

October 29, 2017 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, October 28

5:00 p.m. **Birthday Blessings for Irene Sanocki**
By Family

Sunday, October 29

8:00 a.m. **Blessings of Healing for Irma Marquart**
By Joseph Marquart

10:30 a.m. **+Nicholas DeSanto**
By Rich and Mary Jane Peteruti

Monday, October 30

8:45 a.m. **Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church**

Tuesday, October 31 Vigil of All Saints Day

NO MORNING MASS

6:30 p.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**

Wednesday, November 1 All Saints Day

8:45 a.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**

6:30 p.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**

Thursday, November 2

8:45 a.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**

First Friday, November 3

8:45 a.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**

Saturday, November 4

8:45 a.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**

5:00 p.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**

Sunday, November 5

8:00 a.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**

10:30 a.m. **All Souls Mass Remembrance**



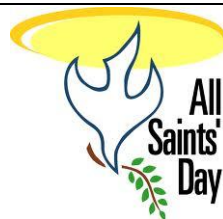
Though officially Catholics believe in purgatory and Protestants do not, unofficially almost everyone seems to believe in an interim state of purification before heaven. When we lose loved ones, Catholics and Protestants alike pray for the dead. We all say, "May their souls rest in peace." Wait a minute. If the souls of are in hell, why pray for them? Our prayers cannot help souls in hell. And if they are in heaven, why pray for them? Our prayers cannot help those in heaven either. They are already in heaven. Any sort of prayer for the dead has meaning insofar as the souls of the dead are in an interim state where they have not yet reached perfect union and peace with God, and where our prayers can help them get there. That is purgatory.

In the feast of All Souls we pray for the souls of the faithful departed who are being purified in purgatory. For us the belief in purgatory is Good

News: even though we may not in this life be perfect as our heaven father is perfect (Matthew 5:48) we can still hold fast to the hope that there are mansions for us in the kingdom of heaven.

In the feast of All Saints we, the saints who are still struggling on earth (the church militant), celebrate fellowship with the saints who have already arrived in heavenly glory (the church triumphant). Today we celebrate our fellowship with the saints in purgatory, a state of temporary suffering for departed souls who are not yet fully ready for full fellowship with God in the glory of heaven (the church suffering).

All Christians believe in the Four Last Things: death, judgment, heaven and hell. Purgatory is not mentioned as one of the "last things" because, strictly speaking, purgatory is a part of heaven. Purgatory is the remedial class for heaven-bound souls. Souls who go to purgatory are those who have been judged worthy of heaven, but not straightaway. They still need some purification (purgation) before they are ready for heaven because, according to Revelation 21:27, "**nothing unclean shall enter it.**"



Holy Day of Obligation!

"Holy" isn't something we become through our own good works, or through anything else we can do for ourselves. Holiness is a gift

from God. We are made holy by Christ, as he pours out his own Blood to cover our sinfulness and weakness.

A saint is only this: a human being who belongs to God, who has been set apart from the world by the Blood of Jesus Christ, shed on a cross and received in the Holy Communion. Nobody else is a saint, and there is no other qualification. We are holy because of God's action in our lives, or we are not. Every member of the Church in heaven is a saint; and every member of the Church on earth whose broken heart is faithful to Jesus Christ, who puts his trust in Jesus Christ and in nothing else, not even in himself, is just as much a saint right now.

This is the only definition of the word saint that the Bible allows, in whatever language we read

it. It is the definition we must embrace, if we are going to live our lives as the saints of God. And there is no other life that lasts forever, or that gives us a holy day of our own every year on All Saints' Day.

Tricky Tray: December 2, 9:30 a.m. at the Mansfield Township School

Check out our Basket Theme suggestions posted in the Narthex and again will ask that each family donated a basket of items with a value of at least \$25. Please wrap you basket with clear cello wrap or clear shrink wrap, if at all possible. It would be helpful if you'd turn in your basket by November 25. **Gift and Grocery cards are always welcome. Our Altar Rosary Society sells Grocery Cards after all the Masses.**



Its Cleanup Time!

Dear Parishioners—we need helping hands to spruce up our grounds before winter sets in. Are you able to pitch in to make our church look presentable?



We could really use the help. Please join us on

Saturday, November 4 at 10 a.m. We are asking you to bring your rake. Service hours will be granted to our 7th & 8th Religious Education students.



Stephen, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Keira Hedges, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Kerry Kraft, Peter S., Mary Supple, Mary Rupell, Patty Mahoney, Susan Reynolds, Millie B., Robert Dicheck, Christian, Tara, Zoe, Teagan, Eric Harding, Kathy & Bob Y., Irma Marquart, Dolores Staiano, Gerard Schnaars



All those who have died will be remembered in a special way for **All Souls Mass Remembrance.**

Please take an envelope (extras can be found in the Narthex) and write the names of those who have died; they will be remembered throughout the month of November (10 Masses) and each time we gather to celebrate Eucharist together.

Our Weekly Offering

Sunday collection needed to meet weekly expenses: \$3,637.

(Deficit To Date \$18,626.05)

October 22: \$2,376.45 (-\$1,260.55)

October 15: \$2,332 (-\$1,305)

October 8: \$1,624.50 (-\$2,012.50)

October 1: \$2,720 (-\$917.)

October & November Calendar

Bible Study every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

*11/1, 6:30: **Mass for All Saints Day: Holy Day of Obligation: All students with parents are to attend this Mass.**

11/1: Altar Rosary Society Meeting

11/4, 10 a.m.: Grounds Cleanup

11/8, 6:30 p.m.: Trustees & Pastoral Council Meeting

11/11, 6 p.m.: Anniversary Covered Dish

11/12, 9 & 11 a.m.: Anniversary Breakfast & Brunch

11/17 & 18: Altar Rosary Society Bake Sale



A new Fundraising Committee has been established and will be meeting on Friday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. If you have any ideas, please come to the meeting; your ideas, suggestions and input will be appreciated. In the meantime, you can contact the chair person (Theresa McLaughlin) at 973-271-8469 or 973-527-5163.