ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

THE CHURCH OF THE FRANCISCANS

FR. BERNARD KARMANOCKY, OFM, PASTOR

FR. FRANCIS BALESTINO, IN RESIDENCE

CHURCH/RECTORY
536 Decker Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906



CONVENT
702 Saybrook Place
Johnstown, PA 15906

OFFICE HOURS WEEKLY
Monday – Friday
9:00AM---2:00PM
Website:StThereseJohnstown.com

SOCIAL HALL: 535-8805
CHURCH HALL: 536-2287
RECTORY: 539-7633

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Nov 22, 2026

FIRST READING: I will rescue my scattered sheep (Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17).

PSALM: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

SECOND READING: As in Adam all die, so too in Christ all shall be brought to life (1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28).

GOSPEL: Whatever you did to the least ones, you did to me (Matthew 25: 31-46).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION: THE SHEPHERD KING

The job of shepherd and the job of king couldn't be more different from each other. Shepherds are on the lowest rung of society, kings are at the top. But God says, through the prophet Ezekiel that the Messiah will lead in a way very different from earthly authorities who lord it over their people and cause harm with their poor leadership. Our King takes on the job himself. Christ, like a shepherd, will give rest, seek out the lost, and bring back the strayed and scattered ones. He will heal the wounded and bind up the injured. He does not delegate, but will "shepherd them rightly." We have a king who cares for us and who is not afraid to "judge between one sheep and another" (Ezekiel 34:17).

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WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

MON	**11/23**		
TUES	**11/24**		
WED	**11/25**		
THURS	**11/26**		**Office is closed**
FRI	**11/27**		
SAT	**11/28**	**3:00PM**	**Confession**
SUN	**11/29**		



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (Nov 23rd– Nov 29th)

MON	**11/23** . . . . . **7:50AM**.	**+ Edward Pavlosky Sr. –** (Gary, Brenda & Family)
TUES	**11/24** . . . . . **7:50AM**.	**+ Martin Simcic –** (Family)
WED	**11/25**. **7:50AM**	**+ Tom Pappas** (1 month mind) **–** (Brother, Steve)
THUR	**11/26** **9:00AM**	**+ George Seigh –** (Son, Mike & Kim)
FRI	**11/27** **7:50AM**	**+ M/M Joseph Cisz –** (Daughter, Joan)
SAT	**11/28** **4:00PM**	**+ Willaim Kolega –** (Wife, Dorothy & Daughter,Chris)
SUN	**11/29** **7:30AM**	**+ Joe Yeager –** (Carol Manganello)
	. . . . . **10:30AM**	**+ Albert Sr. & Elizabeth Dadey –** (Son, Tom)



Sunday, Nov 22, 2026

Stewardship Reflections: Today we come to the end of the liturgical year, celebrating the magnificent feast of the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Our readings provide contrasting images of this King of ours – He has authority over all, and yet, He is humble and tender in His care for us, especially the most vulnerable. How can we properly honor and love such a King? By offering Him our very lives through the stewardship way of life.

The more deeply we embrace the stewardship way of life, the more closely our priorities will align with His. This way of life prepares us well for our judgement day and helps us to live in imitation of our King right now.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS
(Nov 14th – Nov 15th, 2026)

Weekly	. . . . . $	3,190.00
Building Fund	. . . . . $	55.00



We are collecting Monetary Donations this weekend for **Ferrante Family,** to help with their son Michael Funeral expenses. Please consider donating according to your means.
We ask that you remember them in your prayers for comfort and healing.



Parish Advent Christmas Project
Thank you to all who were able to take a star from the tree. Please return your unwrapped gift to us no later than **Sunday, Nov 22nd**

The **Christian Mothers** will be have a Rada cutlery sale from **November 5th thru November 22nd**. American made kitchen cutlery make great gifts. Ingredients for dips and cheeseballs are n ice to have on hand for guests. Please place your order with a check made payable To St. Therese Christian Mothers in the collection jar or drop off at the office by **November 22nd**.
Any questions call Helen Sorchilla 814-535-1141.



Thanksgiving Day Liturgy – Mass on Thanksgiving Day, **November 26th will be held at 9:00AM**. Please bring a non-perishable item or monetary donation for our food pantry. Boxes will be in the vestibule before Masses.



Stocking for Solders
Our sister Church St Anne's Christian Mothers will again be participating in "**Stocking for Soldiers**." Stocking and instructions on how to fill will be available in the back of the church. Filled stocking will be accepted until **next week Nov 26th**. Please consider this worthwhile program to let our servicemen & women know how much they are appreciated.



Children's Christmas Party – All children 13 & younger from St. Therese & St. Anne Parishes are invited to attend **Breakfast with Santa** on **Saturday, Dec 12th** in the **St. Therese Social Hall**. Doors open at10:00AM Please complete the form and drop it in the collection basket. **Forms are available in the back of church. Registration deadline is Dec 6th**. Sponsored by the KOC #10409 & Christian Mothers.



To everyone who worked long and hard at the Piroghi Project, the cooks on Wednesday, you guys had a long day, for all the monetary donations, the clean up crew and for all who purchased those piroghis. Your continued support always makes these projects huge successes!!! **THANK YOU All, for everything that you do throughout the year!!!! We hope you have a wonderful Holiday!**



Dear Parishioners,



It is said that the thief of joy is comparison. When we see what others have it may cause a feeling of discontentment. To counter this feeling it is good to count our blessings, and be thankful to God for all the gits He has given to us for our happiness. St. John Chrysostom says, "Happiness can only be achieved by looking inward and learning to enjoy whatever life has and this requires transferring greed into gratitude."

On Behalf of Fr. Balestino and myself may you and your loved ones experience the happiness of gratitude and enjoy the blessings God has given to you everyday.

HAPPY AND BLESSED THANKSGIVING.



Fr. Balestino



The Children's Thanksgiving Liturgy will be held **Sunday, Nov 22nd** at the **10:30AM mass**. Students **will report to class at 9 and will attend mass at 10:30 together**. Please bring your Non-perishable item and place them on the altar. There will be NO Religious Ed Classes on **Sunday, Nov 29th**. Classes will resume on **Dec 6th**



Gift Card Tree – Nov 29th we will be selling chances on a Gift Cards and Cash Christmas tree valued at $200.00 (tree not included) before Mass in the vestibule until Dec 13th. Chances are $1 each or 6 for $5



Christmas Cookie Sale –

It's that time of the year again! The **Christian Mothers will be having their annual Christmas Cookie** Sale on **Saturday Dec 12th & Sunday 13th**. We are once again calling out to the bakers of the parish. Would you be willing to bake some cookies? Your help will be greatly appreciated. You may make as many dozens as you like. Please deliver your cookies to the Church Hall by 9AM on Saturday, **Dec 13th**. Cookies will be sold after all Masses Sat & Sun. Thank You in advance for all your support throughout the year!



Catholic Ministries
DRIVE

Thank you to the **83** families who have pledged as of Sept 30th a total of **$15,980.00** towards our target amount of **$23,100** Fr Bernards hope is for 100% parishioner participation; we are now at **35.35% parishioner participation.** Please prayerfully consider making a pledge according to your means. You have until Dec 31st 2026 to pay your pledge in full.

Community News & Events



MUSIC BINGO: Special Olympics of Cambria County will be having a Music Bingo on Saturday, **Nov. 28,2026 at the Portage Moose at 977 Orange Ave. Portage, Pa from 4-8 PM.** Price is $30.00 for bingo, meal and snacks. Lots of Fun!! For tickets, please call Karen Hogan at 814-322-2765. May also purchase tickets at the door.

A Christmas Out of Time

some journeys can't be booked,
they arrive when you least expect them.

On December 3, 4, & 5 at 7PM at the Greater Johnstown Christian Fellowship, 3429 Elton Road. This event is Christ centered, good for the entire family, and free admission. Doors open at 6PM nightly. For more information please call 814-266-2322



Divine Mercy Prayer Group Service Project
All are welcome to join us !!
Christmas caroling to bring Christmas Cheer to the Residents. **Wed. Dec. 2nd at6:30pm**

Concordia at Arbutus
207 Ottawa St.
Johnstown PA 15904

Please call to let us know you are coming.
Cathy 814-288-1126 or Lolly 814-659-8717

ABORTION; Intercessions for Life:
"For all mothers, especially those who are young or alone, beaten or addicted, that God might heal their broken hearts and seal that with His love…
We Pray To The Lord



"A Person's a person no matter how small"
-Dr. Seuss

Giving Thanks in All Circumstances

Recently, I read a story about a woman who was checking out at the grocery store a few days before Thanksgiving. The cashier did not recognize one of the vegetables the woman was purchasing. The woman identified it, and the cashier apologized for not knowing what it was, adding, "My mother would have known. She had all these recipes, but I'm not a cook like she was."

As their conversation continued, the cashier shared that this would be the first Thanksgiving she would celebrate without her mother, a woman who loved to cook and did it exceptionally well. The customer later reflected, "I keep thinking of that cashier, how she's weighing sweet potatoes and ringing up can after can of cranberry sauce and lugging turkeys and hams across the scanner. She's helping prepare others' Thanksgiving dinners just by keeping them moving through the line and out of the store. And she's doing it with both sadness and a smile."

This story illustrates an example of giving thanks in all circumstances. The cashier was obviously experiencing a very difficult time, yet she continued to put one foot in front of the other and fulfill the responsibilities of her job. While we do not know whether she was finding reasons to be grateful in her own life, that is not the part of the story upon which I want to focus. Instead, I want to focus on the customer who took the time to recognize her.

This customer did something that is often overlooked in our busy lives: she took the time to listen. She recognized the pain the cashier was experiencing and offered her kindness and encouragement. Sometimes, this is exactly what someone needs just to make it through an ordinary day. In reflecting on the encounter, the customer expressed gratitude for the fact that this cashier was helping others experience a wonderful Thanksgiving, even if she herself was struggling to find happiness. That final phrase—"She's doing it with both sadness and a smile"—really hits home with me, as it epitomizes how so many cope with the difficulties of life.

In his First Letter to the Thessalonians, Saint Paul writes, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

This is tough!

Every individual carries burdens, emotional struggles, and spiritual challenges. The pain people experience is deeply personal, and sometimes it is difficult to communicate that pain to others. Many people simply bury their struggles and never speak about them, often leaving those around them wondering what might be wrong. At times, we put blinders on that prevent us from recognizing the good in our own lives, in the lives of others, and in all that God has created.

I am certain that everyone has experienced moments when they have had to "grin and bear it," "tough it out," or simply "get their act together." Gratitude can be difficult to find when our attention is focused on everything that is going wrong or everything for which we feel ungrateful. However, this is not the way of Christianity. It certainly was not the way of the customer in this story.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, let us remember that gratitude is not dependent upon having a perfect life, a trouble-free day, or circumstances that always go our way. Rather, gratitude is a choice to recognize God's goodness, even amid our struggles, and to recognize the goodness in the people around us. Sometimes, the greatest expression of gratitude is not simply saying "thank you" to God, but showing our appreciation for His gifts through the kindness we extend to others.

May we all learn to live with our circumstances, offer a smile in our sadness, and never miss an opportunity to make someone else's burden a little lighter.

May God bless you and your family abundantly this Thanksgiving and always!

Column by Jonathan Nagy .Ed., is the principal of Bishop Carroll Catholic High School in Ebensburg
Copied from the Proclaim Magazine, where this article can be read in its entirety