

Pastor's Message

SEPT.-OCT. 2010

By Rev. Dr. Anthony T. Padovano

ATTENTIVENESS AND GRATITUDE

We sometimes miss the panorama of history and of our lives by focusing only on each event as it transpires.

Notice what history has done and what our lives have experienced by surveying commemorative moments in September and October, in the end of summer and the beginning of autumn.

It is Ramadan for Muslims and Yom Kippur for the Jewish Community; it is the feast day of Francis of Assisi for Catholics and Reformation Day for Protestant Christians. It is World Communion Sunday for the ecumenical movement and All Saints' Eve for the larger memory of all the deceased and the communion of saints.

We celebrate Columbus Day and the European discovery of a new world; and Labor Day for the discovery of workers' rights in the United States; and United Nations Day for the discovery of a global world order.

This is only part of the story. We must not let these two months go by without being attentive to and grateful for all the grace and labor, all the vision and courage, all the sacred yearnings and secular dreams which made possible the events we cannot forget. All of them continue to enrich our lives and summon us to greatness.

Our Inclusive Community could not exist unless many of the events commemorated in these two months preceded us. How fortunate and privileged we are to join this march of greatness and goodness through history, following in the footsteps of those who gave their lives so we could live better.

Anthony