

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, November 2, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

Yet is their hope full of immortality. (Wisdom 3:4)

Candy skulls, graves blanketed with flowers, and offerings of favorite foods: the Mexican celebration of Dia de los Muertos (the Day of the Dead) might seem confusing at first glance. Is it a spooky holiday full of skeletons, or is it a heartwarming tribute to family members who have gone before us?

It's no coincidence that the Day of the Dead culminates on November 2. It has a lot in common with today's commemoration of all the faithful departed. The skulls and skeletons remind us of how short life can be. The decorations and food bring back favorite memories of loved ones and celebrate their lives. Like All Souls' Day, the Day of the Dead gives us a chance to remember and pray for those who have died. It can help us be aware that in many ways, the dead are still with us as part of the Communion of Saints. It can also remind us of the ways we can help them with our prayers. All of those things are foundational for

All Souls' Day. They spring from our human impulse to stay connected and to honor our loved ones.

That desire for connection comes from our confidence that even though death cannot be avoided, it's not the end of the story. Losing a loved one can be devastating, but our faith tells us that "the souls of the just are in the hand of God" (Wisdom 3:1). That's because we were made for immortality. We should all long to share the joy of heaven with God. We remember the dead because our memories keep them close in our hearts—and because it keeps heaven close to our hearts.

So if you have lost a loved one, know that they are not really gone. They are still with you, in all the memories you treasure, in all the ways they shaped your life, and in your connection with them in Christ. You can stay "connected" as you intercede that they quickly enter heavenly glory with Jesus. And you can have confidence that you will see them again.

"Jesus, bring my loved ones into your heavenly glory. Help them to see you face-to-face!"

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Bryon Shepard and Cole Reeves will celebrate their birthdays this weekend!
- ★ The brothers and sisters in Christ who have been dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Michael have certainly been in our thoughts and prayers. We have received word from Superintendent Mike Juhas of their Diocese, and we understand that St. John Catholic School was heavily damaged and is in the process of relocating. Their Diocese is collecting monetary donations to help with opening a temporary school among other urgent needs. We are asking for donations to send to St. John and the surrounding damaged parishes from our St. Patrick family of faith. If you would like to contribute, please send your donations this week to your first period teacher. Checks

may be made payable to SPCHS as we will combine and send our funds together. Donations in any amount are received with prayerful gratitude.

- ★ St. John the Evangelist is seeking volunteers for its drawdown on Saturday, November 10 and Sunday, November 11. Opportunities include event set up and silent auction pick up, and students can work in shifts. Please email Mrs. Rosetti if you are interested in getting involved and receiving ministry hours.
- ★ Remember to get your tickets for our fall drama production. Showtimes are tonight at 6:30, tomorrow at 6:30, and Sunday at 2:00.
- ★ Our first varsity basketball games will be held Tuesday, November 6, starting at 6:00. The first 75 students to come to the varsity game on Tuesday will receive a coupon for a free ice cream from the cafeteria. Come out and support our Fighting Irish varsity basketball teams.