



When Worlds Collapse

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When personal worlds collapse, we can lose our way. The stars that marked our path through life disappear. When everything in life on which we had depended is shaken, we can feel life is not worth living. It happens when someone we love dies, when life-threatening illness lays us low, when a relationship disintegrates without warning. Then the world we once knew is no more. This week's Gospel suggests "when you see these things happening, know that he is near, at the gates" (Mark 13:29). But how can that be?

I met Marguerite and Ken when I came to the parish. A short time later, I received a phone call that Ken had suffered a massive heart attack. He had gone down to the basement for something, and that was where he died. I spent some time with Marguerite, and as you

can imagine, she was wrapped in grief. They'd had a wonderful marriage, she told me, had done everything together. Whatever one did, the other went along. Two years later, Marguerite and I were talking and she began telling me how life had changed for her without Ken. She still missed him terribly. But lately she found herself involved in all sorts of parish activities and services she never would have gotten into, simply because they had always done things together. Without Ken, she found new worlds she never knew existed. For Marguerite, God had opened the gates to new life. ●

Reflect

*Has a personal tragedy ever become
a doorway to new life for you?*

[Jesus said,] "In those days
after that tribulation the
sun will be darkened, and
the moon will not give its
light."

MARK 13:24

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REFLECTIONS

In our Catholic tradition we began the month with the Solemnity of All Saints' Day on November 1st. This celebration is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, to all those who have attained heaven. This celebration should not be confused with All Soul's Day, observed on November 2nd, which is dedicated to those who have died and not yet reached heaven; for these, we continue prayers for their purification.

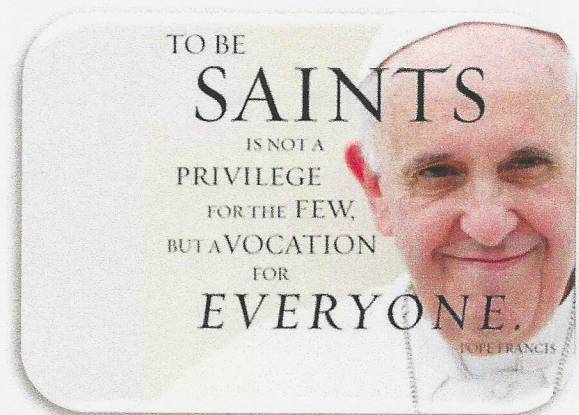
Although millions or even billions of people may already be saints, All Saints' Day observances tend to focus on known saints – that is, those recognized in the canon of the saints by the Catholic Church. That is certainly appropriate, but hopefully the realization that there are innumerable potential saints, not just those officially recognized, offers us a unique perspective as Saints-In-Training (S.I.T.). All are created by God, and all are called into intimate relationship with God. It is certainly true that not all choose to hear the message and invitation of Christ and some, hearing the invitation, choose to decline. God invites but never forces our conversion. The movement toward sainthood begins when we choose to follow Christ.

During the month of November Catholics also remember their deceased loved ones in a special way. You may already have written the names of your deceased loved ones in our Book of Remembrance. If not, you can continue to do so throughout the month of November. Each will be remembered in special prayer at each

Mass celebrated during the month. I suspect that each of us has experienced a 'saint' or two in our lives, people we recognize as faithful Christians, focused on Christ as expressed in their charity, compassion, justice and forgiveness. As we remember the official saints during November, let us not forget those who have served in saintly roles for us.

The call to sainthood, to holiness of life, is universal. Let us each be challenged by the memory of the Saints, officially-recognized or not, to strive daily in faithful discipleship. May Christ who has begun the good work in us bring it to perfection.

From Father Ken



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time has arrived. In three weeks we begin the Season of Advent. On November 4th Pope Francis celebrated Mass for 7 Cardinals and 123 Catholic Bishops who died within the last 12 months. It has been Pope Francis's tradition to offer Mass in November for the prelates who passed during the last year. He commented that ***They have broken the bread of life on earth, and may now enjoy a seat at Christ's table.*** He prayed ***Let us look forward to rejoicing with them in heaven.***

Please sign up at the Chapel entrance for Father Ken's Advent Retreat: **The Abiding Presence of God**. It will be on Monday December 2nd after the 9:00 AM Mass. Two reflections will be shared during the Retreat. Lunch will be provided in the A & B Activity Rooms around 11:45 AM.

Please take notice of the insert in this week's bulletin outlining our Giving Tree Project. We encourage everyone to participate in this Christmas sharing ministry.

The Fort Worth Diocese is hosting a Town Hall Meeting on Monday, November 18, 2024, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at Nolan High School Arena [4501 Bridge St., Fort Worth TX 76103]. The discussion topic is Human Trafficking Awareness. Expert speakers will address the scope of Human Trafficking in Texas. All parents, grandparents, caretakers, and concerned members of our community are encouraged to attend this event.

When you request Mass Intentions for 2025, please limit your requests for an individual to one request per month. This courtesy will enable more people to request Mass intentions.

Beginning in January 2025, the donation for memorial candles around the statues in the Chapel will increase to \$15.00 per candle (per month). Please make your requests for candles to Bill Humm. Bill has faithfully headed up this ministry for years.

In closing, Pope Francis made the following remarks during his November 10th Angelus:

We must turn to Our Lady and seek Her intercession to overcome the temptation of imposing one's will, might, and authority over others who are weaker than ourselves. May the Virgin Mary help us from the temptation of hypocrisy in ourselves.

May Christ's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

*God Give You Peace
Mike Pierson*



Mass Intentions	
<u>Nov. 17, 2024</u>	SFV Catholic Chapel Community
<u>Nov. 18, 2024</u>	Repose of the Soul of Jennifer Kemp By Tom & Ruth Kemp
<u>Nov. 19, 2024</u>	Repose of the Soul of Rosemary Howell By Father Bob Strittmatter
<u>Nov. 20, 2024</u>	Repose of the Soul of Tony Naccarella By Jack & Genie Kearney
<u>Nov. 21, 2024</u>	Repose of the Soul of Mable Groh By Jim Groh
<u>Nov. 22, 2024</u>	Repose of the Soul of Father Bob Thames By Father Ken Robinson
<u>Nov. 23, 2024</u>	Repose of the Soul of Barbara Murphy By Patty Parkhurst (5:00 PM Vigil Mass)

Dear Padre,

I am confused by Genesis 6:6: “The LORD regretted making human beings on the earth, and his heart was grieved.” How can a perfect being regret something he created in his own image?

Sometimes reading an isolated line of Scripture can be confusing. Context is essential. The Second Vatican Council’s Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (*Dei Verbum*), promulgated by Pope St. Paul VI on November 18, 1965, clearly teaches this Catholic understanding of sacred Scripture. A proper appreciation of context, in the example you provided, reminds us that the holy writers of Scripture were not reporting the words of the Lord like an announcer on the evening news. This is not a newspaper account of a witnessed event or a report commenting on the scene that has unfolded. Biblical authors were constrained by their own experience and perception, even as they were inspired by the Spirit of God. When they made a conclusion, they frequently revealed more about their humanity than they did about the divinity they witnessed. The divine is just too wonderful and mysterious for humans to fully comprehend.

The author of Genesis provided a summary of how the experience of the creative activity of God was perceived. It is not the whole story and is perhaps best understood more as a contrast with Genesis 1:31, where we read that on the sixth day, “God looked at everything he had made, and found it very good.” ●

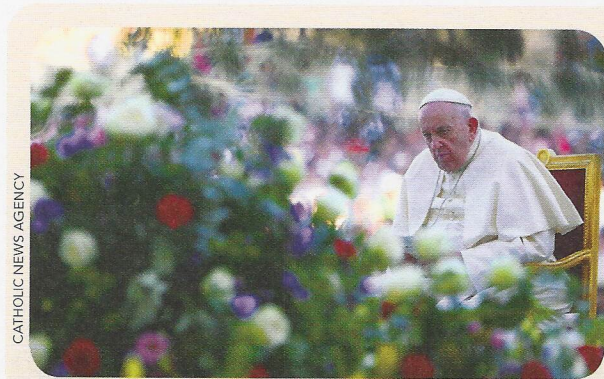
Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org



Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
November 18	November 19	November 20	November 21	November 22	November 23	November 24
Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr	Weekday	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5 Lk 18:35-43	Rv 3:1-6, 14-22 Lk 19:1-10	Rv 4:1-11 Lk 19:11-28	Rv 5:1-10 Lk 19:41-44	Rv 10:8-11 Lk 19:45-48	Rv 11:4-12 Lk 20:27-40	Dn 7:13-14 Rv 1:5-8 Jn 18:33b-37



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Those who do good, are investing in eternity. When we see a person who is generous and helpful, meek, patient, who is not envious, does not gossip, who is not boastful...who is not rude...this is a person who builds Heaven on earth.... What they do will not be lost because good is never lost, good lasts forever.

ANGELUS, ROME, NOVEMBER 14, 2021

Christmas Giving Tree

This year for our Advent project, we will have a Christmas Giving Tree with the intent of providing small gifts to many SFV residents or members of our parish community. The tree will be set-up by mid-November (because of the short Advent season).

If you identify someone (doesn't have to be from our chapel) you think would benefit from receiving a small gift from our chapel family, please go to our Chapel Office and write the person's name and address on the list. The list will be kept confidential.

Angel ornaments will be placed on the giving tree. There will be both male (blue) and female (pink) angels. Anyone at the chapel can take an angel and purchase a gift. The gift should be \$20 or less. We would also allow people to make a cash donation towards buying gifts (mark checks or donations on an envelope with Giving Tree and put in the weekly offering).

After purchasing your gift, please affix the angel and return the unwrapped gift to the gift giving collection bin (outside of chapel). All gifts need to be returned by Dec 16, 2024. The gifts will be wrapped and then distributed during the week of Christmas.

Let's spread some joy this Christmas season.



Angel Tree Gift Ideas

Adjustable Slippers

Men's Socks

Women's Socks

Unscented Lotions

Playing Cards

Stamped Envelopes / Note Cards

Stamps

Books / Magazines

Crossword / Sudoku / Puzzle Books

Scarf

Gloves / Mittens

Nuts / Candy / Cookies

Snacks

Small Laundry Detergent

Small Dish Soap

