SOME USEFUL INFORMATION *for the* COMMEMORATION *of the* FAITHFUL DEPARTED



I. The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, or "All Souls' Day" is November 2nd. It is not a holy day of obligation, but the faithful are encouraged to participate nonetheless so that spiritual benefits may be gained especially for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

II. In recent years, it has been encouraged for priests to celebrate three Masses for the dead on All Souls' Day. The lay faithful are encouraged to attend Mass on All Souls Day, and indeed, multiple Masses on that day if they wish, to pray for the dead.

III. The Faithful who attend two Masses on All Souls may receive Communion twice, once at two Masses, per the prescripts of Canon 917: "A person who has already received the Most Holy Eucharist can receive it a second time on the same day only within the eucharistic celebration in which the person participates, without prejudice to the prescript of can. 921, §2." If a member of the lay faithful wishes to attend a third Mass, they will be encouraged to offer up a spiritual communion for the Holy Souls instead of receiving a third time.

IV. There is a plenary (full) indulgence granted to any of the faithful who:

   i. Visit a Church on All Souls Day and pray at least the Lord's Prayer and Apostles or Nicene Creed for the faithful departed.
   ii. Visit a Cemetery on or between the Sundays preceding and following All Souls (Nov. 1st – 8th) and pray of the dead there. Please see the bulletin insert flyer for times when the Rosary will be prayed communally in the cemetery.

V. Remember that a plenary indulgence can be gained for yourself, or for another (deceased) soul in purgatory, so obtaining multiple indulgences is encouraged.