

Our Lady of Victories Church

(serving Harrington Park, River Vale and the Pascack/Northern Valley)

150 Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park, New Jersey

www.olvhp.org

WELCOME

Sunday, November 19, 2023 AD

**To the Parish Family of
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES**

The Little Church with a BIG Heart

Parish Office 201-768-1706

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Rev. Wojciech Jaśkowiak
Pastor

Rev. Edmond P. Ilg
Parochial Vicar

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin
Deacons

Maria Hellrigel - Parish Secretary
201-768-1706

Religious Education (CCD)
Susan Evanella Denise Coulter (LSEC)
201-768-1400

Sr. Elizabeth Holler, SC Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC
In Residence-Convent

**Selena Piazza
Lesia Rossmann**
Ministers of Music

**Elizabeth Gulfo
Martin Coyne II**
Parish Trustees

Jorden Pedersen Esq.
President Parish Council

Jon Fischer CFA
Chairman Finance Committee

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 4pm & 5pm

Sunday: 7am, 8am Latin, 9:30am, 9:30am Family Mass (gym),
10:45am, 12Noon, 1pm Spanish, 6pm

SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

First Friday: 7:00pm, Mass of Sacred Heart & Devotions

First Saturday: 8:00am, Mass of Immaculate Heart of Mary

First Saturday: 12:00pm, Mass for Souls in Purgatory

Novenas prayed after 8:00 a.m. Mass:

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Monday

St. Anthony: Tuesday

St. Joseph: Wednesday

St. Jude: Thursday

Infant of Prague: 25th of the month

St. Peregrine: First Friday of the Month

Rosary: Recited M - Sat after 8:00am & after 12:00Noon Mass



Thanksgiving Day
One Mass ONLY at 9:00AM
live-streamed

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION:

Mon.-Sat.: 7:30-7:50am. Saturday: 11:00-11:50am; 3:00-3:45pm

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

To register for Baptismal preparation and Baptism call the rectory.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

Call the Religious Ed Office for requirements/class schedule.

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:

Please call the rectory for an appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/LAST RITES:

Sick calls at any time in emergency.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS AND VOCATIONS:

Anyone contemplating a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life should contact the Vocations Office at 973.497.4365.



OLV Rectory
Phone: 201-768-1706
Address: 81 Lynn St.
Email: olvrectory.hp@gmail.com

OLV Fax
201-768-3962

Religious Education
201-768-1400
155 Parkway
olvhpccd@gmail.com

OLV Convent
201-768-1705
145 Parkway

- 2 - Our Lady of Victories, Harrington Park/River Vale N.J.

Fr. Wojciech's Corner...

This Thursday (Thanksgiving Day), we will celebrate the day of giving thanks. First I want to welcome all visitors and home-comers. I thank God for all of you, dear parishioners. I thank our staff, our councils and all those who work tirelessly for our OLV parish. In a special way I thank all our volunteers. Thanksgiving is a way of looking beyond the apparent. Somebody just shared with me the saying on the sign: *Please, excuse the mess, my children are making memories.* You can see the mess or you can see the memories. May our Thanksgiving be a day to express our gratitude to each other and for each other. Thankfulness turns what we have into enough! May this day not be just a day but a lifestyle. May the Eucharist we will celebrate on this day (which is THE Thanksgiving) help us be grateful. Happy turkey and all the trimmings.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Fall Catechism Lectures

with **Fr. John A. Perricone**
Nov 29, Dec 13 & 27
7PM -9PM

THANKSGIVING FOOD & TURKEY DRIVE

TODAY LAST DAY Sunday, November 19th.
Please bring any frozen turkeys and non-perishable sides
to OLV Church by 12:00Noon TODAY.

GIVING TREE

As every year tags will be placed on a the Christmas trees in Church on November 25th. If you wish to help please take a tag and return together with a gift card by December 10th. We are asking for Gift Cards, NO PRESENTS, for the Giving Tree. Please donate Visa or Mastercard gift cards as they can be used anywhere. There will be a box in the Church on the Blessed Mother side of the altar where you can drop them. There will also be tags for Shop-rite gift cards, which we add to each family's package. Please be sure to write the dollar amount of the gift card on the tag attached to the gift card.

CHRISTMAS GREENS SALE

Christmas Greens will be available by entrance of the Church
Large Grave Blanket - \$25
Small Grave Blanket - \$25
Wreath - \$30

Thank you for your support. Leave your payment in the signed box in the church lobby

What if you are CALLED! ???

Call Fr. Gino, Director of the Vocations office 973-497-4365, who is always ready to listen or call Fr. Wojciech 201-768-1706, ext. 11.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving for Thanksgiving Dinner

Father in Heaven,
Creator of all and source of all goodness and love,
Please look kindly upon us
and receive our heartfelt gratitude
in this time of giving thanks.
Thank you for all the graces and blessings
you have bestowed upon us,
spiritual and temporal:
our faith and religious heritage,
our food and shelter, our health,
the love we have for one another,
our family and friends.
Dear Father, in Your infinite generosity
please grant us continued graces and blessing
throughout the coming year.
This we ask in the Jesus' Name.
Amen.

Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions' Story

Andrew Dung-Lac, a Catholic convert ordained to the priesthood, was one of 117 people martyred in Vietnam between 1820 and 1862. Members of the companions group gave their lives for Christ in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, and received beatification during four different occasions between 1900 and 1951. All were canonized during the papacy of Saint John Paul II.

Christianity came to Vietnam through the Portuguese. Jesuits opened the first permanent mission at Da Nang in 1615. They ministered to Japanese Catholics who had been driven from Japan.

Severe persecutions were launched at least three times in the 19th century. During the six decades after 1820, between 100,000 and 300,000 Catholics were killed or subjected to great hardship. Foreign missionaries martyred in the first wave included priests of the Paris Mission Society, and Spanish Dominican priests and tertiaries.

In 1832, Emperor Minh-Mang banned all foreign missionaries, and tried to make all Vietnamese deny their faith by trampling on a crucifix. Like the priest-holes in Ireland during English persecution, many hiding places were offered in homes of the faithful. Persecution broke out again in 1847, when the emperor suspected foreign missionaries and Vietnamese Christians of sympathizing with a rebellion led by one of his sons.

The last of the martyrs were 17 laypersons, one of them a 9-year-old, executed in 1862. That year a treaty with France guaranteed religious freedom to Catholics, but it did not stop all persecution.

By 1954, there were over a million Catholics—about seven percent of the population - in the north. Buddhists represented about 60 percent. Persistent persecution forced some 670,000 Catholics to abandon lands, homes and possessions and flee to the south. In 1964, there were still 833,000 Catholics in the north, but many were in prison. In the south, Catholics were enjoying the first decade of religious freedom in centuries, their numbers swelled by refugees.

During the Vietnamese war, Catholics again suffered in the north, and again moved to the south in great numbers. Now reunited, the entire country is under Communist rule.

It may help a people who associate Vietnam only with a 20th-century war to realize that the cross has long been a part of the lives of the people of that country. Even as some people ask again the unanswered questions about United States involvement and disengagement, the faith rooted in Vietnam's soil proves hardier than the forces that willed to destroy it.

-Franciscanmedia.org

Remember the past with gratitude.

Live the present with enthusiasm.

Look forward to the future with confidence.

—St. John Paul II

Pray for Those in the Military

US Army

Captain Devin Borland, National Guard
 Captain Ben Clemente
 RRT Specialist James Crumb
 Staff Sergeant Peter Dippolito
 Major Michael Franson
 Sergeant First Class Charles Greene
 Private First Class Sean Keohane
 Captain Shawn Linn
 Colonel John McLaughlin
 Captain John G. Miele
 Captain Joseph W. Niece
 1st Lieutenant Jack Ottomaneli
National Guard
 1st Lieutenant Matthew Dinnell

US Air Force

1st Lieutenant Brian Kearney
 Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn

US Marine Corps.

Corporal Shanna Bennett
 Sergeant Matthew Brady
 1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo
 Corporal Mark Fredrick
 Captain Stephen Ikalowych
 1st Lieutenant J.P. Maher
 Corporal Cody McGrath

US Navy

Lt. Commander Julia Cheringal
 Lieutenant Jonathan Clemente
 Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger
 Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger
 Airman Cody Massa

Prayer for the Safety of Soldiers

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in You will be glad and forever will shout for joy. Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of Your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of Your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise You for Your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Pray for Our Sick

Please Pray in the name of JESUS, the Healer, that the *sick of the Parish* may be restored to health and all those who *assist and care* for the sick will be given the *strength* to continue *God's Will*: infants Abigail Jude, Aidan, Olive, Adeline Quarello, Jonathan & Joseph; little boys Gabriel Augst, Antonio and Shane, little Cordelia, little Remy and Silvie, Michael Baruch, Julie Berbert, Richard Bolton, Paul Brennan, Anna Carfagno, Dominic Carini, Kevin Columbo, Eddie Cooper, Paula Criquei, Michael Curran, Marie D'Ascenzo, Maryann Dean, Noelle DeJoseph, Vincent DePaola, Marge Devitt, Guy DeSantis, Siobhan Donaghi, Whitney Dugan, Carl Falasca, Michael Fallon, Kathleen Falotico, Dan Filippone, Jeremy Fillis, Walter Flaherty, Phil Gangusa & Vicky Ferrara, Robin Fletcher, Ken Grier, Glenn Hall, Cara Hansen, Amy Hartwell, Mavis Ince, Rolando Joaquim, Rob, Dianne & Dee Kaiser, Josephine Kasper, Austin Kellar, Pat Kissane, Christina Kenny, Robert Knaack, Joseph Koch, Lisa LeGrand, Lisa LoSchiavo, Mary Lowe, Mary Ann Luther, Peter Mahler, Robert Mayer, James McGarry, Matt McGowan, Michael McMahon, Tom McMullen, Kim McWilliams, David Mercur, Ann Millar, Alice Miller, Len Moriarity, Gianna Moscatello, Kevin Mullane, Rose Marie Myers, Natalie Niebergall, Emily O'Neill, John Pal, Mary Parker, Tom Paskewich, Bob Phillips, Cathy Pommett, Canice Prince, William Ragu, Dan & Phyllis Ragusa, Adolf Rajner, Debra Rendon, Vincent Ricciardi, Herman Rodriguez, Veronica Romanchuk, George Ross, Wendy Ruggiero, Beth Sacco, Samantha Sconzo, Patricia Ann Shalhoub, Peggy and Chris Shedden, Michael Suresh, Angeline Thomas, Mary Ann Torre, Charles Touw, Aileen Vassar, Carl Walker, Megan Weingarten, Bill Wiseman, Hope White, Stefan Wiklinski, Maria Williams, Daniel Wu, Mary Young, Brian, Carla, Chris, Christina, Edward, Elba, Jennifer, Joann, John, Karen, Lauren, Lisa, Lou, Lucas, Lynn, Mary, Margaret, Michelle, Patrick, Peter, Robert, Samantha, Sarah, Sean, Sharon, Steven, Tina W., Tom, Tara M.

A TOWN ONCE POSTPONED THANKSGIVING BECAUSE OF PUMPKIN PIE

No Thanksgiving trivia would be complete without a story about pumpkin pie. In 1705, the town of Colchester, Connecticut was so dedicated to the dessert that they elected to postpone the holiday because foul weather had interfered with their molasses shipment. Without molasses, they couldn't make pumpkin pie and without pumpkin pie, Thanksgiving just wouldn't be the same.

-Readers Digest, www.rd.com

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 20 – St. Bernward, Bishop of Hildesheim

8:00 Bob Hamilla R/b Ann Hamilla
 12:00 Harry and Theresa Monahan R/b Jim and Rose Youngmans

Tuesday, November 21 - Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 Intentions of Matthew Brady R/b Dan and Karen Brady
 12:00 Frances Semler R/b the Semler Family

Wednesday, November 22 - St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 Intentions of Ginny and Brian Amaral R/b Peggy O'Brien
 12:00 Madeline Dunn R/b the Dunn Family

Thursday, Nov. 23 - THANKSGIVING DAY -

St. Clement I, Pope & Martyr; St. Columban

9:00 People of the Parish

Friday, November 24 - St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions, Martyrs

8:00 John Raven Sr. R/b Caroline Connolly
 12:00 Intentions of Carol and Tom Crowley R/b Joan Crowley

Saturday, November 25 - St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr

8:00 Nadine Parsells - 1st Anniversary R/b Margaret Brandes
 12:00 Jeremy Swift R/b the Moller Family
 4:00 Mario Gobbetti R/b Lorraine Gobbetti
 5:00 Jean McGuire R/b Bob McGuire

Sunday, November 26 - CHRIST THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE

7:00 Gerald Freal R/b the Poggi Family
 8:00 Bob Connolly R/b Margaret Brandes
 9:30 Christopher Cleary and Patrick Dolan R/b the Dolan Family

No Family Mass in Gym Today

10:45 Blaise Zaccaro R/b the Zaccaro Family
 12:00 Richard O'Neill R/b Peggy O'Brien
 1:00 People of the Parish
 6:00 Peter T. Stonitsch R/b the Stonitsch Family

Sanctuary Memorials (this week)

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in Thanksgiving for all parishioners
 r/b Fr. Wojciech

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp will burn for the repose of the
 soul of Christina Bellini, r/b Carole Bellini.

The St. Joseph Votive Lamp will burn for the repose of the soul
 of Jim Beardsley, r/b Jeanne Marie Walsh.

New to the area? Register to become a member of the OLV Family.
 Visit OLV's website olvhp.org and click on "Parish Registration"

New address or phone number? Please inform the rectory.

Flower & Sanctuary Offerings If you would like to donate
 flowers for the Altar, Bl. Virgin Mary and St. Joseph, call the rectory. Flowers,
 Bread and Wine, the Bl. Virgin Mary and St. Joseph Votive Lamps
 and Sanctuary Lamp in the Church can be dedicated on a weekly basis.

My Parish—My Responsibility

Thank you to those who so generously continue to support our parish by
 mailing in your donations. At the same time, we understand that some
 have been laid off from their work or are experiencing decreased income
 and are unable to continue their donations at this time. *Donations/offering
 envelopes may be mailed to OLV Rectory, 81 Lynn Street, Harrington
 Park, NJ 07640. Thank you for your generosity.*

Relevant Radio 1430am

Listener Supported Talk Radio for Catholic Life

SAVE THE DATE - January 20, 2024

ANNUAL "Hap Nightingale" BEEFSTEAK

Our Lady of Victories Knights of Columbus Council 14483

Tuesdays are dedicated to the Apostles.

Thanksgiving Day

A Day of Thanksgiving became a national tradition in 1863, when Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation declaring that the last Thursday in November would be devoted to the praise and acknowledgement of God's blessings upon the country. Since then, every president has issued a Thanksgiving Proclamation, and on June 28, 1870, President Ulysses S. Grant signed into law the Holidays Act that made Thanksgiving an annual federal holiday.

The words of the nation's leaders reveal a country beset at times by war and adversity, just as we face our own particular challenges today. The call to give thanks for our blessings in good times and in bad is a welcome and much needed reminder, now as it was then.

Some inspiring Thanksgiving quotations from U.S. Presidents:

Abe Lincoln, 1863: I recommend to them that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union.

Andrew Johnson, 1865: And I do further recommend that on that occasion the whole people make confession of our national sins against His infinite goodness, and with one heart and one mind implore the divine guidance in the ways of national virtue and holiness.

Ulysses S. Grant, 1871: I therefore recommend that on Thursday, the 30th day of November next, the people meet in their respective places of worship, and there make the usual acknowledgments to Almighty God for the blessings he has conferred upon them; for their merciful exemption from evil, and invoke His protection and kindness for their less fortunate brethren whom, in His wisdom he has deemed it best to chastise.

Grover Cleveland, 1894: On that day let our ordinary work and business be suspended and let us meet in our accustomed places of worship and give thanks to Almighty God for our preservation as a nation, for our immunity from disease and pestilence, for the harvests that have rewarded our husbandry, for a renewal of national prosperity, and for every advance in virtue and intelligence that has marked our growth as a people.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1939: Let us, on the day set aside for this purpose, give thanks to the Ruler of the Universe for the strength which He has vouchsafed us to carry on our daily labors and for the hope that lives within us of the coming of a day when peace and the productive activities of peace shall reign on every continent.

Calvin Coolidge, 1927: Under the guidance and watchful care of a Divine and beneficent Providence this country has been carried safely through another year. Almighty God has continued to bestow upon us the light of His countenance, and we have prospered.

Harry S. Truman, 1945: In this year of our victory, absolute and final, over German fascism and Japanese militarism; in this time of peace so long awaited, which we are determined with all the United Nations to make permanent; on this day of our abundance, strength, and achievement; let us give thanks to Almighty Providence for these exceeding blessings.

John F. Kennedy, 1963: Today we give our thanks, most of all, for the ideals of honor and faith we inherit from our forefathers--for the decency of purpose, steadfastness of resolve and strength of will, for the courage and the humility, which they possessed and which we must seek every day to emulate. As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them.

Ronald Reagan, 1986: Rooted deeply in our Judeo-Christian heritage, the practice of offering thanksgiving underscores our unshakeable belief in God as the foundation of our Nation and our firm reliance upon Him from Whom all blessings flow. Both as individuals and as a people, we join with the Psalmist in song and praise: "Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good."

-excerpt Aleteia.org

REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM OR CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

Godparent/Sponsor must be at least 16 years old.

Godparent/Sponsor must be in good standing with the Catholic Church. Must be a practicing Catholic (*Attend Sunday Mass weekly*).

Must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation. If married, must be married in the Catholic Church. If single, not living with significant other, nor married civilly only.

Godparent/Sponsor cannot be the candidate's parent. Each child only requires one Godparent. If you wish to have two Godparents, there must be one female and one male. (Canon Law 872-874)

Are you an **ADULT** without

Confirmation, Communion or Baptism?

If you want to become a Roman Catholic or complete your Initiation into the Church, the RCIA is for you! For information, phone the rectory. *Adult Catholics* who have not yet celebrated *Confirmation* or Holy Communion should contact the rectory for preparation class/information.

Start your marriage at the altar with God

Start your married life with God and receive grace for your married life through Sacramental Marriage in Church. "Wedding" ONLY at the venue is not a valid Sacrament. In this Sacrament, God's own divine life can be experienced and lived. **Were you married only civilly** by a mayor or justice of the peace and would now like to be married in the Catholic Church? Contact Fr. Wojciech or Fr. Ed for details.

Respect Life

Any woman who is **pregnant** and in need of **assistance?** should **never** feel that abortion is her only option. Personal and confidential assistance is available at the following: Several Sources 800-662-2678 (24/7) -Heartbeat Int'l: 800-712-4357 (24/7) -Birthright: 800-550-4900 / Archdiocese Respect Life Office: 973-497-4350.

OLV Needlers If you knit/crochet or would like to learn, join us! We meet Wednesdays in the lower church at 6:00PM.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas To learn more call Marie 201-741-0499

OLV Adult Choir For grades 9-12 and adults. Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7PM. Choir Mass Sundays at 10:45AM.

Relics of St. Jude - Sunday, November 19. The Marian Shrine (Stony Point, NY) Exhibit and veneration of the relics begins at 2:30pm. Mass in honor of St. Jude at 5PM * Viewing of the relic open until 9pm. Free will donations are accepted. Handicapped accessible. www.marianshrine.org.

Senior Citizen Thanksgiving Dinner @Immaculate Heart Academy. Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 21, 4-6PM in the IHA cafeteria - free Thanksgiving dinner and raffle. RSVP 201-445-6800 (8AM-4PM daily). **Please do not leave a voicemail.**

Give Thanks!

The Churches of Harrington Park Thanksgiving Service
Tuesday, November 21, at 7:30PM
Community Church of Harrington Park (1 Spring St.)

Kidz Korner Answers

- 1) 1863.
- 2) In the US about 280 million turkeys are sold for thanksgiving which is about 4 billion lbs.
- 3) 86 lbs.
- 4) 1621.
- 5) Thursday.

Clothing Bins Please help Catholic Charities in its mission by donating clothes, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, knickknacks, toys, and children's books. Please place your donations INSIDE the bins (you may have to push it in). Do not leave items outside.

Thanksgiving and Eucharist mean the Same Thing

The word used for the Catholic Mass and sacrament have a special meaning, not just for one holiday.

It has been pointed out many times in the past, but it doesn't hurt to reflect on it once again, as we celebrate Thanksgiving Day: the Greek-derived word for thanksgiving is "eucharist," the same word that refers to both the Catholic Mass and the sacrament of Holy Communion.

It's no surprise, then, that many Catholics make a point of beginning their Thanksgiving Day with a visit to church, even though it is a civil holiday and not a religious day of obligation.

"The whole liturgical life of the Church revolves around the Eucharistic sacrifice and the sacraments," the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains. It is called Eucharist "because it is an action of thanksgiving to God. The Greek words *eucharistein* and *eulogein* recall the Jewish blessings that proclaim - especially during a meal - God's works: creation, redemption, and sanctification."

"The name 'Eucharist,' or thanksgiving, is to be explained either by the fact that at its institution Christ "gave thanks," or by the fact that this is the supreme act of Christian gratitude to God," writes Jesuit Fr. John A. Hardon in his *Catholic Catechism*. "Early instances of this title occur in the Teaching of the Twelve Apostles, in the letters of St. Ignatius of Antioch, and in the Apologies of St. Justin."

Christ Our Pascha, the Catechism of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, puts it this way:

The mystery of the Eucharist takes its name from this prayer of thanksgiving in which we express gratitude for all that we have received from God. We thank God "for all things which we know and do not know, the benefits bestowed upon us, both manifest and hidden." This gratitude-thanksgiving precedes all petitions for our needs. This is because we realize that, having given us his Son and the Holy Spirit, he has given us all for our salvation. Praying to God, the "ineffable, inconceivable, invisible, incomprehensible," we confess that he is infinitely greater than all that we know or can say about him or his deeds. We thank God for creation: "[he] brought us from nothingness into being," and for salvation: "After we fell [he] raised us up again [and] did not cease doing everything until [he] led us to heaven and granted us [his] future kingdom.

St. John Vianney had a special devotion to the Eucharist. In one of his meditations, he wrote of the spirit of thanksgiving after receiving Communion: "When we leave the altar rails we are as happy as the Magi would have been if they had been able to carry off the Infant Jesus."

Another saint, St. Peter Julian Eymard, is known as the Saint of the Eucharist. In fact, he founded a religious order, the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, whose mission is to share the riches of God's love manifested in the Eucharist. St. Peter Julian gets to the heart of the matter when he writes that the highest form of thanksgiving the devout Christian can make in response to the Eucharist is a complete gift of himself.

"Belong entirely to God through love, entirely to your neighbor through a gracious charity, entirely to the divine Eucharist by the offering and sacrifice of your whole self," he wrote. "Bear with yourself in the patience of our Lord."

And that can be done every day, not only on Thanksgiving.

-aleteia.org



The Plymouth Pilgrims were the first to celebrate Thanksgiving. They sailed across the Atlantic Ocean in a ship named the Mayflower, reaching North America in December 1620. They celebrated the first Thanksgiving Day in Fall 1621.

- theholidayspot.com

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - November 21

Mary's Presentation in the Temple is a non-biblical event that is celebrated by the Church each year. On November 21st both Catholic and Orthodox churches celebrate the Presentation of the Virgin Mary in the Temple (also known as The Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple). Below is the narrative from *The Protoevangelium of James* that describes exactly what happened when she was entrusted to the care of the Temple.

And the child was two years old, and Joachim said: Let us take her up to the temple of the Lord, that we may pay the vow that we have vowed, lest perchance the Lord send to us, and our offering be not received. And Anna said: Let us wait for the third year, in order that the child may not seek for father or mother. And Joachim said: So let us wait. And the child was three years old, and Joachim said: Invite the daughters of the Hebrews that are undefiled, and let them take each a lamp, and let them stand with the lamps burning, that the child may not turn back, and her heart be captivated from the temple of the Lord. And they did so until they went up into the temple of the Lord. And the priest received her, and kissed her, and blessed her, saying: The Lord has magnified your name in all generations. In you, on the last of the days, the Lord will manifest His redemption to the sons of Israel. And he set her down upon the third step of the altar, and the Lord God sent grace upon her; and she danced with her feet, and all the house of Israel loved her.

And her parents went down marveling, and praising the Lord God, because the child had not turned back. And Mary was in the temple of the Lord as if she were a dove that dwelt there, and she received food from the hand of an angel.

-aleteia.org

A Little Humor ...

A man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow, just in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have beaten the red light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup.

As she was still in mid-rant, she heard a tap on her window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, finger printed, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. After a couple of hours, a policeman approached the cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects.

He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday-School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk. Naturally... I assumed you had stolen the car."

-provided by J.M. W.

KIDZ KORNER

1. What year did Thanksgiving become a national holiday?
2. On Thanksgiving, how many pounds of turkey are eaten?
3. What was the weight of the largest turkey ever raised?
4. What year did the first Thanksgiving take place?
5. On what day of the week is Thanksgiving celebrated?

Answers on page 4.



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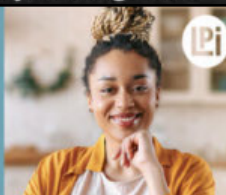
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