

## A Note from the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Instead of writing about concluding the Capital Campaign in these notes, I have decided to speak briefly at all the Masses on November 24 and 25. Just know there is still time to make a pledge or donation to help our parish come closer to our three million dollar goal. We have reached 1.85 million dollars but it would be wonderful if more parishioners were able to help. Thanks for considering this!

The focus of these notes is a bit of history and prayers. Today is Sunday which, of course, is the Lord's Day and a day to be kept holy above all by participating in Mass.

Today is also November 11 which is Veterans Day in the United States. Today is actually the 100 Anniversary of the agreement to cease hostilities of the First World War. It was the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of the year 1918 when the armistice was made. Until 1954, November 11th was called Armistice Day. Since 1954 it has been known as Veterans Day. This year the holiday is observed on the Monday but many ceremonies still take place on November 11th, as they do in the Town of Yorktown today in Shrub Oak at the Library (parade at 1:30pm). Veterans Day celebrates the service of all veterans of the Military Forces of the United States. (Memorial Day celebrates the service of the military men and women who died in service.)

In the year following the armistice (or agreement to end the war) for World War I, it was made known that Armistice Day (now Veterans Day) is meant to be a day dedicated to the cause of world peace.

With that history, let us offer prayers this day for all the military men and women who have served our country. It is good to pray for all those who have died (especially in the month of November) and for those still serving. We should be grateful to God for those who serve our country in any way (including our elected officials) and especially for God's blessings this day upon our Veterans who literally were ready to sacrifice their lives for their fellow Americans. It is a very good thing to include these petitions in our prayers at Mass. May God continue to bless America.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Monsignor Giandurco*