



# Divine Mercy Parish

## Mass Schedule for the Week of November 17, 2024

*Monday, November 18, 2024*

7:30 AM DM For All Those Remembered In Our Memorial Fund  
6-6:30 PM DM Confessions

*Tuesday, November 19, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Leo M. & Loretta Treshock by Son, Leo G. & Pat & Family

*Wednesday, November 20, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Loving Memory of Joseph Zancosky by Joan Zancusky & Maria Rittle  
1-4:00 PM Chapel Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

*Thursday, November 21, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Ronald & Leonard Moore by Geraldine Moore

*Friday, November 22, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Anna & Adie Jankaitis by Charlotte & Dave Kriner

*Saturday, November 23, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Joseph & Anna Savakinas by Daughter

3:40PM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet  
4:00 PM DM Webb & Dettery Families by Family

*Sunday, November 24, 2024*

7:30 AM DM Francis McAndrew – Love & Miss You by Sis  
9:40 AM DM Divine Mercy Chaplet  
10:00 AM DM Gino, Armond & Josephine Bruni & Alfred & Theresa Galezniak by Maryann & Family  
12:30 PM DM Living & Deceased Priests – Diocese of Allentown  
*En Espanol*

### **An Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

### **Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

**Prayer to Your Guardian Angel** Angel of God, my guardian dear, To whom God's love Commits me here, Ever this day, be at my side, To light and guard, Rule and guide. Amen.



### **Divine Mercy Parish Homemade Pierogies**

are now available. Cost: \$ 8.00 per dozen.



### **Prayer for Our Country**

Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of America, please help our country. Help us to return to what is decent, right and proper. Help us to return to respect for ourselves and others, into truth in dealing with ourselves and others, to self-control and self-discipline and, especially, to a deep love for your Son and his teachings. Protect us from those who would destroy us from within. Our Lady, we place ourselves and our country under your mantel. Pray for us and help us. Amen.

### **Important Phone Numbers**

Divine Mercy Pre K  
Sister Patricia Maureen Mount, IHM  
570-462-3927

Divine Mercy PREP  
Sister Mary Glackin, IHM  
1-484-888-1358

### **Divine Mercy Chaplet**

When: Every 1st Sunday of the month  
Time: 3:00 PM  
Where: St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Mahanoy City

### **Divine Mercy Collections** **November 10th - \$4,149.00**



### **Holiday Parish Office Hours**

The office will be closed from noon on Wednesday, November 27th, Thursday November 28th, Friday November 29th and Monday, December 2nd for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, December 3rd at 8:30 AM.

### **Patience Makes Sense**

Don't be tempted to compare yourself to others. God's plan for each of us is unique. "Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over him who prospers in his way" (Psalm 37:7).

**Divine Mercy Memorial Fund**

**Loving memory of Diane M. Kalyan**

\$20 Ron Kalyan & family

**Dr. Richard P. Bindie**

\$25 Sally Gennarini

\$10 Lisa & Frank Breznik

\$10 Georgine Sinkus

**Kathie Palubinsky**

\$25 Joe, Donna, Allen, Tricia & Family

**Patrick McCabe**

\$5 Mary McDonald

**Elaine Faia**

\$10 Lisa Rittle

**Loving memory of my Mother, Regina Straka**

\$10 Paul Straka

**Loving memory of Virginia “Ginny”**

**Bell**

\$10 Paul Straka

**Special intentions**

\$5 Anonymous



**Welcome to Lylliana Thaiz Ortiz who was baptized on Sunday, November 10th at Divine Mercy. Lylliana is the daughter of Kiaritza M. Ortiz. May God bless her and keep her in His care.**

**St. Josaphat of Volhynia**

Born in Lithuania in 1580, St. Josaphat, a Ruthenian Archbishop of Plotsk, made the unpopular decision to unite his diocese with the Catholic Church. In response to the death threats his efforts provoked, he declared, “I am here among you as a shepherd, and you ought to know that I would be happy to give my life for you.” Despite relentless persecution by a schismatic faction, he remained steadfast in his mission and was ultimately martyred by an enraged mob.

**Devotional Candles**

**Divine Mercy**

- Sanctuary In memory of my beloved Parents & Sister, Angelo & Enrica & Jean Romano by Ann Romano
- Divine Mercy In memory of a faithful friend, Frank Macus by Ann Romano
- Blessed Mother Our special intention by Karen & Leo Kayes
- Blessed Mother For continued good health for Hunter Zellin by family
- Blessed Mother In loving memory of Thomas Bachike by wife & family
- St. Ann Special intentions by Marguerite Oravitz Fell & family
- St. Joseph In honor, praise & thanksgiving
- St. Joseph In loving memory of Joseph Gaborek on his anniversary of death 11/20 by family
- Sacred Heart Our special intention by Karen & Leo Kayes
- OLMC In memory of Eva Racis by Dorothy & Romolo
- OLMC Special intentions by Ann Marnell Lehman

**St. Casimir**

- Sanctuary In loving memory of my Dad, George Rittle by Daughter, Maria
- Czestochowa Special intention
- Divine Mercy Special intentions by Louis & Donna Kowalski
- Divine Mercy Prayers & good health for J.M., S.M., M.S., Z.S., T.S., G.M., A.M. J.B., L.B. & R.G.
- Divine Mercy In memory of John & Helen Pukavige by children
- Divine Mercy Special intentions for Christopher, Hope, Marc, Benjamin, Morgan, Aubree, Eleanor, Owen, Oliver & Reni
- Blessed Mother In memory of John T. McGuire by wife, Peg
- Blessed Mother Special intentions, in thanksgiving & good health for Msgr. Bocian, Stephen Bocian, Joanne Demko, Estelle McLaren, Scarlet Henry, Frankie Pettinato, Christa Beecroft, Joe & Chris
- Blessed Mother In loving memory of Kathie by Tricia
- Blessed Mother In loving memory of Joe & Joestelle by wife/mother
- Sacred Heart In loving memory of my Dad, Jay Rittle by Daughter, Lisa
- Sacred Heart Special intentions by Mary Kufro
- Sacred Heart For recovery & healing for Charlie Lex by Pat & Leo
- Sacred Heart Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa
- St. Anthony Special intentions for Christopher, Marc & Christa
- St. Ann Special intentions by Mary Kufro

**Chapel**

- Sanctuary Our special intention by Karen & Leo Kayes
- Blessed Mother Prayers & good health for Emily Seigel by Uncle Ed & Aunt Kerri
- St. Joseph Special intentions by Msgr. B

**Beginning, Monday, November 25th. you may schedule additional Masses for 2025 and book is open to non-parishioners.**

**The Diocesan Mass Stipend is set at \$10.00.**





**ADVENT DAY OF PRAYER**

During the secular holiday season, we are bombarded with messages on TV, on the internet, in stores, in magazines and other sources that blare out the commercialism of the holidays. What a perfect time to escape from the cacophony, go to our quiet and beautiful chapel to pray, reflect and discover the true meaning of Christmas – the Birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ

**Our Advent Day of Prayer will be held on Wednesday, December 4th with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration in the Chapel from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.**

“Keep Christ in Christmas”

**Bautismos Todos** están invitados a bautizar a sus hijos. Aún si usted no está casado en la Iglesia se puede bautizar a su bebé. Sin embargo, le pedimos que seleccione una pareja que se casó en la Iglesia Católica para ser sus padrinos. Si un padrino / madrina es una persona soltera, él / ella puede convertirse en una condición de que, esa persona ha recibido el bautismo. Por favor, tenga en cuenta que una pareja, civilmente casada o una persona que vive junto a otra persona como una pareja no está calificada para ser un padrino/madrina. Si son de fuera de nuestra parroquia, por favor, diles de obtener un certificado de elegibilidad de su pastor al menos dos semanas de anticipación. Padre llevará a cabo clases de bautismo, tanto para los padres y padrinos y administrar el rito del bautismo. Por favor, visite la oficina parroquia(108 W.Cherry St., Shenandoah. Teléfono 570 (462)968) para reservar fechas y rellenar formularios. El proceso es muy fácil.

**OPLATKI/CHRISTMAS WAFERS**



Will be available beginning Saturday, November 30th and Sunday, December 1st before & after all the Masses at Divine Mercy or at the Parish Office, 108 West Cherry St. during office hours. **Donation for a 6 piece pack will be \$ 5.00.**



**Christmas Memorial & Christmas Flower Memorial Envelopes** are placed in your December envelopes. You may place your Christmas Memorial & Christmas Flower Memorial in memory of a loved one or for a special intention. The memorials will be published for Christmas. **The deadline will be Monday, December 9th.**

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE FOR 2024**

**Christmas Eve Schedule**

Tuesday, December 24th 4:00 PM Divine Mercy  
 Tuesday, December 24th 9:00 PM Divine Mercy

**Christmas Day Schedule**

Wednesday, December 25th 7:30 AM Divine Mercy  
 Wednesday, December 25th 10:00 AM Divine Mercy  
 Wednesday, December 25th 12:30 PM Divine Mercy Spanish

**Misa En Espanol**

**MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE**

Tuesday, December 31st 4:00 PM Divine Mercy  
 Wednesday, January 1st 7:30 AM Divine Mercy  
 Wednesday, January 1st 10:00 AM Divine Mercy

**Catholic Charities – Pregnancy & Parenting Support Program - Diocese of Allentown - Christmas Giving Tree**

This year during Advent, our parish will participate in the Christmas Giving Tree sponsored by the Catholic Charities – Diocese of Allentown. Catholic Charities focuses its Christmas giving on respect life efforts by providing counseling and material assistance to expectant and new mothers and their children. This year, the current administration in Harrisburg decided to not renew the annual government contract with Real Alternatives, the non-profit organization that funds our program. Because of this, your support is more needed than ever. Donations include: diapers sizes 3 and up, infant wipes, infant/toddler clothing, bottles and small infant safe toys. Additionally, parishioners may opt to provide a gift card to area stores at which Catholic Charities’ staff may pick up specific items to stock the baby closets. These items will be used to support pregnant and new mothers throughout the five counties of the Diocese of Allentown. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated. Items may be dropped off at church in the vestibule or at the parish office. **Deadline: Sunday December 15th.**

**Monday, December 9, 2024: The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)**

In a memo to the U.S. Bishops, the Vatican confirmed that the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception usually celebrated on the 8th day of December must be transferred and observed as a Holy Day of Obligation on the 9th day of December since the 8th day of December in 2024 is the 2nd Sunday of Advent. In light of this new directive, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Monday, December 9, 2024 is to be observed as a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass Schedule will be as follows:

**Monday December 9th 5:00 PM DM**

**Diocesan Information**

**If a Prenatal Diagnosis is Poor... You are not alone. There is help.** The Diocese of Allentown has a network of concerned parents and professionals who have experienced or worked closely with issues surrounding poor prenatal diagnosis. For support, contact: Sr. Janice Marie Johnson, . Johnson@allentowndiocese.org or 610-289-8900 x 245.

**Victim Assistance Coordinator** The Diocese of Allentown provides assistance to anyone who, as a minor, was sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or employee/volunteer of the Diocese/Parish. Parents, guardians, children and survivors of sexual abuse are invited and encouraged to contact the Diocese of Allentown for more information about this program. The fullness of compassion should be extended to these victims by the Church. Victim Assistance Coordinator—**Direct Telephone Number:** 1-800-791-9209.

To learn more about the Diocese of Allentown’s Youth Protection Programs, Sexual Abuse Policy, and Code of Conduct, please visit [www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org) and click on “Youth Protection ” in the upper right hand- corner of the page.

**Attention all Safe Environment Coordinators!**

Mandated reporter trainings and Protecting God’s Children Workshops will now be available virtually. If you are interested, please contact Pam Russo Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services  
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538  
610-871-5200 ext. 2204  
[prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org)

**Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service**

If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at [www.ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) or by calling 800-276-1562

**Servicio de Denuncia de Abusos de Obispos Católicos**

Si tiene una denuncia de abuso contra un Obispo, comuníquese con el Servicio de Denuncias de Abuso de Obispos Católicos en

[www.ReportBishopAbuse.org](http://www.ReportBishopAbuse.org) o llamando al 800-276-1562

**SCENTED CANDLE ORDERS**

**Date of Pick Up:** Friday, December 6th from 1 PM to 3 PM @ Trinity School

**WEEKLY MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER 23RD AND 24TH**

Mass Time	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server
4:00 PM @ DM	Elchisak,Michele	Webb,Jacqueline	Arias,Paco Jesus Hernandez,Omar
7:30 AM @ DM	Daynorowicz,Nolan	Bronk,Cathy	Daynorowicz,Nolan
10:00 AM @ DM	Taylor,Anne	Domkus,Frances	Donovan,Joseph

**Bulletin Deadline Dates**

Below you will find a listing of when bulletin information is due. The holidays are very busy, so I ask that you please use this as a reference guide as to when bulletin information is due. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Bulletin for Sunday....	Bulletin Information is due on ...
Sunday, December 1st	Monday, November 18th
Sunday, December 8th	Monday, December 2nd
Sunday, December 15th	Monday, December 9th
Sunday, December 22nd	Monday, December 9th
Sunday, December 29th	Monday, December 16th
Sunday, January 5th	Wednesday, December 18th

**Please support the Retired & Infirm Priests of the Diocese of Allentown**  
**Please take advantage of the opportunity to offer support to the retired priests of our Diocese by helping provide for their care in retirement! Your donation will help serve those who have faithfully served us. You should have received a request letter in the mail within the last few days. You may return your gift in the mail or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. For more information, visit the website [www.weloveourpriests.org](http://www.weloveourpriests.org). Thank you in advance for your generous support.**

**Did You Request Extra Envelopes to Pay Your 2025 Dues Monthly?**



If you receive collection envelopes monthly, envelopes for your dues are included in that packet of envelopes. It is the very first envelope of every month. Please use that envelope to pay your dues monthly. If you have any questions, please call the office.

**October Lotto Winners**

Mushie Lally	10/4	\$50	# 524	day
Molly & Sunshine	10/5	\$50	# 378	day
Carol Anczarski	10/7	\$25	# 404	eve
Walter Shurko	10/9	\$25	# 627	eve
JR & Donna Kowalski	10/12	\$25	# 501	eve
Pat Bubnis	10/16	\$50	# 567	day
M. Ulicny	10/18	\$50	# 550	eve
Finn & James Tourish	10/18	\$50	# 535	day
Joann Pribish	10/20	\$50	# 438	eve
Joseph Sadusky	10/21	\$25	# 402	day
Ann Kiehl	10/27	\$50	# 373	day
Deluca	10/30	\$50	# 612	eve

**Redner’s “Save – A- Tape” Receipts**

**Divine Mercy Parish** is still collecting the “Save-A-Tape” from Redner’s Markets. Please drop off your receipts in the collection or mail box or bring them to the parish office during regular office hours. The parish will receive a check for 1% of what is collected. Please support your parish and collect the receipts. Thank you for all of your support throughout the year. It is greatly appreciated. **Please do not cut any of the receipt away.**

**A Little Reminder For Cemetery Lot Owners**

in order to keep bringing all our Parish Cemeteries in line with the guidelines and regulations of the Diocese the following will still be enforced: all bricks, fine & crushed stone, plants, fresh & plastic flowers not in containers, fences, borders of all types will be removed & discarded immediately due to the fact that they cause a problem for maintenance of your lot. Again, anything that interferes with the mowing & trimming of grass will be removed at the family’s expense. Containers should not interfere with the care of the cemetery grounds. If they do, the containers will be removed immediately. No planting of flowers, trees, or shrubs allowed. Plastic flowers must be in containers also.

**All Summer flowers must be removed!**

**Payments for Parish Funerals**

Funeral fees must be paid 24 hours prior to the burial. We ask that the family of the deceased come to the parish office and pay directly to the church. Please make no payment to the funeral directors. If payment is not received within 24 hours of burial, there cannot be any burial in the parish cemetery. Also, all Lot Care (Perpetual Care/Cemetery Care) must be current including current burial.



**All Souls Day Envelopes** please list the names of all those you would like remembered on the back of your envelope. The names listed will be remembered during the month of November at all Masses.

**Financial Report --September**

Net September Income	\$ 28,327.22	Expenses	\$ 21,824.41
		Insurance	\$ 7,422.00
		Assessments	\$ 4,023.00
Total Income	\$ 28,327.22	Total Expenses	\$ 33,269.41
		<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>\$ 4,942.19</b>



**Our parish is in need of Lectors, Altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are interested in any of these ministries, we ask that you please call the parish office at 462-1968..**

**Works of Mercy**

The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are actions we can perform that extend God’s compassion and mercy to those in need.

**The Corporal Works of Mercy** are these kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs.

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Feed the hungry           | Visit the sick       |
| Give drink to the thirsty | Visit the imprisoned |
| Clothe the naked          | Bury the dead        |
| Shelter the homeless      |                      |

**The Spiritual Works of Mercy** are acts of compassion, as listed below by which we help our neighbors with their emotional and spiritual needs.

- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Counsel the doubtful  | Forgive offenses                 |
| Instruct the ignorant | Bear wrongs patiently            |
| Admonish sinners      | Pray for the living and the dead |

**Food Truck Again at Divine Mercy Parish.....**

Catholic Charities’ Community Café Food Truck will be on site at the Divine Mercy Church Parish parking lot on **Tuesday, November 26th** from Noon to 1:30 PM. All are welcome to join us for a complimentary hot lunch! Meet Catholic Charities’ staff and volunteers and enjoy a delicious meal! The food truck will be visiting Divine Mercy each month, so keep an eye out for further dates. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the food truck ministry, please contact Pam Russo at [prusso@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:prusso@allentowndiocese.org) or 610-871-5200, ext. 2204. Anyone is welcome to come and receive a free meal .... No questions asked or no payment or donation is requested.

**What Are Indulgences?**

An indulgence is “the remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sin whose guilt has already been forgiven” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). In other words, after certain conditions have been met, the Church prays that the punishment for one’s sins – either on Earth or in Purgatory – will be reduced or eliminated.

Jesus’ sacrifice on the Cross and the prayers and good works of the saints during their lifetimes make indulgences possible. The *Catechism* compares this idea to something like an infinite bank account. The Church draws from the “treasury” of spiritual goods – prayers and sacrifices – of the saints and applies the benefits to those completing the indulgence (CCC #1476). To gain an indulgence, certain requirements must be met, including attending Confession, receiving Holy Communion and praying for the intentions for the pope.

Indulgences are only effective for sins that have already been forgiven in the Sacrament of Confession. Otherwise, we could be in danger of presuming on God’s mercy or assuming God’s forgiveness without true contrition.

**Parish Dues for 2025 for Divine Mercy**

**Parish** are now payable for any registered parishioner 21 years of age and older at the parish office, 108 West Cherry St. If dues are paid by January 31, 2025, dues are \$ 50.00 per individual. If paid after January 31, 2025, dues are \$ 60.00 per individual.

**The Tree of Life has been placed in the vestibule of Divine Mercy Parish in the corridor leading to the former crying room. Take a moment and stop by to look at it. If anyone is still interested in making a donation to the new chapel in memory of someone or a special intention that you may have, please contact the parish office at 462-1968 as soon as possible. Your choices are: Leaf \$ 300.00, Acorn \$ 500.00, Foundation Stone \$ 1,000.00 and Mini-Tree \$ 1,500.00. Thank you to everyone who has made a donation to the chapel.**

**God Loves Us As We Are**

**Most of us care about how we** come across to other people. Choices about how we live, work, or dress can be influenced by a desire for others’ approval. While it is only human to want to be liked, it’s important to remember that God’s opinion matters most. The best part? God always loves us.

**His love never changes.** Human standards change over time. Someone considered “in” today, can be “out” in no time. God’s love is unchanging and unending.

**Friends come and go.** Sooner or later, friendships change or friends may move on. But Jesus said, “... behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). God never leaves.

**He loves us for who we really are.** There’s nothing God doesn’t know about us, and he adores us anyway. Go figure.

**If God likes you, others may, too.** To please God, we have to fill ourselves with love for him and other people, and that makes us even nicer to be around.



**Upcoming Event**

**Eat In or Take Out Spaghetti Dinner** sponsored by St. Patrick Church on Sunday, December 8th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM (or sell out) 313 Mahantongo Street, Pottsville. Spaghetti platter includes pasta with our homemade sauce, two meatballs, a salad, and bread - \$11.00. Extra meatballs and/or sauce available for purchase.

**Marian Catholic Volleyball Team is having a \$1000.00 Cash Jackpot Bingo!** Sunday, December 8th @ Lakeside Ballroom, Barnesville...Doors Open at 12 noon-Games Start at 1:00 PM. \$25.00 in advance and \$30.00 at door...10 Regular Games, Specials, Tricky Trays, 50/50 and more! Food and Drink available for purchase! Contact Angela at 570-582-5980 for reservations/payment.

**Shenandoah Area Free Public Library Fall Raffle ... 35 cash & gift card prizes. Purchase tickets at the library \$5.00 each or \$20.00 for 5 tickets. Drawing date is Friday, November 29th at Coal Cracker Christmas celebration.**

**Shenandoah Area Free Public Library... Book Signing: Andrea Mallick Pytak... Saturday, December 14th from Noon to 2:00 PM. “Hard Coal & Onion Domes” remembering three generations of the Mallick family in America, and the forces of nature that helped them survive.**

**The Schuylkill County Knights of Columbus Councils will be delivering a Turkey Dinner** complete with turkey, filling, yams, gravy, vegetable and dessert to all residents of Schuylkill County who are in need of a meal for this Thanksgiving Day, November 28th. If you know of a person who is in need of a meal, or if you are a person who is in need of a meal, please call either 773-0627 or 516-9514 and leave the following information if no one answers the phone (Name & Phone Number) and we will get back to you. You can also contact us at [KofC431@yahoo.com](mailto:KofC431@yahoo.com). The only requirement we have for the meal is that the person be home. Closing date to order is November 22nd at 5:00 PM in order for us to order the required items for the meal. Thank you. Also, anyone who can give us a hand delivering the meals is asked to come to St. Patrick’s Social hall in Pottsville on Thanksgiving Day by 8:00 AM. You can sign up for an area you may know in order to deliver the meals or for any area. We are usually finished by 1:00 PM.



**Giving Thanks for God’s Bounty**

Later this month we will gather with friends or family to give thanks for all the blessings we have received throughout the year. Yet the gifts don’t just come once a year, so try these tips for living gratitude all year: Say it out loud. Saying the words out loud will keep you from taking your blessings for granted. Let words of gratitude be the first ones you speak in the morning and the last ones on your lips at night. Avoid complaining. How can we be thankful and still gripe when things don’t go our way? When you find yourself feeling stressed or depressed, stop and list five blessings instead. Don’t shop or buy. Try putting off what you don’t absolutely need. Instead, clean out a closet, drawer, or storage area you have been ignoring and rediscover the good things you already have. Live thankfully. Each day, look for small blessings and pleasures. Noticing them will help you remember that God makes all things well and deserves our thanks.