Catholic Family Catechesis Newsletter

Novembre 2026

Theme: "Living with Gratitude and Hope"

November is a month of remembrance, thanksgiving, and hope. As the Church celebrates the communion of saints and prays for the faithful departed, families are reminded that our lives are rooted in Christ and destined for eternal life. This month also invites us to cultivate hearts of gratitude for God's many blessings.

"Give thanks in all circumstances." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Monthly Family Faith Focus – Gratitude and the Communion of Saints

Catholics believe that we are united as one family in Christ: the Church on earth, the saints in heaven, and the souls being purified.

This month, families are encouraged to:

- Pray daily prayers of thanksgiving.
- Remember deceased loved ones in prayer.
- Visit a cemetery and pray together.
- Share stories of faithful family members who have died.
- Thank God each evening for the blessings of the day.

Feast Days & Holy Days of November

- All Saints' Day – November 1
- All Souls' Day – November 2
- St. Charles Borromeo – November 4
- St. Martin de Porres – November 3
- St. Frances Xavier Cabrini – November 13
- Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – November 21
- St. Cecilia – November 22
- Thanksgiving – November 26, 2026
- First Sunday of Advent – November 29, 2026

Family Scripture for the Month

Psalm 136:1

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endures forever."

Reflection Questions:

1. What blessings are we most thankful for this year?
2. How can we remember and pray for loved ones who have died?
3. In what ways can our family become more generous toward others?

Family Prayer Corner

Heavenly Father,
We thank You for the gift of family, for the blessings of each new day, and for the love You pour into our lives.
Help us to trust in Your mercy, remember those who have gone before us in faith, and live with grateful hearts.
May our family always seek to serve You with joy.
Amen.

Faith at Home Activity

Create a Family Gratitude Tree:
Each family member writes something they are thankful for on a paper leaf and adds it to the tree throughout the month. By Thanksgiving, your family will have a visible reminder of God's blessings.

Preparing for Advent

Near the end of November, families can begin preparing for Advent by:

- Setting up an Advent wreath.
- Choosing a family Advent devotional.
- Discussing ways to prepare spiritually for Christmas.
- Performing acts of charity for those in need.

Parent Corner

Children learn gratitude by seeing it practiced at home. Simple habits such as saying grace intentionally, thanking one another regularly, and remembering God's faithfulness help form a culture of thanksgiving.

Service Challenge for November

Inspired by St. Martin de Porres and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini:

- Donate food for Thanksgiving baskets.
- Volunteer at a parish or community outreach program.
- Write letters to the elderly or homebound.
- Pray each day for those who are lonely or suffering

Closing Blessing

May Christ fill your family with peace and gratitude this November. May the saints intercede for you, may the faithful departed rest in God's eternal love, and may your home be prepared with joyful hope for the coming of Advent.
"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

Diocese of Brooklyn