

On Making a Thanksgiving after Mass

In our country, at least, it seems a common experience that, after Mass, or “when the show is over” and the priest has retired to the sacristy, the majority of people immediately get up and leave; worse, it is even rare a priest return from Mass, kneel down and say prayers of thanksgiving for so great a Gift as the Holy Eucharist.

Today we speak on making a thanksgiving after the Holy Sacrifice has ended.

Again, today’s Gospel seems an accurate reflection of our situation: ten lepers are cured, but only one returns to give thanks; after Mass, of all who receive Holy Communion, only 10% linger in thanks while 90% of Catholics do not.

This is not a criticism as much as an observation; and a person may have a good reason to leave Mass “early.” To benefit us, however, we should apply the Gospel. So, we ask ourselves: in what way do I receive Holy Communion, the cure of my ills? Do I receive God’s greatest Gift like one of the nine or like the foreigner who returns, falls on his face, and gives thanks, with a loud cry (quietly in my heart)?

How might I make a thanksgiving?

First, recall what the Baltimore Catechism teaches Holy Communion does for us: 1) unites me to Christ; 2) increases Sanctifying Grace and all manner of virtue in my soul; 3) lessens my evil inclinations; 4) obtains a pledge or promise of life everlasting per words of the Savior, “He that eats this Bread shall live forever”(Jn 6:59); 5) fits my body for a glorious resurrection.

Now I can easily submit these benefits into my thanksgiving.

“O my God and Father Almighty, I give Thee thanks today that I was able to receive the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, of Thy dearly beloved Son, my Lord Jesus Christ, in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the altar. May what I have received today be not to me a condemnation or punishment, but the means of my eternal salvation. May this Sacrament, 1) unite me more to Thee in friendship; 2) increase in me all virtue but especially that virtue which I most need e.g., patience, purity, fortitude, prudence, charity; 3) strengthen me against future temptation, especially against the sin of e.g., impatience, impurity, human respect; 4) increase in me a firm hope of eternal life for Thou has promised that *he who eats this Bread shall live forever*. But if I have received this great Gift of Thy tremendous love with distractions, with less love, affection, reverence and attention than I could and ought to have given Thee, I am sorry, I ask for Thy forgiveness and I will do better next time. Jesus my love, I love Thee, grant that I may love Thee always, then do with me what Thou wilt. (3X). And grant me a great love for Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Amen.”

To end, hear, again, the astonished Savior, “Were not ten made clean? Where are the nine?” Oh, how many receive Holy Communion without due thanks! Listen, again, to the Samaritan’s reward, “Go thy way, for thy faith has saved thee.” Not only is the Samaritan cured in his body, but for his faith & gratitude he receives a double reward. The lesson: the thankful heart receives more favor & grace from God.

May we *always & everywhere* give thanks to God, but especially when the greater gifts are received; and what is greater than almighty God giving Himself to us under the weak appearance of bread & wine in Holy Communion? Indeed, we ought to be terrifyingly thankful!



St Francis de Sales Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter in the Archdiocese of Atlanta preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls according to the liturgical books of 1962.

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13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025 A.D.

Pastor: Fr Chris Hathaway, FssP – pastor@fsspatl.com

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Joseph Favole, FssP – assistant@fsspatl.com

Fr. Brian Austin, FssP, - in residence

Rev. Mr. Doug Anderson, Deacon

Office Manager: Mrs. Leslie Riney – secretary@fsspatl.com

Church Office Hours: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday – Friday

Bookstore – open Sundays after the 8 am & 10:30 am Masses and 1st Saturdays after the 9 am Mass.

Baptism: Contact the parish at least three months before birth.

Marriage: Contact the parish at least six months before the wedding.

Inquiring about the Catholic Faith? Call the office.

Daily Mass Times

Mon. & Wed.: 6:30 am & 9 am.

Tues. & Thurs.: 6:30 am & 12 noon.

Fri.: 6:30 am & 7 pm (followed by Holy Hour).

Sat.: 7 am & 9 am.

Sunday Mass Times

8:00 am low; 10:30 am sung & 1:00 pm Low Masses.

Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before each Mass.

Church Hours

Mon.-Thurs.: 6 am - 7 pm

Fri.: 6 am - 9 pm

Sat.: 6:30 am - 7 pm

Sun.: 7 am - 7 pm

Office Hours

Mon. - Fri.: 8 am - 4 pm.

Closed on Holy Days

Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 09-07	13th Sunday after Pentecost	2/G	
Mon 09-08	Nativity of BVM	2/W	St Adrian
Tues 09-09	St Peter Claver, <i>Confessor</i>	3/W	St Gorgonius
Wed 09-10	St Nicholas of Tolentino, <i>Confessor</i>	3/W	
Thu 09-11	Ss Protus & Hyacinth, <i>Martyrs</i>	4/R	
Fri 09-12	Most Holy Name of Mary	3/W	
Sat 09-13	Saturday of Our Lady	4/W	
Sun 09-14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross	2/R	No comm. of 14th Sunday

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week

Sun 09-07	(8 am) Fr Austin intention (fra) (10:30 am)) Frank J Stillwell III+ (frf) (1 pm) <i>Pro-populo (frh)</i>	rb M Stillwell
Mon 09-08	(6:30 am) Richard Meli (9 am) A great school year for all parish children	rb T Kinsella rb L Marks
Tues 09-09	(6:30 am) Glenn Wallace Gilbert (12 noon) Paul King+	rb D Gilbert rb E Corban
Wed 09-10	(6:30 am) Mary Felix (9 am) Janet Folse	rb V Stephens rb S Binggeli
Thu 09-11	(6:30 am) Anne Merriman Reilly+ (12 noon) St Gerard Ministry	rb C Sihombing rb SGM
Fri 09-12	(6:30 am) Eugenie Tate (not at SFdS) (7 pm) James Gorman+	rb S Binggeli rb L Marks
Sat 09-13	(7 am) Consecration of Russia (not at SFdS) (9 am) Dominique Lewis	rb L Le rb V Stephens
Sun 09-14	(8 am) <i>Pro-populo (frh)</i> (10:30 am) Fr Austin intention (1 pm) Kelsey Crawford (frh)	rb J Showalter

Last week's collection: cash \$4,354.00; online \$7,940.00 total: \$12,294.00

Attendance: 8 am-223; 10:30 am-256; 1 pm-114; total 593 souls.

Please pray for: Frederick's family (9/7); Jo Miller, Caroline Elliot (8/24); Dennis Shamblin, Cait Taylor, Kelsie Jean Smeby, Julianne Laura Klaren, Olivia Pierson, Paige Tillman, Tia Christofi, Cindy Kimberly, Olivia Swearingen, Olivia Boski, Shelby Hunstad, Anastasia Tailakova, Gracey Alexandria, Holly Hawkins Smith, Karic Irena, Carolina Marie Robertson & family & friends, Josue Emmanuel Ruiz (8/17); Raphaela, Jean-Pierre, Elan Monribot; Angie Acosta & daughter, Janos Kincses, & Wallace Clifford Langenbach, (8/10).

Today, is the first day of our Youth Catechism Class of 2025-2026. This year we will us the same textbook as last year. Students will meet in their assigned basement classrooms from 9 am to 10 am. And a thank you to the parents who registered their children early! (or at least tried to; Father heard the online sign up had a glitch at one time).

This week, [Fr Favole away until 9/19, he takes the posted bulletin intentions with him], **Monday**, 6:30 am Mass (fra), 9 am Mass (frh), staff meeting (1 pm), KoC, Rosary, meeting & dinner (6:30 pm); **Tuesday**, 6:30 am Mass (fra), 12 noon Mass (frh); **Wednesday**, 6:30 am Mass (fra), 9 am Mass (frh), Inquiry Class w/ frh (7:30-8:30 pm); **Thursday**, **[Fr Austin away until 9/16]**, 6:30 am Mass (fra, departing after offering this Mass), 12 noon Mass (frh), St Gerard Guild (1 pm); **Friday, no 6:30 am Mass at SFdS**, 7 pm Mass & Holy Hour (frh); **Saturday, no 7 am Mass at SFdS**, 9 am Mass (frh); FNE (9 am-1:30 pm).

The Knights of Columbus invites all adult men of St Francis de Sales parish to join them for a fellowship bonfire on Thursday, Sept. 11, from 7-10 pm. It will be held at Nathan Summer's home at 3486 Blue Grass Klane, Lithia Springs. Nathan is providing the venue & fire but feel free to bring your own food & beverages.

St Catherine of Siena Catholic School invites you to an open house on September 17. Come and learn what this school promises namely "an outstanding Catholic education" in a safe and Christ-centered environment. Visit www.scsiena.org or call 770-419-8601 t register.

Please know that Fr Hathaway is planning to return the Sunday Mass to the church after he returns from his October trip (see September calendar). At that time, he will add a fourth Mass such that there will be a 7 am Mass, 8 am Mass, 10:30 am Mass and a 1 pm Mass. He does not want to do this until he returns to avoid overloading Fr Favole. As generally priests remain at their apostolates from September to June, so this new schedule should not change excepting, of course, at the bigger solemnities like Christmas, Holy Week & Easter. At these times we may have to return to the gym. Also, just so you know, he would like to move the 8 am Mass to 8:30 am but as this would conflict with the Youth Catechism class time, he refrains from this change. Thank you for your patience.

Maxim of St Francis de Sales with a Fr Hathaway additive

As God made us from nothing and keeps us in existence by continually thinking of us, and as He once died on a Cross for us & promises us a share in His eternal inheritance if we are faithful, let us then belong wholly to Him and live but for him, desiring only to please Him, and for His creatures in Him, through Him, and for Him.