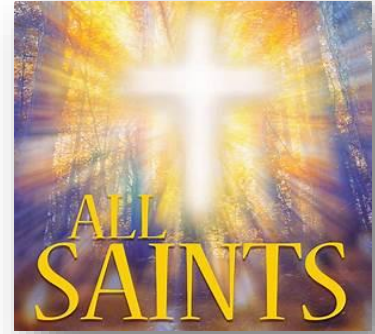


Dear Brothers & Sisters,
November 1, 2020



Happy *Solemnity of All Saints!* Each year on November 1st we celebrate *All Saints Day* in the liturgical calendar. What a glorious celebration this is for us as members of the Church! The opening prayer in the Roman Missal for the *Solemnity of All Saints* reads “Almighty ever-living God, by whose gift we celebrate in one celebration the merits of all the Saints...” In one celebration we remember the lives of *all the saints* & we earnestly pray for their heavenly intercession. This year November 1st happens to occur on a Sunday, which means that the prayers & readings proper to the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time will be replaced by the prayers & readings for *All Saints Day*. I look forward to this glorious celebration with our parish family. The next day, on November 2nd, the Church celebrates *All Souls Day*, which is another very important celebration in the liturgical calendar. In this one celebration we remember the souls of *all the deceased* & pray for the happy repose of their souls. One of the optional prayers in the Roman Missal for *All Souls Day* reads... “Receive, Lord, in your kindness, the sacrificial offering we make for all your servants who sleep in Christ, that, set free from the bonds of death by this singular sacrifice, they may merit eternal life.” In observance of *All Souls Day*, our parish will have a special Mass on Monday, November 2nd at 7pm in the evening. Please consider joining us for this special Mass on *All Souls Day!* On the last weekend in November this year, we begin the *Sacred Season of Advent*. This hope-filled & joyous season marks the beginning of our preparation for Christmas, the annual celebration of the birth of Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ. One of the major themes of the *Advent Season* is captured in the word *Maranatha*, which means ‘Come, Lord Jesus!’



This is a tangible reminder that our hope as Christians rests upon the coming & the presence of Jesus in our lives. As Christians, may we continue to be people of hope and may we always give witness to the hope that lives within us. Finally, since the holiday occurs at the end of this month, let me take a moment to wish all of our parishioners and parish families a happy & healthy Thanksgiving!

Peace & Blessings,

Father John Large