



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

All Souls Day: Why do we pray for those who have died?

In the month of November, the Catholic holy days of All Saints and All Souls Days are observed. One reason for All Saints Day (November 1st) was to honor the many martyrs whose names could not be recorded and remembered. A similar reason exists for All Souls Day (November 2nd). While we can pray for many whom we know by name, we also have been touched by individuals whom we do not know by name. On All Souls Day, we pray both for the deceased we know and those whom we do not know.

The reason for this prayer and piety is our Christian understanding of Purgatory as a place of temporary (i.e., specific period of time) purification after death. Contrary to how we may feel about times of misery and pain here on earth, purgatory is an expression of God’s mercy which is based on biblical teaching including, for example, the Book of Job in which Job offers sacrifices in purification and hope of eternal life for his children. (Job 1:5) In this regard, Purgatory after death is not meant as interruption but as a necessary step on our journey toward the communion and community of heaven.

Pope Saint John Paul II defined Purgatory in this way: *“Every trace of attachment to evil must be eliminated, every imperfection of the soul corrected. Purification must be complete, and indeed this is precisely what is meant by the Church’s teaching on Purgatory.”* (General Audience, 4 August 1999)

We might remember, then, that the goal and purpose of our lives is communion and community with each other. Purgatory gets us there. And, your prayers – our prayers – for the souls in Purgatory get us there as well. And, do we not – within our families – today deny ourselves comfort and endure pain for the betterment of a friendship, of the family, or a community? We are invited to make prayers and sacrifices for the souls in purgatory also for the good of our Christian family.

Is it not our understanding that a family or community is united not simply by light and joy but also by during darkness and difficulty? Indeed, the sacrifices we make in difficult times are often what define us. Such sacrifices unite us to Christ whose life was given up for us not because we were judged worthy but because we were loved. In a similar way, we are invited to make prayers and sacrifices out of love for both the living and the dead.

Father Steve Grunow of Word on Fire Ministries (wordonfire.org) wrote this reflection about our hope of eternal life and our understanding of Purgatory:

“Precisely how our prayers for the dead help them to attain the beatific vision is deeply mysterious, but we know that it does have a positive effect. Today [All Souls Day] is the day when the Church highlights to us that the grace of the most important prayer of the Church belongs to heaven and earth, to the living and to the dead. This Mass draws the entirety of the Communion of Saints together (in heaven and on earth), preparing us all for our mission and enabling us to participate, even now, in the divine life of Jesus Christ.” (“Why We Pray For All Souls Today”, Father Steve Grunow, November 2, 2015, wordonfire.org)

I hope this month of November, this month of All Souls, will remind us of our common journey and responsibility to pray for each other.

In Christ’s Peace,

Father Jim Ferry

PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2019

WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
Collection: Nov 2—Nov 3	\$ 4256
Deficit:	\$ 2544

* Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH – NOVEMBER 17, 2019



SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER
 8:30 am John Edward Thomas
 5:30 pm Carmeleta Ann Harris & Simone Banks

SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER
 7:30 am People of the Parish
 9:30 am Joseph Catalano
 11:30 am Pat Dandola

MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER
 8:30 am Ruth Caste

TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER
 8:30 am John Edward Thomas

WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER
 8:30 am Anna Frazzano (1st. Ann.)

THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER
 8:30 am Rose Bashall

FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER
 8:30 am Camille DeAngelis

SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER
 8:30 am John Edward Thomas
 5:30 pm Anna Frazzano

SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER
 7:30 am People of the Parish
 9:30 am Mary Martin
 11:30 am Eugenie Ferrus

SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER
 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal
 11:30 am **ALL SOULS MASS + LUNCHEON**

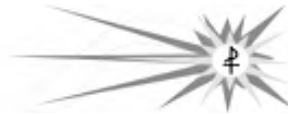


MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER
 5:30-7:30 pm Family Catechesis—CHall—**Grade 6 only**
 7—8:30 M/HS Religious Ed—School /Chapel

THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER
 10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for Dec 1st bulletin email: Lourdes bulletin@aol.com.
 6:00 pm Choir Practice
 7:00 pm Christian Book Club—KOC room

FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER
 7:00 pm MOVIE SCREENING: **"UNPLANNED"**
 Connor Hall - FREE

SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER
 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal



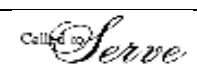
 This week's Bread & Wine, a gift of J. A. Konvalinka, is in memory of **JAROSLAV & ROSE KONVALINKA**


 This week's Altar Candles, a gift of J. A. Konvalinka, is in memory of **JAROSLAV & ROSE KONVALINKA**

 This week's Sanctuary Candle, a gift of J. A. Konvalinka, is in memory of **BESSIE HORKY**

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

NOV 23– NOV 24, 2019

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:30 pm Choir	Pat Sigalas	Judith Albore (C) Emily Kunz Frank Refinski Eileen Reilly	David Broking Jordan Broking Thiago Lavado
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Sr. James Soon Louis Volpe	Tim Brennan Volunteer
9:30 am	Bill Talbot	Annette Chiamonte JoAnne Chiamonte Sonia Murphy Myrna Regino	Seamus Murphy Volunteer
11:30 am	Julie Nzegwu	Carmelita Dizon Michelle Gizzi Paul Hirsch Wendy Sheyka	Ikenna Odoemene Leslie Odoemene
11:30 am	Children's Liturgy -	Annamarie Frey	

 **PRAYERS**
Needed For...

Catherine Gascoyne **Mary Lou Ruppel**
Nicholas Larusso **Pat Schoeler**
Peter McDonald **Patricia Seib**
Mary McGuiness **Katerina Zachos**

PRAYER
Requests

*If you wish to have
a friend or loved one prayed for,
please call the rectory
at 973.325.0110.*



The **WEST ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY SERVICE UNIT** will be collecting non-perishable food and a bin has been placed in the vestibule of our church. Your food donations will be a gift to the **Food Pantry in our neighborhood at Holy Trinity Church**. Thank you for continued generosity.

THIS DRIVE WILL CONTINUE THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS.

Thank You to the Dangler Family and Dangler Funeral Home

We are grateful to Darren and Mellen Dangler and to Dangler Funeral Home of West Orange and of Boonton for their annual gift of our Catholic Calendar. These 2020 calendars are available after Sunday Mass in church and at the rectory. We pray God will bless you in the new year.



**Join us
Dec 7th**

following the 5:30 pm Mass for our **13th Annual Christmas Choir Concert**
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm

❖ **Thursday, NOVEMBER 28th — 8:30 am MASS**

**Thanksgiving Day Mass
and**



THANKSGIVING DAY COLLECTION

Please bring **canned & non-perishable goods to 8:30 am Mass**. Your donation is our collection basket for this Mass. Food will be donated to **St. John's Kitchen in Newark**. Thank you for your generosity.

"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat." (Matthew 25:35)

**The
PARISH
SURVEY**

RESULTS MAY BE VIEWED ON THE Parish Website:

LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG

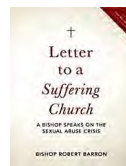
Look for the icon on the Home Page.

Results will be posted until the end of December.

CHRISTIAN BOOK DISCUSSION –

Our Next Book:—"LETTER TO A SUFFERING CHURCH"

By: Bishop Robert Barron



Join the Book Discussion Group

**Thursday, November 21st, 7:00 pm
in the Knights of Columbus Room, CHall**



**SOCK-TOBER DRIVE
2019**

Thank You!

Our St. Vincent de Paul Society extends a thank you to all for your donations and prayers which resulted in the October 2020 collection of **580 pairs of socks**. The socks will be donated to St. John's Soup Kitchen in Newark, to our sisters and brothers in need and especially to those who live without regular shelter or are homeless. May God bless you for your generosity.



Thank you for your generosity to the "Baby Shower".

The mothers and babies are grateful for your thoughtfulness.

**Marge Christiano &
Our Lady of Lourdes**



Please help the Girl Scouts keep less fortunate people warm again this year!

From now until December 9, our troop is collecting coats for the Jersey Cares 24th Annual Coat Drive. Donate coats of any size, color, and style. There is a receptacle in the front church lobby for them. The Girl Scouts will sort the coats and deliver them to Jersey Cares. Last year, through your generosity, our troop collected 41 coats -- and in total, West Orange Girl Scouts collected 165 coats for the less fortunate! Let's make this year another success. For further information, please contact Clare Krakoviak ([973-736-7285](tel:973-736-7285); claresk3@yahoo.com).