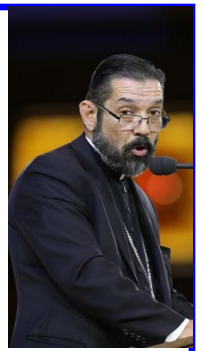


Christ the King Sunday
November 24, 2024





From the Gusset



For **Fr. Randy** there is **a new light** on the horizon! This **light** first **dawned** on me at **the Eucharistic Congress** in Indianapolis this past summer. One does not realize how **dark** is **the darkness** that you sit in until **the light** breaks in! **Bishop Flores** from **Brownsville, Texas** says, “**Salvation does not consist only in what Jesus does for us; but rather, in how we respond to Jesus.**” For my primitive mind, I melt that statement down to this: God wants **to pour** all

of His **love** into me, but do I ask God **to pour** His **love** into me? It happens with all **the Sacraments** – that is, God wants to **love** us, but He won’t unless we ask Him to **love** us! So, when **a baby** is first born, God wants **to pour** all of His **love** into the baby, but He does **not**! Rather, God **waits** until **the baby’s parents** ask the Church to **Baptize** their **child**. The same thing with **the Sacrament of Reconciliation**, God wants to **forgive** us, but He won’t; until, we ask for **forgiveness**. Isn’t that wild?! God wants to **forgive** me even before I want to be **forgiven** by God! See, **Salvation** happens, because of the things that Jesus does for us, but we must ask the Lord – in a sense give Him **the permission** to **save** us. I love **the Prayer** that we pray after we receive **Holy Communion**. We pray in part: ‘**Lord, may I never take You for granted.**’ It is so easy to take **the Eucharist** for granted, because we receive **It** so often. But that is why **the Communion lines** form at the very **end** of **Mass** – almost the last thing we do in **the Mass** is receive **the Sacrament**. **The Church** makes us say over and over again in all **the Prayers** of **the Mass** – “**Lord, I do love You. Please, give me Your love.**” You see, there it is! What **Bishop Flores** said: **Salvation is not so much what Jesus does for us; but rather, do we ask—do we beg Jesus to save us!** **The Catholic** that does **not** come to **Mass** every Sunday, literally says, “**I don’t need You, this week God. I don’t need Your Son, Jesus, to die on the altar for me this week. I can get through life on my own.**” See, that is **the wrong attitude** to have. Rather, **the humble attitude – the human attitude** – is to say, “**Lord, I’m lost without You. I need You to love me. I need You, Lord Jesus, to pour all of Your love into me or I’m sunk. Please, Lord, fill me with Your love!**”

Yours on the Path **Fr. Randy**



“the S.S. Fr. Randy”



THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

St. Mary of the Assumption Church in West Brooklyn will host our **Mass of Thanksgiving** this year on **Thursday, November 28th** at **9:00am**. **The Eucharist**, which is derived from the **Greek** word meaning : **thanksgiving**, is the central **Sacrament** in our **Catholic Faith**. We will express our **gratitude** for **the Sacrifice** of Jesus Christ and God's redemptive **love** celebrating **the Mass** at **the altar** of God, before we gather around **tables** of **thanksgiving** in our own homes. We will not forget to thank You, Lord, for our daily bread!



CCD HOLY HOUR

Several classes of our **CCD students** have made **Tabernacle calls** (visits to look behind **the veil** at our Lord **entombed** in the **Tabernacle**). Now, we will allow our Lord to look upon His **brothers and sisters** in a **Holy Hour**— Jesus placed on our **altar**—body and blood, soul and divinity— to gaze upon us! All **parishioners** are invited to **adore** the Lord from 9:20am to 10:10am at **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church** on Sunday, **November 24th**.



To Begin Again

There is nothing more **frustrating** to a struggling **football team** than to jump off-sides! **The offense** is struggling to make a first down—it is 3rd down and 8 yards to go for that **first down**, and an offensive lineman starts the play to **early** (they call it a **false start**) — suddenly it is 3rd down and 13 yards to go! We **struggle** to grow in **holiness**—the progress we would make in **loving** God more today than we did yesterday is **difficult**, and to add insult to injury, we often make a **false start**—we **sin** against God. **Advent** is the beginning of a **new Year of Grace** – we are given an **opportunity** to **begin again**—to start again! Our **theme** as we start this **new Year of Grace 2025** with **the Sunday Mass** on November 30th & December 1st is *'To Begin Again.'* Let us not be afraid to ask a **family member**, who has **not** been going to **Mass**, to **begin again**, with us, – begin again this **incredible journey** back into God's presence. **Christmas** is not only the coming of God to us, but as **the Shepherds** and **the Wise men** will teach us—**Christmas** is about our coming to meet God. **Heaven** comes to **earth**, and we—**wanting** to be lifted up to **Heaven**—we come with **the gift of our life** and we bring in tow, **the gift of another's life to Church**, to celebrate **the Mass!**



THE MASS AND THE SAINTS

Did you ever notice how **the Gospel** has a lot of **movement**. Ask **George Halas** or **Tom Landry** and they will tell you how **movement** confuses **the Defense!** Whether it is a wide receiver going **in motion** from one side of the field to the other, or



gigantic offensive linemen briefly **standing up** to disguise the half-back and full-back switching positions in the backfield – **movement confuses the Defense!** **The Gospel** is bookended by **processions** in **the Catholic Mass**, and this not only **confuses the enemy** (the Devil), but shows our **obedience** to God the Father, that we (the hearers of **the Gospel**) are prepared **to follow** His Son. The book of **the Gospels** is taken from **the altar** – and remember **the altar** is God’s Throne on earth – **the altar** is the place where the Christ sits – our unseen God and **King** and Priest! All of us **stand up** to show that we are ready and equipped **to walk the path** that **the Gospel** will command us to take. We should say as we move our **bag of bones that is our body** from the sitting posture to one of standing – we should say, “**Jesus Christ was made obedient unto death, even the death on the Cross; so also, should I be prepared to follow the Christ in my vocation – even if it means I should die to myself this day!**” (This is **the spirituality** of the great, **St. Francis de Sales**) In Churches where **the Faith** is **alive the sanctuary** is swarming with servers (young CCD students, who are eager **to worship** God in the **Holy Mass**), one server bears **the Processional Cross** aloft to show that the priest, who is about to proclaim **the Gospel**, is marching toward his **death** just as the Lord Jesus **gladly** set His face toward Jerusalem **to die**. Another server with a **smoking thurible of incense** goes before **the Cross** to showcase the odor of **good deeds** – doing what the Father asks of us. **Two candle** bearers flank the priest now carrying **the Gospel** book – **the two candles** represent the light of **knowledge** and the light of **virtue**, which make it possible to see what is contained in **the Gospel**. **St. Jerome** would say, the light of **the Gospel candles** is not so much to scatter **the darkness**, but the candlelight is evidence of our **joy** that Jesus has come to speak to us! For everyone is able to say: *blessed are our ears for we heard Him speak though our eyes never saw Him*, to fulfill what the risen Lord said to **Thomas the Apostle** at the Resurrection: **blessed are they who have not seen; yet still believe!** **The proclamation** of **the Gospel** is always preceded by the words: *Dominus vobiscum*, the reason being: that the Master, Himself, is Who we are about to hear! **St. Francis de Sales** said, we make the sign of **the Cross** on our forehead and mouth and heart, and say, “**May the sign of God’s love be upon my forehead, because I am not ashamed of Him, be on my lips that I may speak of Him, and be in my heart that I may receive Him soon in Holy Communion!**” When **the Gospel** has been read, the priest **kisses** our Lord; and if, **the ambo** is equipped (as our **ambo** is in **West Brooklyn**) **the Gospel** book is displayed before the people. Remember Jesus said, when **lightening lights** up the sky do not run from here to there or there to here, but remain where you are – well, those who proclaim **the Gospel** are **lightning bolts**, who shine by their good examples and **thunder** with their words, and return to our Lord when they thank Him for **the progress** they have made. Indeed, **the Gospel** is **Salvation** for us, and **defense** against **the Devil**. (**St. Albert the Great**)



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Saturday, November 23rd

All the men going to the Men's Conference in DeKalb/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Lynn Peterson/ Mark Lauer

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) Quin & (+) Josephine Torri/ Torri Family

Sunday, November 24th Christ the King Solemnity

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Jack Weeks/ Marilyn Weeks & (+) Marty Quest/ Velma Quest

10:30 am, **OLPH** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Monday, November 25th

(+) Carol Bonnell/ Mr. & Mrs. Ed Klein

Tuesday, November 26th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Robert Bresson/ Charlotte Bresson & (+) Carol Widolff/ Gerard Widolff

Wednesday, November 27th

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Charles & (+) Florence Kuebel/ Family

Thursday, November 28th Thanksgiving Mass

9:00 am, **SMA** (+) Justin Corcoran/ Mr. & Mrs. Steve Jones

Friday, November 29th

(+) Mary Helen Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Setchell

Saturday, November 30th Feast of St. Andrew

Roger and Kimberly and Rick Fronek/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Richard & (+) Stacey Wertz/ Shawn Leffelman & (+) Larry Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Wilson

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) Francis & (+) Kathleen Schmidt/ Mr. & Mrs. John Schmidt

Sunday, December 1st First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

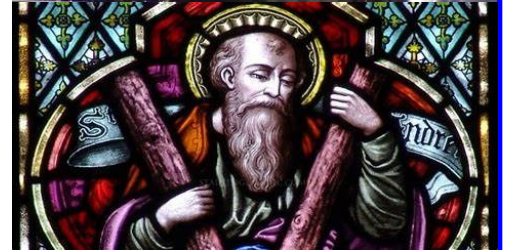
10:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Melvin & (+) Lucille Becker/ John Gorman

Living Mass Intentions:

OLPH: Don & Kristi Althaus, Janice Digiulio, Judy Marschang, Mark & Tammy Henkel

SMA: Delores McKeaige, Celia Haub, Karen Bonnell

St. Patrick: Ed Murphy, Marty & Denise Bickett



Donations for Christmas Flowers in Memory of a Loved One

are now being accepted. Simply write the names of your Beloved Dead on an envelop and drop your donation in the collection basket. A future bulletin will acknowledge who it is, who has made our altars so beautiful.