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## MAKE CHURCH MATTER

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We need to be increasingly grateful and enthusiastic for what God has done for us in Christ: the salvation won for us and the plan he has for us.

St Paul instructs us that gratitude and thanksgiving are foundational to what our communities are to be. Think about it: Our primary gathering each week is called “Eucharist,” which means thanksgiving. We do as our Saviour instructed us to do: we give thanks. The whole life of our parish should be a Eucharist.

Pope Saint John Paul II very simply taught that the Eucharist builds the Church. The Church is formed and grows through the Eucharist, and mature Catholics understand what they are giving and what they are given in the Eucharist. They rightly hold the Eucharist as the “gift par excellence.” In it, They are nourished and grow as disciples.

Our gratitude and enthusiasm is freely dispensed on everything from electronic devices to food and football, but when it comes to the work of the local parish church – the most important work in the world – we are often sadly reserved.

*We ought to thank God always for you, brothers, as is fitting, because your faith flourishes ever more, and the love of every one of you for one another grows ever greater. 2 Thess. 1:3*

**Resources used: *Rebuilt & Tools for Rebuilding*,  
by Fr. Michael White & Tom Corcoran**