



October 19, 2025

SOMETHING OFFICIAL FROM ROME

This past Thursday October 9, Pope Leo issued his first Apostolic Exhortation. What's that? Well Popes and Vatican Offices issue lots of documents intended for the universal church. The two most important are encyclicals and apostolic exhortations. Encyclicals define church doctrine. Exhortations encourage or "exhort" us to undertake specific actions or embrace certain virtues that are already part of church teaching. Exhortations are about something we already know, but something we need to revisit in light of contemporary circumstances.

The exhortation entitled *Dilexit Te* (I have loved you) is about care for the poor. It was begun by Pope Francis and completed by Pope Leo. The new pope is telling us that his priorities will reflect Pope Francis' priorities. "I share the desire of my predecessor that all Christians come to appreciate the close connection between Christ's love and his summons to care for the poor. I too consider it essential to insist on this path to holiness. . . . Love for the Lord, then, is one with love for the poor." In stark words, Pope Leo says, "The illusion of happiness derived from a comfortable life pushes many people towards a vision of life centered on the accumulation of wealth and social success at all costs, even at the expense of others and by taking advantage of unjust social ideals and political economic systems that favor the strongest. Thus, in a world where the poor are increasingly numerous, we paradoxically see the growth of a wealthy elite, living in a bubble of comfort and luxury, almost in another world compared to ordinary people. This means that a culture still persists—sometimes well disguised—that discards others without even realizing it and tolerates with indifference that millions of people die of hunger or survive in conditions unfit for human beings." He later states, "Some dismiss or ridicule charitable works, as if they were an obsession on the part of the few and not the burning heart of the Church's mission."

A long middle section of the exhortation takes us through passages from the Hebrew prophets and the Gospels pointing to God's special concern for the poor. He then quotes many Christian writers from the early church; he speaks of the founding of the monasteries in the middle ages, the emergence of the mendicant orders (like the Servites) in the fourteenth century, and the newer religious congregations and lay organizations of recent centuries—showing how care for the poor was the inspiration for each founder or foundation. One quotation from St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople in the late 300's seems particularly poignant: "Do you wish to honor the body of Christ? Do not allow it to be despised in its members, that is, in the poor, who have no clothes to cover themselves. Do not honor Christ's body here in church with silk fabrics, while outside you neglect it when it suffers from cold and nakedness. Let us therefore learn to think of and honor Christ as he wishes. For the most pleasing honor we can give to the one we want to venerate is that of doing what he himself desires, not what we desire. . . . What advantage does Christ gain if the sacrificial table is laden with golden vessels, while he himself dies of hunger in the person of the poor?"

After emphasizing that "charity is not optional but a requirement of true worship," the Pope speaks of the various forms that poverty takes in the present world, including the almost universal challenge of migrants. "The Church like a mother accompanies those who are walking. Where the world sees threats, she sees children; where walls are built, she builds bridges. She knows that her proclamation of the Gospel is credible only when it is translated into gestures of closeness and welcome. And she knows that in every rejected migrant, it is Christ himself who knocks at the door of the community."

In a final section, Pope Leo tells us that the poor have a lot to teach the rest of the world about Christian living: "Christian holiness often flourishes in the most forgotten and wounded places of humanity." This is often because the poor are not as caught up in our consumer culture. That leads to his final point. "We need to be increasingly committed to resolving the structural causes of poverty. This is a pressing need that cannot be ignored, not only for the pragmatic reason of its urgency for the good order of society, but because society needs to be cured of a sickness weakening and frustrating it Human rights are not equal for all." At the foundation of our mission, the Pope says is Christian love, "which brings close those who were distant, unites strangers, and reconciles enemies."

Fr Joe

SECOND COLLECTION

The second collection this weekend is for World Mission Sunday. This collection supports the work of the Church in 1,124 dioceses that are too young, too poor or being persecuted and need our help. As Cardinal Cupich writes: "In this time wounded by war, conflict, and injustice . . . let us be inspired to transcend the confines of our individual parishes, dioceses, and nations. May we be illuminated by the light of Christian hope and bear witness to the message of God's love in every part of the world."

THE ITALIAN DINNER

It is Thursday, October 30 at Coco Pazzo, 300 West Hubbard. The doors will open at 6:00pm and dinner will be served promptly at 6:45pm, and the good times will last until 9:00pm. In addition to all the good eats, we have a number of auction items (including a 3 night stay in a modern condo in the heart of Nashville: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and sleeps 9), plus some "reverse auction" items, when you can help Assumption with something we really need. Although tickets are presently "sold out," you can call the Parish office and ask to be placed on the waiting list. If your plans have changed and you will not be able to come, let us know, too, so we can make your seats available for someone else.

ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

Saturday, November 1 is the Feast of All Saints, the day we honor all the faithful departed from every time and place who share in the banquet of heaven. This feast is not observed as a holyday of obligation when it falls on a Saturday or Monday. Mass for All Saints will be celebrated at 7:30am Saturday morning. The 5:00pm Mass on November 1 and all the Masses on Sunday will be for the Feast of All Souls, a special day to remember and pray for our loved ones who have died, asking our Good Shepherd to welcome them into Paradise.

CARDS FOR VETS

After the weekend Masses on November 1-2, you are invited to stop in the parish hall to sign "Thank You" notes to our veterans. Your cards will be delivered to the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, along with hand-knitted scarves and mittens, in time for Veterans Day. Last year we delivered over 400 items to a very thankful group of veterans.

HYMNS: #212, #345, #389 (except 5pm Sunday)

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction Monday, October 20 from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

BLESSING OF RUNNERS

At our 5:00pm Mass on October 11, we offered a



blessing to 73 runners who were participating in the Bank of America Chicago Marathon the following day. At our 5:00pm Sunday Mass, we honored six runners who had completed the race and were wearing their medals.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next preparation session for parents (and, if possible, godparents) of infants to be baptized is Monday November 10 from 7:00 to 8:15pm at the Rectory. This program is for new parents and for those who have never before attended a preparation session. It is not necessary to wait for the baby to be born to attend. Call the parish office to register. Baptisms normally take place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 1:15pm and on the first weekend during Mass.

ROSARY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS: We pray the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11:40am. All are welcome. Rosaries are provided

WEDDINGS:

JOBIN NADAYIL & PATRICIA SOO AUSTIN GUIDO & CHRISTINA GARGANO JACK SCHOEN & KAITLIN DREILING NATHAN FROST & KATHRYN ROTELLINI

PRAY FOR THEM: Annette Russo, Davy Hart, Frank Cardenas, Erin Gentile, Kathy Escher, Patrick McRae, Carolina Gomez, Willie & Mary Priego, Mary Ann Kevin, and Edward Foster

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF OCTOBER 18, 2025

Sat	18th	1 /
		Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko,
		Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
Sun	19th	7:30 † Marie Arcieri
		9:00 The Dubuque Family
		10:30 † Charles & Marion Joachim
		12:15 Assumption Parishioners
Mon	20th	7:00 † Loren R. Miller, Jr.
		12:10 Priests & People of Assumption
Tues	21st	12:10 † Helen Dillon (b'day)
Wed	22nd	12:10 Souls in Purgatory
Thurs	23rd	12:10 Pone Leo XIV

Pre-Planning Services

* Closest Location to Assumption with

Supervised Parking Available

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: In light of expanded Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations in Chicago, it is important to know that, regardless of one's immigration status, all people are entitled to certain rights by the Constitution. If approached by an ICE agent, you have the right to remain silent and you do not have to sign any papers. If you are not being arrested or detained, you may walk away. ICE agents cannot search you or your home without your consent or a search warrant signed by a judge. You have the right to speak to an attorney and to have your lawyer with you at any hearing before an immigration judge.

ONE OF THREE HUNDRED: This past January we initiated an appeal to find 300 people willing to donate \$10 a month to Assumption's charities. We have not yet met our goal. Three hundred such donors would fund our Saturday morning sandwich group, our refugee assistance ministry, and enable us to increase the value of the food coupons we offer the poor and homeless on the first Wednesday. To help us reach our goal, use the marked envelopes in the back of church or donate online to "Assumption Shares."

<u>CATECHISM 101</u>: Is your knowledge of the Catholic faith a little fuzzy? Are you an OCIA graduate who would like to learn more about the beliefs and practices of the religion you have joined? Has your own spiritual journey led you to a deeper hunger for knowledge and understanding of our Catholic heritage? For these and many other reasons you may want to join Deacon Kevin and the group making its way through *The United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*. New members are welcome any time. Contact <u>AssumptionDeacon@gmail.com</u>



(312) 421-0936

www.michalikfuneralhome.com

Family Owned & Operated Since 1929