

Dear GOF families,

Happy feast/solemnity days! What a powerful way to begin November with the Solemnity of All Saints and the Feast of All Souls. Many graces are available for you and also for your deceased loved ones. There are 2 different plenary indulgences available for the Poor Souls in Purgatory. Within this packet is the information on how to obtain those. Remember, a plenary indulgence relieves a person or soul the temporal punishment for their sins. What an awesome way to connect ourselves with the church suffering, especially any members of our own family who may be in purgatory! Remember, we are all one body—the church triumphant in heaven, the church suffering in purgatory, and us, the church militant still on earth.

This month we are talking about the Mass and it's relevance in our lives. If you were not able to read this chapter prior to today, I highly recommend it. It gives such a beautiful outline of the Mass and how we can all participate in it more fully if we just engage ourselves to what is happening. Some of the Mass parts will be changing in a few short weeks and what better time to delve into the Mass and learn more about it along with the changes that are coming with the first Sunday of Advent. The Mass is the summit of our faith. God did not give it to us to benefit Him. It is for us, to sustain us along this earthly journey, to allow us to get closer to Him. The potential graces we could be receiving at Mass are there waiting for us to accept them, but we must open ourselves to receive them, humbly, with a heart full of gratitude.

Additionally in the packet this month, you will see a calendar of the month of November. This can help you to celebrate our faith more fully by living the liturgical year. Don't get bogged down, just pick a couple saint days and dive in!! Our faith is to be lived simply. We are the ones that tend to complicate everything and get overwhelmed when things aren't "just right." God wants us right where we are! Dive in and you will be greatly graced for your efforts! Also, you will find a sheet with the gospel for each Sunday in November listed with discussion and activities for families.

You will be getting the second shipment of Gospel Weeklies today. These are weekly activities for you to do as a family with your children. Each week focuses on the Sunday gospel. What a wonderful opportunity to make the Mass more relevant—looking at the gospel ahead of time as a family!

Remember to look at the sign up sheets on the resource room door to see what you have volunteered for and where there are blanks to be filled in. It takes all of us to make things run smoothly. I will remind you too, that if you have a child under 5, you need to sign up for a month to be with that group. Take a look at the sheet to see what will work for you. If you are signed up to cook the main dish, please use all paper products. This includes plates, silverware, and cups. The only things that should need to be washed are serving spoons, the juice pitchers, and the roaster if you used it. We need everyone to begin together and not have people in the kitchen. Also, when Fr. Pete calls to gather us together, get your own children and stand with them. If they are with their friends, it is much more difficult to speak because they are visiting. Thank you so much for your assistance. We want GOF to be a productive learning environment and pleasurable. This will aid greatly in that. Thanks again to all you!

God bless you.....

**From the
Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter--
October 2005 Newsletter
Indulgences for the Poor Souls**
Current regulations in force by Pope Benedict XVI

I On All Souls' Day (Nov. 2) a plenary indulgence, applicable only to the Poor Souls, is granted to those who visit any parish church or public oratory and there recite one Our Father and one Credo.

II On all the days from November 1 through November 8 inclusive, a plenary indulgence, applicable only to the Poor Souls, is granted to those who visit a cemetery and pray even if only mentally for the departed.

Conditions for both indulgences:

1. Only one plenary indulgence can be granted per day.
2. It is necessary to be in the state of grace, at least by completion of the work.
3. Freedom from attachment to sin, even venial sin, is necessary; otherwise the indulgence is only partial. (By this is meant attachment to a particular sin, not sin in general.)
4. Holy Communion must be received each time the indulgence is sought.
5. Prayers must be recited for the intentions of the Holy Father on each day the indulgence is sought. (No particular prayers are prescribed. One Our Father and one Hail Mary suffice, or other suitable prayers.)
6. A sacramental confession must be made within a week of completion of the prescribed work. (One confession made during the week, made with the intention of gaining all the indulgences, suffices.)

November 6th - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	In this Gospel Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish virgins.
November 13th - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Jesus tells the parable of the talents.
November 20th - Solemnity of Christ the King	This Gospel is about the second coming of Christ.
November 27th - First Sunday of Advent	The Gospel counsels us to "Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming."

Highlights of the Month



During November, as in all of Ordinary Time (Time After Pentecost), the Liturgy signifies and expresses the regenerated life from the coming of the Holy Spirit, which is to be spent on the model of Christ's Life and under the direction of His Spirit. As we come to the end of the Church year we are asked to consider the end times, our own as well as the world's. The culmination of the liturgical year is the Feast of Christ the King. "This feast asserts the supreme authority of Christ over human beings and their

institutions.... Beyond it we see Advent dawning with its perspective of the Lord's coming in glory."— *The Liturgy and Time*, A.G. Mortimort

This month the main feasts are the **Solemnity of All Saints**, (November 1), **All Souls**, (November 2), **St. Martin de Porres**, (November 3), **St. Charles Borromeo**, (November 4), **Lateran Basilica**, (November 9), **St. Leo the Great**, (November 10), **St. Martin of Tours**, (November 11), **St. Josaphat**, (November 12), **St. Albert the Great**, (November 15), **Sts. Margaret of Scotland and Gertrude** (November 16), **St. Elizabeth of Hungary**, (November 17), **the Solemnity of Christ the King**, (November 20), **Presentation of Mary**, (November 21), **St. Cecilia**, (November 22), **St. Andrew Dung-Lac and companions**, (November 24), **St. Catherine of Alexandria** (November 25) and **St. Andrew**, (November 30).

The feast of **St. Frances Xavier Cabrini**, (November 13) is superceded by the Solemnity of Christ the King.

Thanksgiving

The tradition of eating goose as part of the Martin's Day celebration was kept in Holland even after the Reformation. It was there that the Pilgrims who sailed to the New World in 1620 became familiar with this ancient harvest festival. When, after one year in America, they decided to celebrate a three days' thanksgiving in the autumn of 1621, they went in search of geese for their feast. We know that they also had deer (a present from the Indians), lobsters, oysters, and fish. But Edward Winslow, in his account of the feast, only mentions that "Governor Bradford sent four men on fowling that so we might after a more special manner rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruit of our labours." They actually did find some wild geese, and a number of wild turkeys and ducks as well.



All Saints



The crown refers to sanctity, the scrolls with the inscription *Sanctus* allude to the chant of the redeemed, "Holy, Holy, Holy." The left half of the shield indicates the brightness of the Heavenly life in contrast to the black right half and the trials of the earthly life.

St. Andrew



The patron of Russia, Scotland, and the Ecumenical Patriarchate. According to tradition St. Andrew was crucified on an X shaped cross, known as a saltire of St. Andrew's cross, in Achaia.

Presentation



This emblem, a heart with wings and pierced by a sword and suggestive of Mater Dolorosa, is a reference to the words of Simeon, "Yea, a sword shall pass through thine own soul also."

St. Catherine of Alexandria



Patron of chastity and learning. The wheel set with spikes refers to that mentioned in the legend, which is said to have been broken by divine interposition, when persecutors attempted to break her upon it.

St. Cecilia



The only apparent reason for her to be known as the patroness of music is that St. Cecilia is said to have been skilled in singing the divine praises, of

Urgent: 1 Day to Go: We must raise \$3,800 by Tuesday morning. Please help!

November, 2011 - Overview for the Month

The month of November is dedicated to the **Souls in Purgatory**, whose feast is celebrated on November 2. With the exception of the last Sunday, November falls during the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time** and is represented by the liturgical color green. The last Sunday, which marks the beginning of the Advent season, the liturgical color changes to purple, representing a time of penance.

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of November 2011

General: That the Eastern Catholic Churches and their venerable traditions may be known and esteemed as a spiritual treasure for the whole Church.

Missionary: That the African continent may find strength in Christ to pursue justice and reconciliation as set forth by the second Synod of African Bishops. (See also www.apostleshipofprayer.net)

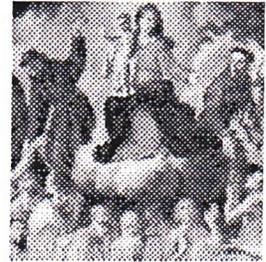
Feasts for November

The feasts on the General Roman Calendar celebrated during the month of November are:

1. All Saints, *Solemnity*
2. All Souls, *Feast*
3. Martin de Porres, *Opt. Mem.*
4. Charles Borromeo, *Memorial*
6. Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, *Sunday*
9. Lateran Basilica, *Feast*
10. Leo the Great, *Memorial*
11. Martin of Tours; Veterans Day (USA), *Memorial*
12. Josaphat, *Memorial*
13. Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, *Sunday*
15. Albert the Great, *Opt. Mem.*
16. Margaret of Scotland; Gertrude, *Opt. Mem.*
17. Elizabeth of Hungary, *Memorial*
18. Churches of Peter and Paul; Rose Philippine Duchesne (USA), *Opt. Mem.*
20. Christ the King, *Solemnity*
21. Presentation of Mary, *Memorial*
22. Cecilia, *Memorial*
23. Clement I; Columban; Bl. Miguel Agustín Pro (USA), *Opt. Mem.*
24. Andrew Dung-Lac and companions, *Memorial*
27. First Sunday of Advent, *Sunday*
30. Andrew, *Feast*

Focus of the Liturgy

The Gospel readings for the first three Sundays in November 2011, are taken from St. Matthew and are from Year A, Cycle 1. The last Sunday's Gospel is from St. Matthew, Year B, Cycle 2.



Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Highlights

November 26 Christ the King

This feast is a public, social and official declaration of the royal rights of Jesus, as God the Creator, as The Word Incarnate, and as Redeemer.



Recipe of the Month Hungarian Goulash

The Hungarian version of pot roast. Known as gulyás in Hungary, this is a stew made with beef or other meat and vegetables and flavored with Hungarian paprika. This is offered in honor of all the saints who come from Hungary.



Activity of the Month All Saints Day



Procession

This is a good day to celebrate with your family. If there are children involved, saints costumes, goodies and games such as bobbing for apples or snap apples (a variation) and playing "Whose my Saint" are suggested.

Symbols

The Pilgrim Fathers, therefore, in serving wild turkeys with the geese, inaugurated one of the most cherished American traditions: the turkey dinner on Thanksgiving Day. They also drank, according to the ancient European tradition, the first wine of their wild-grape harvest. Pumpkin pie and cranberries were not part of the first Thanksgiving dinner in America, but were introduced many years afterward.

The second Thanksgiving Day in the New World was held by the Pilgrims two years later, on July 30, 1623. It was formally proclaimed by the governor as a day of prayer to thank God for their deliverance from drought and starvation, and for the safe arrival from Holland of the ship *Anne*.

In 1665 Connecticut proclaimed a solemn day of thanksgiving to be kept annually on the last Wednesday in October. Other New England colonies held occasional and local Thanksgivings at various times. In 1789 the federal Congress authorized and requested President George Washington to proclaim a day of thanksgiving for the whole nation. Washington did this in a message setting aside November 26, 1789 as National Thanksgiving Day.

After 1789 the celebration reverted to local and regional observance for almost a hundred years. There grew, however, a strong desire among the majority of the people for a national Thanksgiving Day that would unite all Americans in a festival of gratitude and public acknowledgment for all the blessings God had conferred upon the nation. It was not until October 3, 1863, that this was accomplished, when President Abraham Lincoln issued, in the midst of the Civil War, a Thanksgiving Proclamation. In it the last Thursday of November was set apart for that purpose and made a national holiday.

Since then, every president has followed Lincoln's example, and annually proclaims as a "Day of Thanksgiving" the fourth Thursday in November. Only President Franklin D. Roosevelt changed the date, in 1939, from the fourth to the third Thursday of November (to extend the time of Christmas sales). This caused so much consternation and protest that in 1941 the traditional date was restored."

Excerpted from the *Handbook of Christian Feasts and Customs*, Francis X. Weiser

accompanied by an instrument.



*Requiem aeternam
dona eis, Domine.*

Lessons for the Sunday Gospels

These reflections and ideas may be copied for use with your classes and families.

November 6
32nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time
 Matthew 25:1-13

Reflecting

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable of ten women waiting to welcome a bridegroom with the lights of their lamps. He says five are wise—they take flasks of oil with them; five are foolish—they take no flasks of oil with them. When the bridegroom finally arrives, the women's lamps are beginning to dim. The wise have extra oil and so can refill their lamps to create a welcoming light. Not so with the foolish.

So what's up with these foolish women? Don't they know the important role they play in welcoming the bridegroom? Don't they have their priorities in order?

We can't know the answer to these questions, but the point is clear: These five women were not prepared for a wonderful event in which they played an important role—and we don't want to be foolish like them. Jesus tells us to be ready to welcome him when he comes: in every celebration of the Eucharist; in his glory at the end of time; in others who need our help.

Sharing Ideas

What things might keep people from being prepared to welcome Jesus whenever and wherever he comes? (Answers might include: Life is too busy. Poor priorities. Distractions.)

Acting

As a result of the discussion in "Sharing Ideas," list five things you can do to be prepared at all times for the coming of Jesus.

Praying

Wonderful Jesus, show us how to prepare to receive you with joy when you come. Amen.

November 13
33rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time
 Matthew 25:14-30

Reflecting

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is about three servants who have to explain what they did with their master's money. Two servants show how they invested wisely and made a profit. The third has no profit to offer; he buried the money and returned to the master only the amount he was given.

Now, this parable is not about money.

Rather, Jesus teaches us that the gift of faith is ours to share. At our Baptism, we become children of God and members of the Church. We receive these wonderful gifts and begin a life of sharing them with others. We reach out to all people to share the faith that we have been given as a gift.

When we fail to share our faith with others, we end up sad and alone—as if outside in the dark night, like the third servant in today's parable.

Sharing Ideas

What does it mean to "share faith"? Name ways we can share our Catholic faith with others.

Acting

Select one of the ideas for sharing our Catholic faith with others from "Sharing Ideas," and do that this week.

Praying

Dear God, thank you for giving us the gift of faith. May we be generous in sharing it with others so that they, too, might know, love, and serve you. Amen.

November 20
Our Lord Jesus
Christ the King
 Matthew 25:31-46

Reflecting

Imagine two classmates sitting together on the bus; another sits alone. One of the two sitting together says to the other, "Look at him. He's so weird. No one wants to sit with him." The other says, "He might be lonely. I'm going to see if he wants to sit with us or if he minds if I sit next to him."

This example helps us understand what Jesus teaches in today's Gospel about the time when he will come in glory and judgment. The two classmates see the same person sitting alone. One reaches out; the other doesn't.

Every day we see people who are hungry and thirsty, who are new to our neighborhoods, who don't have enough warm clothing, who are ill or in some kind of prison. (For example, loneliness is a form of prison.) When we actively live our faith, we see more than people who are in need. We see Jesus. What we do for people who are in need we do for him. Our faith is so strong and our love for Jesus is so deep that we love all people the way Jesus loves all people.

Sharing Ideas

Make a list of five things your group can do to help people in your parish or community.

November 6
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

We are not foolish. We are ready to welcome Jesus.

November 13
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Catholic faith is a treasure to be shared.

November 20
Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

It truly is Jesus we help when we help those in need.

November 27
First Sunday of Advent

If we do as Jesus says—“Watch”—we will be ready to welcome him when he comes.

Acting

Select one of the items in “Sharing Ideas,” develop a plan, and follow through on the plan.

Praying

Our love for you, Lord Jesus Christ the King, will let us see you in others. May we live forever in your kingdom. Amen.

November 27
First Sunday of Advent

Mark 13:33-37
(Cycle B begins)

Reflecting

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. During this season, we wait and watch. We focus our minds and hearts on waiting and watching for the coming of Jesus.

Now this isn't just a waiting-and-watching time for Christmas Day. The season of Advent is much more than that. Jesus tells us in today's Gospel, “May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”

During Advent, we turn our minds and hearts to waiting and watching for Jesus. We wait and watch (and yes, make plans) to celebrate the day that marks the coming of Jesus 2,000 years ago. We wait and watch to see and respond to Jesus in the needs of others. We wait and watch for that most holy moment when we receive Jesus in the Eucharist. And we wait and watch for the coming of Jesus again in glory. During Advent, we focus closely on what we already do every day of our lives.

Sharing Ideas

What are some virtues people need to wait and watch? (Responses might include “patience” and “alertness.”)

Acting

Write your own personal Advent prayer on an index card and cover the card with clear plastic adhesive paper. Carry the card with you and pray the prayer every day during Advent.

Praying

Thank you, God, for loving the world so much that you sent us your Son, Jesus. May we wait and watch for him and receive him always. Amen.

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