



Partners in Faith & Action

November 2016

NOVEMBER CELEBRATION

Please join with the NDV faith community in one or more of our weekday School or 9:00 a.m. Sunday celebrations of the Mass.

Nov. 13th ó Family Mass, 9:00 a.m. Sunday, followed by a reception in the Church Hall.

Nov. 20th ó 7th grade students will be readers, gift bearers, and provide a reception after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please join us as our sports team coaches will be thanked for their dedication and service.

Nov. 23rd -- Our third grade students will lead the 9:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Mass for the school and our special guests ó our Grandparents and Grandfriends.

Growing in Faith



FAMILIES GROWING IN FAITH

Remember, our next Families Growing in Faith gathering is Friday, November 11th. We gather for a light supper in the Church Hall at 6:00 p.m. The program begins promptly at 6:30 p.m. This year we are focusing on the Sacraments. Please bring your Bibles.

ALL SAINTSøAND ALL SOULSøDAYS

During the month of November, we remember all of those who have died and pray for all our family members and friends who have died.

When we hear or use the word saint, we think of those who are canonized, such as martyrs, patrson saints, doctors of the Churchô those known for doing extraordinary things in Christø name. It is good to remember these saints and to reflect on what we can learn from their lives.

There are many saints who have not been canonized. The Church refers to the Communion of Saints which indicates the

relationships among those in heaven, all those who have died and are ready to enter heaven, and all those still alive who are living a faith-filled life. Learn more about the saints at: www.catholic.org/saints/ www.loyolapress.com/saints.htm www.jclubcatholic.org -- all of the Saints for the month at Saint-A-Day

CANNED FOOD DRIVE



CJSF is now planning our annual Canned Food Drive. Beginning the week of November 14th, we will be collecting canned vegetables,

fruits, soups, tuna, peanut butter and boxed items such as rice, pasta, beans and other nutritious items for the San Francisco Food Bank, which will distribute these food items to families in need. Look for more information in the Wednesday bulletin.

This is another opportunity for you to discuss how much we have to be thankful for, and to talk to your children about the fact that there are many who do not have as much as we do.

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING



Sunday, November 20th is the last Sunday of this Liturgical Year. It is the celebration of the Feast of Christ the King. We honor the glory and dominion of Christ with the title øKing of the Universe.ö

When we look into the Gospels, we do not see things that we associate with Kings with Jesus. We do not find Jesus with armies, servants, or political power. God is mighty and powerful, but Jesus became human, like us, and was powerless and poor. Our celebration of the humble kingship of Jesus prepares us for the coming of the Christ child born in a lowly manger. The king we have in Jesus does not reign from a distant castle. He is present in us.

(Catechist, November/December 2015)

<http://www.churchyear.net/ctksunday.html>
provides more information about this Feast Day.



THANKSGIVING

American Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. This year Thanksgiving falls on November 24th. Pilgrims enjoyed a successful and bountiful harvest in the New World. The first Thanksgiving Proclamation was made in 1675. In the late 1700s the Continental Congress proposed a day of national Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is a time for families to remember all we are thankful for. At our Thanksgiving dinners, let us take time to thank God for the many blessings that he has given us, and ask Him to watch over us in the coming year. We should thank God for the many blessings that he has given us. We should also remember those less fortunate.

Invite your children to make placemats showing all that they are thankful for. Your prayer might also be one in which each person says one thing he/she is thankful for this year.

Learn more about Thanksgiving, read poems, make crafts related to the season at
<http://www.internet4classrooms.com/thanksgiving.htm>
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/thanksgiving/>
<http://www.plimoth.org/learn/just-kids/thanksgiving-interactive-you-are-historian>

BLACK FRIDAY ALTERNATIVES

Instead of rushing out to the shopping malls the day after Thanksgiving try these other activities:

1. Decorate the house for the Advent/Christmas season. At least get out your Advent Wreath for Sunday.
2. Attend Mass to spend some quiet time thanking God for his blessings in your life.
3. Clean out your closets and donate clothes, shoes, or toys that those less fortunate can use.
4. Volunteer at a local charity.
5. Spend a relaxing evening as a family.
6. If you want to shop do so at family-owned stores or visit holiday craft shows.

(from *Catholic Digest*, November 2016)



LITURGICAL YEAR

The liturgical year starts with the first Sunday of Advent (November 27th this year) and ends on the Solemnity of Christ the King.

The liturgical calendar helps us understand the seasons and the feasts of the Church year. It impresses on us the wonders of creation, the history of salvation, the mystery of the Incarnation, the public life and teachings of Jesus, his suffering and sacrificial death, and his triumph over sin and death.

This is Year A in the cycle of readings. Most of the readings will be from the Gospel of Matthew. This Gospel was written in the 80s A.D. Mark wrote for Jewish Christians in Antioch, one of the largest cities of the Roman Empire. Although he kept some of Mark's Gospel, with which his readers were familiar, he added many of Jesus's teachings, including many parables. Matthew taught that Jesus did not come to abolish the law or the prophets (5:17). In Jesus, all of Israel's hopes for a Messiah were fulfilled. As we read Matthew, we receive the assurance that God is faithful to his promises.



Advent means "coming" or "arrival." It is a time to focus on the three comings of Jesus: past, present, and future. Traditionally, we refer to these comings using three images:

--*History*: Jesus was a real person born in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago.

--*Mystery*: Jesus is always with us through the gift of grace. Grace is a sharing in God's own life and love.

--*Majesty*: Christ will come again in glory at the end of time.

(Catechist, November/December 2009)

The first Sunday of Advent is the time to set up your Advent Wreath and begin your Advent countdown. To learn more about Advent wreaths and to find directions for making a wreath or Advent calendar, go to
http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgical_year/activities/view.cfm?id=954
http://www.domestic-church.com/index.dir/index_fridge.htm