

My Dear St. Francis of Assisi Family,

As we gather with our loved ones this Thanksgiving, I am deeply grateful for each of you and the beautiful faith community we share. This special day invites us to pause and reflect on the abundant blessings in our lives, both great and small.

The very word "thanksgiving" resonates profoundly with our faith journey. Just as we gather around family tables today, we regularly gather around the Lord's table to celebrate the Eucharist – which itself means "thanksgiving" in Greek. In both celebrations, we come together in gratitude, breaking bread and sharing our lives with one another.

When we celebrate the Eucharist, we participate in the ultimate act of thanksgiving – Christ's self-giving love. This divine gratitude transforms us and teaches us to see all of life as gift. Whether in times of joy or challenge, this eucharistic perspective helps us recognize God's enduring presence and the countless ways love manifests in our lives.

Today, I encourage you to carry this spirit of thanksgiving beyond the holiday table. Let gratitude be our daily practice, transforming how we see our world, our neighbors, and ourselves. In giving thanks, we open our hearts to even greater blessings and deeper communion with God and one another.

Know that I thank God for each of you and the privilege of serving this community.

With grateful heart,

Fr. Vincent

P.S. Remember that our Thanksgiving Day Mass is at 9:30 AM.