

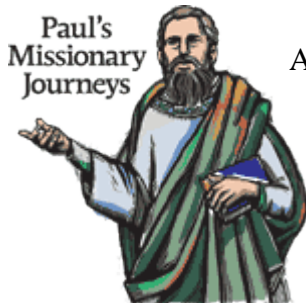
THANKSGIVING: "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this weekend, our readings speak to us of a wedding banquet to which all are invited: of feasts of rich food and well-aged wines, of a Good Shepherd who prepares for us a table of plenty. Images that are familiar to us as we sit down to roast turkey and pumpkin pie – or whatever special food and drink we enjoy when feasting with family and friends. And yet, not all will sit down this weekend to a bountiful table, surrounded by family and friends: the sick, the lonely, the poor, the homeless. What will they have to be thankful for?

In today's second reading, St. Paul is writing from prison to his beloved community at Philippi. He is sad to be away from them, and yet he tells them that he has learned to be content with whatever he has – whether hungry or well-fed, whether in the company of friends or alone in his prison cell. And the "secret" behind Paul's happiness is his grateful spirit, his firm conviction that **"I can do all things through the One who strengthens me."** Though grateful for all the external blessings, Paul knew that if he let his happiness depend on these, he could easily be disappointed. It is his relationship with Christ, his firm conviction that his life now belongs to Jesus "who loved me and gave himself for me", that allows him to choose joy and gratitude even in times of deprivation.

All of us are invited to share in this spirit of gratefulness in which we value first and foremost our relationship with the Giver, and only secondarily the particular gifts. So for all that we have received, for all that we are about to receive, may the Lord make us truly thankful. Happy Thanksgiving!





As many of you know, I will be leaving this coming Wednesday on a two-week pilgrimage following in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul. Leading a group of two dozen pilgrims, we will visit many of the special places associated with Paul's apostolic journeys – Ephesus, Thessalonica, Philippi, Athens, Corinth – and will be seeking together a deeper union with Christ, who was everything to Paul. Please pray for us, and know that your intentions and those of St. Monica's Parish will be prominent in our prayers. One more thing for which to be thankful!

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

The Joy of the Gospel: How Our Encounter with Jesus Changes Us and the World

In his book, "The Joy of the Gospel", Pope Francis reflects on our life with Jesus and how our relationship with Him influences our way of being in the world. Over six weekly sessions, **Sr. Marie Azzarello, CND**, will be our guide as we take time to ponder, integrate, and be challenged by Pope Francis' prophetic message. Join us on **Tuesday afternoons, October 21 to November 25 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** in the parish rectory. The book, "The Joy of the Gospel", will be available to purchase for \$10. Please register by **October 17**.

Coffee and Conversation

Coffee and Conversation is an opportunity for adults, especially parents, to gather together for a fresh and compelling look at the teachings of Jesus. This year, we will view the NOOMA series of short films. Pastor Rob Bell's reflections, related to real-life situations, invite us to search, question and discuss their meaning for us. Our first session is "Rain – Things don't always work out the way we want them to". Join us on **Sunday, October 19, from 9:50 to 10:50 am**, in the rectory dining room. Babysitting is available upon request at registration. Please register by **October 16**.

Please refer to our website and the posters at the Church entrances for additional information. If registration is required, kindly use the appropriate sign-up sheets at the main church entrance or contact Anna at the office.

MASS INTENTIONS OCTOBER 11 TO 19, 2014

Saturday, October 11: Our Lady's Saturday

4:00 Antonio Bei By wife Gabriella Bei
 Louis Collins By Monique Collins
 Pietro Di Meglio By the Family

Sunday, October 12: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 In Loving Memory: Aline Liautaud, Natalina Donati Ceccucci, Salvati Family, Deceased members of the Cullen Family, Bill Agnew.
11:00 Vincenzo Saluzzi By Maddalena Saluzzi & Family
 For Special Intentions of Maria & By the Family
 Alfredo Diodati

Monday, October 13: Weekday Mass "Thanksgiving Day"

8:00 Anna & Lorenzo Forlini By Louise Forlini
 Antonio & Rosa Paoli By Pietrina Paoli

Tuesday, October 14: St. Callistus 1 (Pope)

8:00 Ettore Lanni By wife Virginia & Family
 Cruciano Nardinocchi By his mother Edda

Wednesday, October 15: St. Teresa of Jesus

8:00 Antonio & Annunziata Castelli By the Piccolino Family
 Theresa, Julian & Kevin Rooney By Gary Rooney

Thursday, October 16: St. Marguerite D'Youville

8:00 Giacomo Fiori & Family By Berardina Fiori
 Angelo Tedeschi By the Family

Friday, October 17: St. Ignatius of Antioch

8:00 Ermando Giuseppe Nudo By wife Elvira
 Stephen Kuhn By Susanna Kuhn
 Giuseppe Di Vingeno & Anna Brania By Romana

Saturday, October 18: St. Luke

4:00 Alfredo & Berenice Giannantonio By Elisa Iorio

Sunday, October 19: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 Giovanni, Maria, & Elena Piccolino By the Piccolino Family
 Emil Johnson By Mariela, Olivia & Mom
11:00 In Loving Memory: Joseph Ones, Luigi & Rosa Mammone, Italo Falcone, Italo & Anna Mariani, Domenico Abbatiello, Vittorio Nesta, and Debe Carpentier.

Your Generosity...

Thank you for your on-going support of our parish...Collection for the weekend of October 4/5, 2014 totalled \$3,696.70. Maintenance collection totalled \$1,370.00.

SKATE-A-THON FOR THE FOOD PANTRY



Come join us at the **Loyola Arena on Saturday, October 25, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.** to raise money for our Food Pantry. Pledge sheets will be available at the entrance of the church next weekend.

"SOW MUCH LOVE" DEVELOPMENT & PEACE FALL CAMPAIGN

Pope Frances encourages us to question the status quo. Challenges faced by small family farmers point to political and economical structures that are guided by profit and power, not by our Christian values. Catholic Social Teaching provides us with principles including the option for the poor, the common good, the integrity of creation and the dignity of the person.

PASTORAL HOME CARE MEETING

The general meeting for Pastoral Home Care volunteers will be held on Tuesday, October 14, in the rectory basement after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY OCTOBER 19, 2014 WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

FAITH & JUSTICE BAZAAR OCTOBER 25

We are in need of **bakers** and **workers** for our bazaar. There are sign-up sheets on the tables at the back of the church.

We also encourage you to come and support us and to enjoy a delicious lunch which will be served on Saturday & Sunday. All proceeds go to projects in our twin parish of Zamoran.

Saturday is opened for the public from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday is opened for the parish only from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Please, No donation of clothes or books

OCTOBER ROSARY PRAYED



Our Lady has asked us to pray the Rosary for peace and for conversions. **During the month of October, the Rosary will be prayed every Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in the church.** Come and answer Mary's call to pray the Rosary for peace.

VISIT TO ZAMORAN!

Sharon Di Fruscia is planning to visit our twin parish in Zamoran within the next few months. If anyone would like to join her, phone the office and leave your name and number.