

The Virtue of Gratitude

*Sing joyfully to the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful song.*

*Know that the Lord is God; he made us, we are his;
his people, the flock he tends.*

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, his courts with praise;

*Give thanks to him, bless his name, for he is good:
the Lord, whose kindness endures forever, and his faithfulness,
to all generations.*

Psalm 100

November Service Project

Our service projects for the month of November, and for the Virtue of Gratitude, are Sew Much Comfort and Parish Thanksgiving Baskets for families in need. For Sew Much Comfort, each school family is asked to donate one article of clothing (basketball shorts or T-shirt or sweatshirt) to be adapted for injured members of the armed forces. For the Thanksgiving Baskets, each class will put together a bountiful basket, a Thanksgiving dinner, for a St. Agnes Parish family. *November 2008*

Gratitude to God

“Then Jesus took the bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me.”

Luke 22: 19

The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father, a blessing by which the Church expresses her gratitude to God for his benefits, for all that he has accomplished through creation, redemption, and sanctification. Eucharist means first of all “thanksgiving.” *CCC 1360*

Because Christ himself is present in the sacrament of the altar, he is to be honored with the worship of adoration. “To visit the Blessed Sacrament is...a proof of gratitude, an expression of love, and a duty of adoration toward Christ our Lord. (Paul VI, Mysterium Fidei 66) CCC 1418

Why not foster confidence in God's divine Providence by humbly and in all childlike humility venturing to remind him in the person of our divine brother Jesus that we are his children. We should remind him that we are, and at least want to be reckoned as among his “little ones.” Therefore we should thank him frequently for, not only the blessings of the past and present, but thank him ahead of time... *Ven. Solanus Casey*

Gratitude to Our Neighbors

I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you, praying always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now.

Phil 1: 3

The letters of St. Paul often begin and end with thanksgiving, and the Lord Jesus is always present in it: “Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thess 5: 18) *CCC 2603*

Living Gratitude

For Christians a special gratitude is due to those from whom they have received the gift of faith, the grace of Baptism, and life in the Church. These may include parents, grandparents, other members of the family, pastors, catechists, and other teachers or friends. “I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother...your mother...and now, I am sure, dwells in you.” (1 Tim 1: 5) *CCC 2220*

The fourth commandment is addressed expressly to children in their relationship to their father and mother...it requires honor, affection, and gratitude...it extends to the duties of pupils to teachers... CCC 2199