



FROM THE DESK OF FATHER JONATHAN

NOVEMBER 20, 2016

It's almost time for Turkey! For me that means I will be visiting family in the Midwest for a couple of days so I am very excited. Most of my siblings (I'm the 3rd of 7) and their families will gather with my parents for a big meal and a lot of family time. If the weather is good, we usually play football outside with the adults and the seventeen nieces and nephews! I have such great memories of Thanksgiving Day over the years and I am so very grateful to God for having family, even if they live several hundred miles away. I know that many of you aren't able to be with family over Thanksgiving for one or another reason. Even my priests in the rectory, Fr. Urbano and Fr. Pio, are thousands of miles away from family. Our sisters too have made the very big sacrifice of being missionaries to us here in the Bronx and are far away from their families.

This is why I was so happy that some parishioners came to me this week with the idea of having celebration meals around Christmas time, especially for those who do not have family nearby. We are thinking of having a meal in Fatima Hall after the midnight mass on Christmas Eve (morning) as well as a celebration on New Year's Eve. We will do something simple where people can bring a dish and share it with everyone. What do you think? Perhaps next year we can do the same thing for Thanksgiving Day. More details to come...

We are family. Keep bringing us ideas of how we can serve each other better.

**God bless,
Father Jonathan**

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