Scripture Reflection

Keeping the Lamp Burning

We prepare for many things: family gatherings, winter weather, retirement. Today Jesus asks us to consider how we are preparing to meet him.

In the Gospel, all ten virgins fall asleep. What distinguishes the wise is that they have brought oil for their lamps. Their preparation began before the bridegroom arrived. Likewise, our relationship with Christ needs daily attention. We cannot continually postpone prayer, repentance, forgiveness, or love of our neighbor.

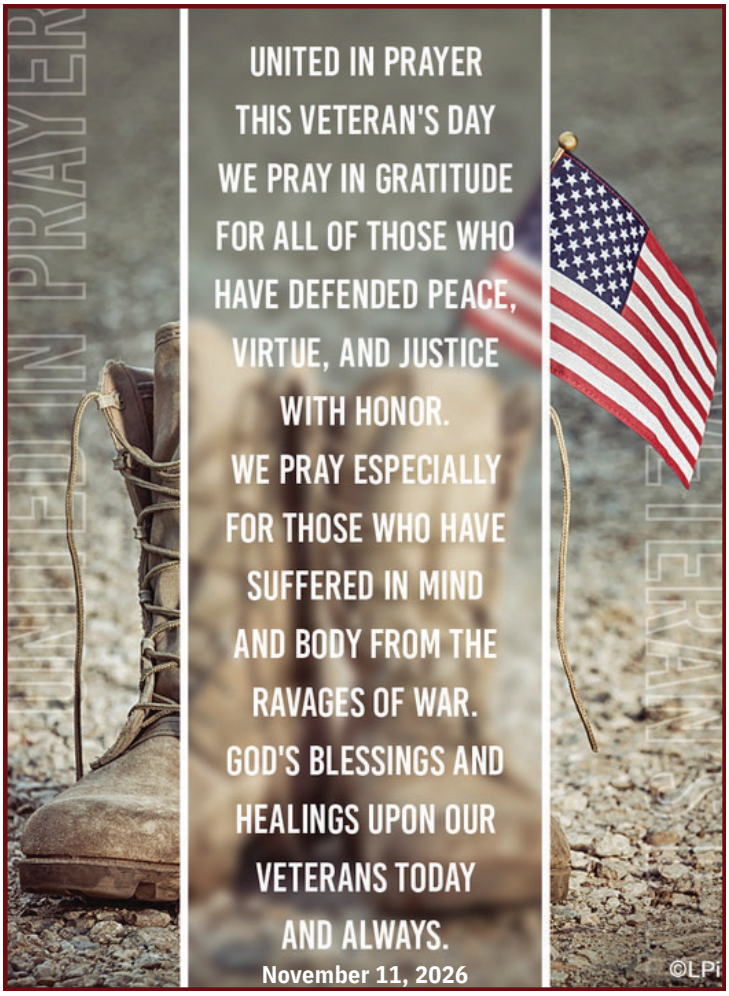
The Book of Wisdom assures us that wisdom is readily found by those who seek her. Psalm 63 gives that seeking a personal voice: our souls thirst for God. We nourish that longing through prayer, Sunday Mass, confession, and quiet acts of charity. Even a telephone call to someone who is lonely can become an expression of faithful love.

For those carrying grief, St. Paul offers particular comfort. Because Jesus died and rose, death does not have the final word. We mourn, but we mourn with hope in the resurrection.

The Catechism reminds us that Christ's warnings call us to responsibility and conversion (CCC 1036). Readiness begins with responding to his grace today.

This week, consider one thing you have been putting off: returning to confession, making peace, or setting aside time for prayer. Take that step. Keep the lamp burning as you await the Lord who loves you.

Rev. Michael Thomas



Dear Parishioners,

During the seasons of Advent and Lent, we will be introducing a brief catechetical instruction across our three partner parishes to help deepen our understanding of the Catholic faith and enrich our spiritual preparation during these sacred seasons.

The catechesis will be presented by the lector of the day, beginning five minutes before each Holy Mass.

We encourage all parishioners to be present a little earlier and take advantage of this opportunity to grow in faith and deepen our knowledge of the teachings of the Church.

Thank you for your cooperation and participation.

May God bless us all as we continue to grow together in faith. Fr. Anthony Onoko, Pastor