



Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church  
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October 29, 2017

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It's hard to believe that we are already drawing near to the month of November. In a couple of days, we will celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints on November 1st and then the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls) on November 2nd. These twin feasts of the liturgical year remind us that an important part of our Catholic faith is our care and love for those who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection.

At every Holy Mass, there is a commemoration of the dead, a moment for us to call to mind those who have gone before us in death. In the Roman Canon, or the 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharistic Prayer, this commemoration happens with these words:

**Remember also, Lord, your servants N. and N.,  
who have gone before us with the sign of faith  
and rest in the sleep of peace.**

After this prayer, there is a moment of silence during which we are encouraged to remember and to pray for our loved ones.

But why pray for the dead? What can our prayers do for them? As Catholics we believe in Purgatory. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (paragraph 1030) says this: "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven." By our prayers and pious works, we can lessen the period of purification for those in Purgatory and speed our loved ones along the way to heaven.

As a reminder of our prayers for those who have died, we will continue the tradition of writing the names of our deceased loved ones in the Book of Remembrance. At the entrances to church, you can find sheets with blank spaces on which to write the names of your deceased loved ones. During the month of November, this book will be kept at the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary so that we may ask her prayers and intercession for those who have died.

One of the most powerful ways that we can pray for the dead is during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The Church has long had the custom of offering Holy Masses for particular intentions, especially for the dead. On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Our Lady of the Rosary will open its Mass intention book and start taking requests for Masses to be offered in the new liturgical year, which starts with Advent. The suggested donation for a Mass offering is \$5.00; but if this donation is a financial burden, it is not required. *(continued on reverse)*

As we celebrate the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls in the month of November, let us remember in our prayers all those who have died.

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed  
through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.**

To Jesus through Mary,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fr. Jonathan', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Fr. Jonathan  
[jhemelt@arch-no.org](mailto:jhemelt@arch-no.org)

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**November 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints Day and a Holy Day of Obligation.** Please plan to attend Mass on this day or the evening before, so as not to fall into mortal sin by disobedience to this obligation!

- **October 31<sup>st</sup> at 6pm in church**
- **November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7am and 6pm in church**
- **Archbishop Aymond will offer Holy Mass on November 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am at St. Louis Cemetery #3. All are invited to this Mass.**

**Our Parish Thanksgiving Dinner will be held in the cafeteria on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> after the 4pm Mass.** There is no cost for the dinner, but donations are accepted for St. Vincent de Paul and its ministry to the poor of our parish. Please join us for good food and fellowship!

**The final Coffee Gathering with Fr. Jonathan will be on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.** It will be at the rectory (Fr. Jonathan's residence) at 1342 Moss Street. **This Coffee Gathering will be for young adults** (men and women ages 18-39) so that Fr. Jonathan can hear the thoughts of our young people. Please spread the word!