

**"Jesus, remember me when
you come into your kingdom."**

LUKE 23:42

The Hero King

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Some think of a myth as something once presumed to be true but discovered to be false. For example, we say it's a myth that Christopher Columbus discovered America. There is, however, another quite different meaning to "myth," as in a story that helps us understand life and how to negotiate it. Such myths are often centered around heroes who overcome great odds for the sake of the greater good. *Star Wars* and Luke Skywalker is one such myth. *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy and Frodo Baggins is another. These are myths capturing the need for courage and commitment to the good at the hero's own expense. We often find ourselves wishing we could be like these heroes.

The biblical story of the Hebrew people can be thought of as such a myth, culminating in the story of Jesus. It differs from those other myths in that this story is not fiction. It is a saga that helps us understand and negotiate life as we live it. It culminates with the sacrificial death of the one we call King of the Universe. This King is a servant-king, one who gives his life for us so that we might live. Despite being urged by religious leaders and soldiers and the thief on the cross to save himself, he resists. Saving himself is not what he is about. Jesus is the King whose true myth we tell whenever we come together. ●

Editor's note: This is Fr. Joseph Juknialis' final reflection for *Our Parish Community* bulletins. The new liturgical cycle begins next Sunday, November 30, 2025, and we will welcome three new reflection authors: Miguel Dulick, Ann M. Garrido, and Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR, the president and publisher of Liguori Publications. We thank Fr. Joe for his three years of insightful reflections and wish him well.

Reflect

What does servant-leadership mean to me in my job, my community, my home?

St. Andrew Catholic Church

10893 Saint Andrew Road • PO Box 125 • Wright, Kansas 67882



Pastor: Fr. Ted Stoecklein

Office: (620) 227-3363

Chancery: (620) 227-1555

Email: vicargeneral@dcdiocese.org

Webmaster: Regina Lix

regina.lix@gmail.com

To reserve the Parish Center:

Call or text Barbara Durler

(620) 255-1868

Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – November 23, 2025

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feast</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Monday			
Tuesday	8:00 am	Weekday	Diocesan Seminarians
Wednesday	8:00 am	Weekday	Joan Mages
Thursday	9:00 am	Thanksgiving Day	Amelia Pinkerton & Family
Friday	8:00 am	Weekday	Dale Vogel
Saturday	8:00 am	Weekday	June Sliger
Sunday	9:00 am	First Sunday of Advent	Saint Andrew Parishioners

Confessions: Sunday 8:00 – 8:45 am or by appointment any time

Ministers for Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 2025

Greeters: Jason & Amber Sanko

Lectors: Robert Askew & John Askew

Collection: Justin Weil & Steve Lutz

E.M.C.'s: Greg Lix, Lynn Buehne, Regina Lix

Cantor: Choir

Gifts: Rodney Helfrich

Servers: Makiah Kliesen & Hayden Sanko

Ministers for Next Sunday, November 30, 2025

Greeters: Tanner & Samantha Rumbaugh

Lectors: Matt Durler & Rochele Weil

Collection: Justin Weil & Steve Lutz

E.M.C.'s: Diane Lix, Maurice Bleumer, Ray Theis

Cantor: Allen Morton

Gifts: William Helfrich

Servers: Levi Stephenson & Braxton Bertz

Rosary: Robert Askew

Giving Report: 11-16-25

Envelopes: \$1980.00

Loose: \$504.00

Electronic: \$446.20



Alms for Renovation Project: \$48,630.20

There are not Parish School of Religion classes this week. Happy Thanksgiving.

Bible Study – After Mass, there will be a gathering in the Parish Center for those interested in participating in a Bible Study with Sr. Rose Mary Stein.

Our family thanks you for your kind support during this time of loss. St. Andrew parish is an extraordinary church family and Rawlin loved being a part of it.

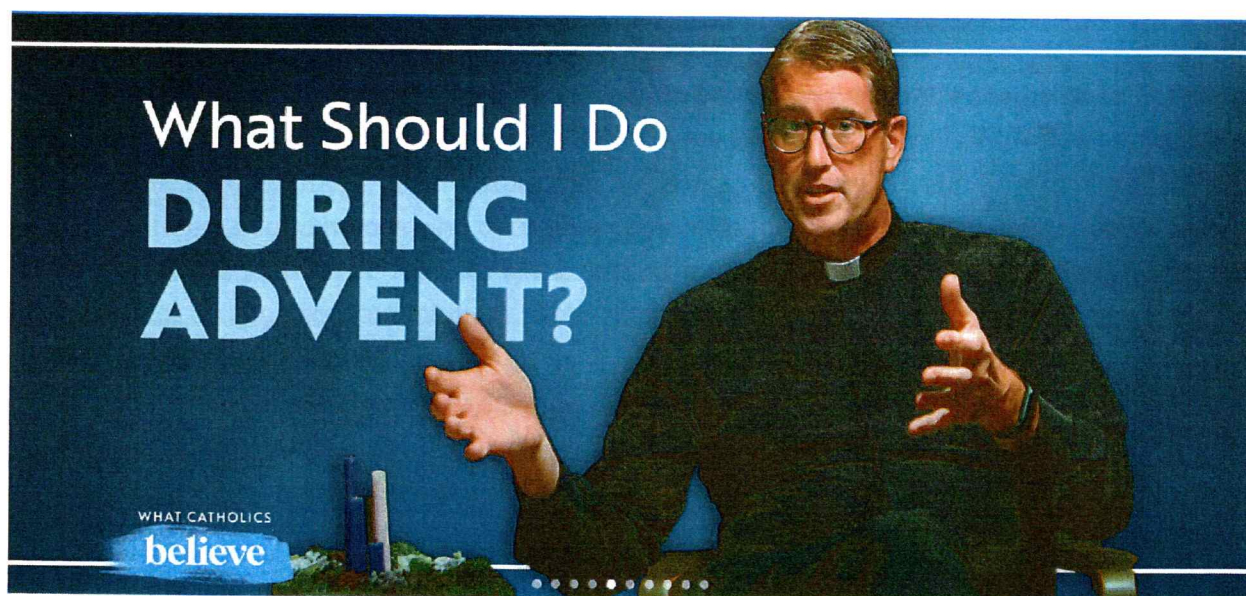
The Rawlin Smith family.

The next Knights of Columbus meeting will be on **Tuesday**, December 9 at 6:45 pm.

The Youth Social Committee invites all K-12 students to attend the animated movie, *David*, at B & B Theaters in Dodge City on December 21st at 1:45 pm. Reservations are required since tickets will be purchased in advance (St. Andrew's will cover the cost of the ticket). Please RSVP to Deena Hamilton at 620-255-2551 by December 1st to reserve your spot!

The Youth Social Committee will be collecting toy donations for Angel Tree! If you would like to donate, please bring a new toy for a boy or girl to Religious Formation on December 3rd or 10th.

On Formed Now



**Hospitable Community + Prayerful Worship +
Generous in Service + Formed by the Word**

Dear Padre,

Why is a US secular holiday like Thanksgiving on the Church's liturgical calendar?

Since November 1969, the Proper Calendar offers a Thanksgiving Day Mass for US dioceses. While it also includes Independence Day, no suggestion is made for other civic holidays (Memorial Day, Labor Day, etc.). Instead, the *Roman Missal* provides “Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions” that are suited to these observances (*Ordo* #5, *GIRM* 368–378).

In the United States, November is associated with giving thanks to God. In 1623—three years after the Pilgrims sailed to this land on the *Mayflower*—a severe drought threatened their crops. Consequently, a day of prayer was observed, an abundant rain saved the harvest, and a Day of Thanksgiving was established. In 1863, President Lincoln issued a proclamation for “Thanksgiving and Praise to Our Beneficent Father” on the last Thursday of November (later moved to the fourth Thursday).

However, thanking God isn't just a one-day event; it's meant to be a perennial practice. Recall the lesson of the ten lepers healed by Jesus, only one of whom returned to thank him. (See Luke 17:11–19.) People who don't take their blessings for granted return thanks to God in prayer. Therefore, offer brief prayers of gratitude to God throughout the day, every day, for such gifts as your health and faith, the freedoms allowed in this country, “thy daily bread,” and the Eucharist—a word that means “thanksgiving.”

“Become what you pray”—a grateful disciple of our Lord! ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
November 24	November 25	November 26	November 27	November 28	November 29	November 30
St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs	Weekday	Weekday	Thanksgiving Day (US)	Weekday	Weekday	First Sunday of Advent
Dn 1:1–6, 8–20	Dn 2:31–45	Dn 5:1–6, 13–14, 16–17, 23–28	Sir 50:22–24	Dn 7:2–14	Dn 7:15–27	Is 2:1–5
Lk 21:1–4	Lk 21:5–11	Lk 21:12–19	1 Cor 1:3–9 Lk 17:11–19	Lk 21:29–33	Lk 21:34–36	Rom 13:11–14 Mt 24:37–44



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Listen to [Christ's] offer of love and become his one family: in the One Christ, we are one. This is the path to follow together, among ourselves but also with our sister Christian churches, with those who follow other religious paths, with those who are searching for God, with all women and men of good will, in order to build a new world where peace reigns!

HOMILY, MAY 18, 2025