



From the Pastor's Desk:

As Thanksgiving Day approaches I extend to God a prayer of thank for all of you who faithfully come to worship and support the work of the Church in our parish. I have much to be thankful for as pastor of a parish that is willing to sacrifice to maintain our ability to worship, teach and proclaim the living God. May all the families of OLPH have a Thanksgiving Day filled with personal and family blessings. Remember to eat just enough and have a lot of fun together.

As our "Restoring God's Glory" Capital Campaign continues, I want to thank Gerry and Annemarie Chille and Dave and Mary Ellen Barrett for accepting the role of co-chair couples and Monsignor Daniel Hamilton, our Pastor Emeritus for agreeing to be an honorary chairperson. Their support is a sign of the hope that we share for the future based on the hope we received from the past generations of Pastors and parishioners.

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I once read that "You can paint life's picture with sunshine if you applaud the efforts of others. Appreciation makes folks feel finer and more important than practically anything else you can bestow upon them." A great builder says, "Appreciation is the oil that keeps the machine of human relations running smoothly."

The deepest urge in human nature is the craving to be appreciated...to feel important. You can add immeasurably to your happiness, friendships, influence and success when you learn to be genuinely appreciative.

Why not start right now to appreciate what others do for you? If you are a timid person, execute an act of appreciation at your very first opportunity, practice doing it daily and it will soon become a habit and you will find your timidity has left you. Remember this, "We first make our habits - and then our habits make us."

We all need and crave appreciation. When someone praises you for something, anything, doesn't it make you feel all warm and friendly inside? Your appreciation for the other person's good act or deed makes him or her feel good, enriches their life and makes them want to go out and do the same for you and others.

Psychologists advise that if we want to get more happiness and greater success out of life, we should show a little more appreciation for those things close at hand. Your happiness and success will grow immediately the moment you start showing genuine appreciation for those all important persons and things close at hand.

Also begin to appreciate yourself, your possibilities and your fine opportunities, and pass that appreciation along to others. As the analogy goes, "Dip your brush in Sunshine and keep your appreciation sparkling and radiant."

God has given us all many gifts and talents and a world made so wonderfully by His own Divine Hand. See the good in others and yourself and show your appreciation to God by sharing and showing your appreciation with and to each other.

Christ did this all throughout His life on earth to be an example to us of how we too must live and treat each other. Your signs of appreciation of yourself and others will be a radiant reflection of Christ to the world around you.

May God + bless you and yours now and forever,

Father Anthony
