

# Dear Padre,

*In the liturgy, how do a solemnity, a feast day, and a memorial differ?*

Celebrations in the Church calendar are named according to their rank or importance. Solemnity is the highest rank. The next rank is feast, celebrating an event in the life of Christ, Mary, the apostles, martyrs, and a few other important saints.

Solemnities are usually celebrated by the whole Church, but celebrations may be made solemnities for local churches. For instance, Our Lady of Guadalupe is a solemnity in Mexico and a feast in the United States.

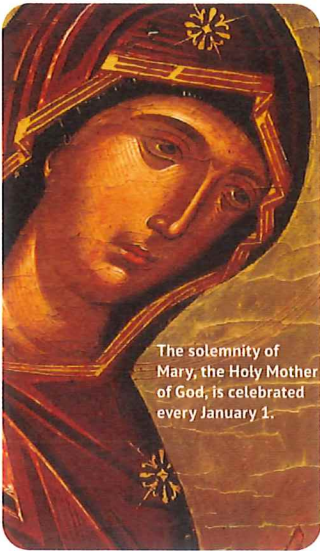
A memorial commemorates the day a saint died. An obligatory memorial is celebrated by every church in a diocese or country. The memorial of Redemptorist St. John Neumann, for example, is obligatory in the United States because of his historical contribution to the American Church as the fourth bishop of Philadelphia. It's also obligatory in Redemptorist churches around the world.

Optional memorials are saints' days an individual priest can celebrate Monday through Saturday if he chooses. For example, Jesuit St. Robert Bellarmine's memorial is obligatory in Jesuit churches or in churches named for him, but it's optional everywhere else.

**Timely topics viewed with a Catholic perspective**  
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During Ordinary Time, solemnities that fall on Sunday are celebrated, but feasts and memorials that fall on Sunday are not. During Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter, some solemnities that fall on Sunday are transferred to a weekday because of the importance of these seasons. ●

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR / [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
November 27 Weekday Dn 1:1–6, 8–20 Lk 21:1–4	November 28 Weekday Dn 2:31–45 Lk 21:5–11	November 29 Weekday Dn 5:1–6, 13–14, 16–17, 23–28 Lk 21:12–19	November 30 St. Andrew, Apostle Rom 10:9–18 Mt 4:18–22	December 1 Weekday Dn 7:2–14 Lk 21:29–33	December 2 Weekday Dn 7:15–27 Lk 21:34–36	December 3 First Sunday of Advent Is 63:16b–17, 19b; 64:2–7 1 Cor 1:3–9 Mk 13:33–37



## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*[Jesus] tells us that the good we do to one of our least brothers and sisters—whether hungry or thirsty, a stranger, in need, sick, or in prison—we do to him (see Matthew 25:37–40). In this way, the Lord gives us his “gift list” for the eternal wedding feast he will share with us in heaven.*

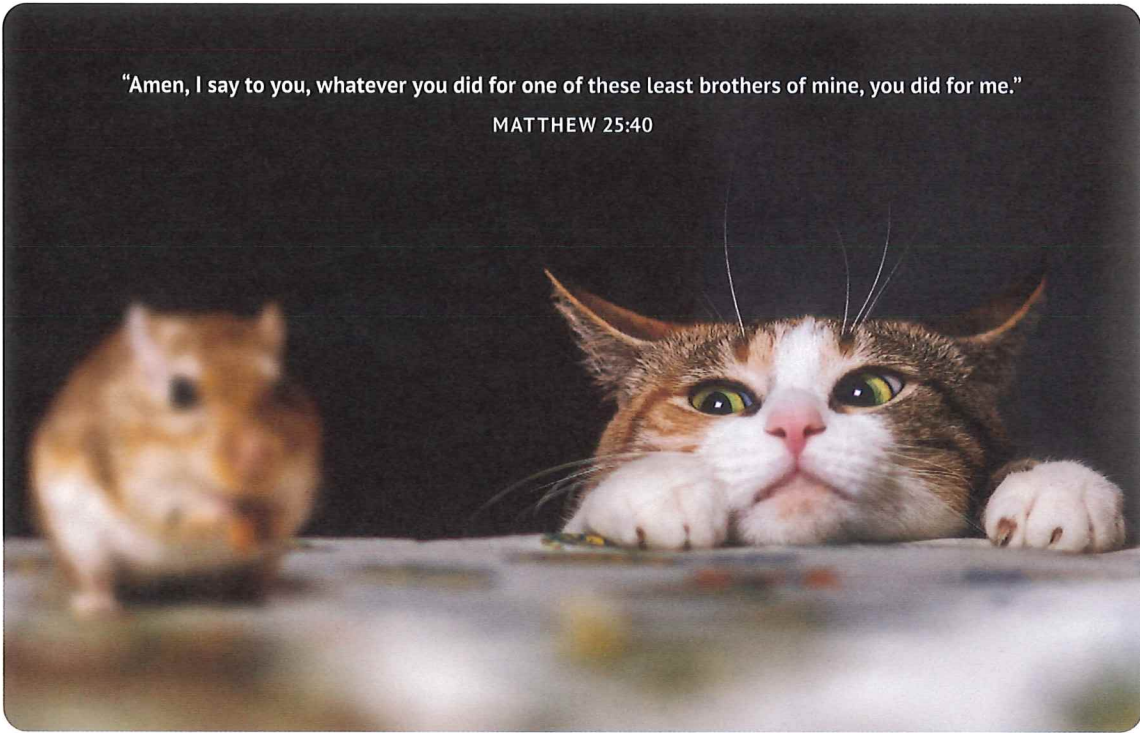
HOMILY, ST. PETER'S BASILICA, NOVEMBER 22, 2020



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# Our Parish COMMUNITY

November 26, 2023  
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)  
Ezekiel 34:11–12, 15–17 / 1 Corinthians 15:20–26, 28 / Matthew 25:31–46



"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."  
MATTHEW 25:40

## Pay Attention to Your Instincts

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Invite Marty into your home and the first thing he'll ask is whether or not you have any cats. Marty is allergic to cats, big time, even if they have been quarantined to another room. His eyes turn red. He sneezes. He begins to cough and wheeze like an old-time Model T. Cats are his nemesis. It is ironic that Marty has befriended a stray cat from his neighborhood. Though he never pets the kitty or allows him into his home, each day he feeds him and puts milk out for him on the deck outside his living room. And if the cat fails to come around, he worries about him.

There is something instinctive in us that moves us to care for the underdog, even if it's a cat. The Sunday Gospel this week suggests that the innate desire to care for the weakest among us is a Godly instinct. It's where we meet God, and we need to pay attention to it simply because it's how we come to a sense of God in our lives.

We all search for meaning, looking for it every day in the hidden corners of our lives and in the open daytimes of our busyness. Sometimes we find it, and sometimes we limp back home at the end of the day. More often than not it's when our day has been brushed with the color of caring for someone else that we feel good about that day. It's a Godly instinct that's not to be ignored. ●

### Reflect

*Has your instinct to care for the underdog ever not made sense to others?*





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Website: saintanthonylakin.org



Karen Burden, Rel.Edu. Committee 355-6388  
Lisa Gannett, DRE 355-6611  
Gwen Waechter, Parish C. Chair 272-1030  
Tressa Powers, Finance C. Chair 355-6206  
Altar S. President, Nanette Rice 355-7676  
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight 640-8259  
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek 355-1696  
& Nanette Rice 355-7676

**Reconciliation:** Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

**Baptism:** Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

**Marriage:** Please contact parish priest at least four to six months before the wedding.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.

### CHRIST THE KING— SOLEMNITY

11/25/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

**Servers:** Volunteer, Jason Velasco, Ryann Bamberger

**Reader:** Debbie Frederick

**E.O.HC:** Tino Rosales Jr., Karen Burden

11/26/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

**Servers:** Kirbe & Kipton Koons, Joleigh Lohman-Fuller

**Reader:** Alvin Bergkamp

**E.O. HC:** Maria Enriquez, Rosa Cardenas

### 1 SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12/2/2023 - Saturday, 4: 00 p.m.

**Servers:** Ryann & Brecken Bamberger, Rowen Simon

**Reader:** Gwen Waechter

**E.O.HC:** Tino Rosales Jr., Karen Burden

12/3/2023 – Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

**Servers:** Haley Berning, Jace Berning, Luke Woodrow

**Reader:** Bob Woodrow

**E.O. HC:** Alvin Bergkamp, Bob Woodrow

### COLLECTION for November 19, 2023

Envelopes: \$610; Loose: \$479; Online Giving: \$302.64

Total \$1,391.64; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,761.17. Income over/under –369.53

### CHURCH PROJECT GOAL

\$52000—Building Fund To Date: \$37786.74. *Thank you so much for your love for our parish church and your faithful stewards*

November 26, 2023

## SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

*“The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.” (PS 23)*

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, Nov. 25 4:00 p.m. Los Disfuntos

Sunday, Nov. 26 9:00 a.m. Emily Hughes

Monday, Nov. 27 5:30 p.m. David Hoang

Tuesday, Nov. 28 9: 30 a.m. David Hoang  
(Tuesday Mass at the High Plains Retirement Village )

Wednesday Nov. 29 6:00 p.m. Special Intention  
(EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOLLOWS MASS UNTIL 8:30 P.M.)

Thursday, Nov. 30 12:10 p.m. Lorena Elenora Lane

Friday, Dec. 1 7:30 a.m. Liz Lang Baier

Saturday, Dec. 2 4:00 p.m. People of our parishes

Sunday, Dec. 3 9:00 a.m. Charles & Mary Margaret Sahrufier



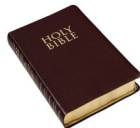
My friends, welcome to the Church’s New Year’s Eve —the last Sunday before we hit a new liturgical year 2024. So the question for each of us this Sunday is: Who is Jesus for you?

Is he our Lord --- the One who gets to call the shots in our lives? Is he our Savior --- the One who brings us back into the fold every time we have strayed? Is he our Refuge --- the One whose arms are the safest place to be? Is he our Brother --- the One we can count on? Is he our Friend --- the One who knows and understands us better than any other? Is he our King --- the One who reigns in our lives, our minds, our hearts?

Is he Our Everything?

If not --- then let’s spend the coming year growing closer to, trusting more deeply in, living more faithfully for, and surrendering more completely to him. Anything else will make it impossible to fully experience the things that really matter. Long live the King! Long live Our Everything!

Fr. Peter



## **UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK - (Matthew 25:31-46)**

**He's here!** Jesus has been telling stories about how to act until the Son of Man returns (24:45 – 25:30). People should remain faithful, prepare themselves, and use their time wisely. Now he speaks about what will happen when the Son of Man finally arrives.

**Sheep and goats** In Jesus' day farmers who kept both sheep and goats had to separate them at night. The goats had to be kept indoors, where it was warm. Sheep, however, were more valuable than goats, so in this story they represent the righteous.

**The kingly Son of Man** The title Son of Man alludes to Daniel 7:13-14 in which one like a Son of Man receives power from God over the whole earth. Everyone is subject to him and glorifies him alone. Since he rules all people, the Son of Man is also the ultimate king.

**Interpretation 1: Jesus in the poor** If Jesus is describing a single judgment for everyone, then this last judgment is based on whether a person cared for those in need. Jesus stands in solidarity with the poor and suffering so completely that they become his face, his representatives, to others. The problem with this interpretation is it focuses exclusively on Jesus' concern for those in need. It doesn't incorporate the other demands that Jesus makes of his followers (see Matthew 5 – 7).

**Interpretation 2: Jesus in Christian missionaries (and the poor?)** Jews wondered how God would treat Gentiles who were good, upstanding people. Would God cast them out of his kingdom? Some Jewish texts presented two judgments, one for Jews and a second one for Gentiles. Paul echoes this belief in Romans 2:9-10. Matthew 25: 31-46 might be a Christian response to the question of how God will judge non-believers. Non-Christians (the nations) who treated Christian missionaries with compassion are included in God's kingdom. Here it's the missionaries and not the poor who represent Jesus. The problem with this interpretation is it fails to explain why the Gentiles didn't see Jesus in those who were obviously representing him.(oursundayreadings.wordpress.com)

## **UNDERSTANDING THE SECOND READING OF THE WEEK - (I Corinthians 15:20-28)**

**First fruits** This passage is part of Paul's response to Christians who claim that there isn't a bodily resurrection (vv.12-19). After explaining why they're wrong, Paul goes on to say that Jesus' resurrection is a promise to all believers that God will also raise them, body and soul, from the dead. Paul compares Jesus to the portion of the harvest that farmers offered in thanks for what God had given them (v.20). These first fruits represent the whole harvest just as Christ's resurrection represents the resurrection of all who believe.

**From Adam to Christ** Adam represents all humankind. All of us turn away from God and bear the repercussion of sin: death. Therefore, people need a savior, Jesus, who enters human existence in order to lead them out of death and into eternal life.

**Until the end** Jesus triumphed over sin and death, but both still plague God's creation. The risen Jesus continues to fight evil in all its forms. All evil leads to death, thus death is the last force Christ will entirely defeat (vv.24-26). Once Christ has purged all evil from the world, he will lead everyone and all creation in praise of God, his Father (v.28). Then at last God's world will be as God intended. Nothing will obscure or distract from God's glory or goodness.

**CONGRATULATIONS** We would like to extend our congratulations to our newly Baptized, Zendaya Budd, daughter of Shnae Rice & Lyanna Varela, daughter of Susana Varela. Welcome to God's family in the Church! May our Loving God continue to pour down His abundant blessings upon Zendaya & Lyanna and their families.

**ATTENTION TO CATHOLIC LADIES OF OUR PARISH** All ladies of parish are asked to bring baked or food items for St. Anthony's Altar Society bake sale December 2nd from 9am –2 pm. We are requesting items to be brought either the night before to the building 2 doors north of the Budget Shop between 6-7, or Saturday morning, no later than 8:45 am. Thanks so much in advance for bake goods and help. Money to be used for Altar Society care and St. Anthony

## **UPCOMING EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS**

- Parish Sunday Breakfast—Sunday November 26th
- Altar Society –Bake Sale Saturday, December 2
- K of C Bierock Fundraiser—Sunday, December 3rd
- The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Friday December 8 Mass @ 6:00pm.; Syracuse @ 7:00 a.m. (MT)
- Parish Christmas Potluck—December 13 @ 6:30p.m.
- Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass— December 23 @ 4:00 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. (MT) in Syracuse

## **(only on Saturday & not on Sunday)**

- Christmas Decoration—Thursday, December 14 starting @ 4:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve. Mass—Sunday, December 24 @ 4:00 p.m.—St. Anthony's & 5:30 p.m. (MT)- St. Raphael's
- Christmas Day Mass—Monday, December 25 @ 9:00 a.m.—Christ the King

## **STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION NOVEMBER 26**

***“...whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me.” – MATTHEW 25:40***

Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, real generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient to us, when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's timeline.

***“...Les aseguro que todo lo que hicieron por uno de mis hermanos, aún por el más pequeño, lo hicieron por mí.” -MATEO 25:40***

La mayoría somos generosos cuando es conveniente para nosotros. Somos generosos cuando tenemos el tiempo o el dinero, pero la verdadera generosidad es lo opuesto a eso. Significa dar nuestro tiempo, el dinero, la compasión, el perdón o la misericordia cuando no es conveniente para nosotros, cuando no está en nuestro horario, sino en el tiempo de la otra persona.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK** Whom do I overlook and in whom do I fail to see Christ? How can I force myself to look past surface impressions?

**PRAYER OF THE WEEK** (by Mother Teresa) Lord, open our eyes, that we may see you in our brothers and sisters. Lord, open our ears, that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold, the frightened, the oppressed. Lord, open our hearts, that we may love each other as you love us. Renew in us your spirit. Lord, free us and make us one. Amen

## NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

### DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME, PART 5: ALTAR KISS



#### The Mass

Why is Father kissing that table? Have you noticed that, during the entrance hymn or antiphon, the celebrant approaches the altar and kisses it? Why does he do that? As Charles Belmonte explains in his book, *Understanding the Mass*: “As a sign of

veneration, the priest and deacon (if there is one present) kiss the altar... The altar symbolizes the heart of the Church. It is the Lord’s table and the center of the Eucharistic action. It has always been considered a symbol of Christ. That is why we cover the altar with a cloth, out of reverence for the celebration of the memorial of the Lord’s sacrifice” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 49).

#### What Is the Significance of a Catholic Altar?

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, “altar” comes from the Hebrew word meaning “place of sacrifice” (Catholic Encyclopedia, p. 31). Perhaps this reminds us of the many altars erected throughout the Old Testament where sacrifices were offered to God. Altars were erected in special places where the people had an encounter with God, which then became places of prayer. This background leads us to the current altars in our churches, where the Sacrifice of the Mass is celebrated and we encounter Christ truly present in the Eucharist. We call the Mass a sacrifice because we are given an opportunity to share in the one perfect sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Jesus Christ—body, blood, soul, and divinity—becomes present during the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass. Jesus Christ, God Himself, is present there with us! No wonder we give the altar special honor as the place where we encounter Christ dwelling among us!

#### More Than A Simple Gesture

As Belmonte continues, “To kiss the altar is to kiss Christ. It is then understandable that we want to make ours this kiss of the celebrant. It evokes in our memory the many kisses of that sinful woman in the Pharisee’s house. She could not cease to kiss Christ’s feet, washing them with her tears. Great sins were forgiven her because she loved so greatly (Lk 7:38). And we have so many faults to ask pardon for! Now, by this kiss, the priest also signifies the union of the Spouse (Christ) with his Bride (the Church)... [W]hat the priest is beginning to accomplish here is nothing other than to forge the union of the Church with her Master, of the soul with its Redeemer” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 49). As you may realize, kissing the altar is more than a simple gesture!

#### Relics of Those Who Have Gone Before Us

Given the dignity of the altar, it is fittingly constructed in a special way. “In keeping with the Church’s traditional practice and with what the altar signifies, the table of a fixed altar should be of stone and indeed of natural stone. In the Dioceses of the United States of America, wood which is dignified, solid, and well-crafted may be used, provided the altar is structurally immo-

immobile” (GIRM, no. 301). Altars typically also have a special set-in stone that contains the relic of a saint. The relic is usually a small bone fragment from one of the martyrs or perhaps a saint that is the patron or namesake for a particular church building. The tradition of the relic can be traced back to the first centuries of Masses celebrated at the burial places of the martyrs or in the catacombs. For me as a priest, I often think of the saint at the altar and about his or her life and faithfulness to Christ. I think about how the witness of faith helps to strengthen us now. I remember that the intercession of the saints assists us in our own day. In celebrating Mass this way, there is a special connection between the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and the way the Eucharist strengthened that particular saint—to say the least, a great reminder of how the Eucharist strengthens us for holy and faithful life in Christ!

#### For Reflection:

1. Pray with the account of the woman who kisses Jesus’ feet in Lk. 7:36-50. Reflect on God’s saving love in your own life, and consider how you can express your grateful love through reverence for Christ’s Body.
2. Make your own the Psalmist’s desire: “That I may come to the altar of God, to God, my joy, my delight” (Ps. 43:4). Next time you participate in Mass, pay attention to the kiss of the altar and unite yourself spiritually to this act of loving reverence towards God, our joy and delight. (Fr. Luke Spannagel)

## SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

### Save the best for last

The film industry has always had a love affair with the afterlife. From *It's a Wonderful Life* to *Heaven Can Wait* to *Ghost* to *Flatliners*, stories remind us that our choices in this world have ramifications in the next. More recent shows—*Dead Like Me*, *The Good Life*, *After Life*, and *Hotel del Luna* among many others—are less traditionally religious but no less curious about what comes next. Every culture and generation seems to sense the need for spirit guides and guardians, as well as justice and an hour of reckoning. As the church year closes, contemplate the ledger of your years. Does it add up to a heavenly ending?

## SOLEMNIDAD DE NUESTRO SEÑOR JESUCRISTO, REY DEL UNIVERSO

### Guarda lo major para el final

La industria cinematográfica siempre ha tenido un idilio con el más allá. Desde *It's a Wonderful Life* hasta *Heaven Can Wait* a *Ghost* hasta *Flatliners*, las historias nos recuerdan que nuestras decisiones en este mundo tienen ramificaciones en el otro. Las series más recientes—*Dead Like Me*, *The Good Life*, *After Life*, y *Hotel del Luna* entre muchas otras—son menos tradicionalmente religiosas, pero no menos curiosas sobre lo que viene después. Todas las culturas y generaciones parecen sentir la necesidad de guías espirituales y guardianes, como también de justicia y de una hora de ajuste de cuentas. Al concluir el año eclesiástico, contempla el libro de cuentas de tus años. ¿Tiene un final celestial? (Preparetheword)