

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 16 November 2025

The Last Things

Eschatology is about the Kingdom of God, the Reign of God. We are to long for the coming of the Kingdom of God. We are to be one with the Beatific Vision, being in full union with God and one another in Heaven. As Roman Catholics we do not worry about the last things, for we know God wills salvation for all people through Jesus' life, death and resurrection. As our liturgical year draws to a close the scripture readings for this Sunday and the next, Christ the King, point us to the Last Things.

The Vatican Council II document *The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World* speaks of the coming of the Kingdom of God. It describes it as the consummation of the earth and all of humanity, a new dwelling place and a new earth where justice will abide...it will surpass all longings for peace, a new reality of holiness, grace, love and peace, #39. So, as our liturgical year draws to a close, let us embrace the coming of the Kingdom of God, the Last things, with joyful anticipation.

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Some new things will be starting the First Sunday of Advent Nov. 30.

The Lectors will be part of the entrance procession carrying the Book of the Gospel (if there is no Deacon present). It is hoped that there will be two lectors at each Mass to proclaim the Word of God and read the Prayers of the Faithful. It is also a hope to have four cups of Precious Blood available at all Masses in Saint Bernard's Church and two cups available at all Masses at Saint Irene's Church.

Those folks bringing Holy Communion to the homebound will now be asked to stand and receive a Blessing as they take the Holy Eucharist in the special container (a pyx) from the priest and start their ministry to the homebound. This way all our prayers from our community will go with them to the homebound.

Finally, new altar servers will be commissioned for service and newly Confirmed students will now be starting as Lectors and Extra-ordinary Ministers of Communion.

Pax Christ,

Fr. Dave

Pastor

Very Reverend David O'Leary, VF, S.T.L., D.Phil.