

October 8, 2019

Dear St. Mary's Parishioner,

Can it be possible? It's Thanksgiving already!

But on my drive up the signs are clear; the gorgeous deciduous trees changing colour and the dramatic clouds and sudden downpours....and the decrease in summer traffic!

And yes, we've had the gas fireplace on several times already these past few weeks, alternated with afternoons sitting in the sun on the porch.



I personally love Autumn; the colours, cooler temperatures and the smells. I vacillate between feeling cozy, lighting candles and creating wonderful smells in the kitchen and dreading the darkness that descends so early and cramps my ability to walk in the evenings or to drive without squinting.

We all have preferences, and if we take them too seriously, we lose sight of our blessings. The world is not designed to meet our preferences, but to meet the needs of Creation, of which we are part.

And that's what Thanksgiving is all about – giving thanks to the One who knows our needs and our past and our future more intimately than even we do. The One whose Presence fills our every breath.

In the few days that will lead up to our Thanksgiving service here on Sunday, I encourage you to take stock; to open your eyes, ears and heart to become aware of the abundance of blessings in your own life. If you prepare in this way, you may come through the doors on Sunday with your heart will already open in gratitude!

If you feel moved to express the abundance in your life by making a special *additional* offering this Sunday (you have a yellow envelop in your envelop box especially for Thanksgiving). These extra contributions will go towards the purchase of computer software as ours will no longer be supported starting in 2020.

With gratitude and blessing,
Your priest,

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