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This Saturday is November 1st—**All Saints Day**, the day on which Catholics celebrate all the saints, known and unknown. This practice arose out of the Christian tradition of celebrating the martyrdom of saints. The current date of November 1 was instituted by Pope Gregory III (731-741), when he consecrated a chapel to all the martyrs in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and ordered an annual celebration. This celebration was originally confined to the diocese of Rome, but Pope Gregory IV (827-844) extended the feast to the entire Church and ordered it to be celebrated on November 1.

In the Preface for the Mass for All Saints Day, Catholics pray this prayer to God about His saints, “Their glory fills us with joy, and their communion with us in your Church gives us inspiration and strength.” At every Mass Catholics pray to be worthy to join the saints “on whose constant intercession we rely for help.” They help us by interceding with God on our behalf. We ask for their help just as we might ask a friend on Earth to pray for us.

Christians have professed their belief in the “communion of saints” ever since the formulation of the Nicene Creed in 325 A.D. Even though they are dead, the saints are still a part of our community of the living. They are our companions in prayer and examples of holiness.

A saint is an authentic, concrete person. His or her testimony of life attracts, beseeches and draws, because it manifests a transparent human experience, full of the presence of Christ. A saint is an ordinary person who knows, loves and serves God to the best of his or her ability in the here and now. The lives of the saints make good stories. They led real, believable, exciting and human lives. They are our models in holiness and each one of us is called to this same holiness.

This Sunday is November 2nd – **All Souls Day**, when the commemoration of all the faithful departed is celebrated by the Church. The theological basis for the feast is the doctrine that the souls which, on departing from the body, are not perfectly cleansed from venial sins, or have not fully atoned for past transgressions, are debarred from the Beatific Vision, and that the faithful on earth can help them by prayers, alms deeds and especially by the sacrifice of the Mass.

All of us at **Little Flower School** and **Little Flower Church** can remember to accept these two wonderful opportunities to celebrate the Mass and receive our Lord in the Eucharist. Let us teach our children by example to honor all the Saints and strive to change our lives to become like them (courageous in our Faith)—strive to become perfect (holy), as God wishes us to be. Let us also teach our children by example that spiritual work of mercy, to remember our departed loved ones and all others departed, so that our spiritual actions can help them attain everlasting peace in God’s presence.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us! Saint Therese, pray for us! All other saints and angels, pray for us!

[Some Information here taken from these websites: http://catholicism.about.com/od/holydaysandholidays/p/All_Saints_Day.htm;
<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/01315b.htm>; also from Dan Lynch’s booklet, Saints of the States.]

+++++ **Additional Information for you to know** +++++

+++Reminder! This weekend is time to turn your clocks back one hour; Daylight Savings time ends at 2:00 AM

(Over)

+++Everyone is welcome to the LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL SILENT AUCTION AND SUPPER on Nov. 11th at the Rugby Eagles Club. Theresa's famous chicken will be served from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. The auction will be from 5:30 – 7:30PM

+++Memo+++The second Confirmation Parent Meeting is November 9th from 9:15am – 10:15am -in Dorthy's room.

+++ Have a HAPPY & SAFE HALLOWEEN – GOD BLESS