



Mass Intentions

Sat., October 29

Phil 1:18b-26; Ps 42:2, 3, 5cdef; Lk 14:1, 7-11

4 pm ... ✠Leo & ✠Doris Moreau by her family

Sun., October 30 XXXI Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wis 11:22 — 12:2; Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; 2 Thes 1:11 — 2:2; Lk 19:1-10

7:30 am ... ✠Jack Healy by Elizabeth & Rory Lavery

9:30 am ... ✠Lucille Kelley (2nd Anniv.) by the Kelley family

5 pm ... Our Parish Family

Mon., October 31

Phil 2:1-4; Ps 131:1bcde-3; Lk 14:12-14

12 pm ... ✠Robert O'Brien by Sue Audy

6:30 pm ... All Saints Vigil Mass

Tue., November 1

All Saints

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

12 pm ... ✠Sr. Yvonne Therese Cusson by Lucille Aubert

Wed., November 2

All Souls' Day

Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9; Jn 6:37-40

12 pm ... ✠Elise Lambert by Bob & Carmelle LaRochelle

6:30 pm ... ✠Mr. & Mrs. J. F. Bregar by Dave Bregar

Thur., November 3

Phil 3:3-8a; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 15:1-10

8:30 am ... ✠Theresa Chabot by Anne Clark

Fri., November 4

Saint Charles Borromeo

Phil 3:17 — 4:1; Ps 122:1-5; Lk 16:1-8

6 pm ... ✠Joseph Handy by Gregory Handy

6:45 pm ... Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat., November 5

Phil 4:10-19; Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a, 9; Lk 16:9-15

4 pm ... ✠Anne & ✠Harold Magarian by Charles Magarian

Sun., November 6 XXXII Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14; Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15; 2 Thes 2:16 — 3:5; Lk 20:27-38 [27, 34-38]

7:30 am ... Our Parish Family

9:30 am ... ✠Larry Cote by Jeannine Cote

5 pm ... ✠Colleen Grady by Sylvia Grady

Weekly Collection

Weekend of October 23, 2016

Regular Offertory \$4,788.00
Make-Up Offertory 563.00
Loose Offertory 814.80
Online Parish Giving 325.00
Total

\$6,490.80

Stewardship

125.00

\$

Last Year: Weekend of Oct. 25, 2015



SAVE THE DATES!
Miracle of Divine Mercy mission week will take place **Nov. 13—20**. Check out this weekend's insert on the events planned for the week!

We have an App!

Download our free app for info and updates. Enter "Saint Raphael Parish" to find us in the app store.



Oktoberfest at Thank you! Thank you to Alicia & Corey Gillooly, Therese Dame, Dorene Turner, and everyone who helped to make our Oktoberfest event a success last week! We made almost \$400 from the event.

NOVEMBER 1
All Saints
NOVEMBER 2
All Souls

We will celebrate **All Saints Day** (Holy Day of Obligation) **Masses Mon., Oct. 31 (Vigil) at 6:30pm and Tues., Nov. 1 at 12pm. Mass for the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day) will be celebrated Wed., Nov. 2 at 12pm and**

6:30pm. Although All Souls Day is not a Holy Day of Obligation, we encourage parishioners to join us as

In Sympathy

Please pray for the repose of the soul of ✠**Louis F. Farley Jr.**, who died on Oct. 21 and whose funeral Mass was celebrated last week by P. Jerome.



CELEBRATING NOVEMBER TRADITIONS

During November, we display our **Book of Remembrance** in the chapel by Saint Joseph. You are invited to write in the name of a deceased loved one who have died in the last year. We also invite parishioners to **BRING PHOTOS OF DECEASED LOVED ONES TO BE DISPLAYED ON STEPS OF THE MAIN ALTAR** during the month of November as one of the ways in which we will honor and pray for the dead throughout the month. The pictures will remain in the Church throughout November until Advent, as a reminder that we are all part of the Communion of Saints. You may begin placing pictures of deceased loved ones in the church at our All Souls Day Mass on Tuesday, Nov. 1. They can be taken home the week of Nov. 20, just before Advent begins.



Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week in **thanksgiving for all diocesan priests** by Mikki Margaritis.

Priesthood Sunday—Let's show support for our priests, diocesan and religious order, with prayers this weekend. The last Sunday of October is designated as Priesthood Sunday, a celebration of the priesthood, when the faithful of each parish mark the day and honor the

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun., October 30

9:15 am ... Religious Education—Parish Hall

Mon., October 31

7—8:30 pm ... Youth Ministry

7—8 pm ... Food Pantry

Tue., November 1

12:30 pm ... Parish Nurse—Church Conf. Room

Thur., November 2

9:30 am ... Scripture study—Church Conf. Room

Sun., November 6

9:15 am ... Religious Education—Parish Hall

Saint Raphael Food Pantry

On Monday, Oct. 24, the food pantry served 21 families and gave out 31 bags of groceries. We need fruit, peanut butter, and cereal. We can always use brown paper bags, too. Thank you!



Luminaria for All Saints-All Souls

Abbot Matthew Leavy, O.S.B., retired abbot of Saint Anselm, on behalf of the Campus Ministry staff at Saint Anselm College, invites Saint Raphael parishioners and friends to participate in a special **Mass Sunday, Nov. 6, at 7 pm**, in remembrance of the beloved dead of the college and parish communities. Participants are invited to make "luminaria," illuminated bags decorated with names of departed loved ones, that will adorn the abbey church during the Mass. Supplies to make a luminarium, a custom from Mexico, are available at the door of the church. If you plan to attend the Mass, you may take some of the supplies. Call the parish office at 603.623.2604 if you plan to attend.

Confessions of a storyteller: Even ghost stories can speak of hope

For a number of years, I was the **ghost-story king** of Saint Anselm College. I say this without any preening; it is simply a fact. How I became the king is anybody's guess, but for quite a spell, I would receive **one invitation after another** from student groups, sometimes in clubs, sometimes in dormitories, to "come up and tell us some spooky stories." I guess I was pretty good, because I always managed to **get a few students to scream** and others to ask to see me afterwards to know whether what I said was absolutely true or whether I had made it up. (One must always answer such questions with discretion!) But it appears that I've been fired. No invitations last year, and nothing, so far, this – and **Halloween is this coming Monday**.

I suppose it's just as well. I **never thought the "fit" was smooth**. Here I am, a Benedictine priest, a college professor and a Catholic parish pastor – and I'm telling stories about the undead, vampires, Devil door's and all manner of **things that go bump in the night**. I should be sharing tales of unrelenting hope, endless light and divine love. But, come on, one night a year. Well, it seems to be all over with now, and I'll probably get a better night's sleep in these last days of October into November than I have in the past. One year, **my comeuppance** was rather effective. I'd told the stories, elicited the screams and come back to the rectory quite proud of my **narrative histrionics** only to have visions of my own imagination keep me tossing and turning. Finally, I started to drift off to the Land of Nod – and then **the parish cat** decided to leap up on the bed and so startle me that I might very well have been clinging to ceiling lamp.

My career in the ghost story business began, I think, because we were looking for an October event for **the college Irish Club**, and the contemporary American celebration of Halloween is much connected to the pagan **Celtic festival of Samhain**. The Celtic calendar had four primary feasts: **Bealtaine** in the spring, **Lughnasa** in the summer, **Samhain**



in the fall and **Imboloc** in the winter. There's another reason I probably am better off retiring from my autumnal story-telling. For the ancient Celts in Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Brittany, Cornwall and the Isle of Man, Samhain, pronounced as "Sah-when," signals the end of one year and the start of a new one. It is a **night when the borders** between the world of the living and the world of the dead become, shall we say, permeable.

Spirits with grievances, unresolved issues or even a tender word of affection for their enemies, associates, relatives, friends or loved ones have a chance to **slip a message through the barriers of time and space**. Indeed, some are even able to reveal themselves in ghostly fashion. To ward off evil spirits and welcome friendly ones, the Celts would decorate their homes with turnips, gourds and pumpkins, hollowed out to hold a candle. The light was a **beacon of hope in the darkness**. The other night, by the way, I stopped in to visit our religious education program for the high school students and was surprised to find them busily hollowing, carving and decorating pumpkins.

Addressing **Therese Dame, our director of religious education**, the pastor asked, "So what doctrinal point are you teaching tonight?" His eyebrow arched ominously.

Quick as a wink, one of the teens shot back, in defense of Mrs. Dame, "Well, Father Jerome, can't you see? We're getting the pumpkins ready for candles to **remind us of the light from God** that shines within each of us!

Point to Mrs. Dame and her charges!

When Christianity came to Ireland and the rest of the Celtic world, both the natives and the newcomer monks, who were the first missionaries, saw how they could use many of the old customs of help explain aspects of Church doctrine and practice. The Catholic understanding of **Purgatory** speaks to unresolved state of souls undergoing expiation for sin and awaiting final judgment, while the ability of spirits to communicate with the living

is echoed in the belief in the **intercession of saints** and the **tradition of visions** by angels, saints and even our Blessed Lady and Christ himself. It was not difficult for the pagan Celts to grasp the sovereignty of God, who not only judges but sustains throughout life and grants mercy in abundance. In particular, the feast of **All Saints** had much that dovetailed with Samhain, while the following day's commemoration of **All Souls** embraced the dead, loss and hope in eternal life. Our English name for the Monday's celebration, "Halloween," is a contraction of the Middle English "**All Hallow's Eve**."

I understand why older kids like to dress up in the most ghoulish fashion and try to frighten the wits out of each other – and, unfortunately, their younger brothers and sisters. I suppose everybody is amused by a little creepiness, but a little goes a long way.

Keeping a **Christian focus** on Halloween does not have to rob it of fun and laughter. In fact, it might safeguard the festival as a wholesome frolic rather than a cavalcade of sickness and degeneration. In my own defense, even at the height of my ghost-story career, I always ended with a discussion of All Saints and All Souls and the importance of faith in the Risen Christ.

When I was a youngster, I remember one stop on the trick-or-treat route was 47 Barth St., the home of **Mary G. and Catherine Dailey**, maiden ladies and pillars of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish. Mary was a secretary who ran a local plumbing contractor's firm, and Catherine was a schoolteacher. When we went to their home, they had their **jack-o-lanterns** and associated decorations, but we were always ushered into the dining room where **the table was aglow** with votive lights, one before **an array of statues of the saints**, the various "hallows" honored in the Dailey family. Mary, Jesus, Joseph, John the Baptist, Peter and Paul, Francis, Thomas Aquinas, Agnes, Lucy, Margaret Mary, even Dominic Savio and a bunch of others, in every size and style imaginable, stood their ground – and taught us that **something greater** than a bag of candy and calories was at the heart of Halloween, and it wasn't about creepy, crawly things.

It was about eternal glory!

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