

November 6, 2022

My Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

Last week we commemorated the *Solemnity of All Saints* and the *Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed* (All Souls' Day), two important feasts in our liturgical calendar where we are privileged to look back on lives who inspire us and who have returned to the loving arms of our Lord. As Catholics, we have read about the Saints of the Church who accomplished extraordinary things in their lifetimes, often with us maintaining a close devotion to more than a few of them and their remarkable legacies. St. Josemaria Escriva said it best: "Let us turn to the example of the saints. They were people like us, flesh and bone, with failings and weaknesses, who managed to conquer and master themselves for the love of God. Let us consider their lives and, like bees who distill precious nectar from each flower, we shall learn from their struggles."

Moreover, perhaps with equal importance, we honor our faithful departed on November 2, often with a litany of parishioners at Church who have departed this life during the year. All of us, not only on this special day, remain devoted to a person or persons we have known and loved with all our hearts who have departed to be with our Lord. No matter how much time has passed, we continue to treasure, honor, and sorely miss these wonderful individuals who will forever enhance and inspire our lives.

Sometimes, when we think of them, it makes us so sad; but, in those moments, pray and thank God they were part of the fabric of your life. So, on these two special days in November, we are fortunate to be able to reflect on our miraculous saints and those miraculous friends and family that continue to work their magic in our lives.

Today is the Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time and through the Gospel of Luke, we consider the resurrection of our own souls, as described by Jesus, in answering a question put forth to Him by the Sadducees, an ancient Jewish sect who did not believe in life after death. The Sadducees posed this question to try to trick and humiliate Jesus, but with kindness and humility, Jesus brilliantly describes us as the children of a "living God," and those who rise to Him after death, are alive with Him forever. It is fitting at this time of year, in conjunction with these two feasts, we consider not only death, but life—our life with Christ our Lord. It's easy to forget in our fast-paced society with so much "stuff" swirling around in our heads, and in our lives, that this life is only a temporary one. Of course, we are not equipped as humans to imagine how our Lord will move us through the door in death to a new life. Yet, we know through Scripture, the traditions of the Church, and our abiding faith, that through God's love, mercy, and compassion, we can transcend to His loving arms for all of eternity.

For "there are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind.-- C.S. Lewis

Yours in Christ,
Father Rudy

You can **read the Sunday bulletin** at: www.saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoSundayBulletin

You can **read Fr. Rudy's letter** at:

www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromthePastor'sDesk

JOIN US FOR A PILGRIMAGE TO FOUR

RELIGIOUS SITES IN EUROPE- June 6-16, 2023

travel from the Benedictine Monastery of Montserrat and the cave at Manresa, to the grotto at Lourdes where St. Bernadette met "the Immaculate Conception," to Lisieux to celebrate the centennial anniversary of St. Therese's beatification, to Tours, home of St. Martin. Please call and schedule an information meeting to answer your questions, contact Greg Niehaus at 513.541.5560.

Upcoming Dates to Mark on your Calendar:

November 6th – Youth Group Meeting and Annual Coat Giveaway

November 13th- Youth Group Meeting

November 19th – Retreat – All Youth Groups

ITEMS NEEDED: The food Pantry has an urgent need for plastic bags. Don't forget the Food Pantry is in dire need of items we hope you can help! You can see our latest request on our [Amazon Wish List](#)

Link:https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref=wl_share. **Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

We are in need of clothing racks and storage bins for the upcoming toy and clothing drive. We would love to receive gift cards to help with our everyday needs, please consider [Meijer](#), Walmart, Staples, Amazon, Kroger, or Home Depot when donating. You can see our latest needs on our [Amazon Wish List](#) Link-

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3TZJLXNPGPQM?ref=wl_share. **Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6th- Our annual coat drive will be held after mass in Centennial Hall.

Volunteers Needed- St. Leo's Food Pantry is looking for volunteers to help serve our Community. The Food Pantry is open M-W-F from 1:00 p.m. -3:30 p.m. and we ask volunteers to arrive around noon to help set-up. If you are interested in volunteering please call 513.921.1044.

18th Annual Caregivers Mass at the Cathedral- The Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains are accepting nominations for this year's Caregiver Mass to be held on November 20th at 11:00 a.m. Anyone can nominate an outstanding caregiver. The nominee may be someone who provides care in-home to a loved one, works at a healthcare facility or volunteers at a healthcare facility. Nominations are due by October 14th and can be submitted online at <https://www.stpeterinchainscathedral.org/caregiver-mass> or by calling 513.421.5354.

