

TRINITY NEWS

PENTECOST 26. NOVEMBER 18, 2018

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, we look to the "end" of times, to the goal towards which all human history converges. From the beginning everything has been done for this purpose: the dominion of the Son of man over all creation. Here is where we are going: the world is made for life and happiness, in full communion with Christ!

Mark 13 introduces to the reader a fully apocalyptic Jesus, providing content that today we might most appropriately look at askance. Yet, this is Mark's Jesus, who pronounced from the very beginning the imminent reign of God, who grapples with demons and myriad challenges of otherworldly origin throughout, and who, in chapter 13, gives his longest discourse of the entire gospel in a fully apocalyptic mode.

Apocalyptic eschatology is essentially about God working on behalf of humanity, and that is what is introduced in the beginning of this discourse. It leaves God alarmingly free and open to the future. God is not limited by temporal questions, such as the one the disciples ask. The community is supposed to watch, stay fast, and endure.



Thanksgiving: a community celebration.

The Greek word that translates "thanksgiving" is eucharistia, which has the meaning of thanks, gratitude. It pointed to the Jewish thanksgiving that was given before each meal, the one that Jesus uttered at the last meal with his disciples be-

fore his arrest. It is interesting to note that, very quickly, this word will designate the meal of the Christians (the Last Supper) and will become the best meaning of thanksgiving.

Most of us know the story of the pilgrims and how they and the Indians of the area had a Thanksgiving feast in 1621. Earlier than 1621, we find people offering up thanks to God. In the Old Testament we find a Song of Thanksgiving. It is Psalm 100. It is subtitled "A Psalm of Thanksgiving". It is an invitation to join together to acknowledge the great things that God has done. Not only does Psalm 100 call us to praise the Lord with thankfulness but it also describes to us the nature of thanksgiving. By offering oneself, sharing and communing with our community, let us be men and women who live in constant thanksgiving. For God's people, everyday ought to be Thanksgiving Day!

Happy Thanksgiving,
Fr. Bert

CALENDAR DATES:

- Nov. 25, French Service, 12:00noon
- Dec. 2. Wedding, 2:00p.m.
- Dec. 6. Wedding, 3:00p.m.
- Dec. 8. Wedding, 1:30p.m.
- Dec. 9. Nine Lessons & Carols, 9:30a.m.
- Dec. 16. Norway Advent Service, 5:00p.m.
- Dec. 23. Wedding, 3:00p.m.
- Dec. 24. Christmas Eve.
- Dec. 25. Christmas Day.