

Ministers of the Liturgy October 31 & November 1, 2015

Saturday - 4 P.M.

Intention: Paul Fleming III, Marie O'Malley, Joseph Segari, Rose Marie Greco Federico, Debbie Gill, Merle & Charles Dittmer, Joyce Sirgo, Eve Vavrick (L), George Spaulding, Flora Maria Be, Patrick C. McKinney, Marian Quigley, Rhena Friloux (L), Frank Anthony Federico
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
K. Hartdegan, D. Martin
Cantor: Trish Foti

Sunday - 9 A.M.

Intention: Parishioners
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
C. Rispoli, B. Soletto, J. Tusa, P. Cifreo
Song Leaders: Traditional Choir

Sunday - 11 A.M.

Intention: Don Rowan, Sr., Mary Delaup, Dianne Z. Harrison, Frank E. Golemi, Melvin Ducote, Kelvin Ducote, Thomas Prunty, Hilton Daigle, Jr., Mary & Jules Haydel, Colgan Family, Ebling Family, Gustave Hartdegen, Michele Newfield Gauthier, Louis Newfield, Noelle Armentor, Chucsie Barbin, Gretchen Hebert, Joseph Donald Bernard, Mary & Lucien Musco, Margaret & Larry Pregeant, Anthony Angello, M. Groetsch Family (L), In Honor of St. Joseph, Floyd Sutton
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
K. & M. Sorensen, S. Gordon, L. Peters
Song Leaders: Contemporary Choir

Sunday - 6 P.M.

Intention: Annette Junker
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
A. Calongne, T. Keller
Cantor: Lauren Gisclair
Pianist: Beth Kettenring

Weekday Masses (11/2-7)

Monday	7:00 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory
	5:30 p.m.	Hilton F. Daigle, Jr.
Tuesday	7:00 a.m.	Maxine Nicaud
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.	Marie O'Malley
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Maxine Nicaud
	5:30 p.m.	Maria Mercedes Cabrera
Friday	7:00 a.m.	William (Chuck) Credo Jr.
	8:20 a.m.	Mary Comberrel
Saturday	8:45 a.m.	Rosary & Altar Society

Mass Book & Lights

The 2016 Mass Book will open on Monday, Nov. 2. Mass intentions cost \$5 each, sanctuary lights and candles are \$10, and altar flowers are \$87. **We do not carry over intentions from year to year.**

Foodie Fest

Mark your calendars and prepare to feast at our parish Foodie Fest. It will be held on Friday, November 6 from 6 - 11 PM; Saturday November 7 from Noon - 11 PM, and Sunday November 9 from Noon - 8 PM. Paris Avenue performs Friday from 8 - 11 PM. The Crescent Kings perform Saturday from 3:30 - 6:30 PM. Finally, the Topcats perform Sunday from 5-8 PM. Our school children will also perform on stage on Saturday and Sunday. The St. Benilde Foodie Fest... Come for the Food... Stay for the Fun!

The Home & School Association is in need of donations of baked goods, candy, cakes and cookies. Please bring them to the cafeteria on Friday, Nov. 6. Thanks for your help.

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Nov. 7/8

- 4 p.m. J. Rodosta, L. Segari
9 a.m. M. Evola, P. Fleming, C. Frederick, L. Whitman
11 a.m. K. Robertson, R. Meece, J. Hutchinson, R. Oleksik
6 p.m. B. David, M. Drawe



Sanctuary Light in memory of Paul Fleming III

Altar Flowers in memory of Ellwood and Lillie Soupenne



Adoration Chapel Sanctuary Light in memory of Stuart and Gloria Fourroux



Altar Ladies

Week of November 1
M. Seeber, F. Alvarez

Linens

Large - J. Zeringue Small - A. Delaup

Last Week's Collection

Envelopes	\$2,454.00
Loose	2,542.43
Clarion	65.00
Msgr. Richaud Endowment Fund.....	75.00
Repairs and Maintenance.....	217.00
Totaling	\$5,353.43

Fr. Cooper's Corner

A Love That Never Dies

After Constantine gave word that he was going to bury the Vatican necropolis to build the first Basilica to St. Peter around 320AD, pagan families began moving their dead out, so that they could continue their practice of having *refrigeria* (picnics) with their deceased loved ones. At the same time, Christians formed a procession in the opposite direction moving their loved ones in. The reason why was shown in an inscription a Christian left in the mausoleum of Valerius Herma in the Vatican excavations: "*Petrus, rogat Christus, pro sanctis hominibus chrestianis [ad] corpus tuum sepultis,*" someone wrote with charcoal in flawed Latin. "Peter, pray to Christ for the holy Christian men and women buried near your body."

Discovered during the excavations that began in 1939, the inscription confirmed not only that Christians were bringing their dead in to inter them as close as possible to St. Peter, but that they believed that prayers for the dead were so important that they would even place their loved ones in what would become an inaccessible subterranean burial ground in order best to assure those prayers. The important thing to notice about the inscription is not the hope for "geographical nepotism," as if St. Peter would take the command to "love your neighbor" so seriously as to give special predilection to those whose tombs abutted his. It's rather the evidence of the perennial Christian practice of praying for the dead.

There is no reason to pray for loved ones if we think that they are already in heaven. Likewise the early Christians never believed that there would be a furlough from hell. If they were praying for the dead and making such an effort to ask St. Peter to do the same, it was because they believed that there was a good chance their loved ones were neither in heaven nor in hell but in a place where prayers were needed.

It would take a few centuries for the word "purgatory" (place of cleansing) to develop, but long before the word came into vogue, the practice of praying for the dead and the underlying belief in its importance was very much practiced by faithful Christians. Praying for deceased loved ones is just as important today as it was in the early Church. The same love that the early Roman Catholics possessed to bury their loved ones as close as possible to St. Peter should lead all of us to draw as close as possible to Christ on the altar to pray for our deceased loved ones. To pray for the dead is not just a spiritual work of mercy but a sweet response of love.

Tomorrow we celebrate the *Commemoration of the Faithful Departed*, popularly known as *All Souls Day*, when Catholics convene to pray for our deceased loved ones and for all who have died. We come together to pray for them because, except for a baptized baby who died in infancy or a canonized saint, we simply don't know the state of our loved ones after death. Jesus told us emphatically not to judge, and this means not only not to condemn to hell someone we thought was evil but also not to place in heaven

someone we thought good, for only God sees the heart.

And so on *All Souls Day* and throughout the month of November, we pray for those who lived, in our eyes, a good and holy life – who cared for Christ in the hungry and poor, who died with the sacraments. We also pray for those who lived, by human impressions, a life far from God, His sacraments and commandments, and who may have died in objectively sinful circumstances. We pray for them all, entrusting them to God's mercy, knowing that in the communion of saints, our prayers and good deeds can in fact help them. On *All Souls Day*, we pray for them in the most powerful way any human being can: at Mass, entering into Christ's prayer from the Upper Room and the Cross that made salvation possible. While we explicitly pray for the dead in every Eucharistic Prayer, on *All Souls Day* and throughout November we're called to pray this *memento* with special preparation, recollection and devotion.

I'm always moved by the devotion of some Catholics to this work of mercy and love of praying for deceased family members and friends, themselves and others. Many Catholics regularly have Masses said for deceased loved ones, and some Catholics routinely have Masses offered for forgotten souls in Purgatory.

But I've also seen what I think can only be called a growing spiritual negligence on the part of many other Catholics. Perhaps because they mistakenly presume – contrary to Christ's words in the Gospel and the teaching of the Church – that everyone who dies automatically goes to a "better place," they seem never to pray for loved ones. They sometimes don't even have funerals for them, not to mention to have Masses offered.

All Souls Day is an occasion on which all Catholics are able to put into practice that "fundamental conviction" with a love that not even death can destroy.
(Full article on frcooper.info)

Part-time Position Available

St. Benilde School is looking for a part-time custodian to work mornings at the school. If you would like more information, please contact Mr. Fellman Mire at 504-833-9894.

Upcoming Retreats

The Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center is offering several retreats in November: **November 6-8** Waiting in Hope: Advent as a Season of Joyfully Increasing Our Longing for the Lord's Arrival with Rev. Joe Krafft; **November 13-15** For What Are We Thankful? with Rev. Louis Arceneaux; **November 13-15** Young Women's Retreat - Called by Name with Jane Hebert, Yvonne Hymel, Karen Franck; and **November 17** Day of Prayer Rehabbing Gratitude with Sr. Judith Gomila. The Retreat Center is located at 5500 St. Mary St., Metairie. For more information and to register, please call 504-267-9604 or visit retreats.arch-no.org.