



# CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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## SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS

Committed to living and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ within the Catholic tradition, we are blessed to have as our patron saint someone who continues to call us to reach out to others in charity and compassion.

### Church of

### St Francis of Assisi

1114 Third Street SE

Rochester, MN 55904

507.288.7313

<http://stfrancis-church.org>

### Parish Center Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 8:00AM - 3:30PM

Friday: 9:00AM - 3:30PM

### Weekday Mass:

Monday - Friday 7AM

### School Mass:

Tuesday 9:15AM

### Weekend Mass:

Saturday 4:30PM

Sunday 8AM, 10AM

### In Spanish:

Sunday 12PM

### Misa En Español:

Domingo 12PM

### Pastor

Rev. Jim Berning

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Luis Vargas

### Deacon

Mr. Terry Smith



“When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’ And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.’”

- Matthew 25:38-40



*"I give thanks to God at every remembrance of you, praying always with joy in my every prayer for all of you" - Philippians 1:3-4*

**SOLEMNITY.** Today is the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year - the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. It is the end of the Year of Grace 2020. Next weekend, we will begin the Year of Grace 2021 with the First Sunday of Advent. We always have a Year of Grace. Today, we hear from Matthew 25 that when we have it done it to one of the least, we have done it for Jesus Christ. We remember the words of St. Teresa of Avila:

"Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING.** We will have a Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9AM on Thursday, November 26. All are welcome - and Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! We are so very grateful for you and we give thanks to God for you always!

**CONFESSIONS.** Our Advent Communal Penance service will not be held this year. During the Season of Advent, Father Luis and I will be hearing confessions on Saturdays - beginning December 5 - from 3:30 - 4:15PM to help facilitate confessions during this time of a pandemic. Thank you.

**PLANNING AHEAD.** The CHRISTMAS MASS TIME Sign-Up is LIVE on the website. Our capacity limit is 180 people at this time. Each Mass Time sign-up will be first come first serve. Mass times are as follows: CHRISTMAS EVE: 4:30PM (Childrens), 7PM (Spanish), 10PM (English) w/9:30PM Christmas Carols; CHRISTMAS DAY: 8AM and 10AM (English) and 12PM (Spanish). We ask that you sign up for one Mass time and include the number of people in your household and any out of town guests that may be attending Mass with you. If one Mass becomes full, we hope you will sign up for a different Mass time.

**THANK YOU.** The Fall Festival fundraiser contributes \$30,000 – \$40,000 to our annual operating budget. We are grateful to everyone who contributed to our Parish Festival Shortfall. All gifts, no matter the size, will help the parish with this shortfall.

FR JIM BERNING



## Welcome

Welcome to the Church of St. Francis of Assisi. Our church has helped to bring Jesus Christ to the city of Rochester since 1937. We seek to foster the spiritual growth of our parishioners through the celebration of the Sacraments, catechesis, community life, and personal prayer. Like our patron saint, we strive to rebuild the Church and to console the heart of Jesus by serving our neighbors in need.

## Parish Contacts

### Parish Center Office

(507) 288-7313

#### Pastor (x 202)

Rev. Jim Berning

#### Parochial Vicar (x 203)

Rev. Luis Vargas

#### Deacon (x 208)

Terry Smith

#### Parish Administrator (x 204)

Sarah Kinsman

#### Office Manager (x 201)

Michelle Ibarra

#### Financial Secretary (x 205)

Debbie Worden

#### Director of Music/Liturgy (x 301)

Zack Stachowski

#### Faith Formation (x 207)

Mark Nuehring

#### St. Francis of Assisi School

(507) 288-4816

#### Principal

Barb Plenge

#### Trustees

Bruce Anderson

Rosemary Bengal

#### Knights of Columbus

Dale Frank

#### Calvary Cemetery

Steve Flynn, Director

(507) 273-0140

#### Catholic Charities

(507) 287-2047



**TIEMPO DE ADVIENTO.**

Adviento significa venida. El adviento es un tiempo de alegría y agradecimiento por el advenimiento de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Es un tiempo litúrgico de cuatro semanas que preceden la Navidad y son una oportunidad para prepararse en la esperanza

y en el arrepentimiento para la llegada del Señor.

**CORONA DE ADVIENTO.** Durante el tiempo de adviento, en las iglesias y en algunos hogares adornan una corona de ramas de pino, llamada "corona de Adviento". Esta corona tiene cuatro velas, una por cada domingo de adviento, tres velas de color morado y una de color rosado, que corresponde al tercer domingo de adviento. Se encienden progresivamente, una cada domingo, al hacer la oración en familia.

La forma circular de la corona significa que, "no tiene principio ni fin", como el amor de Dios que es eterno. La luz de las velas simbolizan la luz de Jesús y el color verde de las ramas representa la esperanza y la vida.

A cada una de las velas se le asigna una virtud que hay que mejorar en esa semana, por ejemplo, la primera, el amor; la segunda, la paz; la tercera, la tolerancia; y la cuarta, la fe.

**BENDICIÓN DE LA CORONA DE ADVIENTO PARA HACERLO EN CASA.** Es apropiado que uno de los padres lidere la bendición. Todos hacen la señal de la cruz como dice el líder:

**Líder:** Nuestra ayuda está en el nombre del Señor.

**Respuesta:** Quien hizo el cielo y la tierra.

**Lectura bíblica:** Isaías 9: 1-2, 5-6 o Isaías 63: 16-17 y 19 o Con las manos juntas, **el líder dice:**

Señor Dios nuestro, te alabamos por tu Hijo Jesucristo: él es Emmanuel, la esperanza de los pueblos, él es la sabiduría que nos enseña y nos guía, él es el Salvador de todas las naciones.

Señor Dios, deja que tu bendición venga sobre nosotros mientras encendemos las velas de esta corona.

Que la corona y su luz sean un signo de la promesa de Cristo de traernos la salvación. Que venga pronto y no tarde.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo nuestro Señor.

**Respuesta:** Amén.

**MASS INTENTIONS**



For the Week of November 23, 2020

MON Nov 23	7:00 AM	James Neisen †
TUE Nov 24	* 9:15 AM	Gen & Herb Pattinson †
WED Nov 25	7:00 AM	Stella Huber
THU Nov 26	9:00 AM	Helen & Louie Sell †
	** 7:00 PM	
FRI Nov 27	7:00 AM	<b>NO DAILY MASS</b>
SAT Nov 28	4:30 PM	Leo Manlick †
SUN Nov 29	8:00 AM	Jack Maus †
	10:00 AM	Gerald & Violet Jordan †
	** 12:00 PM	Pro Populo

\* School Mass \*\* Spanish Mass

**MASS INTENTIONS**

If you have a desire to remember someone who has passed away or simply in need of some extra prayers, Mass Intentions are available every day for our weekday Masses and on the weekends. You are welcome to stop by the Parish Office and schedule a Mass intention during normal office hours.

**Readings for the week of November 22, 2020**

Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 [1]/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46  
 Monday: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Lk 21:1-4  
 Tuesday: Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Lk 21:5-11  
 Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 7-8, 9 [Rev 15:3b]/Lk 21:12-19  
 Thursday: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [Rev 19:9a]/Lk 21:20-28  
 Friday: Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a [Rev 21:3b]/Lk 21:29-33  
 Saturday: Rv 22:1-7/Ps 95:1-2, 3-5, 6-7ab [1 Cor 16:22b]/Lk 21:34-36  
 Next Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

**Las lecturas de la semana del 22 de noviembre de 2020**

Domingo: Ez 34, 11-12. 15-17/Sal 23, 1-2. 2-3. 5-6 [1]/1 Cor 15, 20-26. 28/Mt 25, 31-46  
 Lunes: Ap 14, 1-3. 4-5/Sal 24, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6 [cfr. 6]/Lc 21, 1-4  
 Martes: Ap 14, 14-19/Sal 96, 10. 11-12. 13 [13]/Lc 21, 5-11  
 Miércoles: Ap 15, 1-4/Sal 98, 1. 2-3. 7-8. 9 [Rev 15, 3]/Lc 21, 12-19  
 Jueves: Ap 18, 1-2. 21-23; 19, 1-3. 9/Sal 100, 1-2. 3. 4. 5 [Rev 19, 9]/Lc 21, 20-28  
 Viernes: Ap 20, 1-4. 11—21, 2/Sal 84, 3. 4. 5-6 y 8 [Rev 21, 3]/Lc 21, 29-33  
 Sábado: Ap 22, 1-7/Sal 95, 1-2. 3-5. 6-7 [1 Cor 16, 22]/Lc 21, 34-36  
 Domingo siguiente: Is 63, 16-17. 19; 64, 2-7/Sal 80, 2-3. 15-16. 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1, 3-9/Mc 13, 33-37

## Faith Formation

We have all heard of the phrase "Pay it Forward," that great concept where you do a nice deed for someone and hope or encourage them to do a good deed for someone else.

I have a friend named Danielle who has been doing good deeds daily for the past 2 years. Some are small, like a hand-written note, and others involve giving gifts to people who deserve a lift.

Last year, this month, she took on a HUGE "pay it forward" concept of creating 150 Thanksgiving baskets for families in need. She promoted on Facebook, worked with local grocery stores, and had a team of people committed to this vision. She was able to create over 165 baskets. Between her efforts, and other churches who did something similar last year, I am personally aware of 250 baskets that were made for this community last year. Because of COVID, she is not doing it this year.

Due to the pandemic, the need is even greater this year. So when you buy your Thanksgiving needs, would you consider purchasing an "extra" gift card and drop it off at the parish office? We will make sure the gift cards go to those who truly need them. THANK YOU!

- **Mark** ([youthminister@stfrancis-church.org](mailto:youthminister@stfrancis-church.org))

## FAITH FORMATION



### FALL FAITH FORMATION CALENDAR

All classes meet from 6PM - 7:30PM

**Wed, October 21**

**Wed, October 28**

**Wed, November 4**

**Wed, November 11**

**Wed, November 18**

**Wed, December 2**

**Wed, December 9**

**Wed, December 16**

Classes for Grade 3, 4 and 5 will meet in the School with drop-off at the Marian entrance. Classes for Grade 6, 7 and 8 will meet in the basement of the Parish Center with drop-off and pick-up by the Parish Center library door.

**The calendar for the second half of the 2020-21 Year will be available in December.**

## Music and Liturgy

### MusicNotes

**READERS, MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY, AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED!** If you are interested in serving at our parish liturgies contact Zack Stachowski for information about training and scheduling. Our scheduling portal allows for complete control and flexibility. Even if you can only commit to serving several times throughout the year, our system can accommodate that. Liturgical ministry is a great way of deepening your engagement with the Eucharist. Contact me with any questions.

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR 11/28-11/29

#### 4:30pm MASS

Reader: Maureen Jones Sahs

Hospitality Ministers: Natalie Norris, [NOT FILLED]

Eucharistic Minister: [NOT FILLED]

#### 8am MASS

Reader: Mary Sagstetter

Hospitality: Jean Heimer, Alan Heimer

Eucharistic Minister: [NOT FILLED]

#### 10am MASS

Reader: Bill Klein

Hospitality Ministers: Lori Paukert, Mark Paukert

Eucharistic Minister: Jeanne Klein

- **Zack** ([litranc@stfrancis-church.org](mailto:litranc@stfrancis-church.org))

## School News



✘ The weekly school Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, November 24th at 9:15 a.m.

✘ Please continue to bring nonperishable food items for Operation One More.

✘ Tuesday, November 24th is our HERO Day for November. We will learn about our December virtue (purity) and the saints whose lives exemplified it.

✘ There will be no school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, November 25th-27th in honor of Thanksgiving. Enjoy the long weekend.

## SEVEN TIPS FOR CATHOLICS TO LIVE THANKSGIVING

Few days seem more wholesome in the United States as Thanksgiving. It is a day that means universally family, generosity and gratitude. From an early age, we listen to the folkloric origins of the celebration and in school we dress up as Pilgrims or Indians to remember its historic origins. Clearly, Thanksgiving has Protestant origins... However, there is even a Mass for Thanksgiving Day to be celebrated the fourth Sunday of November in the dioceses of the United States. This makes it clear that it can be proudly celebrated by American Catholics.

**1. REMEMBER THE "FIRST" THANKSGIVING.** One objection to a Catholic celebrating Thanksgiving could be that the celebration of the Mass is already a celebration of thanksgiving. The very word "Eucharist" means "to give thanks." So, long before the Pilgrims broke bread with the native inhabitants of New England, Jesus Christ began the feast of Thanksgiving with his own body and blood. Each time we celebrate Mass, we are giving thanks to God for all of his blessings present in our lives.

**2. GO TO MASS.** Following on that same thought, no amount of turkey or pumpkin pie is going to outdo the tremendous gesture of thanksgiving present at every Eucharistic Celebration. It might seem impractical to some to go to Mass on Thanksgiving, but it is actually a cool way to start off the day. Plus, there are also the knowing winks with other Catholics who are "on the in." Catholics at Mass on Thanksgiving are the ones who really know what it is all about.

**3. INVEST IN SERVICE.** Jesus told his disciples: "I have come to serve, not to be served." (Mt. 20:28) The leader models the way for his followers. As Catholics, we should resist the temptation to just sit back and relax on Thanksgiving. In first place, we should serve our family with whom we gather for the celebration. But we should also think about serving those beyond our family who perhaps are in need of a hand up. Many families create a beautiful tradition of serving in soup kitchens on the big holidays and thus ensure that their family values of generosity and self-giving are passed on to the younger generation.

**4. BE THANKFUL FOR REAL.** Secular representations of the Thanksgiving table are often used for comic effect. It is always interesting to see the spirit of gratitude that is directed to no one in particular. As Catholics, we are able to direct our gratitude towards the living God who has given us life, shelter, clothing, food family and health. Thank God when you are being thankful before the Thanksgiving meal. This helps to preserve the true meaning of the festivity and allows all to be fully engaged.

**5. BE THANKFUL FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.** In the same way that the Pilgrims were experiencing religious persecution in Europe, remember that many Catholics had to

fight with bigotry and exclusion both in the Old and New World. Though society is still far from perfect, Catholics should be very thankful for the huge grace of being able to live out their faith in a country that does not have a Catholic majority.

**6. BE THANKFUL TO BELONG TO CHRIST'S MYSTICAL BODY.** There are so many special graces that we live as Catholics that our fellow Americans cannot even imagine. With humility, we should be grateful to God for this as well. Going back to the very word of the day, Thanksgiving can be celebrated more fully by someone who can receive the Eucharist. Perhaps the next time you go up to receive communion, think that your "Amen" stands in some way for "Thanks."

**7. DON'T FORGET THE STUFFING.** As Catholics, we believe in celebration. Live the day fully! Be thankful. Spend your time with family and friends. It only comes around once a year and is always well worth the effort. Christ's victory over death on the Cross is the greatest gift any of us can receive and is something we commemorate at each Eucharistic celebration. But we also enjoy our turkey, stuffing and pumpkin pie. Like all good things in life, Thanksgiving is better for Catholics. Through the grace of God, we are better equipped to get the most out of life and appreciate the very special gifts that God gives us. The Church is able to "baptize" secular celebrations, as can be seen with the feast of Christmas. Something already celebrated by pagan people was converted into the celebration of the birth of Our Lord. Thanksgiving offers more to work with, as eventually all gratitude has to lead back to God. In the Mass for Thanksgiving Day, we pray in the Collect: "Father all-powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; as we come before you on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service."

- Fr. Nicholas Sheehy, LC

<https://catholicexchange.com/seven-tips-for-catholics-to-live-thanksgiving>



Our Thanksgiving Day Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, November 26 at 9AM. There will be NO 7AM Mass on Friday, November 27. The Parish Center will be closed on Wednesday, November 25 and will reopen on Monday, November 30. We wish you a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

# SUNDAY'S READINGS

## FIRST READING:

As for you, my sheep, thus says the Lord God, I will judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats. (Ez 34:17)

## PSALM:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23)

## SECOND READING:

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (1 Cor 15:25-26)

## GOSPEL:

"He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

Then the king will say to those on his right,

'Come, you who are blessed by my Father.

Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'" (Mt 25:33-34)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22, 2020

Sunday:	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Monday:	St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St. Columban, Abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro, Priest and Martyr
Tuesday:	St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Wednesday:	St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr
Thursday:	Thanksgiving Day
Next Sunday:	1st Sunday of Advent



**GIVE**  
*thanks*  
**TO THE LORD**  
**FOR HE**  
**IS GOOD**



## REFLECT

### FIRST READING:

Ezekiel speaks of God as the "shepherd" who will tend to his flock with great care and discerning judgment. What is this teaching us about God's divine nature?

### SECOND READING:

Paul reveals to the Corinthians the divine place of the resurrected Jesus Christ in God's final plans for salvation history. As Lord of all things, including death itself, Jesus will hand over everything to God at the end of time. Does this revelation bring you comfort or distress?

### GOSPEL:

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the final judgment that will accompany his Second Coming and the end of time. Jesus describes the final judgment in the stark and contrasting terms of eternal life or eternal punishment. Why do you think so many people avoid thinking about Judgement Day?

## The Greater Catholic Community

### OPERATION ONE MORE | HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS.

The holiday season is one filled with joy and wonder but can also bring financial stress. Many families with children in our community are food insecure. Our mission is to provide extra food as a gesture of compassion during the holiday season. Last year nearly 60 families, 260 individuals, were blessed with a holiday food basket. With COVID-19 effecting so many, we anticipate a greater need for our assistance. Items needed are jars of peanut butter, mashed potatoes, plain oatmeal oats, and canned tuna. Please consider donating...collection bins located in the Gathering Space. We will be collecting food through December 13th. For more information, contact Stephanie at: [stephanie.collura@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.collura@gmail.com)

**ST. MICHAEL'S HOLIDAY TEA.** Begin celebrating the season by joining us at the Church of St. Michael's for our re-imagined Holiday Tea on Saturday, December 5th from 9AM to 11AM in the Church Community Room! Come and purchase your holiday goodies from the ever popular bakery table. The craft table will offer new, handmade items perfect for gifts and stocking stuffers. Many beautiful items will be available as raffle prizes that have been donated to support this event. Due to precaution regarding Covid, we will have no Tea Table this year but we will be sending home a treat bag for each guest. Masks or face coverings will be required and physical distancing will be followed. Church of St. Michael, 451 5th St. SW, Pine Island, MN 55963; Telephone number is 507-356-4280.



ST. PIUS X ADULT EDUCATION  
VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

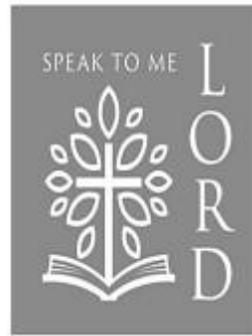
**ADVENT IN TODAY'S WORLD:  
INSIGHTS FROM ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

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**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH 7:00-8:00 PM**

### LIVE VIRTUAL PRESENTATION WITH Q AND A VIA ZOOM.

Register in advance for this meeting by November 29 at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkfu6pqDliGNxqxuLB5hi\\_s08A46YkORaM](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkfu6pqDliGNxqxuLB5hi_s08A46YkORaM). Upon registering, you will automatically receive the zoom link to join the presentation. Sister Ramona Miller is the Congregational Minister/President of the Sisters of St. Francis in Rochester, MN. For over 25 years, she was a staff member of the Franciscan Pilgrimage Programs leading pilgrims to Assisi, Italy. She has given numerous presentations on St. Francis of Assisi.



On the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King. Pope Pius XI instituted this feast in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas Primas* ("In the first") to respond to growing nationalism and secularism. He recognized that these related societal ills would breed increasing hostility against the Church. His encyclical reminds

the faithful that while governments and philosophies come and go, Christ reigns as king forever.

**THE KINGDOM IS HOLISTIC.** Secularism divides our public selves from our private selves. When governments limit the rights of religious ministries, secularists claim that religious freedom is not harmed because we still have freedom of worship – we are free in private but not in public. But the kingdom of God calls us to a whole life of worship and service in the public square. We cannot worship on Sunday and then deny Christ's teaching in the way we run our ministries throughout the week. Nationalism, on the other hand, divides our loyalties. It is good to love one's country, but ultimate loyalty is due only to Christ and his kingdom. Ideologies that ask us to put our nation above Christ and his Church are incompatible with service to the kingdom.

**THE KINGDOM DEMANDS DISCIPLESHIP.** We must work every day, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to draw closer to Jesus. In our own increasingly "post-Christian" society, we cannot be complacent in our spiritual lives. To acknowledge the kingship of Christ means that we should dedicate ourselves to prayer, to building up our families and our parish communities, and to bringing healing to a broken world.

**THE KINGDOM IS HUMBLE.** Jesus inaugurates a kingdom that grows through humble acts of service. Even as her freedom to carry out her ministries is threatened, the Church must patiently continue to serve the poor, educate the young, welcome the migrant, visit the prisoner, heal the sick, bury the dead, and love others.

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/religious-liberty>



**ADVENT ANGEL TREE.** The Church of St. Francis of Assisi will again be collecting gifts for neighbors/parishioners in need this Christmas. The Angel Tree will go up the weekend of November 21/22. Please take one or more tags off the Angel Tree that is located in the Gathering Space and purchase the gift that is listed. Please return the gift, wrapped and tagged with the angel, by **SUNDAY, December 13** (before noon). Thank you very much for your continued generosity in helping those less fortunate.

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