



October 2023

*And everything you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. ( Colossians 3:17).*

My Dear Sisters and Brothers-in-Christ,

The Feast of Thanksgiving is here with us again. Thanksgiving is not just about turkey and pumpkin pie. It's about counting your blessings throughout the year and looking back at wonderful deeds the Lord has done for you. Even though we always thank our Lord for our daily bread with abundant grace and love, with faith and hope, Thanksgiving is a special time set aside for us to stop and praise God for all the blessings in our lives and sustaining our community, the Church, which is the Body of His Son, Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on how God has worked in our lives. It is sharing what we have, doing what we can, and thinking of the blessings we often overlook. It is a time for reflection upon God's abundant provision.

At Thanksgiving, we stop to reflect upon God's abundant provision. It is a time for praising God for his many provisions in our lives and a time to celebrate God's faithfulness. His faithfulness endures until this day, and his children should embrace the celebration.

Finally, Thanksgiving is a time to reflect on the failures and the lessons we learned throughout the year. It is time to celebrate the joy we shared together. It is time to give thanks for every blessing we received. It is time to be hopeful of abundant grace that we will receive. I am reminded of the hymn "Count your Blessings and name them one by one."

Throughout the year you have been called upon to give to your church and you have been generous with your time, talent and treasure because you believe that it is more blessed to give than to receive. For it is in giving that we truly receive. It is in giving that we show our gratefulness to God, and it is in giving that we love God and others through our good deeds. We thank you.

Scripture also tells us to give thanks to the Lord with all of our hearts, and tell of his wonderful deeds. What better time to do this than at Thanksgiving. I am grateful for all the good things He has given in you. My prayer is that his mercy and goodness continue to dwell with you.

We give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart because of all his wonderful deeds He has done in our lives – too numerous to count. Be thankful for everything. May this day be a reminder of all good things God has given us.

May the Lord continue to bless you as you come together for Thanksgiving with those you cherish. I pray that His presence will grace your gathering, and He will fill your hearts with joy and his amazing love as you reflect on his faithfulness to you. May your homes be filled with laughter and love this Thanksgiving.

Best wishes to you and all your loved ones. Amen.

Yours in the Service of Christ,

Nash

(Interim Priest)

We welcome all of you to St. James Leitrim on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. to celebrate Thanksgiving with our church family. As usual, the church will be beautifully decorated with thanks to God and in memory of loved ones. Please join us.