

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (WORLD DAY OF THE POOR)

NOVEMBER 17, 2024

Beginning this weekend, the Church calendar takes on an air of the 'end-times' as we approach the end of the Church year. Next Sunday with the feast of Christ the King, we end the year to begin the following Sunday with Advent, the beginning of the New Year. The end of the year is marked by a tone change in the readings. A style of readings called 'apocalyptic,' filled with symbols and images of tremendous and earth-shattering vividness, poetically presents the end of history. This is not to frighten us but assures us that there will be an ending within the awesome presence of God revealed in history.

Our first reading from the Book of Daniel depicts calamities, momentous changes and fearsome. It concludes this assertion:

"Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever." (Daniel 12.2)

In our Gospel passage for today it begins with:

"Jesus spoke to his disciples about the end which is to come:" (Mark 13:24)

Followed with images of the end, Jesus assures us of His eternal comfort and support – not to fear but rest in His guidance.

Blessings of peace! Fr. Don

On this day of prayer for the poor, those that the Scriptures call the blessed of God, are lifted up to the comfort of God, through the actions of believers.
