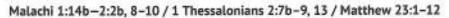
November 5, 2023

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)





# A Church on the Way

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

n July 2013, as part of a visit to Brazil, Pope Francis met with the Latin American conference of bishops.

Speaking informally, bishop to bishops, he said, "At times we lose people because they don't understand what we are saying, because we have forgotten the language of simplicity and import an intellectualism foreign to our people."

I thought about how his words could be applied in my parish, so one Sunday I asked the people in the pews what they looked for from the Church. I was impressed and touched by their answers: wisdom to make their way through life; where and how to find God; a desire to be treated like adults; compassion for themselves and for others; guidance to reach out to the needy in society; a link between faith and life; a place to find some peace and quiet; wisdom for the political process. It was a list by which we who lead need to examine our consciences.

The charge from Pope Francis is to be a Church that speaks to people where they are with the words of everyday life. We look for wisdom that enables us to become our best selves. And that is what healthy religion is about: to guide rather than to control; to inspire rather than to shame; to participate fully rather than to simply "pray, pay, and obey." •

# Reflect What have you found in the Church and what more do you long for?





**Holy Trinity** 

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Pastor of the Three Churches Fr. Thaddeus Tran

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Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm



St. Thomas More

St Thomas More Catholic Church 302 Chestnut St. Dalzell, IL 61320 Phone 815-663-6201 Email thomasmore32@gmail.com

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Facebook for the Three Churches

Use Link on Home Page www.bureaucatholic.org

### Emergency Number for all 3 Churches 779-248-2164



9:45 am - 11:00 am at Cherry Church Hall Sunday, November 5th - K thru 4th grade & Confirmation class Sunday, November 12th - 5th thru 8th Grades

### Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of November 6, 2023

Monday 11/6 No Mass Tuesday 11/7 9:00 am STM t Judy Guerrini Wednesday 11/8 5:30 pm HT + Robert Dzierzynski Thursday 11/9 STM + Daisy Kopek 9:00 am Friday 11/10 9:00 am STM + Bernard Schwamberger

### Mass Intentions for the weekend of November 11–12, 2023

St Thomas More Saturday 11/11 4:00 pm + Alan Goodrick Sunday 11/12 8:30 am Holy Trinity + Michael Campbell 10:30 am St Patrick + Dec. Members Crowe Family

5:00 pm St Thomas More + For The Parishioners

### November, A Month Dedicated to Praying for Souls

November, the month traditionally dedicated to praying intentionally for the dead. This presents us with the opportunity to reflect on a beautiful Catholic teaching, the teaching on Purgatory, which is really the mercy of God in action. If there was no such thing as purgatory, there would be only two options for us after death: heaven and hell. And if you have to be perfect to enter the presence of God, we would all be in trouble! Thank God we have the possibility of Purgatory.

While it's true that the souls in Purgatory are on their way to union with God, they depend on our prayers. There is suffering involved in their purification and this is why Catholics pray for the dead. We should assist the Holy Souls with our prayers. And we should all be interested in this because most likely we will be among those holy souls some day!

Below, please find some suggestions for specific things we can do in November to help speed up the souls' trip to heaven:

Offer Masses: By far the greatest sacrifice we can offer for the souls in Purgatory would be to offer Masses. One Mass is worth more than the whole created universe. How pleasing this is to God and how happy the suffering souls in Purgatory will be due to your offerings!

Our Lady & the Rosary: Saints have pointed out in visions and revelations the power that Our Lady has to help and assist the souls in Purgatory. On Marian Feasts and celebrations, the suffering of the souls is alleviated, and many arrive at their eternal destiny—Heaven. Pray the Rosary for the souls in Purgatory.

Offer Up Your Sufferings for the Suffering Souls: So much suffering in the world, but so much suffering is actually wasted. How true the saying: "Suffering either makes you better or bitter!" Whatever suffering you may be undergoing, offer it up to God for the suffering souls in Purgatory. (The above article is a compilation of setonlakeridge.org; catholicexchange.com)

## GROWING DISCIPLES

Parishes across the Diocese of Peoria have completed their parish meetings for Growing Disciples, the multiyear pastoral planning process for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria to renew discipleship and enhance relationships with Jesus Christ in every corner of our region. Bishop Tylka is reading, listening to, and praying about all the feedback he is receiving. Your input is needed and valued as he discerns the future landscape of the Diocese of Peoria. We ask that you submit your feedback sheet in the collection basket by Nov. 12 or submit online by Nov. 22 at growingdisciplescdop.org. Please continue to pray that all our efforts today will bear fruit for a brighter tomorrow.

## Christmas Flowers

We will start early this year to take Christmas flower donations to be sure we get our orders on time to the flower shop. Please donate \$25 for each of the deceased



family members that you would like to donate Christmas flowers in remembrance of. If you just want to donate money to the Christmas flower fund, any amount will be greatly appreciated. Names will be listed in the bulletin. Flower envelopes are available in back of the churches.



Hall Twp Food Pantry is having their annual toy drive.

Please join them in spreading some Holiday Spirit by donating new, unwrapped, age appropriate gifts for children ages 1 through 12. Suggested items are toys, games, building kits, dolls, and books. Deadline to donate is Tues, Dec 5th.

### LATEST OFFERING'S OCT 29TH WEEKEND

HT - \$ 629.00 WORLD MISSION \$18/CEMETERY \$70

SP- \$ 618.00 ALL SOULS CANDLES \$190

STM- \$ 755.00

PAUSA

St Patrick Sausage Fundraiser Saturday, December 2, 2023 Orders due by Nov 26th

Volunteers are welcome to help on the 2nd. Thank you for your support!

### CONFESSIONS

CONFESSIONS WILL BE SAT. NOV 11TH 10:30 - 11:15 AM AT ST THOMAS MORE IN THE HALL

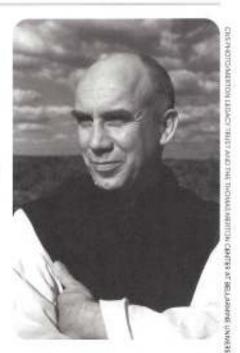
WORLD MISSION \$60/ALL SOLLS CANDLES \$75

# Dear Padre,

I would like to do more spiritual reading, but everything I've tried is either over my head or too sweet and pious for me. Do you have suggestions for any down-to-earth authors?

You might try reading shorter works. More is not necessarily better. Consider several publications available at Liquori.org. In My Own Words is a series of books that gathers excerpts from different authors: Dorothy Day, Sr. Thea Bowman, Pope St. John Paul II, and others. Also consider the Wisdom series for Advent and Christmas or Lent and Easter. These include the writings of ancients and a few more current authors like Pope Francis, Henri Nouwen, and Thomas Merton. Daybreaks for Advent and Lent are booklets of short meditations for each day of each season. Catholic Update, a four-page newsletter from Liquori, features indepth articles on contemporary topics written by expert authors.

C. S. Lewis was a prolific and popular Christian author. His Mere Christianity is practical and informative. A Grief Observed is a beautiful meditation for those who have lost someone dear to them, as is Henri Nouwen's In Memoriam. Merton's New Seeds of Contemplation has inspired readers since it was first



Thomas Merton, a Trappist monk and one of the most influential Catholic authors of the 1900s

Finally, the best place to start might be the Gospel of Mark-not to study or analyze. Rather, read it just to get to know Jesus a little better.

### The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

SUNDAY

Sunday in

November 12

Thirty-second

Ordinary Time

Wis 6:12-16

Mt 25:1-13

DAYbreaks

Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections and prayers for Advent and Lent. Including:
Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at Liguori.org.

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November 6 Weekday Rom 11:29-36 Lk 14:12-14

#### TUESDAY

November 7 Weekday Rom 12:5-16ab

Lk 14:15-24

### WEDNESDAY

November 8 Weekday Rom 13:8-10 Lk 14:25-33

### THURSDAY

November 9 Dedication of Lateran Basilica Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17

Jn 2:13-22

#### FRIDAY

November 10 St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church Rom 15:14-21

Lk 16:1-8

### SATURDAY

November 11 St. Martin of Tours, Bishop Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27

1 Thes 4:13-18 Lk 16:9-15 or 4:13-14



### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

People today are attracted by things that are faster and faster: rapid Internet connections, speedy cars and planes, instant relationships. But at the same time we see a desperate need for calmness, I would even say slowness. Is the Church still able to move slowly: to take the time to listen, to have the patience to mend and reassemble?

MEETING WITH BISHOPS OF BRAZIL IN RIO DE JANEIRO, JULY 27, 2013



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