

Homily for Thanksgiving, 11/25/21

A few short thoughts for today.

There are a lot of jokes out there about doctors and their team working hours to save someone's life, only to be disappointed when the family of the patient yells out "Thank God." But those stories – if taken as anything more than humorous - neglect how grateful people are to their doctors, and how grateful most doctors are to God for their abilities.

Of course there is the tendency to forget what the day is about. One example is to refer to this day (at least in English) as "Turkey Day."

We give thanks today to God.

**As grateful as we are for the government shutting down of the offices for the day.
As grateful as we are for the sales the stores are going to have today and tomorrow.**

As grateful as we are for all the civil workers who are still working, ready to help in emergencies.

As grateful as we are for gas stations being open for those traveling to family and friends far away, and the restaurants workers who are serving families, or single people.

As grateful for those who have made sure our families have a dinner today through preparation of food baskets.

As grateful as we are to the people in our lives.

For all this and more, we are grateful to God. God gives us all this, and more. God gets us through. God loves us. We give thanks to God for country and people who serve and our loved ones. We give thanks for love and knowledge and abilities and survival and growth.

We give thanks especially for God the Son taking into Himself our humanity so that we might live in God's presence for eternity.

We give the greatest thanks now, in this great Eucharist – the word which means "Thanksgiving."