

Some Thoughts for November 2024

Marge Loenser

We start November with the great feast of All Saints. The first reading from this mass is from Revelation: "...I (John) had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation comes from God who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb." When we think about all the saints in heaven (having limited thinking as a human) we wonder how they can all fit in heaven; remember we're not just talking about canonized saints, but every soul admitted into heaven has to be a saint. You know, I do believe I will leave that little problem to God along with all the other puzzling questions my mind conjures up.

November 2nd is the Feast of All Souls. A time to remember and pray for our family members and friends that have gone on before us. I understand that the Holy Souls cannot pray for themselves, but they can pray for us. Sounds like the making of very healthy interrelationships.

On the 4th, we celebrate St. Charles Borromeo, Archbishop of Milan from the 1500's. He was a leading figure along with St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Philip Neri against the Protestant Reformation.

November 5 is election day. If we haven't already voted we have a responsibility to choose leaders who will best follow God's inspiration and our constitution in carrying out their duties.

On the 11th we remember St. Martin of Tours. He was the saint who tore his cloak in two and shared it with a beggar; later on in a vision, the beggar turned out to be Jesus, Himself. I love that story.

We have a lot of wonderful saints in November to look up to including St. Albert the Great, St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Mother Cabrini, St. Gertrude and least of all, the apostle, St. Andrew, whose feast we celebrate on the 30th. St. Andrew, of course, was the first apostle of Jesus and brother to St. Peter. He and St. John first followed St. John the Baptist and brought news of Jesus to St. Peter. St. Andrew I often think of you when I read that Jesus took Peter, James and John to certain events and wonder why you couldn't have tagged along, too, being the brother of Peter. Oh well, there I go again with my questions.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving, which falls on the 28th, my late brother Billy's birthday. May he be among that great throng praising God in heaven. We have so much to be grateful for. Happy turkey day!! God bless us all.

Love,
Marge



Marge Loenser is a member of Saint Mark's Church in Sea Girt where she is a Lector and a Eucharistic Minister. She has retired from teaching CCD at Saint Mark's. She has been a member of Catholic Women of Zion for about 30 years and is also a member of Mary Queen of Peace Prayer Community for about the same length of time. She writes for a monthly column for Saint Mark's Church Bulletin.