St. Peter Claver Chapel

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Rev. Fr. Christopher Spray – Pastor

ALL SAINTS DAY

Monday, November 2 | 7:30am | **All Souls Day**
Faithful Departed to be Remembered

Tuesday, November 3 | 7:30am | **Within the Octave (Mass of 23rd Sunday after Pentecost)**
F. Rojas – Rusich Family

Wednesday, November 4 | 7:30am | **St. Charles Borromeo, Within the Octave, Sts. Vitalis & Agricola**
JG - Anonymous

Thursday, November 5 | 7:30am | **Within the Octave**
RIP Sal Aguillard – T. McGee

Friday, November 6 | 7:30am | **Within the Octave – FIRST FRIDAY**
AG - Anonymous

Saturday, November 7 | 9:00am | **Within the Octave – FIRST SATURDAY**
RIP Sal Aguillard – T. McGee

Sunday, November 8 | 9:00am | **24th Sunday after Pentecost, Octave Day of All Saints, Four Holy Crowned Martyrs**
Pro Populo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Collection
10/25 - $181

- The sanctuary lamp burns for the return of those who have gone astray by the Rusich Family
- Reminder that the Toties Quoties indulgence can be earned beginning today at noon through midnight of All Souls Day by reciting 6x Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

All Saints

The Feast of All Saints directs our attention toward the ultimate purpose of our earthly lives: the attainment of eternal happiness with God in Heaven. Today, the Church honors not only those saints whose names are familiar to us, but also the countless souls who lived and died in God's friendship and now enjoy the Beatific Vision. Many of them passed through this world without distinction or recognition. Yet they accomplished the one thing that matters above all else: they persevered in God's grace until the end.

It is easy to admire the saints while imagining that holiness belongs to a different kind of person. We read about their virtues, sacrifices, and victories over temptation, and perhaps conclude that their lives bear little resemblance to our own. But the saints were human beings who experienced many of the same difficulties that we encounter. They knew disappointment, discouragement, weakness, and uncertainty. They struggled against their faults, sometimes failed, and had to begin again. What distinguished them was not that they never encountered obstacles, but that they continued turning toward God in the midst of them.

This is an important lesson for our own spiritual lives. Sanctity is not achieved in a single moment, nor does it require a life free from weakness. It is the fruit of God's grace working in a soul that remains willing to cooperate with Him. Every sincere act of repentance, every temptation resisted, every duty faithfully fulfilled, and every effort to practice charity contributes to that growth in holiness. Even when progress seems painfully slow, God is at work in ways that we may not immediately recognize.

We must also remember that perseverance does not mean relying upon our own strength. No one reaches Heaven through human effort alone. We depend entirely upon the grace of God, who continually offers us the assistance necessary for salvation. The sacraments, prayer, and the daily practice of virtue are not merely religious obligations; they are means by which God strengthens us for the journey. When we fall, He calls us to repentance. When we become discouraged, He invites us to trust Him again.

The saints have already reached the destination toward which we are traveling. Their happiness is not temporary or uncertain, but the perfect fulfillment of every legitimate longing of the human heart. They remind us that the difficulties of this present life, however burdensome they may seem, are not the final chapter of our existence.

As we celebrate their feast, we should ask their intercession for the grace of final perseverance. Our goal is not simply to become better people or to find greater peace in this world, valuable as those things may be. Our goal is Heaven itself: to see God face to face, to love Him without the limitations of our present condition, and to possess Him forever. May the example and prayers of all the saints encourage us to remain faithful, especially when the road becomes difficult, until we too are numbered among those who rejoice eternally in His presence.