



Praying for the Dead Through Gregorian Masses

In the wisdom of our Catholic faith, the Church teaches us to pray for the souls of the faithful departed — those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, yet still on their journey toward the fullness of heaven. This act of love and remembrance finds a beautiful expression in what we call Gregorian Masses and in our annual All Souls' Day novena. Both remind us that death is not an end, but a continuation of life. The origin of Gregorian Masses goes back to Pope St. Gregory the Great, who lived in the 6th century. The story tells that one of the monks under his care, named Justus, had kept three gold coins in disobedience to his vow of poverty. After Justus died, St. Gregory was deeply moved with concern for his soul. He ordered that thirty consecutive Masses be offered for Justus without interruption. On the thirtieth day, the monk appeared to one of his brothers, shining with peace, and said that he had been released from purgatory. From then on, the tradition of thirty consecutive Gregorian Masses became a sign of hope and mercy — a concrete act of faith in the power of the Holy Eucharist to purify and bring souls into eternal rest. This story teaches us two things. First, that our prayers truly matter. Death does not end love, nor does it end the bonds of faith that unite us as the Body of Christ. When we offer Masses or prayers for the dead, we participate in the work of divine mercy, helping those who can no longer help themselves. Second, it reminds us that even the smallest imperfections in life can be purified through the love and mercy of God. The fire of purgatory is not a punishment of vengeance, but the flame of love that cleanses and prepares a soul to see God face to face. In our modern world, where life moves quickly and death is often hidden or feared, the practice of offering Gregorian Masses and All Souls' Day novena Masses helps us slow down and remember: every soul is precious to God. These devotions are not empty rituals; they are bridges between heaven and earth. When we gather for nine days in November to pray for our beloved dead, we unite our hearts with the millions of faithful around the world who cry out, "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them." These prayers are not just for others; they also purify our own hearts, reminding us of our final destiny and calling us to live in a state of grace. Think of it like lighting a candle in a dark room. That small flame might seem weak, but it pushes back the darkness. Each Mass, each prayer, each act of remembrance we offer for the dead is like a light in the night of purgatory, helping souls find their way into the radiant light of heaven. It is said that when you pray for the dead, you give the greatest charity, because they can no longer thank you or repay you — only God can. And in His goodness, He never lets such love go unrewarded. Those souls, once in heaven, become our greatest intercessors, praying for us with gratitude before the throne of God. So, dear friends, let us never neglect this sacred duty of love. Enroll our departed loved ones in Gregorian Masses when possible. Attend the All Souls' Day novena with devotion. Visit cemeteries, light candles, and whisper prayers for those forgotten by the world but remembered by God. Let our remembrance become a song of faith that echoes beyond the grave, a song that proclaims: love is stronger than death, and mercy is stronger than sin. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Fr. Joseph Puthen

Saturday, October 25

5:00 p.m. † Hector Escalante (birthday) by the family
 † Jose Angel Cantu (30th anniv) by the family
 † Carolyn Lichtenberger (birthday) by the family
 † J.J. De Leon by Bro Martin Francesco, O.F.S. & Mary Helen Villarreal

Sunday, October 26

8:00 a.m. PARISHIONERS
 9:30 a.m.(E) † Armando Abrego (16th anniv) by the family
 † Odelia Rodriguez by the family
 † Ramon Martinez, Sr. by M/M Omar Martinez
 † Balde Villarreal by Jose Calzado
 11:15 a.m. † Orlando Guerra (2nd anniv), Noela (3rd anniv) & Omar (24th anniv) Guerra, Sr. by the family
 † Bryan Rey Garza by the family
 † Emilia De Leon by Juan & Norma Flores
 † Belinda Valdemar (anniv) by the family
 † David Longoria (birthday) by the family

Monday, October 27

NO COMMUNION SERVICE

Tuesday, October 28

7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE

Wednesday, October 29

7:00 a.m. † Jose Cantu (14th anniv) by the family

Thursday, October 30

7:00 a.m. † Lupe Almendarez (birthday) by Gloria Almendarez & sons
 † Antonio Diaz by M/M Baldemar Perez

Friday, October 31

7:00 a.m. COMMUNION SERVICE

Saturday, November 1

5:00 p.m. † Frank Negri by the family
 † Deceased family members by Tim & Raydell Boerjan
 † Lazaro Arevalo, Jr. by the family
 † Rogelio Salinas, Jr. (3rd anniv) by the family

Sunday, November 2

8:00 a.m. PARISHIONERS
 9:30 a.m.(E) † Amancio & Rafael Garza by the family
 † Paco & Margarita Huerta Calzado by the family
 11:15 a.m. NOVENA MASS

~ Flowers on the Altar ~



Noela & Omar Guerra, Sr. &
 Orlando Guerra
 By the family



Parish Tithes and Offerings October 18 & 19

Sacred Heart Parish

Regular Collection: \$3469.00

Online Giving: \$723.00

St. Anne Mission

Regular Collection: \$781.00

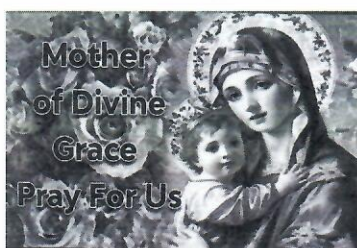


Parish Meetings & Events

- Oct 27-31 Fr. Joseph will be on retreat
 Oct 31 Trunk or Treat: 5:00-6:30 pm Church Parking Lot
 Nov 01 All Saints Day
 Nov 02 All Souls Day
 Nov 02 Daylight Saving Time Ends. Fall back an hour.
 Nov 02-12 Novena Masses
 Nov 04 Knights of Columbus Officer Meeting: 7:00 pm
 Parish Hall
 Nov 05 Adoration from 8:00 am. to 7:00 pm. Schoenstatt Chapel
 Nov 08 Altar Society Meeting at 10:00 am Parish Hall
 Nov 10 CDA Meeting at 6:00 pm Parish Hall
 Nov 11 Guadalupe Meeting at 6:00 pm Parish Hall

The Catholic Daughters of America Court #2013

Will be selling this beautiful yard sign. The sign will come with the pic stand.



The price will be \$15.00. If you are interested in purchasing one please see any CDA member.



ALL SOULS DAY ENVELOPES

Please bring your All Souls envelopes to the Parish Office or drop it off in the collection basket. Deadline to submit your envelopes with names is October 31st.



**Knights of
Columbus**

Family of the Month Mark and Heather Cottingham



Prayer Blanket Ministry

This ministry will be making blankets for people in our parish who are seriously ill. These blankets will be blessed and given to everyone on our list. Prayer is very powerful and we ask everyone in our parish to pray for these individuals on the prayer list:

10-26-25

Alberto Villarreal
 Johnny Perez
 Yolanda & Jesus M. Longoria
 Nori Garcia
 Irene Escalante

10-19-25

Tim Boerjan

10-12-25

Madeline Inez Lopez
 Tina De Leon

10-05-25

Esmeralda Hinojosa
 Agueda A. Garza
 Anna Martinez

9-28-25

Maria Elena Rodriguez
 Noel Garza
 Mari Lopez
 Marlina Hinojosa
 Alicia Zarate
 Maggie Rodriguez



By Laura Kelly Fanucci

"Put up Christmas lights!" On this day each October, the automatic reminder pops up on our family calendar, the yearly nudge to get outside and up on the ladder. Never too early to make room for the light. Jesus reminds us that the Son of Man will come "at an hour you do not expect." But even our year-end rituals have become routine. Soon in the United States it will be Halloween, then Thanksgiving and Christmas, regular as rain (or snow). Yet Jesus cautions us not to grow complacent. Stay alert, he warns. "You also must be prepared," even before Advent arrives. Yet Peter still presses him, unafraid to ask what others are thinking: "Lord, is this meant for us or for everyone?" Jesus answers with yet another parable. Rather than spelling out the rules—share resources fairly, treat others well, don't overindulge—Jesus compares and contrasts two servants. One wise, one selfish. Jesus knows (as Peter does) that we have each been both: following God's ways or following our own inclinations. What if Jesus had returned during one era of your life or another? Where might God find you today? We don't get a pass simply because we've tried to do the right thing in the past. If you've received much, much will be reckoned. If you prove yourself trustworthy, more will be demanded. Really, Lord? I want to protest. Can't you give us a break? But the call is to go deeper. We have been given much as his followers. We must let more light shine!

Luke 12:39-48

VOCATIONAL CROSS



5:00 p.m. Mass

Oct 25-Nov 1 Joyce Mauldin
Nov 1-Nov 8 Melissa Escobar
Nov 8-Nov 15 Janie Cantu

8:00 a.m. Mass

Oct 26-Nov 2 Gloria Richardson
Nov 2-Nov 9 Oralia & Rosendo Garcia
Nov 9-Nov 16 Connie & Arturo Garcia

11:15 a.m. Mass

Oct 26-Nov 2 Lupe Sanchez, Jr.
Nov 2-Nov 9 Pam Cabrera
Nov 9-Nov 16 Gilbert & Dominique Alegria

St. Anne Misson

9:30 a.m. Mass

Oct 26-Nov 2 Pete & Elena Rodriguez
Nov 2-Nov 9 Dora Barrera
Nov 9-Nov 16 Connie Perez

Prayers Before Mass

Schedule for Saturdays at 4:25 pm

OCT 04 Martha Ruiz
11 Edna Balderas
18 Martha Ruiz
25 Mercy M. Longoria
NOV 01 Jessica C. Lopez
08 Dora Garza
15 Esmeralda Hinojosa
22 Dora Garza
29 Edna Balderas



Oct 25-26

5:00 Team 2: Orlando C. Roel M. Katlyn M.
McKenzie C. Bailey C. Carlos G.
A'Bree G.
8:00 Team 3: Kaleb G. Kinley G. James G. Joshua G.
11:15 Team 4: Alex C. Natalie C. Roel H. Camilla V.
Nicholas T. Audriana T. Charlie S.

Nov 1-2

5:00 Team 1: Ivan M. Edel A. Zitali S. Tayana S. Brooklyn A.
Jason A. Aliyah M.
8:00 Team 2: Orlando C. Roel M. Katlyn M.
McKenzie C. Bailey C. Carlos G.
A'Bree G.
11:15 Team 3: Kaleb G. Kinley G. James G. Joshua G.



October 12-25

The Sanctuary Candle in the Church is burning for:
Deceased Negri Family

By the family

The Sanctuary Candle in the Guadalupe Chapel is burning for:

Omar & Noela Guerra, Sr. & Orlando Guerra

By the family

The Sanctuary Candle in the Schoenstatt Chapel is burning for:

Armando Garza, Jr.

By the family

The Sanctuary Candle in St. Anne Mission is burning for:

David Avelandia & Norma Escalante

By the family

October: The Holy Rosary **Major Feast: Feast of** **Our Lady of the Rosary** **(October 7)**

The Rosary is one of the most powerful forms of prayer that the Church gives to the faithful; popes, saints, even the Blessed Mother herself have spoken on the importance of praying the Rosary. Like Padre Pio who said: "Love the Madonna and pray the rosary, for her Rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today. All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother."

It's a simple but profound way to meditate on the life of Jesus and to grow closer to Mary who will always lead us to her Son.

How to celebrate:

Pray the Rosary (or pray a decade of the rosary)



No one can live continually in sin and continue to say the rosary: either they will give up sin or they will give up the rosary.

— Bishop Hugh Doyle