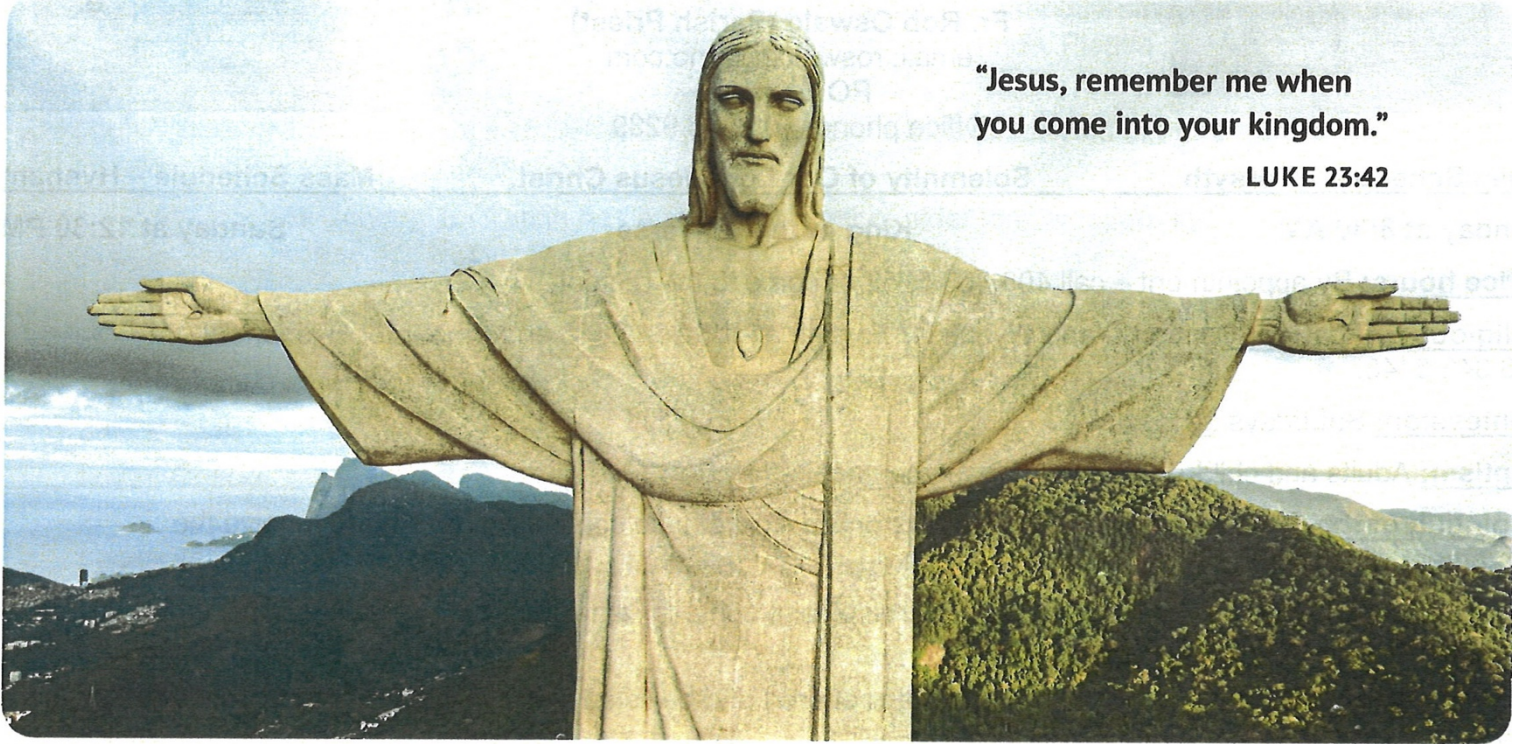




**"Jesus, remember me when
you come into your kingdom."**

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?



**Immaculate Conception &
St. Joseph's Catholic Church**

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Mass Schedule – Forsyth

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,

Mass Schedule – Hysham

Sunday at 8:30 AM

King of the Universe

Sunday at 12:30 PM

Office hours: By appointment – call 406.853.5252 or come to the rectory.

Religious Education: Contact Diane Wyrick for Forsyth at 406.351.2845 and Amber for Hysham at 406.342.5448.

Confession: Saturdays @ 2 PM.

Baptism: Adults and children under 7 (please contact Father Rob.)

Anointing of the Sick: If you are having surgery or are sick, please contact Father Rob to receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

Funerals: When anticipating or planning a funeral, please contact Father Rob before finalizing the arrangements.

Mass Intentions: If you would like to have a Mass offered and be listed in the bulletin, please contact Father Rob.

Homebound & Sick: If you or someone you know can no longer attend Mass due to physical inability, please contact Father Rob or Diane Wyrick at 406.351.2845 or Rosemary in Hysham at 406.740.1457 to receive Holy Communion and Anointing.

Immaculate Conception Prayer Chain: For requests, call Cherie Hesser at 406.351.9048 or any member of the Prayer Chain listed on the bulletin board in Parish Hall.

Mass & Liturgy Schedule:

Sunday	11/23	8:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Doris Abarr (D) from Wayne & Heather Pester.
Sunday	11/23	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for the People of the Parish.
Tuesday	11/25	5:15 PM	Mass in Forsyth for Ray Geiser from Brian Sullivan.
Friday	11/28	9:00 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Milie Pester (D) from the Pester Family.
Saturday	11/29	4:00 PM	Mass at the Nursing Home for the Residents.
Sunday	11/30	8:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Doris Abarr (D) from Fr Rob.
Sunday	11/30	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for the People of the Parish.

✠ Rosary every Monday at 8:15 AM, Tuesday at 4:45 PM and Friday at 8:30 AM.

✠ Religious education for children Sunday at 9:30 AM.

✠ Bible Study in Forsyth is Friday morning after Mass.

✠ CCD & Sacramental Prep Classes on Sunday morning. Questions: Please contact Diane Wyrick in Forsyth and Amber in Hysham.

✠ Mass times at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Colstrip Sunday 10:30 AM.

✠ CCW meeting the 2nd Sunday after Mass.

Announcements:

The Knights of Columbus (Forsyth Council 3039) coat drive for the winter of 2025-2026 is now in full swing! If you happen to know any children who could use a coat, please reach out to Lloyd Nelson, Dan Murnion, or Dr. Bill Anderson.

This weekend marks the start of our Annual Catholic Appeal: "A Season of Hope, A Future of Faith." As part of the Appeal, parishioners will receive materials in their homes inviting them to learn more and participate. The Appeal supports vital ministries across Eastern Montana: caring for our priests, strengthening the bishop's ministries, and nurturing Catholic formation. Every gift—large or small—makes a difference. Please join us in prayer and participation.

Although Thanksgiving Day is not a church feast, it is appropriate to offer prayers of thanksgiving. As such, Mass will be offered in Forsyth at 10 AM that day.

For Sale: Immaculate Conception Parish has a limited number of older long wooden and metal tables at \$5 and chairs at \$2 each. Please see Father Rob if interested.

Finance Update: Last Sunday Collection: 11/16/2025

Immaculate Conception – Forsyth		St. Joseph – Hysham	
Loose Cash	359.00	Loose Cash	86.00
Loose Checks	65.00	Loose Checks	440.00
Envelope Cash	120.00	Envelope Cash	10.00
Envelope Checks	1095.00	Envelope Checks	475.00
Other (Bathroom)	800.00	Other	0.00
Stipend	10.00	Building Fund	10.00
Special Collection (Working on the M.)	60.00	Special Collection	0.00
Capital Campaign	0.00	Capital Campaign	0.00
Current Operating Fund	0.00	Current Operating Fund	0.00
<i>TOTAL:</i>	<i>\$ 2509.00</i>	<i>TOTAL:</i>	<i>\$ 1021.00</i>

Forsyth & Hysham Ministry Schedule for next Sunday: 11/30/2025

Forsyth:			
	Time	Service	Names
	Mass at 8:30 AM	Eucharistic Ministers	Knights of Columbus
		Cross Bearer	Knights of Columbus
		Lector	Knights of Columbus
		Ushers	Knights of Columbus
		Gifts	Knights of Columbus
		Col. Counters	Ryan Silvis & Dan Murnion
		Sacristan	Lorelei Schick
Hysham:			
	Mass at 12:30 PM	Eucharistic Ministers	Mark Manning & Renee Zent
		Lector	Hope Manning

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 21:29–33	Lk 21:34–36	Rom 13:11–14
			Lk 17:11–19			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