

Fr. Ken's Korner



Greetings and blessings of the week,

I hope that the week, chilly as it was, was a good one for you. This week will be "rush week" around Plymouth as people from all over the globe arrive

here to make the "Thanksgiving Pilgrimage" and visit the sites which for us are a part of the everyday landscape. Thanksgiving Day affords us the opportunity to reflect upon the many blessings with which we have been endowed in our lives – as well as to consider matters of social justice for all peoples who have been deprived of their rights and basic needs. This year, perhaps more than previous years, there is a national sense of consciousness as to the dire straits that many people are in. As we find ourselves in a transitional period as the reins of leadership are transferred on both local and national levels of government, it is an opportune time remember to pray for those people who have been entrusted with the well being of our nation that they may be guided by values that are rooted in the ways of God.



As we have done in the past, this year we will have a Thanksgiving Eve Mass at 7:00 PM. There is so much happening on Thanksgiving morning that sometimes it makes it difficult for some people to celebrate the original intention of the day. Once again this year, we invite you to bring bread and wine that will be used for your Thanksgiving meal. Please label it and place it in front of the altar so that it can be blessed during the Mass. Also, if you want to, please bring non perishable food items that will be used to help stock the shelves of our food pantry. The increase in requests for food assistance, as well as the increase in number at the parish soup kitchen, seem to indicate that the numbers of those who are in need of help is increasing. Speaking of Thanksgiving and food, Monday the volunteers of our St. Vincent de Paul Society will be very busy preparing the Thanksgiving baskets for those who have requested help. The demand is up, not only here, but in other churches and organizations as well. The food baskets will be available for pick up for those who have called in and are on the list between 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM.



Today is the feast of Christ the King. This marks the end of the Church Liturgical year. The new cycle of readings begins next week as we begin a new church year with the First Sunday of Advent. The Scripture readings used at Sunday Mass are divided into three cycles: A, B, and C. This Liturgical year the readings will be taken from Cycle B. The Wednesday morning Scripture study series that was conducted by Celia Sirois at the Parish Center as part of the Archdiocesan Chrism program concluded this past week. Once again, it was well attended. We hope to have another course offered again next year. Our location makes it a good place for people in the surrounding area to take part in the program.



Please remember ion your prayers Carolina Casinelli. She is Fred Casinelli's mother. She died last week and was buried from a funeral Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians in Newton. Likewise, please remember in your prayers Edward Pina. A funeral Mass was prayed for him here at St. Peter's last Monday. On a happier note, we are happy to hear that Pilar Schembri has been released from the hospital after having been hospitalized for more than a week.



Continuing on a happy note, we extend "Happy Birthday" wishes to Danielle Wedge as she celebrates her eighteenth birthday tomorrow, November 24th. Ginny and Glenn Maccaferri are new grandparents. Their daughter, Abbi, and her husband, Michael Hatton are brand new parents – twice over! Abbi gave birth to twin sons: William and Andrew.



We have a new person who has become part of the staff that you may see in the parish center. Mr. George Kennedy is now working fifteen hours a week to help keep the Parish Center clean. He is doing a great job and we are pleased to have him here with us.

This week's calendar of saints includes people with whom most of us may not be familiar. Monday, November twenty-fourth, we celebrate the feast of St. Andrew Dung-Lac and his companions. He was a Vietnamese priest who was martyred, along with many other Vietnamese. "...During the 17th – 19th centuries in Vietnamese, some 130,000 Christians suffered cruel martyrdom, many by decapitation or strangulation; today 117, most of them killed during the reign of Emperors Minh-Mang (1820-1840) and Tu-Duc (1847-1883), are remembered... all canonized 19 June 1988 by Pope John Paul II..." Tuesday, November twenty-fifth, is the feast of St. Catherine of Alexandria. She died as a martyr also. Alexandria, in Africa, was one of the major centers of the early church – along with Rome, Antioch, and Jerusalem. She lived in the fourth century. It is said that after her conversion at the age of eighteen she preached the gospel throughout Alexandria. "...While imprisoned by the emperor Maximus, she converted both the empress, and the leader of the armed forces, and for this she was martyred..." "... she is a patron saint of philosophers, preachers, and young unmarried women..."



You may have noticed one of the windows on the parking lot side of the Church that one of the lower stained glass windows has been partially boarded up. This is due to the fact that the window has been broken. We notified the police who came to look at the damage. Now that this has been done, we can notify the Archdiocese for insurance purposes so that we can have an estimate, a contact and get the window repaired.

May the Lord's blessings smile kindly upon you and your loved ones in the coming week. Your brother in faith, Fr. Ken.