



Scripture Readings for Today

1st Reading: Daniel 7:13-14
2nd Reading: Revelation 1:5-8
Gospel: John 18:33b-37

Scripture Readings for November 29th

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12— 4:2
Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36



Today's second reading reminds us that the sacrifice of Christ frees us from sin and makes us a royal nation of priests in the service of God.

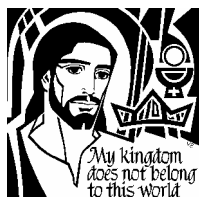
How am I using my gifts to serve God and others?

Dear Parishioners,

It is interesting that the Church year ends the same as it begins by asking, "is anyone listening to the Holy Spirit". The world we live in doesn't. It listens to the spirit of self satisfaction: 'if it feels good it is good.' This is a lie.

Those who listen to the Holy Spirit are the ones who accept Jesus as the ruler of their heart, mind and soul. This acceptance is a life of service to God in all we say and do: 'if we live His will, it feels good and it is good'. If more of God's children 'listened to his voice' and thus accepted the truth of Jesus' sovereign love for us, the world would be more peaceful and joyful. As this Church year ends listen and live for Jesus. Do this in your homes one day at a time. When the new Church year begins continue to be in his love. Walk this Advent with our Blessed Mother, Mary. This will give you joy and much love. And you will indeed feel good!

Deacon Jack



Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on God's many blessings in our lives and to give thanks to our loving God, who will never be outdone in generosity.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL of Doris Shryock.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS, especially those in hospitals – Cecilia French, Mary Strunck, Patrick Daschbach and Robert Scheile.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all those recovering from surgeries and illness and for: Dolores Taffetani, Catherine Applegarth, Joan Armstrong, Francis Vizzini, Milton & Timothy Getka, Beth Szczybor, Therese Lipscombe, Quinn Degenhard, May Herzing, Brother James Kelly, Bernard Maddox, Edward Flannagan, Kyla Zeilinger, Jo Keyes, Teddy Skinner, Bill Herman, James DeMatteo, Margaret Peter, Florence Fink, Lillian Goldwine, Lorraine Keough, Kathleen Ricker, Helen Bopp, Frances Amann, Genevieve Randle, Evana Feeney, Heather LaMartina, Ann Finnel, Dottie Lappe, Concetta Fowler, Sandy Miller, Margaret Blinke, Mr. & Mrs. William Lang.

PRAYERS FOR OUR SERVICE PEOPLE: We ask you to remember the parishioners, family & friends serving in the military: **USMC** – Cpl. Joseph Bytella, LCpl. Sean Fitzpatrick, LCpl Alex Webb, LCpl. John J. Cohee, Jr., Sgt. David Burton; **NAT'L GUARD** – Pfc. Ryan Kamauff, David Parker; **NAVY** – Harrison Seward, David Roussey, Daniel Gately; **ARMY** – SSG Patrick Flanagan, Sgt. Alex Kuziel, James Lowe, Andy Giotis, Andy Deponai, Timothy Muhl, Sgt. Joshua Callow, Specialist Stephen Grenfell, 1st Lt. Stephen Winter, Capt. Sheldon Broedel.

MASS COUNT FOR NOVEMBER 14-15TH

5 PM – 280 7:30 AM – 180 9 AM – 242
 10:30 AM – 289 12 PM – 274 Total – 1265

COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 14-15TH

Envelopes\$12,897.76
 Loose\$1,252.04
 Poor Boxes\$488.79
 Children's\$40.67

Mass Intentions**MASSES FOR NOVEMBER 23-29TH**

MONDAY	6:30 a.m. – Albert Walters
11/23	8:00 a.m. – Souls in Purgatory
TUESDAY	6:30 a.m. – Souls in Purgatory
11/24	8:00 a.m. – Carolynn Chin
WED.	6:30 a.m. – Rita Berry
11/25	8:00 a.m. – Souls in Purgatory
THURS.	8:00 a.m. – Joan Quinn
11/26	
FRIDAY	6:30 a.m. – June McGrain
11/27	8:00 a.m. – Souls in Purgatory
SAT.	8:00 a.m. – Souls in Purgatory
11/28	5:00 p.m. – Bob Mellendick
SUNDAY	7:30 a.m. – For the Parishioners
11/29	9:00 a.m. – Grace Madison
	10:30 a.m. – Ints. of Barry Fitzpatrick
	12:00 p.m. – Connie Crims

DAILY READINGS

Monday 11/23	St. Clement I, St. Columban & Bl. Miguel Agustín Pro Reading: Daniel 1:1-6, 8-20 Gospel: Luke 21:1-4
Tuesday 11/24	St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions Reading: Daniel 2:31-45 Gospel: Luke 21:5-11
Wed. 11/25	St. Catherine of Alexandria Read: Daniel 5:1-6, 13-17, 23-28 Gospel: Luke 21:12-19
Thursday 11/26	Thanksgiving Day Reading: 1 Kings 8:55-61 Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Gospel: Luke 1:39-55
Friday 11/27	Weekday Reading: Daniel 7: 2-14 Gospel: Luke 21:29-33
Saturday 11/28	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Reading: Daniel 7:15-27 Gospel: Luke 21: 34-36



ADVENT CANDLES: are available for purchase in the parish office for \$3 / set. M-F 8:30 am – 7 pm. Sat. – closed; Sunday 8:30 am – 1:30 pm.

FLOWERS – Flowers on the Holy Family Altar are in loving memory of Joseph Terracina, requested by Mary Lou. Flowers on the Blessed Sacrament Altar are in loving memory of Jacque Harris on her birthday, requested by her family.



OPERATION CRECHE KRINGLE: starts this weekend. Please remember – do not take any ornament off the tree. Always take your selection from the manger under the Jesse Tree. Take the Santa part, which gives the first name, code, and description of the gift. Put the Crèche part on the tree. After wrapping the gift, **tape only the Santa on the outside of your gift.** All gifts must be returned by December 13th after the 12 noon Mass. If you have any questions please call Richard or Cookie Hauf at 410-747-0398.

THE ST. AGNES PRO-LIFE COMMITTEE invites all parishioners to our meeting Tuesday, Nov. 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. Please contact Joe Healy at 410-788-4325 or st.piusx@gmail.com if you would like to join the committee but cannot attend the meeting.

THANKSGIVING DAY is this Thursday, Nov. 26th.



Our Mass will be held at 8:00 a.m. **There will be no 6:30 a.m. Mass.** The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 26-27th.

OUR DAILY BREAD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY for men will be held on Saturday, Dec. 12th in the ODB Employment Center dining room from 3-5 p.m. Donations of the following “unwrapped” items are being sought: gloves, wool hats, scarves, socks, flannel shirts (sizes M, L, XL, and 2XL), and bags of toiletry articles (soap, shaving cream, razors, combs, deodorants). Boxes for collecting donated items will be in Church Nov. 28th. Please call Doris Franz-Poling at 443-986-9031 for more information. Thank you for your continued generous support of ODB!

DEACON JACK’S CHRISTMAS TURKEYS:



Donations are being accepted now until December 5th to purchase Christmas turkeys for the parishioners of the Transfiguration Parish. All donations may be placed in the collection basket on Sunday, clearly labeled Deacon Jack’s Turkeys; or in an envelope to the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity.

ST. AGNES SCHOOL NEWS!

The administration, faculty, staff, and students of St. Agnes Catholic School wish our fellow parishioners and friends a most blessed and happy Thanksgiving. We are grateful for your support and prayers, and for all you have done for our school throughout the years! We are a very blessed community because of all of your contributions to St. Agnes School.

Congratulations to the Catholic War Veterans Essay Contest winners Nora Marcus 8A who earned 1st Place and Edward Lowry 8B who placed 3rd in the regional competition! These two students are now eligible for the state level competition. We are so proud of you!

High School Placement tests are scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 5 and Dec.12 from 8:30am - 11:30am. Call the school office if you need the info. on which schools are testing on each Saturday.

Dates To Remember:

- 11/23 Confirmation practice/ 7PM
- 11/25 Grandparents Day/ 10:00-12:30
Join us for a prayer service at 10:00 followed by visits to the classrooms.
- 11/27 Happy Thanksgiving
School Closed Thursday and Friday
- 11/30 Teacher Professional Day
School Closed
Confirmation Practice/7:00pm
- 12/2 Santa's Workshop Preview Night
- 12/3 Santa's Workshop
- 12/4 Santa's Workshop
Confirmation 7:00 P.M. / Followed by Reception in St. Agnes Activity Center
First Friday Mass 9:00 All are welcome!
Trimester 1 Report Cards sent home.
- 12/6 Breakfast with Santa 8:30 – 10:00am and 10:30 – 12:00pm

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES! Each year the Maryland State Council of the Knights of Columbus awards several high school and college scholarships to sons and daughters of members of the Knights of Columbus and to Catholic students in general. Visit www.kofc-md.org/state/committees/scholarships.htm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Monday, November 23 – Confirmation Practice
All Confirmandi should meet in the church from 7-9pm. This practice is for Confirmandi only.

Sunday, November 29– No Classes
Please remember we will have no class on November 29 because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Monday, November 30 – Confirmation Practice
All Confirmandi and their sponsors should meet in the church from 7-9pm.

ST. AGNES YOUTH MINISTRY

Forms for our Dec. 6 outing to see "A Christmas Carol" will be distributed tonight. They will also be available at www.StAgnesCatholicChurch.org

Sunday, November 22 – Thanksgiving Pot Luck
We will provide the turkey, gravy and pie! Everyone should bring a side dish! Youth group will meet from 6-7:30 tonight since we will be eating dinner.

Sunday, November 29 – No Youth Night
There will be no youth night on Thanksgiving weekend.

ST. AGNES BASKETBALL – Boys AND Girls in grades 9-12 interested in playing basketball for St. Agnes Parish should email Sue Bianco at suebianco@yahoo.com or call 410-788-3537.

CARDINAL GIBBONS SCHOOL will hold an evening open house on Tuesday, Dec. 1st from 6:30PM until 8PM. All prospective high school boys and their families are invited to attend.

MT DE SALES ACADEMY'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND SPAGHETTI DINNER will be held on Sunday, December 6 from noon to 6 p.m. Shop for handmade crafts, enjoy delicious sweets, visit Santa's Secret Shop, and bid on silent auction baskets. Enjoy an authentic spaghetti dinner. Tickets for dinner are \$9 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens and \$5 for children, ages 6-12. Children under the age of 5 are free. Family tickets are available for \$35 (immediate family only). Carry out dinners are available.

TRAVELING FOR THE HOLIDAY? For nationwide Mass times and locations, call 1-410-676-6000, or visit www.MassTimes.org.

Thanksgiving Day



Paul Turner

Thanksgiving Day may be observed with a special Mass at Catholic churches throughout the United States of America. The day is a secular holiday with strong religious roots. This day implies that there is a God, that God is provident, that we recognize what God has done, that we can address God about our blessings, and that the best thing we can say is "Thanks."

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops includes this day on the liturgical calendar for the country as an optional memorial. Parishes are therefore not obliged to observe it. They may celebrate whatever weekday Mass would otherwise fall on that day this year. But most parishes choose to make this a special Mass of thanksgiving. If anyone knows how to give thanks to God, the church should know how to do it best. The very word *Eucharist* means "thanksgiving." There is no more fitting way to celebrate this feast than to join in prayer at the table of the Lord.

The sacramentary offers a set of prayers that the priest may use for a Thanksgiving Day Mass, including a special preface to open the Eucharistic prayer. Readings may be taken from the lectionary's Mass "In Thanksgiving to God." There are several choices here, so the readings you hear may change from year to year.

Some churches observe other customs. There may be a food collection at Mass so that those who have trouble paying for groceries will benefit from the generosity of the faithful. Or parishes might invite you to bring some of the food you will eat at your own table this day. In that case, you may hear the Blessing of Food on Thanksgiving Day from the *Book of Blessings*.

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MEMORY VERSE

REVELATION 1:5

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth.

"IN HIS LIKENESS" ST. CLEMENT I - POPE, MARTYR NOVEMBER 23

St Clement was a disciple of St. Peter and several important early sources say that Peter intended that Clement succeed him as head of the Roman community. Clement relinquished the pontificate to Linus, however, and after the death of Anacletus (or Cletus) resumed the pontificate, and so he is numbered as the third successor of St. Peter, beginning about the year 91.

Clement is an esteemed figure from the first century Roman Church. His name is mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer 1), and though he is honored as a martyr, there is some doubt that he was actually martyred.

Some insight into the nature and character of this revered Roman bishop is had from his only extant writing, an *Epistle to the Corinthians*, a very pastoral document. Its purpose was to settle a quarrel in the Church of Corinth, a rebellion against authority. In the letter, Clement counsels humility, temperance, faith and good works. God the Creator of order in nature, he says, requires obedience from His creatures. Love should take the place of discord, charity should prompt forgiveness.

The language of the letter is appealing, and from it we glean a short meditation for today.

"The great cannot exist without the small, nor the small without the great; they blend together to their mutual advantage. Take the body, for example. The head is nothing without the feet, just as the feet are nothing without the head. The smallest parts of our body are necessary and valuable to the whole. All work together and are mutually subject for the preservation of the whole body.

"Our entire body, then, will be preserved in Christ Jesus, and each of us should be subject to his neighbor in accordance with the grace given to each. The stronger should care for the weak, and the weak should respect the stronger. The wealthy should give to the poor, and the poor man should thank God that he has sent someone to supply his needs. The wise should manifest their wisdom not in words, but in good deeds, and the humble should not talk about their own humility but allow others to bear witness to it. Since, therefore, we have all this from Him we ought to thank Him for it all."

(from the *Epistle to the Corinthians*; Cf 2nd Reading, *Liturgy of the Hours*).

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

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U.S. House Keeps Abortion Funding Out of Health Care Reform

**Tell Senators: Follow the House's Lead on Removing Abortion Funding
Protect Conscience Rights
Ensure Affordable Health Coverage
Allow Immigrants to Purchase Private Health Insurance**

As long-time advocates of health care reform, the U.S. Catholic bishops continue to make the moral case for genuine health care reform that will protect the life, dignity, consciences and health of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

- 1 On November 7, the U.S. House of Representatives passed major health care reform that reaffirms the essential, longstanding and widely supported policy against using federal funds for elective abortion coverage.
- 2 It is critical that the Senate adopt the House-approved Stupak Amendment language on this issue. This Amendment ensures that Americans are not forced to pay for the destruction of unborn children as part of needed health care reform.
- 3 The Senate must address other essential moral priorities: protecting conscience rights; making health coverage more affordable and accessible for those in need; and ensuring that immigrants do not lose or will not be denied health care coverage needed for the good of their families and the health of society.

ACTION: Contact Senate and House Members through e-mail, phone calls or FAX letters.

- 1 **To send a pre-written, instant e-mail to Congress go to www.usccb.org/action.**
- 2 Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at: 202-224-3121, or call your Members' local offices. Full contact info can be found on Members' web sites at www.house.gov & www.senate.gov.

MESSAGE-SENATE:

“Please adopt the House-approved Stupak Amendment that upholds longstanding policies against abortion funding, and please protect conscience rights in health care reform. Health care must be made more affordable and accessible to those in need, and immigrants must not lose or be denied health care coverage.”

MESSAGE-HOUSE:

“I am pleased that the House-passed health care reform bill maintains the longstanding policy against federal funding of abortion. Please work to ensure that this essential provision is included in any final bill sent to the President.”

WHEN: The Senate schedule is uncertain. **Act today! Thank you!**

For more information on proposed legislation and the bishops' position on authentic health care reform, visit: www.usccb.org/healthcare.

11-13-09