

October 27, 2017

Dear Members and Friends of St. Joseph Church,

As I write this letter I hope you are enjoying the fall weather. In this time of year with the daylight and warmth decreasing, it is appropriate to reflect on our own mortality and the return of Christ in triumph. As the holidays draw nearer we may recall happy events or be saddened by the absence of loved ones. One of the ways we can ponder the ultimate meaning of our life is to prayerfully recall our deceased loved ones. We will commemorate our deceased loved ones using the Book of the Dead at the weekend Liturgies. Please write the names of your deceased loved ones in the Book of the Dead (enter each name only once) that may be found on the credence table near the main entrance to the church. The Book of the Dead will be brought forward with the gifts at the weekend Liturgies during the month of November.

Our Sunday Stewardship campaign, Grateful Giving...Joyful Living, is underway. Thank you to all who have responded this past week by renewing your financial commitment to St. Joseph Parish. We will continue to grow and develop as our members fund our projects and activities. You are very generous and I am confident you will continue to invest in our Parish.

Here are some of the activities worth highlighting occurring in November.

- All Saints Day, November 1, is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass on Wednesday, November 1, is at 9:00 am and 6:00 pm at St. Joseph. As canonical pastor at Immaculate Heart of Mary, I will preside at Mass there at Noon. Thursday, November 2, All Souls Day, is not an Holy Day of Obligation. Because it is a day for remembering our deceased loved ones, I will preside at St. Joseph at 9:00 am and at IHM at 7:00 pm.
- I will preside at my first wedding at IHM on Saturday, November 4, at 2:00 pm. There will not be confessions at St. Joseph that day.
- Sunday, November 5, the parents of the children preparing for First Reconciliation will have a meeting at 9:30 am. Deacon Jerry Savo will lead a Prayer Service at Resurrection Cemetery at 2:00 pm to honor our deceased loved ones.
- The Parish Council will meet on Tuesday, November 7, at 6:30 pm. We will continue to develop the Parish Planning model that will be implemented in the near-future.
- Wednesday, November 8, the Worship Committee will meet at 6:30 pm.
- Sunday, November 12, the Confirmation Retreat for the candidates from St. Joseph and IHM will begin at St. Joseph at 1:00 pm. Please include these fine young men and women in your prayers.
- Sr. Nora DeCarlo, OSHJ, will be speaking at the weekend Masses, November 18-19 for the annual Appeal for Retired Religious.
- Sunday, November 19, the Growing Families program will begin in the church at 9:30 am. Please come and join us.
- Sunday, November 19, we will enjoy the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. The appetizers will begin at 5:00 pm in the Social Hall.
- Thursday, November 23, HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!! Mass will be at 9:00 am.
- Tuesday, November 28, we will begin the Advent Sunday Scripture Study at 6:30 pm in Lyons Hall. Each week we will examine the Readings for the upcoming Sunday. This gathering is open to all. I especially encourage the Sunday Readers to attend.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Gregory F. Fedor/Pastor