

NOVEMBER 16 2025 BISHOP ROBERT KASUN

Well, my dear family, dear sisters and brothers in Christ, just to leave a few words of reflection.

As the church draws to the end of its Liturgical year, this last Sunday of Ordinary Time, we are always presented in the Scriptures a kind of picture of the end. And it sounds a little ominous, for sure, and would have us all a little bit, um, maybe frightened but with a certain anxiety. And that's probably a good thing.

Whenever an end comes near, whenever something is drawing to a close, there always brings about, in our hearts, in our lives, in the world, a kind of urgency. And this is perhaps why this is called a World Day of the Poor. There is an urgency that our Holy Father Francis inaugurated, and Pope Leo has continued, to really think about the poor. There is an urgency to have a reset for the reason of the Gospel, the Good News. And the Good News, in Luke's Gospel, is directed to the poor.

To those who remind us if we take the time to see and to listen to the poor, and to encounter the poor, remind us of what's important. They remind us of our own vulnerability, our own fragility. It is why the church gives us these readings at the end of the church year, a kind of reset. What is it all about? And do we really comprehend our own vulnerability, our own fragility, on this very short time on this earth?

So, let's not be frightened or burdened or worried, but rather let's take it as a moment, as we say in the digital world, for a reset. And this reset is, on this day, is an invitation to encounter with the poor. And to know that they have something to teach us. They are not simply recipients of generosity, but rather an invitation to a justice for the dignity and the human goodness of every single person.

Lastly, as we pray on this beautiful day, we are invited to really hear the cry of the poor and to hear the cry of our own poverty, our own

vulnerability and fragility, and turn to the Lord, the one who knows every hair on our heads.

God bless you.