

Dear Brother and Sisters,

It is so hard to believe we are at the end of October already. I offer my congratulations to the Confirmation candidates who celebrated their Rite of Enrollment last week. I am always so very pleased when I can celebrate with our young people. Special thanks to the teachers Heidi Villa and Ric Hills.

I also would like to congratulate the winners for the Fall Fest contest: The pumpkin winners are, Natalie Salmons, Conner Myers and Harper Salmons. Let us pray that soon we can get together and celebrate these festivals in person.

This week we commemorate the beautiful feasts of All Saints' and All Souls'. At this time we remember the Saints and their ability to pray and intercede for us on our earthly journey. We also remember those we have loved and lost; in a special way we recall those parishioners who have died since our last observance of All Souls Day.

As you are well aware, at this time the country is preparing for the presidential election and the election of the local government leaders. It is very important we go into this process guided by the Holy Spirit. Please join us in prayer and fasting at this important moment for our nation.

In the Gospel this week, what the world sees as tragic, harsh, or empty, especially now during this time of uncertainty, Jesus sees as blessed. Jesus lived by these qualities himself and we can notice them in his words and actions during his life with us on earth. He could encourage us to live in the spirit of the Beatitudes because he himself lived them and knew that a life of integrity and honesty is indeed a blessed life. He knew this is where the blessings of God may be found. May we all continue to hear Jesus speaking to us through the Beatitudes.

We will soon be entering into the season of Advent and the liturgy committees have been working to make it a very special time of year for the parishioners, so I would like to encourage you to please take a bulletin each week to keep yourself informed of what we will be doing at our parishes.

God Bless,

Rev. Francis Mariadas, SAC