

# LITURGICAL LIVING

Series 8:

October 22-28

Check out the AFC Website for the Digital Version!

## What's the Deal with All Saints' Day?



All Saints' Day is a solemnity and a holy day of obligation. We are called to attend Mass and refrain from other labors as much as we are able. Holy Days are opportunities for us to recognize important tenets of our faith as one body in Christ. In the United States there are 6 Holy Days of Obligation aside from the regular Sunday Mass obligation. Mass is happening in St. Peter at 8:15am and 7:00pm and in Nicollet at 5:00pm. Confessions are available ½ hour before each Mass time.

When thinking about "the saints" it is easy to think only about the canonized Saints that have feast days and are celebrated in our calendar. But remember, anyone in heaven is a saint. We are all called to be saints! There are many, many times more saints than we can even think of! On All Saints' Day, we celebrate the canonized Saints and all of the other, "secret" saints in heaven. The people who were in our lives: relatives, friends and neighbors alike! It is an exercise of hope because we only know that the canonized Saints are truly in heaven and we hope for the others because we cannot know the state of their souls.

### Celebrate

Celebrating All Saints' Day: An All Saints' Day party or parade is so much fun! Having children pick out their favorite Saint to dress up as and try to imitate their virtue is such a great way for them to get to know and grow in love for the Saints. Often the children prepare three clues to give to people so they can play some guess who. You can even make it a family theme with Saints that knew each other or pieces of the story that go together. For example, St. Francis and the wolf or St. George and the Dragon. Here is some inspiration from the [Catholic Kids Bulletin](#) if you're interested!

Another fun option is to make or buy some Saint holy cards and give them away or exchange them.

More simply, pick one Saint to learn about on this day. There are so many wonderful saints to choose from. Do some research together, find a way to honor them that suits you and your family and pray to them, asking for their intercession! Remember, when we pray to a saint, we are asking them to ask God for something on our behalf.

[Coloring Page](#)



### Resources

[Catholic All Year](#)

[Shower of Roses](#)

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## Feast of Pope St. John Paul II (October 22)



Pope St. John Paul II, affectionately known as JP II: He was known in his papacy for a focus on the universal call to holiness. He was truly a genius and used his gifts to serve the Church. He is remembered for his affirmation and clarification of traditional Catholic teaching. He was a prolific writer and canonized many Saints. [Theology of the Body](#) is still being unpacked today for its richness and beauty! He was known for his ability to connect with world leaders and Catholic youth. There is so much that could be said about him! Here is more about him from the [St. John Paul II National Shrine](#).

JP II was born in Poland in 1920. He had a love for the outdoors and sports. Before the age of twenty he lost his older sister, mother, brother and father. During his schooling, the Nazis occupied Poland and he joined the underground seminary which served the suffering city, especially Jews.

As JP II went from priest to Bishop and then to Pope, he navigated the Church through a tumultuous period, becoming the third longest-reigning pope in history. There is no doubt that Saint John Paul II has affected you in ways that you will only comprehend in Heaven. Give thanks to God for the gift of his life and seek his prayers this day. A walking rosary in the great outdoors is a great tradition to honor this wonderful Saint.



Pope St. John Paul also is known to have had a sweet tooth. There is a story that he would make a sign to Sisters that they knew was to get him a cookie! Also, we know his favorite dessert was a Polish pastry called kremowka papieska which is a type of puff pastry with creme filling. Something like that from a local coffee shop or even homemade would be a tasty treat on this feast.

### Prayer to Pope Saint John Paul II:

Oh, St. John Paul, from the window of heaven, grant us your blessing! Bless the Church that you loved and served and guided, courageously leading her along the paths of the world in order to bring Jesus to everyone and everyone to Jesus. Bless the young, who were your great passion. Help them dream again, help them look up to the heavens again to find the light that illuminates the paths of life here on earth.

May you bless each and every family! You warned of Satan's assault against this precious and indispensable divine spark that God lit on earth. St. John Paul, with your prayer, may you protect the family and every life that blossoms from the family.

Pray for the whole world, which is still marked by tensions, wars and injustice. You opposed war by invoking dialogue and planting the seeds of love: pray for us so that we may be tireless sowers of peace.

Oh St. John Paul, from heaven's window, where we see you beside Mary, send God's blessing down upon us all. Amen.

JP II also wrote many beautiful letters and prayers. [Here](#) is a list of them. "Act of Entrustment to Mary" is so good!

