



**OUR FAITH.  
OUR FAMILIES.  
OUR FUTURE.**

CHRIST THE KING CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**Day 1 – This final week of prayer, we will focus on gratitude. This just so happens to coincide with Thanksgiving!**

Lord, we come to you on this day to ask that you convert our hearts to ones of thanksgiving and recognition. May we see all of the places that you have blessed us in our lives. We ask you, please make us the type of people that, even through struggles and roadblocks, see your hand in each and every day.

As we reflect this week, guide us to see how our parish has benefitted from your guidance, in ways big and small. And help us see how we individually have also benefitted. As always, may these moments of recognition and appreciation lead us back to you in thanks and praise.

May we be humble enough to give you thanksgiving.

**1 Peter 5: 6-7:** “So humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries upon him because he cares for you.”

**Day 2 – Why be thankful?**

Having gratitude means that we properly understand our relationship with others and with God. It forces us to look outside of ourselves and see that, no matter what good we have done in our lives, it could not have been possible without others and without God. Gratitude helps combat against our pride, the desire to overly inflate ourselves.

Gratitude also helps disperse anxiety and fear. God has already provided so much for us, with our families, friends, our parish, and so much more. When we are thankful for these things, it makes us realize how blessed we already are, and how God will continue to provide. We need not be anxious and fear, for we have God, and thus we have enough.

**Psalm 118:1:** “Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his mercy endures forever.”

**Day 3 – Gratitude for our leaders**

Oh Lord, we are thankful for all of the wonderful leaders that you have given us for our school and parish. We are grateful for all of our pastors, from Fr. Peter Miner, CSC, all the way to Fr. Steve Lacroix, CSC. We appreciate all of the other guides you have given us, whether they are in the form of principal, youth minister, lector, auction committee, and everywhere in between. We ask that you continue to provide us with great leaders, and guide us to appreciate the ones that we have.

**Psalm 95:1:** “Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; cry out to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with a song of praise, joyfully sing out our psalms. For the LORD is the great God, the great king over all gods.”

**Day 4 – For all those that we will never know.**

Our parish has been blessed with an abundance of people who are willing to serve. This is seen through teachers, principals, those serving on committees, but it does not end there. Our parish is filled with people who have dedicated countless hours to activities that receive no recognition. Let us take a moment to give thanks for those that serve us that we will never see; those who always show up, without seeking attention, who pray for all of us daily. We will never know how much each and every one of us has been helped by these members of our parish, but we can offer up gratitude nonetheless.

**Psalm 100:** “Enter his gates with thanksgiving, his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name; good indeed is the LORD, His mercy endures forever, his faithfulness lasts through every generation.”





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## Day 5 – God, thank you

God, thank you for:

- The gift of our Church building
- The opportunity to go to daily Mass
- The lectors and cantors that share their gifts with us
- The pitter patter of footsteps as the children come up for the Children’s Liturgy of the Word
- The opportunities to come together as a parish to serve and experience fellowship
- The comforting smiles from others when our children cause chaos at Mass, reminding us that it is okay
- The children causing chaos at Mass, and the parents who continue to bring them to help us worship
- The clothes on our backs
- The water and food on our tables
- All those who have sacrificed so that we can live the lives we have
- All of our mothers, whether we know them or not, who said yes to us and gave us the gift of life
- This day, which we did nothing to deserve, but happily accept

## Day 6 - Hope for our future

A few days ago, we briefly looked at gratitude being a pathway to help resist fear and anxiety. On our second to last day praying together, let us apply this to Our Future as a parish.

The Lord has done so many things for our parish. Amazing pastors. Guiding principals and teachers. Wonderful ministers to provide for people of all ages. Students who serve the community. The fact that God has done so much already provides hope that he will continue to give us what we need into the future. May God guide us through our prayers to be the help that others need, and may he always be with our parish, showing us the way forward.

**Isaiah 40: 31:** “They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar on eagles’ wings; they will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.”

## Day 7 – Letter to someone

On our last day, let us focus in on one person/group for whom we are thankful, and write a letter to them. This will obviously be different for each person, but let us share with them our gratitude. It can be a challenging and nerve-wracking thing to share this type of personal reflection with another person, so in lieu of any further reflection on this, I will share my letter here, so you know you are not the only one going out on a limb to share something personal!

*To my children,*

*Thank you for all that you have done for me. Each and every day, you lead me to be less selfish, more patient, and to notice the joys of life more intimately. You change me into the person I need to be, even if I don’t always want it in the moment!*

*If you, God willing, are lucky enough to reach adulthood, you will at some point wonder what good you have done in the world. What difference have you made? How have you impacted the world? And there will be many ways to answer that question, but know right now that you have already changed my life in ways beyond adequate description.*

*Know that simply by being you, you have made me know, love, and serve God in ways I never thought possible. Thank you!*

*-Dad*