

OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

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Let us give thanks to the Lord

We thank thee, Lord,

For fields of grain

Gold and ripe from summer's rain,

For hillsides bright

With scarlet trees

That rustle in the autumn breeze,

For friends so dear,

For those we love,

For all things sent

From heaven above...

We thank thee, Lord

God's love will never...!

"God's love will always endure, unwavering and unyielding. To love is to embrace vulnerability, a choice God made when creating us in His likeness, gifting us with intellect and free will – tools we can employ in harmony with or defiance of His divine plan. Regrettably, Adam and Eve swiftly exercised these faculties to defy God's will, leading humanity astray.

A parallel narrative unfolded when God designated Israel as His Chosen People, as recounted in the Song of the Vineyard by Isaiah. God envisioned a flourishing vineyard, meticulously cultivated to yield the finest grapes for exceptional wine. Yet, it produced only sour grapes, disappointing the vintner. In response, He dismantled the vineyard's defenses, rendering it vulnerable to ruin. God transformed it into a barren wasteland, bereft of its potential harvest.

This theme resonates in the Parable of the Wicked Tenants, where a landowner entrusted his vineyard to tenants who mistreated his emissaries and even his own son. This parable, directed at Jewish high priests and elders, encapsulated salvation history. The servants symbolized the lineage of prophets, both Old and New Testament, sent to Israel and met with disdain and brutality. The landowner's son, unmistakably Jesus, shared their fate. The tenants, symbolizing the high priests and elders, proved inadequate stewards of God's people. Consequently, God reclaimed His vineyard, declaring, 'Therefore, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit' – the new community, comprising Jews and Gentiles, known as the Church.

In both narratives, God's love emerges as the central theme. Love, inherently free, also carries vulnerability. While God expects us to exercise our intellect and free will responsibly,

responding to His love through service to Him and our neighbors, we can employ these gifts to oppose Him. Thus, we must reflect on how we have employed these faculties.

Some among us misuse them, transforming helping hands into hurtful fists and words of encouragement into hurtful remarks, causing harm instead of offering aid. Others act virtuously only when observed, employing excuses like 'Nobody will know,' 'Everyone does it,' or 'Just avoid getting caught.' In such moments, we forget that God perceives our innermost thoughts. In both scenarios, the use of God's gifts fails to yield the anticipated harvest, obscuring the proclamation of the Good News.

Christianity is not measured by what we have abstained from but by the extent of our generosity in sharing the gifts bestowed upon us – our talents, time, and treasures – especially with the less fortunate. We must remain prepared to take the risk of loving others, even when diverging from the prevailing norms, knowing that we may face ridicule for our commitment to this path."



Dear Parishioners,
 As we gather with loved ones and reflect on our blessings this Thanksgiving weekend, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. Your unwavering faith and commitment to our parish community fill our hearts with joy. May this Thanksgiving be a time of warmth, love, and unity with family and friends. Let's remember to give thanks for the countless blessings in our lives and for the opportunity to come together in faith.
 Wishing you a blessed and joyous Thanksgiving weekend!
 With gratitude and blessings,
 Fr. Biju Kannampuzha, Pastor

MASS INTENTIONS

- Saturday Oct. 7th 5:00 p.m. For † **Lisetta Gasparet**
Requested by: Susie De Franco
- 5:00 p.m. For † **Rosa Orsini**
Requested by: Rita Marinaro & Family
- Sunday Oct. 8th 9:00 am For: † **Louis & Loretta England**
9:00 am For the Special Intentions of **Geraldine Cacho**
11:00 am For † **Wally Diakiw**
Requested by: Elizabeth Karczuga
- Tuesday Oct. 10th 9:00 am For † **Jose Lecaros Jr.**
Requested by: Jeannette Lecaros
- Wednesday Oct. 11th 9:00 am For † **Emmanuel Attard**
Requested by: Micallef Family
- Thursday Oct. 12th 9:00 am For † **Michael Steven Dellio**
Requested by: Karen Dellio & Family
- Friday Oct 13th 9:00 am For † **Robert Emerling**
Requested by: Emerling Family
- 9:00 am For † **Aida Garcia Gans**
Requested by: Net Garcia



October 07 to 13, 2023

Sacred Heart: Special Intention

Sanctuary Lamp: † Lira Mascarenhas

Requested by: Castellino Family



We're in need of additional Volunteers!

In the past fortnight, we've welcomed over 25 new volunteers, but our search for more dedicated individuals continues. Please consider encouraging your children to be Altar Servers. Whether it's becoming a Reader, Eucharistic Minister, or Usher, your involvement is crucial. We're counting on your support!



Bingo & Pizza Night!

Get ready for an evening of fun, fellowship, and food! We're excited to invite you to our Bingo and Pizza Night at Our Lady of Peace on Friday, October 27th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall.

For just \$10.00, you'll enjoy a delicious slice of pizza, a fresh salad, a beverage of your choice, and dessert. And if you're still hungry for more, extra pizza slices are available for only \$2.50 each. But that's not all! We'll have thrilling bingo games with exciting prizes to be won. Don't miss this chance to connect with your fellow parishioners and have a great time together.

We're also seeking donations of bingo prizes (gift cards or unused items) and desserts to make this night even more special.

For tickets and more information, please contact Joan Grima at 647-278-9362 or the parish office. We look forward to seeing you there!



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN (RCIC)

Baptism serves as a foundational step for receiving other Sacraments, including First Holy Communion and Confirmation. If you desire to have your child, who is in Grade 2 or older, baptized or received into the Roman Catholic Church (if already baptized in another Christian denomination), kindly reach out to the Parish office. Registration packages can be obtained either directly from the parish office or from the website or from the table located at the rear of the church.



FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

It's not too late to register your Child for the Sacrament of First Communion or Confirmation. To register, please bring with you the completed registration form, donation amount (suggested \$75 minimum-cash only please), and a copy of your child's baptismal certificate to the parish office during office hours.





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Let's talk



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of Your Faith & Parish.

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to serve you.
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