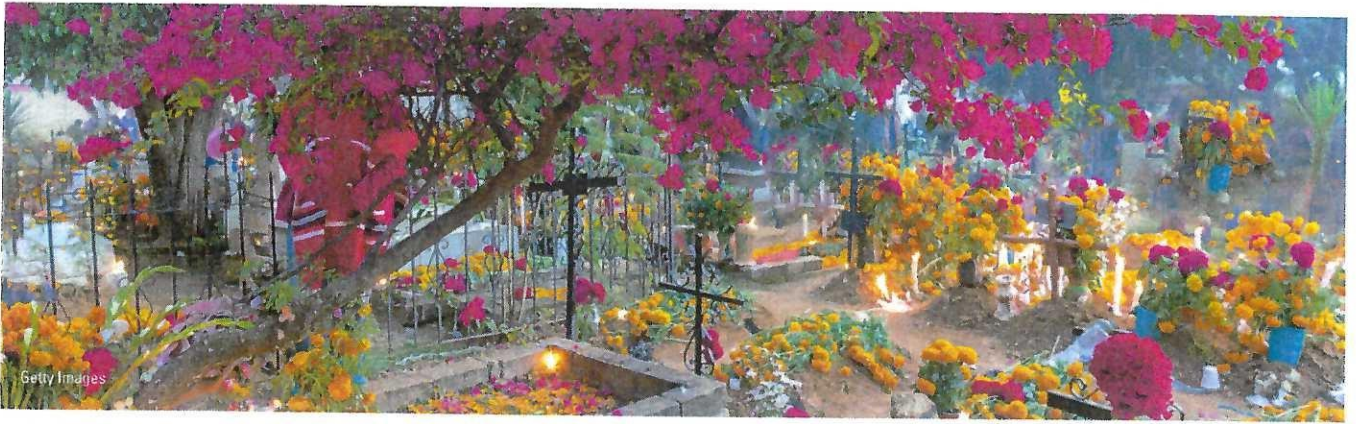


Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Solemnity of All Saints

All Hallows' Day, the Solemnity of All Saints, or All Saints' Day is a celebration of all Catholic saints held on November 1 each year. "On this solemnity, we recall the holy men and women who, having completed their earthly journeys, now live forever with God. These saints, though not canonized, offer us models of abiding faith and love of God and neighbor" (*Essential Guide to Seasons and Saints*, 109).

Veneration of the saints fosters our faith in God and does not detract from it. Rather, our faith in God is strengthened by our relationship with our brothers and sisters in the faith who are in heaven. The Church teaches that by imitating the virtues lived by the saints, the saints brings us closer to Christ. When we ask the saints to pray for us, we ask them to join their wills with the will of God and intercede for us here on earth. This is the Communion of Saints which we profess every Sunday in the Creed.

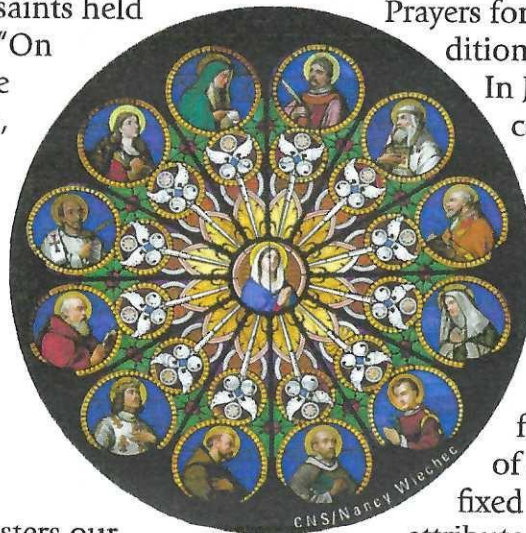
THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS— NOVEMBER 1—IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.

All the Faithful Departed

COMMEMORATION | NOVEMBER 2

Prayers for the dead were an ancient tradition, even in some pagan cultures.

In Jewish Scriptures, Judas Maccabeus "made atonement for the dead" (2 Mc 12:46), and early Christians inscribed prayers for their dead in Rome's catacombs. Local Catholic churches started remembering all the faithful departed in the early Middle Ages, with a Spanish feast from the time of St. Isidore of Seville, who died in 636. The fixed November date is generally attributed to St. Odilio of Cluny, who decreed in 998 that all monasteries under the Cluny rule should sing the Office of the Dead the day after the feast of All Saints. This custom gradually spread throughout Europe and was adopted by Rome in the 13th century.



Catholic
Current

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BULLETIN INSERT

Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing

Read the full version at respectlifeprogram.org/end-of-life-considerations.

We prepare for eternal life by choosing to love and follow God. Our journey with Christ includes equipping our consciences to make morally good judgments at the end of life. While no summary can substitute for thorough catechesis, one thing is clear: we are entrusted by God with the gift of life. This obliges us to make use of appropriate, effective medical care. The Church affirms the inviolable dignity of every person, regardless of the duration or extent of the person's incapacity. Nothing diminishes the sanctity of a person's life, or the obligation to protect and care for it. Those who are sick should not be alone, and, even after death, accompaniment continues by praying for those who have passed.

We are entrusted by God with the gift of life.

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