



# MISSION MATTERS

## monthly



No. 5 Vol. 3 | November 4, 2024 | Student Edition

### Blessed Mary Angela Says: (Foundress of the Felician Sisters)

*"Do not despair because of your faults; do not demand too much of yourself too soon, remember that perfection is not attained in one day, but is the work of a lifetime."*

### CATHOLIC Q&A

A Franciscan priest answers questions about the Bible.

Click [here](#) for the answer

### INTERFAITH CALENDAR

Click [here](#) for more information

- 11/01: All Saints Day - *Christian*
- 11/01: Diwali - *Hindu*
- 11/01: Beltane - *Neo-Pagan*
- 11/02: All Souls Day - *Christian*
- 11/02: Birth of Bab - *Baha'i*
- 11/03: Birth of Baha'u'llah - *Baha'i*
- 11/15: Nativity Fast begins - *Orthodox Christian*
- 11/25: Day of the Covenant - *Baha'i*
- 11/27: Ascension of Baha' u' llah - *Baha'i*



### Happening in November!

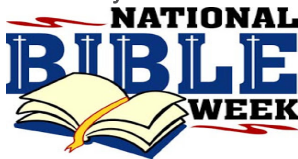
November 1-30: Native American Heritage Month - click [here](#) for more information.



November 11: Veteran's Day - click [here](#) to learn more



November 11-15: National Bible Week - Take the Bible Week Student Trivia Quiz - Win Prizes! Check your emails!



November 20: Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service at 11:15 am Recital Hall



November 21: Felician Sisters Founders Day, click [here](#) to learn more!



### Thanksgiving: A Time for Humble Reflection

By Jay Riefenbary

What are you thankful for? Is it what you have, who you love, where you live, your spirit, your health or a combination of all the above? Have you ever asked yourself, who is thankful for me? Although that question may appear self-serving it is not as self-centric as you may think. It is a personal assessment of your value to others. When the question is answered with humility rather than egotistically it becomes a selfless approach toward your value to the world around you. If you believe you have value, what a wonderful element of your life to be thankful for. What value do you bring to the table, and what aspect of your behavior, personality, and character creates your value recipe? As there is a variety of food that makes for a scrumptious Thanksgiving meal, there are many wonderful characteristics of you that make you a valuable human being. It might be as simple as your energizing smile, or as complex as your skill on the operating table, but both have value.

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday because it is more about quiet reflection, gratitude, and the humanity we demonstrate to others, then the manic accumulation of more and lack of human consideration that begins the day after. On a Thursday Americans reach out to and provide for those who may have little to be thankful for, and the Friday after trample one another to get the newest piece of technology. The irony of human behavior is always enlightening, and sometimes disheartening. What is more important when applied to the value of you, what you get or what you give back? You will discover the more thoughtful you are of others the more meaningful, rewarding and fulfilling your life will be.

Click [here](#) for full article.



## OUR CORE VALUES

Respect for Human Dignity

Compassion

**SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLE IN NEED**

Transformation

Justice and Peace

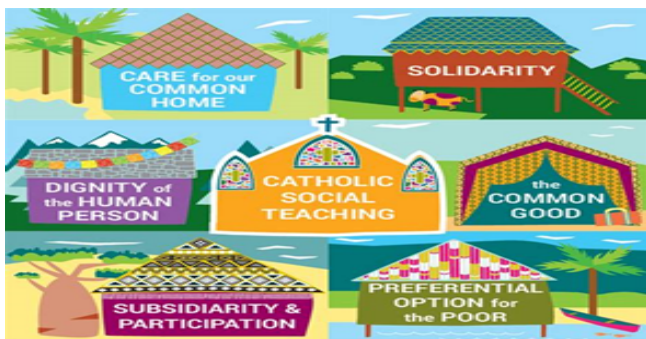
2024-2025 Focus

## *Solidarity With People in Need* Learning About Diversity through Catholic Social Justice teachings

The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. Modern Catholic social teaching has been articulated through a tradition of papal, conciliar, and episcopal documents. The depth and richness of this tradition can be understood best through a direct reading of these documents. In these brief reflections, we highlight several of the key themes that are at the heart of our Catholic social tradition.

### Theme #2: CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Click [here](#) to learn more. To be continued...



**CAMPUS MINISTRY IS NOW ON INSTAGRAM! COME FOLLOW US!  
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

<https://www.instagram.com/villamariacampusministry/>

**JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY IN CAMPUS MINISTRY NOVEMBER 5, 12,  
19, 26 @11:15 AM IN THE CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE.  
OPEN TO STUDENTS AND STAFF**

## THANKSGIVING, NOVEMBER 28, 2024 Prayers of Thanksgiving

**Bah'á'í:** O Thou kind Lord! This gathering is turning to Thee. These hearts are radiant with Thy love. These minds and spirits are exhilarated by the message of thy glad tidings. Confirm this revered nation to upraise the standard of the oneness of humanity, to promulgate the Greatest Peace, to become thereby most glorious and praiseworthy among all the nations of the world. Make it precious and near to Thee through Thy bounty and bestowal.

**Buddhism:** Expressions of gratitude to repay the kindness of the Buddhas whose words open the door to liberation, to our mothers for their boundless love, and to our enemies for assisting us in developing patience: What way is there to repay the Buddha who grant immeasurable benefit and who befriends the world without pretension other than by pleasing sentient beings?

**Christianity:** Father all-powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; as we come before you on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman, and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Islam:** Praise be to Allah who created us from His light with His hand and dignified us over His creatures and made us trustees of His creation and His revelation. The command of Allah has come, do not rush it. Glory be to Him; exalted above what they associate. Allah is with those who are righteous and those who are virtuous.

**Judaism:** We thank You that You are Adonai our God and God of our ancestors throughout all time. You are the Rock of our lives, the Shield of our salvation in every generation. We thank you and speak your praises for our lives that are in Your hand, for our souls that are in Your charge, for Your miracles that are with us, and for Your wonders and Your gifts that are with us at all times—evening, morning, and noon.

**Native American:** Great and Eternal Mystery of Life, Creator of All Things, I give thanks for the beauty You put in every single one of Your creations. I am grateful that You did not fail in making every stone, plant, creature, and human being a perfect and whole part of the Sacred Hoop. I am grateful that You have allowed me to see the strength and beauty of All my relations.

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

### CONNECT WITH MISSION MATTERS:



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