

November 2, 2014

Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (*All Souls' Day*) (A)



From The Desk of Msgr. Corrigan:

When I was twelve years old, I enjoyed going to daily Mass. This was the year 1950. At that time I followed the custom of writing the names of people I knew who had died on a piece of paper. I kept this list of names in my prayer book that I used during Mass. After the consecration there is a prayer for those who have died: "Memento etiam, Domine, famulorum, Gamularumque tuarum N.et N..." At this point I would read each name on my piece of paper. This same prayer, now translated into English, is in the Eucharistic Prayer I, p.80 in our present Missalette. Eventually I stopped doing this for two reasons: this list grew too large and I felt that dwelling on so many dead individual was unhealthy, perhaps even morbid.

I remembered this on this weekend because we celebrate the Feasts of All Saints and All Souls. This is the time that we Catholics remember those who have died. If they are in heaven we pray for their help; if they are in purgatory we pray to help them get into heaven. We don't believe in ghosts who come back or have never left his earth. All who have died are in heaven, purgatory or hell. All in purgatory will eventually go to heaven. Being prayed for at Mass helps those in purgatory get to heaven. At every Mass we participate in pray for "all those who have gone before us".

This prayer is in all the Eucharistic Prayers. Look for it and silently say the names of those whom you wish to remember e.g. my mother, father, my sister, brother, a parishioner or a friend etc. This is part of the Catholic tradition and, if not done to excess, it is very healthy.

As a young boy leaving church I would run into (literally) into people going to work. No one mocked me going to Mass. Some would even say "Remember me in your prayers during the Mass". I think this was one of the reasons I entered the seminary the following year.



Collection:

Last Sunday October 26, 2014 the collection was \$2,973.25

The second collection today will be the All Souls Day offering in remembrance of those who have gone before us.

Next Sunday the second collection will be for our Church Property Insurance.

Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day):

Our loving God calls us here today to remember those whom, we have known and loved, and indeed all the souls who have gone before us. For some of us the pain of grief is still fresh, but for all of us the memories give us strength to carry on in our faith as we pray for those who have died. Today is a day to proclaim our hope in the Resurrection and in the promises of Christ for all whom we have known in this world and whom we hope to see again in the next.

So today let us take comfort from these scriptures that can bring hope and healing to sorrowing hearts. For we know that God's love is stronger even than death, and we have Jesus Christ's resurrection as proof of that. So let us renew our faith that all who believe in Jesus Christ will have eternal life.

In the first reading, The souls of the just, though proved as gold in a furnace, shall not be touched by torment. By placing their trust in God, the faithful will abide in love, grace and mercy; for their suffering in this world made them precious in the eyes of their Creator.

In the second reading, John reminds us of God's love for us. Such love is a firm foundation for the Christian's hope for eternal glory.

In the Gospel, Jesus promises that anyone who comes to him from the Father will not be rejected. For whoever believes in the Son will have eternal life and be raised up on the last day. .



Annual Dinner Dance 2014

Our annual Dinner Dance this year will be held on Saturday, November 22nd at 7:00pm in St. Mary's Hall. Tickets will be available in the rectory. The cost will be \$50.00 per person.

We encourage you to take an ad in the Dance Journal. It can be an advertisement for your business, a personal ad in honor of a loved one, or in memory of a deceased loved one, or message congratulation to our parishes on its 166th Anniversary. Ads start at \$50.00 for a ¼ page, \$100.00 for a ½ page and \$150.00 for a full page. All funds raised benefit our Church.



Question of the Week

Besides those I lovingly miss, for whom do I need to pray today precisely because they were difficult to love in life? Or because, at their passing, conflict or unresolved issues remained?