



Thanksgiving 2024

“There are various kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.”

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Friends:

Greetings as we approach Thanksgiving 2024. How quickly time goes by. This convinces me that our time together and relationships with family and with each other, is precious. I pray that you enjoy special time with family around tables and in living rooms this Thanksgiving.

I give thanks daily for each of you and for being part of this amazing parish, region, and diocese. It is my privilege to serve you. We are a parish that has implemented and lives a ministry called Invite, Welcome, and Connect. I hope that we reach out to each of you in various meaningful ways.

We are each called to tend to the Creator's Garden. This garden provides us with plants, trees, produce, fish, livestock. We give thanks to God that we are all provided for in abundance, especially in our neighborhoods. Part of our stewardship is to care for these gardens by shopping locally, sharing food with people who need it and by the care of our natural surroundings.

Working towards balanced budgets is one component of what we do. God loves us to share from all that we are and all that we have. Everything belongs to God. We are Christ's body in a hurting world and a beautiful garden. Jesus talks about money. It is one thread of the fabric that makes up our beautiful parish family. We are each called to spread the love of Jesus in our own circles of people.

I thank each of you for your generosity to our parish. “God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.”

Should you wish to make a special offering to give thanks to God for all that he has given, please use the envelope enclosed in your Thanksgiving letter.

I pray that no one is alone for Thanksgiving. May we widen our tables and feast well together with God, with family and with friends.

Let us Pray:

Gracious and generous God, Creator, and giver of all that is good, we thank you for our many blessings. We acknowledge that all that we have is from you. We offer you thanks and praise for the beauty of the earth, our work, our family, our loved ones, and all the gifts we have been given. Help us to hear your call to be good stewards, caretakers, and managers of all your gifts by sharing them for your purposes. Help us plan to serve. Amen

Yours in Christ,



The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego, Incumbent
Parish of Central Saanich