My sisters and brothers,

I bring you greetings in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and ✠ of the Holy Spirit.

It is important to note that day light savings time ends Sunday November 6th. More important to know is Sunday November 6th is All Saint’s Sunday. This is a joint Mass and begins 10:00AM. On this day we remember those saints who have entered the Church Triumphant. We celebrate the lives of our loved ones who now rest in the arms of our Lord. If you have a loved one who in the past year now rest in the arms of the Lord, you may submit the name to MS Barbara Jacobs by November 4th. We will ring their name during the Mass. We do not deny the pain and sorrow of the loss of our loved ones. We do embrace each other in love and comfort as God continues to comfort, love, and embrace all of us.

***Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. Amen***

***(BCP 481)***

***Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord:***

***And let light perpetual shine upon them***

We remember in our American history that people coming from England arrived here at the end of the growing season. Proper shelter, illness, and the lack of food lead to a significant number of deaths. It was the indigenous people (Wampanoag Nation) of this country that demonstrated to these newcomers how to construct proper shelter and to grow foods that would provide substance for them. This was so successful that in Plymouth, Massachusetts in the year1621 the first Thanksgiving in America was held. Everyone was invited, and all participated at the table. This was a harvest festival in which they gave thanks to God. It is now a national holiday.

We celebrate the Holy Eucharist. Eucharist is a Greek word which can be translated as “thanksgiving”. I believe this is the real Thanksgiving. We, like the early newcomers, are subject to death as a result of sin. However, just as the newcomers received aid in how to live in the new world, we are given that aid by God. It is God who sent his Son to die for all of us. This act of love provides for us a means to live.

It is good for us to celebrate the good harvest. It is even better when we share this good harvest.

The real harvest for me is the Word and receiving the Sacraments. This is a foretaste of the feast to come, the real thanksgiving.

The peace of the Lord is always with you,

Fr. Michael B. Guy Sr.,S.T.S.✠