



COMMERCIALIZING HOLIDAYS AND HOLY DAYS

The truth about holidays and Holy Days is that they should provide us with an opportunity to remember particular persons or events with gratitude. Truthfully, if man had been obedient to the LORD's command to "keep Holy the Sabbath" (cf. Exodus XX:8-11), where-in we can find the criteria for celebrating Holy Days/holidays, there might not be a need for holidays.

The Sabbath remembrance of the Holy One would teach us to give thanks for the fruits of the earth every day of the year and not just on Thanksgiving Day. The Sabbath remembrance of the Holy One would teach us to give thanks for the women and men who conceived us, gave birth to us, and raised us to know, love, and serve God not just on Mothers' Day/Father's Day. The Sabbath remembrance of the Holy One would teach us to give thanks for the people who risked their lives in defense of our inalienable rights to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness not just on Veteran's Day. But because man failed to keep Holy the Sabbath, God moved man to issue the commandment. And perhaps because man has failed to keep the commandment, man has been moved to create holidays!

"The Church does not have technical solutions to offer" for solving the problem of commercializing Holy Days (although closing stores on the Sabbath could be part of a solution). "She does, however, have a mission of truth to accomplish, in every time and circumstance, for a society that is attuned to man, to his dignity, to his vocation." (Benedict XVI, *Caritatis in Veritate*). And the truth of the matter is that by commercializing Holy Days we are driving ourselves further and further *out of the Garden* (cf. Genesis III:24), *out of the Temple* (Saint Matthew XXI:12-15; Saint Mark XI: 15-19; Saint Luke XIX:45-48; and Saint John II: 13-16), and away from the purpose for which God created us and for which we created Holy Days.

Please don't let the upcoming observance of *Veteran's Day* become just another day. **Join us for Mass**, at which time all of our veterans will be remembered with gratitude and those in attendance will be given a special blessing. Without the labours of our veterans, gathering for Mass on 11 November might not be an option!



THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES NEED YOUR PRAYERS

Melissa Castillo, Ensign Frank Chavez, Capt. Thomas Collins III, Anthony Costante, Tyler Daly, Juan Diaz, Ryan Dugan, Michael George Gonzalez, Daniel Ingin, Brig. Gen. Kevin Killea, Susana Ladino, Capt. Peter Lawless, Cpl. Gaelan Lynch, Sgt. Ramon Marrero, Pvt. Jack McKnight, John Mediate, Sgt. Kelvin O. Melara, Airman 1st Class Jerome Miles, Lt. Cmdr. Colleen Minihan, Maj. Paul Minihan, Sebastian Moreno, Sean Joseph Mormon, Sgt. Allyson Parla, PO Floyd A. Rivera, Sgt. Sammy Rodriguez, Benjamin Rhodes, Edwin Sandoval, Doug Schambert, Paul Seiden, Luis Sic, PFC Ashley Sumner, Capt. John Talafuse, Lt. Matthew Talibon, Corp. Daniel Vargas, SCPO William A. Vega, Capt. Johnetta Washington, Anthony Williams, Sgt. 1st Class Lynroy Williams; Lt. Cmdr. Brad Younger



Saint Martin de Porres Marianist School

(located at 530 Hempstead Boulevard in Uniondale)

invites you to their

Veterans Day Celebration

Tuesday, 10 November at 8:00 A.M.

A light breakfast of bagels, juice, and coffee will be provided.

If you would like to attend please call (516) 481-3303

All are welcome!!!

