

November 2022

Community Newsletter

Thrive For Life

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GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19

OTHER READINGS

Sirach 50:22-24, Psalm 145, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

MONTHLY EXAMEN

We invite you to prayerfully reflect:

Presence

Become aware that God's presence is active at each moment of your life, looking at you with love, desirous of speaking directly to your heart. How do you feel at this moment?

Ask

Ask God for the grace to see the ways God is working in your life.

Gratitude

Be grateful. Thank God for the gifts, both big and small of the day.
What are you most grateful for today?

Review

Trust that God is with you at each moment of day, during the good and challenging moments. God never abandons you.
What were the good moments of today?
What were the greatest challenges of today?

Respond

You are not stuck. Tomorrow is a new day. Ask God to give you the grace to be the loving and generous person you were created to be.
What can you do tomorrow to be more generous and loving?

Conclude with the Sign of the Cross.



THANKSGIVING

In the Gospel reading for Thanksgiving Day, Jesus meets ten people suffering from leprosy. They come to Jesus for help. "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" Jesus sends them to a nearby temple, and on the way there, they are healed. Out of the ten, only one person comes back to Jesus to say thank you. Jesus is surprised by this, and says, "Where are the other nine?"

I thought that I was the one that came back to Jesus, thanking him, but I realize that I can forget to be thankful. Especially when I am in pain, pain is all I see. I do not see why I need to be thankful. How can I see God when bad things are happening?

Jesus sends the ten people to temple, saying "Go show yourselves to the priests." Maybe God is asking us to show ourselves to Him, with all our pain. One great way to show ourselves to God is by praying the Examen. We begin by remembering that God is with us. Then we ask for His help. God, help us see you! After asking for help, we look for God in our life, trusting that God will show us how.

When we feel too weak to find God, God can help us find Him. When we are hurting and cannot give thanks to God, God can help us find the gifts that are already here, count our blessings. Let us give Him thanks. Thanks be to God!

*D. Park, Jesuit Scholastic at Ciszek Hall,
Fordham University*



A SAINT FOR EVERYTHING

TFL CONTINUES TRANSFORMING LIVES

One of the cool things about Catholicism is how there is a saint for everything. Lose something? St. Anthony! Suffering from a broken heart? St. Dwynwen! And on and on. As wonderful as this is, if you are like me, sometimes you might worry about how, if so many people are praying for the intercession of certain saints, will they have time to intercede for me?

This month, the Catholic Church celebrates All Saints Day, a holy day to remember and to honor all saints, both living and deceased. And this doesn't just mean the St. Anthonys and the St. Pauls. The Catholic Church speaks about the communion of saints, which includes all people of truth and love who form one body in Christ. Our loved ones can be a part of this group and pray for us while in heaven!

Perhaps this month God is inviting us to spend some quiet time thinking about the people who have been saints in our lives, whoever that may be for each of us. Who has helped discover God in your own life? Speak to them in the silence of your heart, thank them, and ask them to pray for you so that you can try your best to live in the way that God invites you to. God places amazing people in our lives to be the saints who we need, pointing the way to God by their lives. Let's remember to thank them, and to thank God for them!

*L. Lapean, Jesuit Scholastic at Ciszek Hall,
Fordham University*

Do you remember when Cardinal Dolan visited Ignacio House in December of 2021? That morning, he celebrated Mass, blessed the house, met with the resident scholars, and had a good time with them, laughing and sharing muffins and coffee. The stories of the resident scholars, the beauty of their lives transformed by their encounter with Jesus, and the arduous work of Fr. Zach and all the staff touched the Cardinal's heart very deeply. Since then, he has remained involved with Thrive For Life, committed to help as much as possible every time he can.

Last April, he publicly announced his gift to Thrive For Life: A former convent that would be transformed into a new Ignacio House! Located in the heart of Hispanic Harlem, this new Ignacio House is undergoing renovations and refurbishing to soon welcome our resident scholars. The house is equipped with a beautiful chapel, office spaces, a spacious rooftop, and rooms for up to 15 scholars. This new Ignacio House will also provide continuity of care through a holistic suite of supportive services for a successful reentry.

While we continue working on the renovations and transitioning to the new Ignacio House, we also give thanks to God for the brand-new house that the Capuchin Friars have donated to Thrive For Life in Milwaukee, and another house for women in Queens, thanks to our partnership with St. John's University. Let's all together give thanks to God for our journey of national expansion as we continue transforming lives behind and beyond prison walls.

BECOME A RESIDENT SCHOLAR AT IGNACIO HOUSE OF STUDIES!

If you are passionate about your education and wish to continue your academic journey post-release, Ignacio House offers transitional supportive housing along with a holistic suite of services for formerly incarcerated students. Find a sense of purpose and overcome barriers to employment, housing, and education.

Interested in joining? Send the following to our contact information at the top of this page:

- Full name & DIN number •
- Current college you are enrolled in and/or where you will study post-release •
- Contact information for college/university where you will study •