

THANKS GIVING: A TIME TO REMEMBER THE GIVER

As we approach the celebration of **Thanksgiving Day next weekend**, we are invited to lift our hearts beyond the table, beyond tradition, and into a deep spirit of gratitude to God, who is the true source of every blessing.

In earlier times, Thanksgiving was closely tied to the harvest—the reaping of what was sown. Fields were full, barns were stocked, and people came together to give thanks for God’s provision through nature and labor. Today, especially here in Canada, most of us are not farmers. We don’t harvest with our hands—but we still eat, live, and are sustained. So where does the harvest come from?

It comes from the hard work of many, often unseen: factory workers, drivers, engineers, storekeepers, health professionals, caretakers, and more. It comes from a stable climate, safe communities, functioning systems. But ultimately, it all comes from God— “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights” (James 1:17).

In the book of Deuteronomy, Moses warned the people not to forget God in times of abundance. “Remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth” (Deuteronomy 8:18). We must remember this too. Gratitude is not just good manners, but a spiritual posture. It reminds us that we are not self-made, and the world is not just a machine—it is creation, sustained by a loving God.

And as Catholics, we live this most fully in the **Eucharist**, which literally means “Thanksgiving.” At every Mass, we take the fruits of human labor—bread and wine—and offer them back to God. In return, He gives us His very life in the Body and Blood of Christ.

This coming week let’s prepare not only with food or plants, but with hearts of reflections. Ask ourselves: who made it possible for me to live this week? Where did I see God’s hand in my daily life? and how can I give back to God and to others?

Let us come together in the spirit of Psalms 92, next weekend mass “it is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High”. May our Thanksgiving be more than a holiday, it must become Holy day.

REMINDER: LIFE CHAIN 2025 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Join us for **Life Chain 2025**, a silent, prayerful witness for the unborn, on Sunday, October 5, from 2–3 PM. Our nearest location: Sherbrooke at the Décarie Expressway, Montreal. One hour. One message. All are welcome.

REMINDER: ACTS-2 YOUTH MEETING – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Our youth group, **ACTS-2**, will meet this Sunday, October 5, after the 11:00 AM Mass in the parish hall. Led by Cecille Nielly, this group welcomes students and young professionals looking to grow in faith and build community. New members are warmly invited—come and see!

OUTREACH DINNER – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

On Sunday, October 5, members of the **9 AM choir** will represent St. Monica's Parish by serving dinner to the homeless at the Sisters of Charity Home in downtown Montreal. We are grateful for their generous initiative and commitment to caring for those most in need.

FAITH SHARING

St. Monica's Faith-Sharing Group will be meeting for 7 sessions beginning on Thursday, October 30 from 2 to 3:30 PM in the Rectory Hall. Our theme this year will be the challenges and blessings of ageing, and our guide will be Joyce Rupp OSM's book Vessels of Love. We welcome new members to join us in prayer and sharing. If interested, please contact Barbara DeLorenzi at bookclub@stmonica.ca.

MASS INTENTIONS: October 4 - 10, 2025

Saturday, 4:00pm – October 4, 2025 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Antonio Bei

Maria Di Meglio

Angelina Gioillo

Gabriella Bei & Family

Elena Di Meglio & Family

Elena Di Meglio & Family

Sunday, 9:00am – October 5, 2025 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deceased Members of the Di Fazio & Iacovone Family

Children

Sunday, 11:00am – October 5, 2025 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Austin Finnerty

Joseph Onesi

Olga & Mario Cappello

Natalino Cappello

Daly Family

Ida Onesi & Family

Anna Cappello

Anna Cappello

Tuesday, 8:30am – October 7, 2025 – MEMORIAL – Our Lady of the Rosary

Maria Bagatella

Marguerite Vincelli

Wim Laarhoven

Isabel Vincelli

Isabel Vincelli

Maura Dacuycuy

Wednesday, 8:30am – October 8, 2025: Weekday

Isa, Ivio & Mark Mazzella

Family

Thursday, 8:30am & 7:00pm - October 9, 2025 – Saint Denis and Companions

Anna & Lorenzo Forlini

Living – Denise Bergeron

Living Dalibor Pejko

Erminio Forlini

Patricia & Elvio

Patricia & Elvio

Friday, 8:30am – October 10, 2025: Weekday

John Griffin

Ann Griffin