

November : A Time to Rejoice, to Remember, and to Give Thanks



As the autumn season comes to an end each year, the leaves change their colors, fall to the ground, and become a part of the earth that once nurtured them. Though not a liturgical season, November liturgies are filled with scripture, prayers, and songs that reflect the end of time and call each of us to prepare for that final day when the Lord gathers us to himself just as the harvest is gathered from the land. The days of Ordinary Time culminate with the celebration of the *Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe* on Sunday, November 26 and flow into the coming Advent season. And as a nation, we gather for our own national holy day - Thanksgiving - to give thanks to God, the giver of all gifts.

Solemnity of All Saints

(Wednesday, November 1) Masses 6:30 A.M., 12:00 Noon and 7:30 P.M.

This year the Solemnity of All Saints is celebrated on Wednesday. We gather and rejoice for all the holy men and women who now live in God's presence and serve as examples and companions to us in our daily lives. Come pray the Eucharist on this day and perhaps celebrate your own patron saint or one whose charism and life has helped to shape your life in Christ.

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed - All Souls

(Thursday, November 2) 7:30 P.M.

A *Mass of Remembrance* will be celebrated on Thursday, November 2 at 7:30 p.m. for the intention of all the faithful departed. Each year St. Joseph Church remembers in a special way those members of our parish community who have died this year by calling out their names. We also remember anyone who has died and acknowledge that many still mourn the death of loved ones and continue to pray on their behalf to our compassionate God. (Please note the 7 a.m. morning Mass will still be celebrated.)

THREE WAYS TO CELEBRATE OUR UNITY WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS

Saint Joseph Contemplative Prayer Group - Meditation in the Christian Tradition

Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
November 1, 8, 15, and 29
in the Parish Center Library

Come and share quiet meditation with others and strengthen your own contemplative practice before God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

The Contemplative Prayer Group will not meet on Wednesday, November 22

Prayer in the Spirit of the Taizé Community

Sunday, November 19,
7:00 p.m.

This ecumenical prayer for peace among all Christians and for reconciliation among all peoples is celebrated on the third Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m. The prayer in November will be shaped in a spirit of gratitude calling to mind all God's gifts.

Community Ecumenical Worship Service and Pie Social

Remembering the goodness of God

Tuesday, November 21,
7:30 p.m. at
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Bring a new or gently used coat and/or canned goods for the FISH Food Pantry and pie to share at the social following the worship service.

THANKSGIVING DAY Thursday, November 23, 9:00 A.M.

Celebrate Thanksgiving Day with your parish at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. We gather to offer thanks and praise as many households, but one family in Christ. Members of the assembly will carry non-perishable food items in procession at the Preparation of the Gifts. This ritual of solidarity with those in need helps the St. Vincent de Paul Society continue its mission of service to those who hunger and to offer support for their households.

