

October 26, 2018

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.

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

- ***All Saints Day, November 1, is a Holy Day of Obligation.*** Mass on Thursday, November 1, is at 9:00 am at St. Joseph and 6:00 pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- Friday, November 2, ***All Souls Day, is not a 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 6:00 pm.
- Sunday, November 4, the parents of the children preparing for First Reconciliation will have a meeting at 10:30 am. This Sunday is also the first time that I will have all three Sunday Masses.
- Wednesday, November 7, the Worship Committee will meet at 6:30 pm.
- Sunday, November 11, we will enjoy the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. The appetizers will begin at 5:00 pm in the Social Hall.
- Sr. Kathleen McCarragher, O.S.U. will be speaking at the weekend Masses, November 17-18 for the annual Appeal for Retired Religious.
- Sunday, November 18, the Growing Families program will begin in the church at 10:30 am. Please come and join us.
- Thursday, November 22, HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!! Mass will be at 9:00 am.
- Saturday, November 24, we will have our first ***Celebrate Reunion!!!*** All who have participated in Celebrate as high school students or adult support team members are welcome to attend. We are celebrating ***the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*** of this great program! Come join us in the Social Hall following the 4:30 Mass. We will have some food and memories to share!
- Tuesday, November 27, 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.
- Thursday, November 29, Our Lady of the Lakes Parish will have a Mass of Anointing at St. James Church in North Jackson at 4:30 pm.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Gregory F. Fedor/Pastor