantry Open	20 	21 Food Pantry Closing at 2:30pm	22 7:00pm MASS Office Closed  Thanksgiving	23 Food Pantry Closed; Office Closed AA Meeting 7:30pm	24 Mass in Spanish 6pm;; English as 2 nd lang. class 10-noon
25 Mass: 10:30am	26 Food Pantry Open	27 	28 Food Pantry Open	29 7:00pm MASS	30 Food Pantry open; AA Meeting 7:30pm	