

All Souls' Day 2025

Homily - Saint Joseph Parish

Father Craig Looney

1 Thess. 4.13-18 St. John 14.1-6



We are people of hope.

All Souls' Day is the natural extension of All Saints' Day. On Sunday we celebrated the fellowship we have with all of the saints of God, living and dead. Today we remember and thank God today for the lives of our family, friends, and loved ones, who have touched our lives, and helped shape us into who we are today, especially the following...

...John, Archbishop; Leslie; John Edvard, Priest; Rebecca; Rosemarie; Sally; Cora Jean; Enid & Bill; Herbert Alton; Carol; Miraleah; William; Daniel; Francis, Bishop; Michael, Priest; Joseph, Priest; Christopher; Robert; Violet; Jeff; James Jefferson; Thomas William; Kathryn Jane; Benjamin; Mary Jean; Arthur Wellesley, Sr; Arthur Wellesley, Jr; Elizabeth Melbourne; Jon Robert; Sarah; Emma; John; Virginia; Charlotte; Mac; Beverly; Christina; Huther; Marie; Bernard, Priest; William; Russel; Ian; Sylvia; Albert; Brian; Lynne; Barbara; Tom; George; Walter & Cherie; Herb & Miriam; Luanne & Chip; Darren; Al; Syd; Dora; Lucie; Laura; Tushar; Sophia; Ted; Thelma; Matt; Ellen; Marty; Ruth; Helen; Jane & Herbert; Nancy; Walter; Hollis & Erma; Ruth

Death doesn't separate us from God's love or fellowship in the Communion of Saints. It is fitting and proper that we are here together to give thanks to God for the lives of all of the Faithful Departed, known and unknown. We pray today that they may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in heaven. And we pray for ourselves, that we may learn by their examples.

Jesus said not to be worried or upset about people who have died. He gave us a promise...he has gone to make room in his Father's house for all of those who died believing in him. There is room in heaven for all of our family and friends and loved ones. There is room in heaven for you and me. Jesus promised that he will come back one day to take us to heaven...and we will see our family, friends and loved ones again.

For now...we commit them to God's care...

...May the Angels lead them into Paradise; and the Martyrs receive them at your coming and bring them into the holy city Jerusalem. May the choirs of Angels receive them, and may they, with Lazarus once poor, have everlasting rest.

So then let us encourage one another with these words.

We are people of hope.

