

November 1st 2020 - All Saints Day

Church is open for Indoor Mass

The Church is open for two Public Masses. The masses will be at: **10am in English and 12 noon in Spanish.**

Iglesia está abierta para misa

La Iglesia está abierta para misa a las 10:00am en inglés y a las 12:00pm en español.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, October 31

9:00am *St. John Volunteers*
4:30pm † *Lyla Talavera*

Sunday, November 1

8:00am † *Michael & Albert Gragnani*
10:00am † *Edelmira C. Santos*
12:00pm

Monday, November 2-6

9:00am *All Souls Novena*

Saturday, November 7

9:00am *All Souls Novena*
4:30pm



FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

Solemnity of All Saints

Today we celebrate a glorious family reunion, the solemn feast that gives us a glimpse of all our brothers and sisters in Christ who have gone home to God before us. When we quiet ourselves to hear the Word of God today, we recall the mystery of our salvation. We praise the Lord who saves our loved ones who have died and who promises to have mercy on us as well. The reading from Revelation amazes us with its sweeping images of countless souls basking in God's glory. The Responsorial Psalm echoes our own longing to join those saints and look on the face of God.

SECOND COLLECTION

Today's Second Collection is for the **Reserve Fund** of St. John the Evangelist. This account was established to help fund the on-going major maintenance and needs of the Parish of St. John. Thank you for your continued generous support.



From the Desk of the Pastor

As early as the fourth century the saints were remembered during the celebration of the Eucharist. At first it was the martyrs, then the confessors - holy men and women not martyred but who lived a life that imitated Christ. Today we remember all those through history who have allowed the face of God to be seen in them.

The Beatitudes in the Gospel of St. Matthew have both captivated people's fascination and left them wondering exactly what they mean. For example, what is it to be "poor in spirit" or righteous or meek, and why are those who mourn blessed (5:3-6)..... prompting a deep soul searching spiritual enterprise for humanity.

Saint Matthew presents to us the teachings of Christ on this holy mountain, in the context where human behavior, nascent from attitudes of our heart and choices we make with our free will are challenged, evaluated, at times validated and other times called to reform in order to conform to a higher ideal advocated, and lived in Christ Jesus...

While a reader and a listener is confronted with values.... and "way of life" and our references to be so called 'a good human being' without any moral compass comparing and contrasting with people's agenda around us, Jesus offers today the real quest for living a life that never ends!

It is a testament to the love and mercy of God. In the eyes of God, every man, woman and child is precious like a '**diamond in the rough**' of great value; every one of us possesses a goodness and dignity just by virtue of being created by God. It is the immeasurable love of God for all of us, which showers us with mercy and calls us into a life of reconciling love. It is a calling coming from within the heart of our God:

It is God's unwavering determination to reconcile the whole creation (so lovingly fashioned), with him.

Jesus tells the scribe what total love is:

Love God with all your heart, in total fidelity, with all the powers of your compassionate nature.

Love God with all your soul, in total surrender, with all the potential for eternal life.

Love God with your entire mind, in total commitment, with all your mental faculties.

Love God with all your strength, with all your energy and intensity: once this becomes truly one's lifestyle, then this all-encompassing love of God pours itself out in selfless service to love our neighbor, with the same intensity we love ourselves, with the same sincerity we want others to love us and with the same profound depth, God loves us. Then the kingdom of God begins to get established in our midst.

Prayer for All Saints Day

Dear God, thank you for the example of the Saints. I desire to join in their company, worshiping you forever in Heaven. Please help me follow their footsteps, and yours, Jesus Christ. Please help me to conform myself to Your image, seeking Your will in all things, as the Saints did. Please help me to devote myself, and all that I do, to Your glory, and to the service of my neighbors. All Saints of God, holy men and women intercede for me that I may be worthy to offer this Sacrifice to almighty God, to the praise and glory of His name. Amen

MONTH OF NOVEMBER

REMEMBRANCE OF OUR DEPARTED BROTHERS AND SISTERS

During the month of November, we are called as a Catholic Community, as a believing parish family, in a special way: "to remember our brothers and sisters who have gone to their rest". Our Parish will remember all those who have died at all our Novena Masses which will be celebrated from November 2nd through November 10th.

In order that the names of your beloved departed are included in these Masses, you are invited to use the special envelopes made available in the vestibule of the Church. Please write down the names of the people who have died, and you wish to be prayed for during these novena Masses, enclose your Mass stipend or your good will offering of gratitude in the envelope and drop it in the Sunday Mass collection basket or in the basket made available at the foot of the Altar.

Our sanctuary will display a memorial for all those who have died and whose funeral services were conducted in our Parish Church during this immediate past year. May they all rest in peace!

For all our departed brothers and sisters: Merciful Father, hear our prayer and console us. As we renew our faith in Your Son, whom You raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that all our departed brothers and sisters will share in His resurrection, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen