



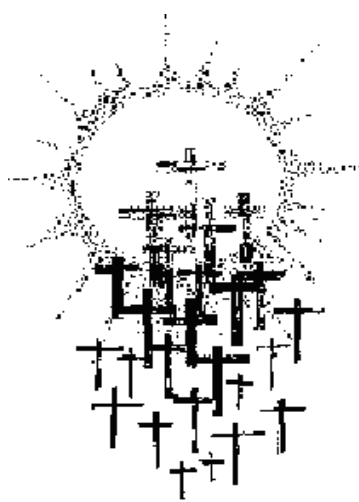
**10 October 2010**  
**28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year C**

*We Filipinos pride ourselves on being people with "utang na loob" – persons who feel grateful for favors received – and do not fail to manifest our gratitude as the opportunity arises. This is a precious cultural value highly praised by Jesus in today's Gospel passage.*

*Unfortunately, sometimes, while being so ready to express our gratitude for favors received from human beings, we are less grateful to God, who is our greatest Benefactor. A real Christian gives thanks to the Triune God both individually and as a member of the Christian community, especially through the celebration of the Eucharist, the greatest act of thanksgiving which we can offer to God.*



## **THE BEAUTY OF GRATITUDE**



The word "thanks" is just one syllable, but many are unable to pronounce it. This is due not to a speech impediment but to a moral deficiency which paralyzes their hearts. Some are fast in asking for favors, but very slow in showing gratitude once they have received what they wanted.

The group of nine lepers who were cured by Jesus and walked away unmindful of their benefactor, is just a tiny delegation of the immense throng of ungrateful persons who take everybody, every service, everything for granted. They *take people for granted*, even when the favor or service received may have cost a lot of sacrifice. They *take God for granted* – His gift of creation, the gift of their very persons, with all the wonderful qualities of soul and body . . . . They take for granted His grace, the Church, the sacraments, eternal life!

Ungrateful people are too blind, too deaf, too insensitive, too dull or too proud to say thanks to anyone, including God. If He could ever be saddened, human ingratitude would surely make Him very sad.

Gratitude is spontaneous for few. For most of us, however, it is a virtue acquired gradually, just like humility, generosity and honesty, virtues on which it is based. We have to learn to be attentive and responsive even to the smallest signs of kindness or generosity toward us. We have to learn to show appreciation for what other people and God do for us. Without our realizing it, such an awareness enriches us immensely as does the awareness that we are loved, and the desire to love in return. Gratitude is indeed a form of love – love returned. A simple way of being great. A great way of being human.

There are so many ways of being thankful. It can be a written note, a frank smile, a sincere handshake, a delicate caress, a silent tear, a word uttered when it is time to speak it, or a word kept unsaid when grateful love demands that it should not be said. Whatever form it may take, gratitude can never be a momentary formality. When it becomes such, it is hypocrisy. Then it is no better than ingratitude. Real gratitude is rooted deep in the "heart" of a person.

It is "*utang na loob*" that characterizes a person's life and establishes him/her in a permanent attitude of being a grateful debtor. Such deeply rooted attitude becomes alive whenever the occasion arises.

Then life becomes an unceasing "eucharist" – a holy thanksgiving, a joyous giving of self to God and neighbor, in imitation of, and in union with Jesus, the one who taught men the real meaning and the million shades of "*utang na loob*."

WORD and LIFE PUBLICATIONS





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### *As we start a new PASTORAL YEAR...*

We are called to use our gifts for the good of the community. It's not true that some people are gifted and some are not. Every single person is creative, and each has gifts. We hope the church will not only treasure each individual's gifts, but also will put them to good use. St. Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 12, tells us that there are many gifts. He also says there are different gifts.

Many people can sing. Not everyone is called to be a cantor or leader of song in the liturgical assembly. Some desire to be a cantor on the part of the individual is necessary, but consultation with the music

director will probably provide a more accurate discernment. Sometimes it doesn't work out. The challenge then is to recognize your gifts. Putting those gifts to good use is another way to build up the community.

Discovering and recognizing your gifts for ministry is part of the work of Christians. There are several approaches to discernment. The first style is "invitation by hunch." You've observed Communion ministers over the years and you think you might like to serve the community through this ministry, but you're not certain. This is a valid call to ministry from within. Check it out! Talk with friends already involved in the ministry and ask them what they think. Several opinions from the community will help you confirm your hunches.

Unlike the invitation by hunch, a second style is "invitation by nudge," a call from outside yourself. The recruitment blurb for liturgical ministers is resonating through the room and the person next to you nudges you. Check it out! In this situation, you may have to look within yourself to recognize that indeed you have a unique gift to offer. Don't deny it. Use it. Even if it means getting up early on Sundays.

If you are already a liturgical minister, you might consider passing the invitation to a friend whom you think would become a good minister. If you yourself are interested in becoming a liturgical minister, consider this: As Christians we believe that gifts have certain characteristics: (1) they are truly gifts—a grace given to us from somewhere other than ourselves; (2) they are forms of service—given to build up the community; and (3) God is working through our gifts. If you believe this, you will become a good servant. For more information on the different Ministries of the FCMM, come and visit the FCMM Office, THANK YOU !

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- **THE SEARCH for the 2010 FCMM KING and QUEEN OF ANGELS**

Our major fund-raising project for the year is nearing its close. The Last Canvassing will be held on **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30**. Please don't hesitate to support any of the candidates as you are supporting our Filipino Church in Montreal. Your \$2.00 /ballot donation will go a long way. You may now begin remitting your donations to the candidates' Parents/ Business Managers. And remember that **Tax – deductible receipts** will be issued at the end of the year to those who will contribute **\$20.00 or more**.

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## **Upcoming Events**

- ❖ **FCMM PRE- HALLOWEEN PARTY and FINAL CANVASSING of the 2010 FCMM King and Queen of Angels Search on Saturday, October 30, 6pm. Come in your Halloween Attire and win a prize. Entrance \$ 5.00.**

❖ *Sunday, October 17, 2010, - 11:30 A.M.*  
*Special THANKSGIVING LITURGY sponsored by THE PHILIPPINE BENEVOLENT AND SCHOLARSHIP SOCIETY OF QUEBEC, INC.*



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The SANCTUARY LAMP this week is burning for the **GLORY OF GOD** and **FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF MARCOS BANAWA** and **ALL DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS** and **ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY** offered by *Manny and Lina Lagasca* .

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# Happy Thanksgiving

## TOMORROW IS

### CANADIAN THANKSGIVING DAY.

The simple meaning of 'Thanksgiving' is the expression of gratitude and the giving of thanks. Thanks Giving Day is simply directed towards the Almighty.

God has created all of us and He has provided all the necessary things for our survival in this world.

No matter how tough our life could be but He is always there to take care of us and to give us all the good things.

Let us express our gratitude towards Him and thank him for the kindness and blessings that he has bestowed upon us. To praise Him we verbally express admiration towards Him to honor and glorify His greatness with prayers and songs.

**STEWARDSHIP** *"Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?"*

- Luke 17:18

Jesus seems so sad and disappointed in the nine lepers who did not return to thank Him. Do we regularly return to thank God? Or do we run off to our busy lives, taking for granted all the wonderful blessings that God gives to us every day?



Your Offerings for the week ending October 3, 2010 totaled  
**\$ 1,605.50**

Thank you for your continuing generosity!  
God bless you always!!!



- ❖ To the **new arrivals** from the Philippines;
- ❖ To the **visitors** from other places;
- ❖ To those who have **been away and are back**;



We join in the **Thanksgiving Intentions** of:

CHARITY PESTILOS, EILEEN RUTH TADEO, AMANCIO & CRISTITA ALLANA and FAMILY, LUCILLE MANIGAO, WINNIE, RUBY and CARISSA DE MESA.



- ❖ Please join in lifting up to the Lord the **special intentions** of: MR. & MRS. TONY & NORMA FOZ, MARIANO and MARIA GUILLERMO, THE GUILLERMO FAMILY, AGNES PALACIO, ANACLETO SUNIO, MR. & MRS. NELSON ALEJANDRO . May the Lord grant them their heart's desires.

❖ Your prayers are humbly requested for all the sick and suffering members of our Mission community and their loved ones especially: FR. ROGER BEGIN pme, SR. ELIZABETH RELACION mic, ELECITA ARACENA, JESS ALCAIDE, JULIA PERLAS-TAN, ALFREDO PADERANGA SR., FE PADERANGA, JOSEFINA BANGALAN, JOSIE LIMLENGCO, DAWN DELA PAZ, CARMENCITA TRIVINIO, GIGI SALARDA, ANTONINA VIRTUCIO, ARACELI AQUINO, ROMEO AQUINO, WINSTON JAN DOMINGO, JULIE PARADO. May God bring them healing and peace.

❖ Remember also all of our **deceased relatives and friends**, especially LORETO RUEDAS and those dying everyday in battles and calamities around the world. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Stop by or call the FCMM Office (514 387 - 5292) during normal business hours and have a Mass offered for your intention.