Dear Padre,



Why do some parishes have only priests who can't speak English well?

The short answer to your question is that in many instances, a diocese does not have enough priests to staff all its parishes. In this case, the bishop "recruits" priests from parts of the world where the number of priests is more abundant.

This is not a new practice. In the 1830s, American bishops were recruiting priests from Europe to staff the parishes in the United States. As a result, men like St. John Neumann and Blessed Francis Seelos came to the United States. They worked not only for the German immigrants, whose language they knew because they were German themselves, but also for the Irish, the French-speaking, the Native Americans, and any other Catholic group that needed Catholic pastoral service.

In the first half of the twentieth century, the American Church was able to send missionaries to Latin America, Asia, and Africa, where there were not enough Catholic priests. The Maryknoll Missionaries, for instance, were founded for this purpose.

Today, the situation has reversed. The places with the most Catholic priests are in Asia, Africa, and some Latin American countries, as well as in Eastern Europe. If these men are willing to make the sacrifice of leaving their homeland, family, and friends to serve us, shouldn't we make the effort to show some gratitude and hospitality to them? ●

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednesday**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Saturday**	**Sunday**
November 23	November 24	November 25	November 26	November 27	November 28	November 29
Weekday	*St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs*	*Weekday*	*Thanksgiving Day (USA)*	*Weekday*	*Weekday*	*First Sunday of Advent*
Rv 14:1–3, 4b–5	Rv 14:14–19	Rv 15:1–4	Sir 50:22–24	Rv 20:1–4, 11—21:2	Rv 22:1–7	Is 63:16b–17, 19b; 64:2–7
Lk 21:1–4	Lk 21:5–11	Lk 21:12–19	1 Cor 1:3–9	Lk 21:29–33	Lk 21:34–36	1 Cor 1:3–9
			Lk 17:11–19			Mk 13:33–37



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Artificial intelligence now demands to be "disarmed," freed from logics that turn it into an instrument of domination, exclusion, and death. Like nuclear energy, it must be at the service of all and of the common good. Decisions about technology must never be separated from conscience and responsibility.

ADDRESS, ROME, MAY 25, 2026

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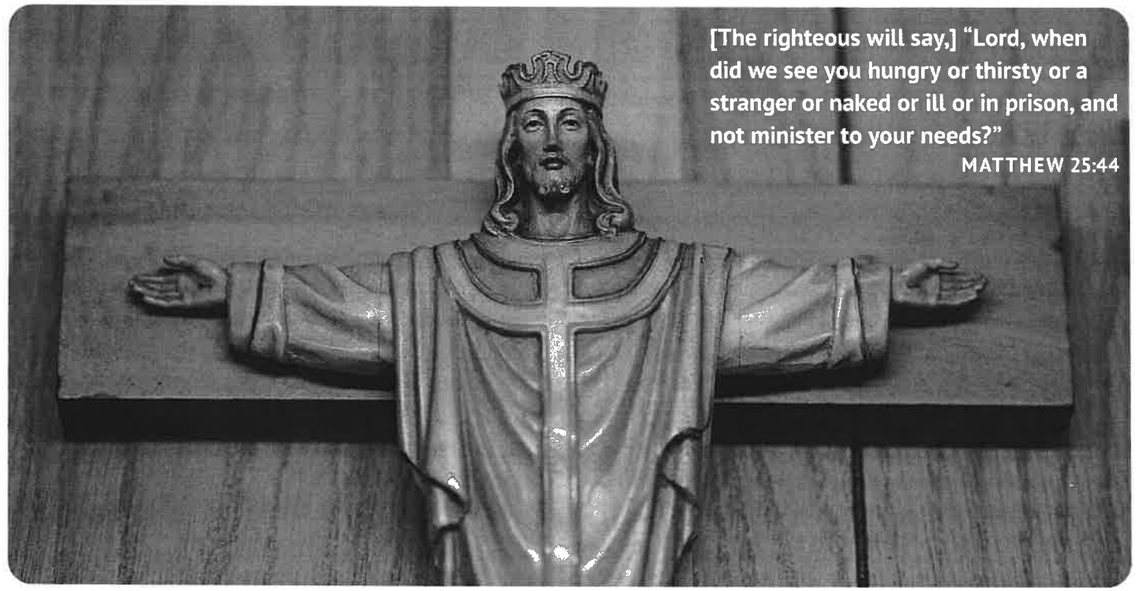
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Our Parish COMMUNITY

November 22, 2026

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)

Ezekiel 34:11–12, 15–17 / 1 Corinthians 15:20–26, 28 / Matthew 25:31–46



[The righteous will say,] "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?"
MATTHEW 25:44

Living the Beatitudes

MIGUEL DULICK

For his last sermon, Jesus revisits his first. In the Sermon on the Mount, if you are poor, or in mourning, or meek; if you hunger and thirst for righteousness; if you are merciful or clean of heart or a peacemaker or even persecuted, you are blessed! Now, Jesus reframes the Beatitudes as blessings bestowed, ultimately, on Jesus himself, in the persons of his "least brothers" with very specific needs: I was hungry; I was thirsty; I was a stranger; I was naked; I was sick; I was in jail. "Whatever you did, you did for me!"

Indeed, Jesus may be anticipating the last few days of his own life, when he will himself know every need: he will be hungry, thirsty, displaced, naked, hurt, and jailed, at least for one wicked night. Who "did" for him?

Once, I visited friends with their first baby. They said, "Oh, Miguel, we admire you so much. You're always helping people." This—while they're holding their newborn!

I just laughed and quoted Jesus: "When I was hungry, when I was thirsty, homeless, naked, sick, in prison.... You do *all* of this every day with your baby—except for the jail thing! Who is more 'least' than a newborn?"

"We never thought of it like that."

"Yes! Your baby is Jesus!"

And maybe Jesus is always a baby. Even Michelangelo's *Pieta* depicts Jesus as the size of a child in a teen mother's lap. ●

Reflect

Who are the "least" in my world? Is there anyone I'm ignoring?

LEARN ABOUT THE AUTHORS OF *OUR PARISH COMMUNITY*

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St. Mary's Church
718 Francis St.
Dalton, NE 69131



All Souls' Church
617 P St.
Bridgeport, NE 69336
Rev. Tim Stoner



Sacred Heart Church
1003 Ave. B
Bayard, NE 69334

Mailing Address: 701 P Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336
Parish Office: (308)262-0709. Rectory: (308)262-1332 Email: allsoulsbridgeport@gmail.com Website: www.smasshcatholics.org

FROM THE DESK OF FR. TIM: Good evening/morning. Just a note to wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Today, my heart is full of thanksgiving, so I worship and praise You with all my heart. I feel your presence, peace and love flowing through me and over me. The cup of my souls overflows with pure gratitude. Thank you Lord. Amen

Remember our thanksgiving mass times this week.

Monday, Nov. 23 – 7 PM at Sacred Heart
Tuesday, Nov. 24 – 6 PM at All Souls
Wednesday, Nov 25 – 7 PM at St. Mary's
No mass on Thursday, Thanksgiving Day

Have a happy Thanksgiving and many blessings for you. Pray for rain/snow and pray for our nation that St. Michael will protect us from all the evil in our country.

Professional Catholics - They call us "professional Catholics." You know many of these folks. Maybe you are one (I am). Maybe it's part of your actual job to work for the Church. "Manna from Heaven," I once called it — the privilege of seeing your bills paid by money earned talking about God.

I was having dinner with a friend recently who works in a local parish. She shared with me that some of her colleagues don't seem to have much of a devotional life outside of their jobs. Some don't even attend regular Mass, though their lives revolve around the Church.

"That's terrible," I said, not wanting to think of the holy hours I haven't had time for, the Rosaries I haven't finished, and the stack of spiritual books next to my desk, spines uncracked.

You don't have to earn a paycheck to be a professional Catholic. A professional Catholic can be anyone who spends a good deal of time simply identifying as a disciple, without embracing what that actually means.

See, I was wrong to call it "manna from Heaven." Manna merely sustains life, and we shouldn't be satisfied with that. The reward of a disciple should be more.

The opportunity to spread the Gospel is a fortune, lavishly endowed to the care of a servant by a master who is long delayed. He doesn't care about return on investment. He'll be just as pleased with a twofold increase as a five-fold one. It's not about profits. It's about engagement.

How terrible will it be, when I stand before God, if all I can tell Him is this: "I did my job. I was a professional." I want to tell Him I did more. I pray I can tell Him I did more.

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments — Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Date	Day	Time	Place	Intention
11/23	Monday	7:00 PM	Bayard	Thanksgiving Liturgy
11/24	Tuesday	6:00 PM	Bridgeport	Thanksgiving Liturgy
	Tuesday	6:30 PM	Bridgeport	"She Shall Be Called Woman"
11/25	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Dalton	Thanksgiving Liturgy-Tyler Van Anne
11/26	Thursday	No Mass Today		Happy Thanksgiving
11/27	Friday	9:00 AM	Bayard	† Sanda McNabb Weitzel
11/28	Saturday	5:30 PM	Bayard	Ernest Vera
11/29	Sunday	8:00 AM	Dalton	For People of the Parish
	Sunday	10:00 AM	Bridgeport	Patrick Camarillo

ALL SOULS
617 P STREET
BRIDGEPORT NE 69336

MASS TIMES
Tuesday – 6:00 PM
Sunday —10.00 AM

CONFESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM 9:30 AM - 9:45 AM

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	$608.00
CHILDREN	$9.50
PLATE	$1052.00
SUBTOTAL	$1669.50
WEEKLY BUDGET	$1525.00
MASS INTENTIONS	$100.00
ALL SAINTS	$25.00
RESALE REL. ARTICLES	$74.08
TOTAL	$1868.58
BUILDING FUND	$225.00
APPEAL GOAL	$5,767.00
DONATIONS	$4,025.00
BALANCE	-$1,742.00
DONOR GOAL-22	13

Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to Carolyn-279-2997
- There will be a fare-well potluck dinner for Frank & Teresa Cahoy after mass on Dec. 6.

Ministries for November 29

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
Elizabeth V	Julia	Bev	Patti
Quetzaly		Nathan	David
			Ken
Rosary	Doug V		



SACRED HEART
1003 AVE B
BAYARD NE 69334

MASS TIMES FOR NOVEMBER
Friday – 9:00 AM
Saturday – 5:30 PM

NOVEMBER MASS SCHEDULE: SATURDAY AT 5:30 PM CONFESSIONS: 5:00-5:15

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	$785.00
CHILDREN	$3.00
PLATE	$90.00
SUBTOTAL	$ 878.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	$885.00
MASS INTENTIONS	
TOTAL	$878.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	$4,381.00
DONATIONS	$2810.00
BALANCE	-$1,571.00
DONOR GOAL – 15	8

Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to Ann 308-225-1609.
- There will be coffee on the Second Sunday.

Ministries for November 28

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
Lucy	Jordyn	Dave T	Jamie C
Mary H		Donna	Mary T
			James



SAINT MARY'S
718 FRANCIS ST
DALTON NE 69131

MASS TIMES FOR NOVEMBER
Thursday – 9:00 AM
Sunday– 8:00 AM

NOVEMBER MASS SCHEDULE SUNDAY AT 8:00 AM CONFESSIONS: 7:30-7:45

OUR GIFTS TO GOD & CHURCH

ADULTS	$940.00
CHILDREN	$5.00
PLATE	$14.00
SUBTOTAL	$959.00
WEEKLY BUDGET	$1020.00
MASS INTENTIONS	
TOTAL	$959.00
BUILDING FUND	
APPEAL GOAL	$7,200.00
DONATIONS	$4,610.00
BALANCE	-$2,590.00
DONOR GOAL – 15	8

Thank you for your support.

- Prayer line requests may be made to DeAnn-249-1735.

Ministries for November 29

Greeter	Server	Lector	Eucharist
Ron	Bruce	Jim E	Carmen
Amelia		Cathy A	Todd
			Wayne

