



06 November 2022 + Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Capital Campaign Update

Thanks again to all of you who have sent in your pledges for our capital campaign. We have an updated list of those names we received whose pledges have been recorded. There is always a bit of a lag time depending upon when you sent your pledge in, but if you did send yours in and do not see your name, feel free to call our office so that we can check on it. The campaign is going very well! I am most pleased by the fact that we have had great participation by so many parishioners. The more that participate, the more we share the load! Given the fact that we have already reached our Diocesan Annual Appeal goal, any money coming in from the campaign will go directly into our capital account. We are well on our way! Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

Those who have not sent in a pledge card, will be sent a reminder letter with a pledge card through the mail. This is the final attempt at reaching out to parishioners for participation. Once that happens we intend on contacting all of those who have not sent in a pledge to make sure our records are up-to-date. As much as we try to keep our parish membership lists current, we always have some who have moved away or are no longer a member of the parish. We hope to do this before January 2023.

Making Peace with the Dead

We know that praying for our beloved dead is especially important during the month of November as it is devoted to the holy souls who have died. It has occurred to me that I should tell you our Masses and prayers this month are particularly fruitful in making peace with the dead. I often times counsel parents (not just mothers) who may have chosen an abortion in their life to name the child, and to pray for forgiveness and reconciliation with the child. There are other times when someone feels a tremendous amount of guilt because of conflicts, fights, and perhaps neglect of a person who dies, never having reconciled beforehand. This has been especially true following the pandemic, when parents or grandparents were isolated, and even died, in nursing facilities without any real ability for personal contact.

It is only possible to reconcile after death through the passion, death, and love of Jesus Christ. It is Jesus Christ who said from the Cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do!" In your prayers and Masses, ask Jesus to bring reconciliation between you and anyone who has died unreconciled. To me, this is one of the greatest blessings given during this month of the holy souls. I remember a time when a husband and wife had an awful fight one night. He left the house, got in his car in a rage, and never came back. The wife suffered years of guilt and sorrow. Following a novena of Masses offered for reconciliation, he appeared in her dream one night, expressed his sorrow, and gave her a big hug and kiss. Finally, she was at peace. If we believe Jesus Christ has removed the veil that veils all people, we know his mercy and grace goes beyond this world.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace!
Blessings and best wishes,