



Dear Parish Family,

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, our hearts naturally turn to gratitude — gratitude for the blessings God has poured into our lives, for the people who walk beside us in faith, and for the gift of our parish community where we encounter Christ every day.

At Our Lady of Grace, we see God's generosity reflected in countless ways — in the joy of families gathering for Sunday Mass, in the humble service of volunteers who give of their time and talent, and in the quiet faith of those who pray for our parish behind the scenes. Each of you, through your presence and participation, builds up the Body of Christ.

This time of year invites us not only to give thanks but also to give back. True gratitude transforms us; it moves us from thanksgiving to stewardship — from simply receiving God's blessings to sharing them freely with others. Every act of giving, whether it's a prayer, a kind word, or an offering, becomes an echo of God's own generosity.

When we give from a grateful heart, we don't lose anything; rather, we discover the joy that comes from trusting that God always provides. As St. Paul reminds us, "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us" (2 Corinthians 9:11).

As we look ahead to the coming year, I ask you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to share your gifts of time, talent, and treasure with your parish. Your stewardship makes it possible for us to continue our mission — to teach, to serve, to worship, and to bring the love of Christ to others.

Please know that your pastorate staff prays fervently for you — for your families, your intentions, and your continued growth in faith. It is our joy and privilege to serve you, and we give thanks daily for the beautiful witness of our faith community.

May your Thanksgiving be filled with peace, joy, and the deep assurance of God's faithful love. Know that we are profoundly grateful for you — for your prayers, your generosity, and your steadfast faith. Together, let us continue to be a community that shines with gratitude and hope.

With heartfelt thanks and blessings,

OLG Leadership Team

Fr. Richard Fox, Fr. Randy Phillips, Dcn. Mo Barrett,

JoEllen Stadler, Kyndra Hosek, Shane Teichmeier, & Mandy Konechne



2025 Pastorate Highlights

Adult Formation

The OCIA program has provided an important opportunity for individuals seeking to deepen their faith and join the Church, fostering spiritual growth and community engagement. In April, we welcomed 8 new parishioners. OCIA sessions have begun already this fall.

Faith Formation

Saints On A Rise, better known as SOAR, is our new youth ministry for those in 7th to 12th grade. We desire to have a vibrant community of young people growing together in their relationship with Jesus, support of one another, and living their faith with purpose and joy.

Service

This summer, our newly commissioned Eucharistic Ministers joyfully renewed their call to serve, and in September, we were blessed to once again share in the fullness of the Eucharist with the reintroduction of the Precious Blood in our parishes.

Adoration

Encounter Nights are an opportunity for prayer, Scripture, music, and silence, we open ourselves to encounter the living Jesus in the Eucharist. Whether you come seeking peace, healing, guidance, or simply a deeper relationship with the Lord, He is waiting for you.

Homebound

We are expanding homebound visits as a ministry dedicated to reaching out and providing spiritual support to parishioners who are unable to attend Mass due to illness or other circumstances.

Technology

An interpretation system has been implemented at St. John, available on the second weekend of each month to help Hispanic parishioners more fully participate in the liturgy. We hope to expand it to every weekend once more interpreters are established.

Catechesis

The Catholic Classroom in the weekly bulletin offers clear, simple teachings of the Catholic faith for all ages. Whether you're in formal faith formation or just curious to learn more, it's a great place to grow in knowledge and understanding. We provided a 13 week "classroom" of the Order of the Mass at Mass.

Spiritual Renewal

We were blessed to celebrate a Healing Mass and retreat, a time of prayer, anointing, and spiritual renewal for all seeking God's comfort and restoration. Many attendees experienced healing and renewal.

What's Next?

The Set Ablaze Pastorate Plan will continue to be implemented over several years and re-evaluated as needed. Some upcoming objectives include:

- Foster liturgical renewal that leads us to an encounter with the living God, and forms us as the Body of Christ.
- Help youth cultivate a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through opportunities such as liturgical service, youth adoration, youth group activities, and fostering vocation awareness and discernment.
- Continue to build ministries that help guide individuals in their spiritual journey and enhance the welcoming atmosphere of hospitality in our parishes.

