

Greetings,

All are invited to celebrate All Saints and All Souls Masses at Our Lady Help of Christians.

MASS SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 1ST—ALL SAINTS

8:30 am Chapel

12:00 pm Chapel (Latin Mass)

7:00 pm Church

NOVEMBER 2ND—ALL SOULS

8:30 am Church

12:00 pm Chapel

All Souls Remembrance - On **November 1st at the 7:00 pm** Mass in our Church, we will celebrate a special Eucharist for All Souls by reading the names of all who died and were buried in our cemetery this past year from 11/1/20 – 10/31/21. We will send a letter to every family who has had a funeral in our parish or burial and invite them to bring a picture of their loved ones that will be placed in front of the altar. All parishioners who have lost loved ones are also invited to Mass and can bring pictures even if the funeral was not celebrated in our church. We will pray for all their souls.

Celebrating All Saints and All Souls in November

Why does it help to turn to the saints when we pray?

We are all called to lives of virtue and holiness and the saints are friends and intercessors who can inspire us toward this goal! Saints are people who are on fire with the Holy Spirit; they keep God's fire burning in the Church. Even during their earthly life, the saints prayed ardently, in a way that was contagious. At Mass on All Saints' Day, we praise and thank God for their example, their selflessness, and their holiness. We express our faith that they are now around God's throne, where they "sing his praise forever." And we ask them to give us "both strength and good example" so that one day we will meet them when we enter eternal life with God.

The Feast of All Souls

All Souls' Day, also known as "The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed" is observed on Tuesday, Nov. 2 this year. This is when we remember people who were more like us – the souls of the faithful departed in purgatory or in process. The faithful on earth can assist these purgatorial souls in attaining heaven through prayer, good work and the offering of Mass.

At Mass on All Souls' Day, we pray that through Christ's loving mercy, God's "departed servants...may be granted pardon and peace, and be brought to the joy of God's eternal home. All Souls Day is an especially rich cultural experience for Hispanic/Latino Catholics, who call it "Día de los Muertos" or "The Day of the Dead."

Things to do:

- Visit a cemetery and pray for the dead during the Octave of All Saints Day. This gains a plenary indulgence that can be applied only to the souls in purgatory. On other days, this work gains a partial indulgence.
- During November, spend a little time after Mass thanking God for all the unnamed saints, some of whom could be our own relatives.
- Have a special meal and if you have young children have them dress up like their favorite saints and play games.
- Request the Holy Mass for your loved one who died in our parish office.
- Pray the Litany of the Saints – you could make it really special by chanting it (“he who sings prays twice”).

Decree extends indulgence for the faithful departed throughout November

During November many Catholics visit a church or cemetery to pray for the holy souls in purgatory, and the Church encourages this custom by attaching a “plenary indulgence” to such prayers for the faithful departed. This indulgence means that through our prayers we can help departed souls complete their preparation for heavenly life. This year, each of the faithful may choose one day of November on which to gain this grace by praying for the dead in a church. Likewise, each may choose any eight days on which to gain an indulgence through prayer at a cemetery. Those who cannot leave home may substitute other forms of prayer for the usual visits.

God Bless,
Fr. Jozef