

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



PASTOR'S CORNER

What is something unique about this beautiful season right now? Recently, I came across the eye-opening reflection entitled “*Autumnology: Why Do We Fall for the Fall?*”

For many people, the fall—with its dying leaves and portending of harder months ahead—is just a permanent symbol of impermanence, and of decay, death, and grief. What follows the beautiful color of autumn is “stick season”—that lifeless period of empty tree limbs shorn of their color. And what follows this, inevitably, is the bitter cold of winter, with all the challenges, both physical and mental, that it poses. But we Christians are to celebrate all things autumn: “sweater weather,” colorful fall leaves, pumpkin spice coffee, pumpkin patches, and all the rest of it. But why does the fall elicit such excitement? Is it the association of the season with fresh starts—the beginning of a new school year or a new hockey season? Is it the suggestion of coziness—of hoodies and fireplaces, fairs and apple orchards? Is it the coming succession of holidays—Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas—and all the fun and warmth that they call to mind? There’s some truth to all of these social and psychological explanations, but I would argue that the real reason runs *through* them and *beneath* them. And we find it in another line of Eliot’s, penned later in his career in his *Four Quartets*: “In my end is my beginning.” We don’t have fresh, cozy, warm feelings about fall *in spite of* its associations with decay and death, but *because of* them. In the spirit of autumn impermanence, we glean, somehow, a real sense of *hope*. What allows for this paradox of autumnal expectation? Again, it can’t be the natural order of things, even with the festivities of harvest time. Rather, the spirit of end-as-beginning is only made possible by the foundational truth of Christianity: The Incarnation - the feast of the birth of the Word made flesh. Jesus Christ was not only born “in the bleak midwinter,” but also in the humblest of circumstances—to a poor family on the run, in a cave surrounded by animals. And at the very end, the very bottom, of human life—a trajectory that finds its fulfillment in the cross and Resurrection—we find the living God, who was “emptied himself” to fill us (Phil. 2:7), and to make death the avenue of eternal life (John 12:24). As Chesterton put it, nothing had happened in the hills of Bethlehem “except that the whole universe had been turned inside out.” This great inversion not only fills the month of December with warmth and joy—and even the agnostic or atheist, Chesterton said, is transformed by it, “whether he likes it or not”—it also reverberates across those months, filling them with its glow. Autumn is joyful because winter is joyful; winter is joyful because it’s the time of Christ’s birth; and Christ’s birth marks the claiming of the whole weak, decaying, suffering world for God. Thus, to the degree that we turn, culturally, away from this revelation, we can expect the fall to be drained of all its color. But to the degree that we keep it in the center of the picture, we will know that autumn is the surest sign of God’s blessing.

P.S. The newly married woman was so excited. She wanted everything to be perfect for the first Thanksgiving dinner she was hosting for her in-laws. So she called the turkey hotline and asked, “*I bought a 12-pound turkey. How long does it need to be cooked?*” “Just a minute,” said the hotline person, paging through her reference book. “*Thanks,*” said the woman as she hung up.

Fr. Slawek

FRIDAY MASS CHANGING TO COLLECTIVE MASS 2026

Starting in January 2026, we will be accepting multiple intentions (up to 5) at the Friday 9:00 a.m. Mass. You may request to have your intention included in the Friday Mass until 1:00 p.m. each Thursday in the parish office providing available intentions. The suggested donation for each intention is \$20. This new practice is meant to help those of you who may have an urgent need to pray for your loved one who has just died, or you may have a special intention for a person who has serious health problems. This collective Mass will aid in helping upkeep the parish.

OCTOBER 12, 2025



If you are admitted to the hospital for surgery, please call the Parish office prior to your admission if you wish to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Upon admission at the hospital, identify your religion as Catholic. If you do not disclose that you are Catholic, no Priest, Deacon or Catholic Lay Minister will be informed and, thus, will not be able to visit you and bring you communion.

Carry the card requesting the services of a priest so that if you arrive unconscious at an Emergency Room you can be cared for spiritually.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, October 14

9 a.m. Private Intentions.

Wednesday, October 15

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Avelino Constantino req. by Maria Valerio.

Thursday, October 16

9 a.m.. Repose of the soul of Father Chris Rupert.

Friday, October 17

9a.m. Repose of the soul of Noel Valerio req. by Maria Valerio.

Saturday, October 18

4:30 p.m.. Repose of the soul of Pelagia Diapera req. by Anibilla Diapera.

Sunday, October 19

9 a.m. Intentions of all Parishioners.

11 a.m. Repose of the soul of Francisco Sr. & Francica Anchuelo req. by Lourdes Anchuelo.



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY is on October 18/19 this year. This is a worldwide collection for the missionary church that provides emergency aid when disasters strike, cares for refugees in war-torn nations, provides rural health clinics and transportation for priests, catechists, religious and lay pastoral workers. It provides financial support for the daily needs of all missionaries. Please pray for the missions and be generous on World Mission Sunday.
<https://www.missionsocieties.ca>



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Holy Spirit Conference

Turning concern into action

Charity unites us to God... There is nothing mean in charity, nothing arrogant. Charity knows no schism, does not rebel, does all things in concord. In charity all the elect of God have been made perfect.

Pope St. Clement 1

Please remember the POOR BOX on your way out of the church after Mass.

ANOTHER WAY TO DONATE TO OUR PARISH

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan—Pre-Authorized Giving is a very simple procedure. When you participate in Pre-Authorized Giving, your offering will be withdrawn from your account on or about the 20th of the month. This amount will then be deposited to the Parish's account.

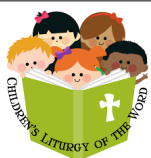
This amount will be receipted at the end of the year for tax purposes.

Application forms are on the table at the back of the church.



NEEDED AT ALL MASSES

If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server please fill out a volunteer form located on the back table of the Church and submit it to the Parish office. Volunteer Screening will contact you.



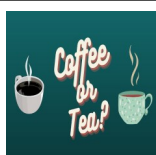
Children's Liturgy

Every Sunday
For the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.



ARE YOU MOVING? OR HAVE YOU ALREADY MOVED?

Please contact the parish office so your records can be updated. Thank you.



COFFEE & TEA & SNACKS SOCIAL

Wednesday, October 15,
2025

