



Father Danny Murphy is a retired Pastor from Brooklyn NY. A gifted man with a God given talent to inspire and God's gift to us at Holy Cross Church in Vero Beach Florida. This is just one of his inspirational homilies.

## Fr. Danny Murphy – Thanksgiving Day – 2017

There's a lot to like about Thanksgiving Day, isn't there? It's the one day that seems to cut across religious differences, political differences, and ethnic differences. Today, most Americans will give thanks for our country. Many Americans consider Thanksgiving to be their favorite holiday. Let's see if by sprinkling a little holy water on this holiday, we can also make it a holy day! The first sprinkling of holy water comes to us from Dorothy day who tells us, "When I meet God, all I'm going to say is 'Thank you!'" Some of us, mistakenly, think that we don't know how to pray: "I don't know how to pray. Every time I try to pray, I'm restless, I daydream, I don't know what to think, I don't know what to say; I don't know how to pray!" Nonsense! Of course you know how to pray! The only prayer you have to pray is to say: "Thank you!" Our second sprinkling of holy water comes to us from St. Paul

who tells us: "In all things, give thanks!" St. Paul might have borrowed that from Job who tells us: "The Lord giveth, the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord." It is easy to bless when the Lord gives, it is hard to bless when the Lord takes away. To give thanks in all things to God is to trust God in all things. Our final sprinkling of holy water: for us to enjoy the gifts that God gives to us. The greatest gift you can give to a gift-giver, is to thoroughly enjoy the gift! So perhaps today you can give thanks to God for the gift of YOU, uniquely you! It has been said that gratitude is the basis of all holiness. It has been said that the holiest person you know is the most grateful person you know. This is Thanksgiving Day, the day when we can give thanks. Really, every day is Thanksgiving Day, the day when we give thanks. "All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, so thank you Lord, thank you Lord for all your love, we really want to thank you, Lord."