Tuesday, November 24, 2020 Communion Reflection Chris Stein

So 2020 has really been a crazy year, at least for me. And for us as a Church this weekend coming up ends this liturgical year. The Church enters into Advent, a time of preparation, a time for reflection, a time to evaluate. We can think of it as a new chapter or new page.

As we celebrate these last few days of Ordinary time, as we celebrate Thanksgiving this year, I think perhaps this gives us time to look at where we have been. Where has 2020 taken us? Where has the past Church year taken us? Certainly, we have had many challenges. I am sure for many of us, things we agree with and things we disagree with have taken place over the last year.

But what about in the things that we cannot control?

In the midst of a year as challenging as this one, it can be tempting to lose hope, to get angry and frustrated, to run out of patience. I have experienced this in some ways. Most of us have.

But the Lord is still at work, the Lord is still doing good things for us, and the Lord still reigns.

So let us take the concrete time this day: where have we grown, where have we failed or taken a step back? And let us think of some area of faith we would like to grow in this next Church year: maybe it is developing a virtue, saying a daily rosary, weekly confession, or adding a day of fasting each week. But let us take some concrete step toward the Lord.