

From Father Kirby...

November 1, 2020

Happy Sunday, Team Grace! This Sunday, we pause Ordinary Time in order to celebrate the feast of All Saints. The feast day reminds us that, while the Church only formally declares a few people “saints,” in truth, everyone in heaven is a saint.

And so, every family has their own group of saints, which they are called to honor and revere. Incidentally, it is for this reason, that the feast of All Saints is a Holy Day of Obligation. This year, of course, the obligation is merged into our Sunday observance. But the summons remains the same: every family is called to remember and to show respect to the saints in their family.

This Sunday, I’ll preach on the feast day. After this Sunday, since November is our traditional month of the dead, I’ll return to some end-of-life questions for the following two Sundays (November 8 and 15).

Some things happening around the parish:

This Monday, November 2, is the [Feast of All Souls](#). Following ancient custom, we will have three Masses at the parish for our beloved dead. The Masses are at 7 AM (in the church), 12 Noon (at the columbarium), and 7 PM (in the church).

We’ll have chairs available for the columbarium Mass, but anyone is free to bring their own chairs. Worshippers can socially distance as they prefer. Masks are welcomed, but not required.

During the evening All Souls Mass, we’ll have the annual “Reading of Names.” If you’ve lost someone *within the past year* (November to November), and would like their name to be read, then *before Noon* on Monday, please send it to Johnny Rusciollelli: jrusciollelli@charlestandioocese.org.

Please note that by ancient custom, the All Souls offertory and envelopes go directly to the Pastor. It is the only time the offertory is given directly to the priest.

Please also note the expansion of the [All Souls Indulgence](#) this year.

On [Election Night](#), November 3, we are very blessed to have Sister Dede Byrne with us. Sister will lead a Rosary – *by livestream* - in our church at 7:30 PM. Other than a small list of invited parish leaders, no one else will be permitted in the church. Please plan to join in the Rosary *via livestream* as we pray for our country. After the

Rosary, Sister Dede will give a talk on the dignity and preciousness of all human life.

Our weekly Bible Study continues this Wednesday. We'll continue to walk through the Book of Genesis and discuss the New Creation after the Great Flood (Genesis 8-9). I hope everyone can tune in!

I want to remind everyone of our First Saturday Healing Mass this coming Saturday, November 7, at 11:00 AM.

Please note that Jessica Pirrung is no longer a member of our professional staff. She has been on leave for the past several months and will not be returning. We wish her the best in her future endeavors!

This past Friday, my new book, *Living in Peace*, was released by Our Sunday Visitor. The book is a modification of the homilies I gave during the lockdown this past Spring. If you're interested, you can order a copy of the book [here](#).

More updates next week! Oremus pro invicem (let's pray for one another)!