

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday at 5:00 pm
Sunday at 9:00 am
Latin Mass at 11:00 am

Confessions

First Saturday 10:30 - 11:15am
Saturday 4:00- 4:40 pm

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 12:00 pm
Wednesday – Friday 9:00 am
First Saturday 10:00 am

Holy Day Masses

See bulletin for Mass times

Adoration & Holy Hour

First Fridays 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
First Saturday after Mass until 11:15 am

Anointing of the Sick

By request - contact the parish office

CLERGY

Pastor: Fr. David Boroff ext. 2
pastor@holytrinitycos.org

Deacon: Andy Dunnam
dcnadunnam@holytrinitycos.org

Deacon: Pete McCann. ext. 4
dcnppmccann@holytrinitycos.org

STAFF:

Connie Anderson ext. 0

Pastoral Secretary
htparishoffice@holytrinitycos.org
Text 719-493-0393

Dr. Sharon Hershey, OCDS
Music Director
music@holytrinitycos.org

Ryan Dayberry. ext. 3
Office Manager & Facilities Director
facilities@holytrinitycos.org

Catholic Legacy Society
Deacon Marc Wood 866-6527
mwood@diocs.org

Office Hours:

8:00 am - 3:00 pm Monday - Thursday
8:00 am - 1:00 pm Friday

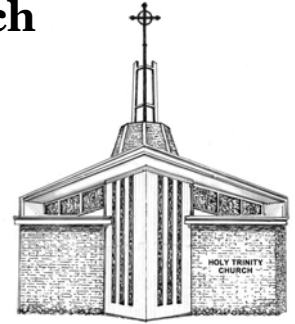
Parish Office is located in the house to the north of the church.

The nearest Catholic schools are:
Elementary: Corpus Christi Catholic School, 2410 N. Cascade, phone: 632-5092
CorpusChristicos.org

High School: Our Lady of Walsingham, 2410 N. Cascade Phone: 719-368-9131
St. Mary's, 2501 E. Yampa St.,
Phone: 635-7540

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

3122 Poinsetta Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80907
Phone: 719-633-2132

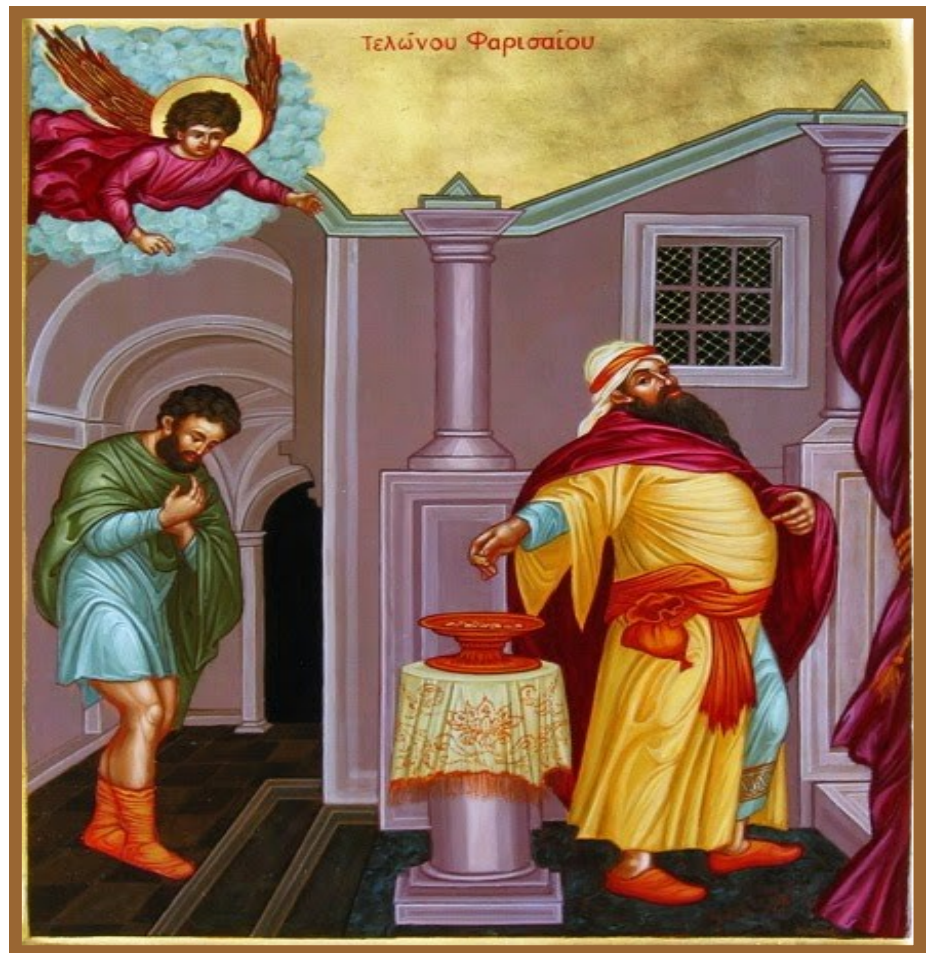


A Parish of the Diocese of Colorado Springs

Website: www.holytrinitycos.org

Email: holytrinitycoloradosprings@gmail.com

Social Media: Facebook & Gab



“...whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” (Luke 18:1)

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 26, 2025

Communion to the Homebound

Do you know someone in our parish who is temporarily or permanently homebound or in a nursing home and would like to receive communion weekly? Please call the office to schedule a homebound visit or to schedule a nursing home visit. If you are a mandated EMHC or would like to become one and would like to volunteer for this ministry, please contact the parish office.

Leave a Legacy to Holy Trinity

Catholic legacy gifts are an essential part of the wishes of parishioners to provide for their parish, a specific ministry, or the diocese at the time of their death. This can occur through direct giving by way of a will or trust, through a beneficiary gift from a retirement or life insurance policy, or via an endowment through the Catholic Foundation of the Diocese of Colorado Springs to name a few examples. These generous gifts help continue the great work and missions within the Diocese of Colorado Springs.

Deacon Marc Wood is the Planned Giving and Legacy Officer for our Diocese. mwood@diocs.org

SHARE Food Item of the Week

Feed the Poor . . . Please help us feed the poor by donating the following items for SHARE Thanksgiving food baskets:

“Canned Vegetables and Cranberry Sauce”

Sacraments

Baptisms: Baptism preparation class is required for all parents and godparents, and they must be registered in a Catholic parish and members in good standing.

Contact the parish office to schedule an appointment.

Marriage: All engaged couples participate in a Marriage Preparation Program (a policy of the Diocese of Colorado Springs), Contact the parish office AT LEAST ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE of your planned marriage to begin preparation.

Sacrament of the Sick/Emergencies: Dial 633-2132, ext 1. Calls are monitored on a regular basis.

Funerals: Please call the parish office **before** scheduling date and time with a funeral home. The parish office schedules presiders, musicians, and servers in consultation with family members.

Please contact the parish office for additional information at (719) 633-2132.

Volunteer Ministries at Holy Trinity

Adoration
Altar Linens
Altar Servers
Baptismal Prep Classes
Bereavement Dinners
Bulletin Stuffers
Coffee and Donuts
Communion - Home Bound

Communion - Nursing Homes
Confirmation
Environment
Faith Formation
Finance Council
FOCCUS

Holy Trinity Ladies Guild
Knights of Columbus
Lectors / EMHCs / Greeters
Lighthouse Catholic Media
Marian House Soup Kitchen

Marriage Prep / Marriage Retreat
Money Counters
OCIA
Outdoor Environment
Pastoral Council
Respect Life
Scouts
Senior Dinners
SHARE Food Program
& Giving Tree
Stewardship
Ushers
Vocations

Cindy Dronenburg
Pauline Staton-Dunn
Clergy
Clergy
Judie Scott
Elaine Ivan
Bud & Judie Scott
Judie Scott
550-0943
Clergy
Joan Kilman
Gretchen Dunnam
Joan Kilman
Pastor
Dcn Andy & Gretchen
Dunnam
Judie Scott
John Longmore
Chuck Pavlica
Darrin French
Dick & Evelyn
Koprowski
Pastor
Jane Biondi
Phil & Connie Pratt
Danielle Hrovat
Don Dornan
Matt Niedzielski
Mike Bartusek
Mike Bartusek
Jane & Vince Biondi
Patty & Joe Burke
Susan Pavlica
Pete Dunn
Pastor

For more information, call the Parish Office 633-2132

New Parishioners

Not a parishioner of Holy Trinity? There are many reasons to become a registered member: religious education classes, opportunities for Christian service in the community, letters of recommendation to serve as godparents and sponsors for newcomers to the faith, pre-printed tithing envelopes (if desired), an annual report of your charitable offerings and a subscription to the Colorado Catholic Herald. Registration forms are available in the foyers or online at www.holytrinitycos.org.

Bulletin Announcements

Bulletin announcements must be submitted no later than noon on Tuesday. Please send announcements to : htparishoffice@holytrinitycos.org.

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 26, 2025

Weekly Events Calendar

Sunday, Oct 26,

Coffee and donuts after morning Masses

9:50 am: Children's Religious Ed - classroom;

10am-11:30 am Adult Catholic Studies—Hope House

11:30 am-1:00pm OCIA— Hope House

Monday, Oct 27,

7:00 pm: Boy Scouts - Hope House

Tuesday, Oct 28

8:00 am: Tuesday Morning Hospitality - Hope House

6:30 pm: Latin Study Group - Hope House

Wednesday, Oct 29,

5:15 pm: Stewardship - Hope House

Friday, Oct. 31,

Adoration Sign up

Saturday, Nov. 1,

All Saints Day, (Not a Holy day of Obligation)

Sunday, Nov. 2,

Coffee and donuts after morning Masses

9:50 am: Children's Religious Ed - classroom

10am-11:30 am Adult Catholic Studies—Hope House

11:30 am-1:00pm OCIA— Hope House

2-5pm ...St Francis DeSales Fraternity

Catechist Needed

Holy Trinity is looking for a Catechist to teach First Holy Communion, Sunday mornings, 9:50 am—10:45 am. Please contact Joan Kilman through the office at htparishoffice@holytrinitycos.org or call 719-633-2132.

Offertory

Offertory	\$ 7,020.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 8,000.00
YTD Goal	\$ 128,000.00
Actual Offertory to Date:	\$ 122,270.24
Over (Under) Goal	\$ (5,729.76)

Thank you to all who continue their support to the church with tithes. Please feel free to continue to mail or drop off your donation at the office.

You may also donate online at : www.holytrinitycos.org .

On-line Donations:

There are two DONATE HERE buttons on our web page. Quick Links on the right side or under the Follow Us On Facebook link. When you click on either of the DONATE HERE buttons, it will take you to a donation page that has 'Holy Trinity Catholic Church' and a little tiny picture of our parish in the upper left hand corner. If you have any questions, please call the office.

Mass Times & Intentions

Monday, Oct. 27

No Mass

Tuesday, Oct. 28

12:00 pm James McCann

By: Deacon Pete & Margaret McCann

Wednesday, Oct. 29

9:00am ✠ Tony K. Ballweber

By: Jane and Vince Biondi

Thursday, Oct. 30

9:00 am ✠ Joe Ragulsky

By: The Chance Family

Friday, Oct. 31

9:00 am ✠ Judy McIntire

By: John & Cindy Dronenburg

Saturday, Nov. 1

10:00 am: Hatsi McCormick

By: Terry McIntire

5:00 pm ✠ Ed Huber

By: Carol & Carl Gross

Sunday, Nov. 2

9:00 am HT Parishioners

11:00 am Holy Souls in Purgatory

By: Joseph Hearty

To request a Mass intention, please call or email the parish office. Donations for already requested Masses can be made through the parish website, by check or cash. Be sure to specify 'Mass Intentions' with your donation so we can match it to the requested date.



Vocations Prayer Calendar

Please pray for our Diocesan Bishops, Priests, Deacons & Seminarians . This week's schedule is:

Oct 26: Michael Pokorny, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary

Oct 27: Mark Rocco, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary

Oct 28: James McCann, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary

Oct 29: Christopher Oram, Mt. St. Mary's Seminary

Oct 30: Father Michael Goodyear

Oct 31: Father Nathaniel Hinds

Nov 1: Joseph Hourigan St. Gregory the Great Seminary

Eternal Father, we lift up these priests, deacons, and seminarians of our Diocese. Sanctify them, protect and guide them, and mold them into the likeness and holiness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Adult Catholic Studies

THE BIBLE AND THE SACRAMENTS



While we all know a sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace, few of us know the biblical basis for each one. This year, we continue Matthew

Leonard's Scripture-based video series by examining the Old Testament origins of Baptism, Confirmation, Matrimony, and Holy Orders...and Christ's fulfillment of them in the New Testament.

Oct 5 & 12	No Class
Oct 19	The Waters of Salvation
Oct 26	On a Mission for God
Nov 2	The Sacrificial Offering
Nov 9	The Lamb of God

Exorcist Files: As a follow-up to last year's talk on the demonic, we now focus on well-known exorcist Fr. Carlos Martins. He says that if the devil is present, there is a reason. He says young people are encountering Satan but without religion to guard them. And he counters the idea that faith is all that is needed to reach heaven, explaining that the devil has more faith than any of us...but will never get there!

Tomb of St. Peter: According to Mt 16:18, Christ said, "You are Peter and upon this rock I will build My Church." In a fascinating history lesson, Phil Pratt will summarize the surprising discovery of the tomb of our first pope, directly under the altar of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome! Learn why the excavation was done in secret and what persuaded Pope Paul VI to declare that Peter's bones had, indeed, been found.

Saints: Michelle Duppong: Keeping our annual commitment to study at least one saint, we'll explore the life of a FOCUS missionary who recently died and is already a Servant of God. Thanks to the words of family, friends, priests, and doctors, you'll learn how this woman joyfully lived and bravely died...and why she's on her way to sainthood.

Nov 16	Exorcist Files
Nov 23	Tomb of St. Peter
Nov 30	No Class
Dec 7	Saints: Michelle Duppong
Dec 14-28	No Class

**Holy Trinity Adult Catholic Studies meets
Sundays at 10 am in the Hope House.**

SHARE Holiday Food Baskets

As in the past seventeen years, Holy Trinity will once again donate food baskets to needy families in our community, for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. Additionally, we will be offering the Christmas Giving Tree, whereby parishioners can pick a tag and purchase a gift for a child.

The Thanksgiving distribution is set for Saturday, November 22nd and will include: stuffing, sweet potatoes, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy mix, fresh potatoes, fresh pumpkin pie and a gift card for the purchase of a turkey. We will also collect names for the Christmas Giving Tree during the Thanksgiving distribution.

The Christmas distribution is set for Saturday, December 20th and will include: ham, scalloped potatoes, canned vegetables, pancake mix and syrup, candy canes, hot cocoa mix, Christmas cookies and fresh produce.

All of these donations depend 100% on the generosity of Holy Trinity parishioners. In the vestibules, you will find donation envelopes for this ministry. Simply drop your donation in the offertory anytime before Christmas.

If you know anyone in need of a food basket or Christmas gift, please call the parish office at 719-633-2132. Names submitted last year will be carried over this year, each family on our list will be contacted individually.

Thank you for your support!



CHRISTKINDL MARKET

December 6 | 11am-8pm

4727 COACH HOUSE DRIVE

Christmas trees, wreaths, & garlands now available for purchase!

Order now and pick up your Christmas greenery on Thanksgiving weekend!



Christkindl2025.GiveSmart.com

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF ABORTION.



Abortion clinics
are closing all
over the country!
**WILL COLORADO
SPRINGS BE NEXT?**



GIVE ONE HOUR

September 24-November 2

40daysforlife.com/coloradosprings

Can you give ONE HOUR of ONE DAY this fall to fasting and praying
at the public sidewalk near Planned Parenthood?

INFERNO CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

BEACON

YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:14



FATHER GRAD RIPPERGER • BISHOP GOLKA • JESSE ROMERO
FR. CROMLEY • RICHIE REISTER • CHUCK STEFANICK

NOV • 15 • 2025

8AM - 5PM

ANTLER'S HOTEL CO. SPGS

INFERNOMEN.COM

REGISTER TODAY



BINGO

OCTOBER
25TH

NOVEMBER
15TH

6:30-8PM

SPCS GYM - JAEGER HALL
124 1ST ST., MONUMENT, CO

SUPPORT OUR 8TH GRADE TRIP
TO WASHINGTON DC

STUDENTS WILL BE SELLING
MEALS, SNACKS, AND DRINKS
COME HUNGRY!

BRING THE FAMILY!
ANYONE OVER 6 YEARS OLD CAN PLAY
WITH AN ADULT!



Our Lady's Dowry 2025



Unmask the Excitement!

Friday, November 14, 2025

The Pinery at the Hill - 775 W. Bijou St.
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Our Lady of Walsingham Academy, Colorado Springs' first
Catholic classical high school, invites you to the annual Our
Lady's Dowry Gala & Fundraiser, themed *Masquerade*.

Celebrate with us as we showcase our talented students,
enjoy a gourmet meal, libations and bid on unique live
auction items—all in support of OLWA's mission to form
young men and women through a classical education
rooted in faith.

Tickets and details:

olwaclassical.org/2025gala

SCAN FOR
TICKETS



Our Lady of
the Woods

SAVE THE DATES

ignite
A New Pentecost

Life in the Spirit Retreat

November 7 and 8, 2025

Friday 6:00 p.m. (doors open) - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday 8:30 a.m. (doors open) - 4:00 p.m.

The Retreat is for adults and young adults who want to grow in their
spiritual lives, to have a deeper personal relationship with Jesus
Christ, and who want to experience a fuller release of the Gift of the
Holy Spirit received in the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.

Register by emailing
Deacon Chuck Maltzer,
cmaltzer@diocs.org with
name, email address,
phone number and parish.

Our Lady of the Woods Catholic Church
220 S. West Street
Woodland Park, CO 80863

Senior/ Family Dinner

Dinner will be held **Sunday, November 16th, from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm** in the cafeteria. The cost is \$4 per person. The menu includes , Turkey, dressing, yams, peas, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, gravy, salad, dessert and rolls. Please RSVP to Mike Bartusek (719) 640-8057.

Second Collections

Nov 9 Military Services, USA

Dec 14 Religious Retirement Fund

Bad Weather Policy

If there is a snow **delay** for Corpus Christi Catholic School or District 11, we **will** have Mass on Tuesdays at noon;

no Masses if a delay lands on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday.

Snow **closure**; **no** daily Mass and the office is closed on that weekday.

Please be prudent in making a decision to come for Mass if the weather is questionable.

Holy Trinity Thanksgiving Baskets

The holidays are coming!! It is time to begin our annual food drive to provide holiday meals for our families in need. We need your help to accomplish this goal. Your generosity has always made it possible for us to make this a success.

The items we are going to need for Thanksgiving are:

Stuffing Mix
Canned Sweet Potatoes
Canned Vegetables
Gravy Mix
Cranberry Sauce

Food collection bins can be found at both entrances of the church. We will be collecting these items for Thanksgiving from 10/4 through 11/16/25. There will be more information to follow regarding Christmas food collection.

We are also accepting cash donations for the purchase of turkeys, fresh produce and fresh pies. Please make your check payable to HT SHARE and drop in the offertory basket.

If you know of a family in need of a holiday basket, please contact the church office at 719-633-2132.

Thank you for your support.

Jane and Vince Biondi

Roy Johnson

Patty and Joe Burke

Please pray for...

Barbara Barbee ~ Brent Barkley ~ Wayne & Rhonda Bauer ~ Kimberly Bergeron ~ Patricia Beyerl ~ Alverna Bieker ~ Brett Billesbach ~ John Billesbach ~ Mark Billesbach ~ Don Brown ~ Ken & Catherine Budzon ~ Ann Burger ~ Charles Caldon ~ Karen Cross ~ Mercy Cruz ~ Amanda Dennis ~ John DeWitt ~ Leon Dunn ~ Anita Edwards ~ Shari ~ Edwards ~ John Erickson ~ Mildred Espinoza ~ David & Sara Fandel ~ Rick Fandel ~ Don & Marie Feller ~ Dennis Feller ~ Matthew Feller ~ Anne & Darrin French ~ Elaine Gardner & family ~ Donna Griffin ~ Margaret Hays ~ Toni (Bartusek) Higgins ~ Karrie Hoskisson ~ Barbara Isner ~ Cathy Johnson ~ Evelyn Koprowski ~ Jim Lahey ~ Catherine Lahey ~ Ed Lahey ~ Harry Lambrecht ~ Beverly Lemmon ~ Sylvia Linzy ~ Raymond Magic ~ Heidi ~ Arbogast Manus ~ Marie Marinko ~ Mae Martinelli ~ Stephen Martinelli ~ Joyce Mason ~ Denise Mastro ~ Alice Matthew ~ Ian McClory ~ Jesse McCoon Frank McCormick ~ Louise McPhillips ~ Doug & Cheryl Moloney ~ Tiffany Mothershead ~ Teddie Myers ~ Steven Nagel ~ Mark Newman ~ Mark O'Donnell ~ Steve Pavlica ~ Richard Phelps ~ Jason Piaggio ~ Dan Pitsko ~ Danelo Pohlson ~ Lincoln & Amanda Pogge ~ Susan & John Pogge ~ Jim Pratt ~ David Putnam ~ Floyd & Leila Quintana ~ Don Rantz ~ Cami Reavis ~ Joseph Rivas ~ Mary Ann Rivas ~ Angie Romero ~ Valerich Romero ~ Tony Rowan ~ Cliff Rutherford ~ Andy & Dee Sabol ~ Linda Schell ~ Meredith Schell ~ Sue Schenk ~ Ayla Anne Scott ~ D. Gregg Scott ~ Judie Scott ~ Barbara Sebben ~ Jeff Sebben ~ Juanita Sharpe ~ Joseph Shirley ~ Patrick Shook ~ Kay Sinnot ~ Tom Sinnott ~ Adam Smith ~ Jaida Sousa ~ Kathy Stiffler ~ Stanley Strock ~ Carmelita Tafoya ~ Lynn Toth ~ Tyler Turnell ~ Gloria Tuttle ~ James Vanderwerf ~ Simon Vanderwerf ~ Cynthia Vialpando ~ Carol Wadman ~ Rich & Meg Wagner ~ Emily Weidinger ~ Carole Woolman ~ Don Wurr

Note: If your loved one's name has been on this list for more than two years or has recovered please call the office to remove their name from the prayer list to make room for others in need of prayer. Thank you.



November 1-2 All Souls Day

5:00 P.M.			9:00 A.M.		
S	Mike	Bartusek	S	Dick	Koprowski
S	Russell	Tamlin	S	Doug	Fackelman
L1	Phil	Pratt	L1	Mary Lou	Nichols
L2	Gretchen	Dunnam	L2	Terry	Hekkers

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)



**Do you want to understand
the Catholic Church better?**

**Do you wonder what your
Catholic spouse believes and
why?**

**Have you ever thought about
entering the Catholic
Church?**

**Have you been baptized but
have not received the
Sacraments of Eucharist or
Confirmation?**

Our OCIA program offers the opportunity to learn about the Church's beliefs, Biblical foundations, and beauty...as well as her 2000-year-old history, traditions, and practices.

Our classes focus on the teaching of the Church, their foundation in Scripture and Tradition, the truth and beauty of the Church, and the experience of being Catholic. They will prepare you to enter the Church and to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.

Please join our OCIA process to ask your questions, get answers, and share your own insights and faith story.

Plenary Indulgence for Holy Souls

Come pray for the souls in purgatory!

During the Jubilee Year of Hope, which began on December 29, 2024 and ends on January 6, 2026, a plenary Indulgence is available to the faithful who visit certain sacred sites during the year, perform works of mercy, or certain acts of penance under the normal conditions. All Souls' Day, also called The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, is a day of prayer and remembrance for the faithful departed, observed 2 November.

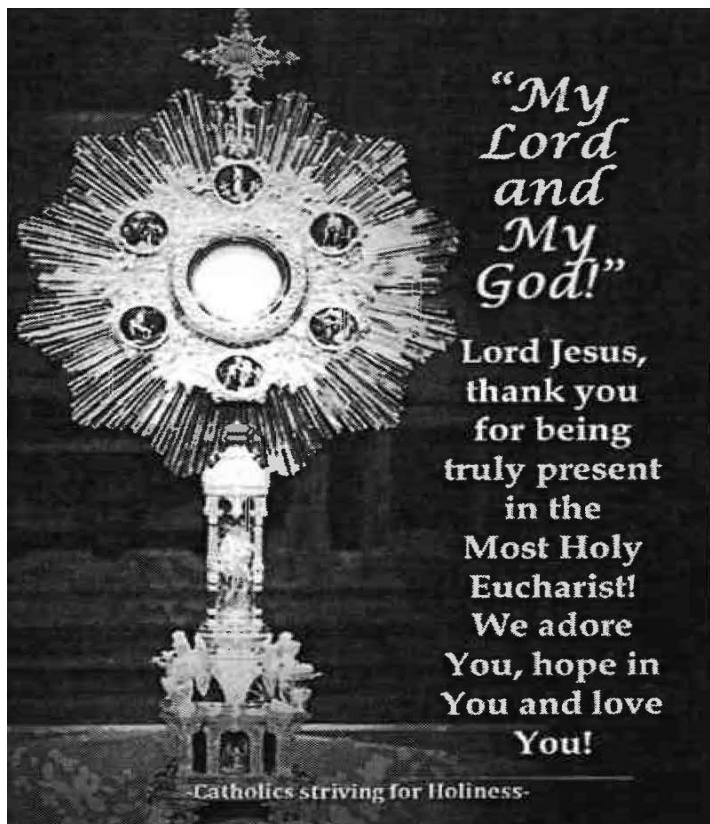
You can pick up your Plenary Indulgence cards at either entrance to the church.

Join us for a walk through the Catholic section of the cemetery while we pray a rosary and Divine Mercy chaplet. On **Sunday, at 1pm November 2nd** (All souls Day) at the parking lot of Evergreen Cemetery, 1005 Hancock Expressway, Colorado Springs

Readings

Oct 26, 2025 through Nov 2, 2025

Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18, Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23
2Tm 4:6-8, 16-18, Lk 18:9-14
Monday: Rom 8:12-17 Ps 68:2,4,6-7b, 20-21
Lk 13:10-17
Tuesday: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 19:2-5 Lk 6:12-16
Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30 Ps 13:4-6 Lk 13:22-30
Thursday: Rom 8:31b-39 Ps 109:21-22, 26-27, 30-31
Lk 13:31-35
Friday: Rom 9:1-5 Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 Lk 14:1-6
Saturday: Isa 25:6a, 7-9 Rom 14:7-9, 10c-12 Rv 7:2-4,
9-14 Ps 24:1b-4ab, 5-6 1Jn 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a
Sunday: Isa 25:6a, 7-9 Rom 14:7-9, 10c-12 Wis 3:1-9
Ps 23:1-6 Rom 5:5-11 Jn 6:37-40



Join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday, November 7th, 9:30-3:30

Sign-up sheets will be in both foyers. Come and spend
an hour with Our Lord.

**** If you cannot commit to an hour, come and spend
what time you can. ****

*"Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed
Sacrament is the greatest after the sacraments, the one
dearest to God and the one most helpful to us." -*

St. Alphonsus Liguori

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

Vol. 110, No. 21. Published weekly at Philadelphia. Entered as Second-Class Matter, November 16, 1879, at the Post Office at Philadelphia, under No. 311 of March 3, 1915.

Franklin

OCT. 23, 1920

5c. THE COPY
10c. in Canada

HALLOW
~E'EN



How Halloween is actually Catholic

Halloween, often feared by Evangelicals, is not the satanic celebration of evil it is sometimes portrayed to be. Catholics know this is a day to celebrate, not to frighten. In that vein, Catholic Christians often choose to dress as saints or other characters we admire, as well as poking a bit of fun at the devil. After all, he has already lost the battle; Jesus Christ the Savior was victorious when he became man and dwelt among us. He even allowed the devil to tempt him, as an illustration of the power of light over darkness.

The eve of October 31st, as well as the days of November 1st and 2nd, are unofficially called the “Days of the Dead” – these are the days we pray for or remember those no longer dwelling on this earth. We celebrate all the Saints in Heaven All Saints’ Day (also known as All Hallows’) on the evening of October 31 and November 1st. Then, on the day after All Hallows’, we remember the saved souls who are in Purgatory being purged of the temporal effects of the sins committed during their lifetime, before they can enter Heaven.

It might be beneficial to look at these three days of Halloween as follows:

October 31 – Halloween (All Hallows Eve) recalls the reality of hell and reminds us to consider ways to avoid it. Damned souls are remembered as a warning and the faithful vow not to join them. Many Catholics attend Mass on the evening of this day as a fulfillment of their All Saints Day obligation. This is also the evening that many children dress up and collect sweet treats from neighbors and friends.

November 1 – All Saints Day is officially a Holy Day of Obligation. The Church Triumphant is recognized on this day by recalling great saints as well as those uncanonized saints not known to us.

November 2 – While not a Holy Day of Obligation, we remember to pray for the Church Suffering – those souls who are still in Purgatory – on All Souls Day. Remembering our deceased loved ones during this time, and having a Mass said for them, is a Corporal Work of Mercy.

The earliest form of All Saints Day was originally celebrated on May 13. As it has been since the 300’s, this is still the case in some Eastern Churches. Initially, only the martyrs were commemorated, but by 741, all saints had been included. It wasn’t until the year 844 that Pope Gregory III transferred the Feast Day to November 1st. This was the year he consecrated a chapel in St. Peter’s Basilica to All Saints. This should put to rest the theory that the date of All Saints Day was fixed because of the harvest festival of the Irish pagans.

All Souls Day originated with the Bishop of Cluny, who in A.D. 1048, decreed that the Benedictines of Cluny pray for the souls in Purgatory on this day. The practice further spread until it was recommended for the entire Latin Church by Pope Sylvester II.

In Irish popular piety, the evening before, Halloween (All Hallows or “Hallows’ Eve”) became a day of remembering the dead who are damned. These customs spread to many parts of the world, thus initiating the popular focus of Halloween as the reality of Hell. As a result, scary characters, focus on evil and how to avoid it, and the sad fate of damned souls captured the imagination.

Some traditional circles find the celebration – even whether or not to celebrate it at all – to be controversial. We often hear that Halloween is a pagan holiday – quite contrary to the meaning and authentic origin of Halloween. All Hallows’ Evening, is a Catholic holiday with roots in remembering saints, sinners, and the damned. Although some say that the holiday actually stems from Samhain, a pagan Celtic celebration, or is Satanic, this simply isn’t true.

As with many Church celebrations, commercialization/secularization of the holiday and popular myths proclaiming a pagan origin, result in some refusing to celebrate Halloween at all. Others celebrate without trepidation while keeping their celebration Catholic and refraining from the ugliness that has marred the day in the secular world. Hopefully, whatever your family decides, it’s vital to keep the facts straight, and to refrain from judging others who decide to celebrate Halloween differently or not at all. As in all instances of our lives, charity is key.

The custom of dressing up comes from the French.

The color of orange goes back to the traditional use of unbleached candles for Funeral Masses.

The use of Black Vestments at a funeral Mass is another ancient practice where the Church mourns for the loss of her deceased members, and reminds us all that Jesus has conquered sin and death once and for all, and that we are to pray for God’s mercy on the soul of the departed.

Carved Jack-o-lanterns come from the Irish, who originally carved turnips.

Dressing up as a saint can be a springboard for learning about their lives and their special graces.

If done with an eye toward faith, Halloween offers an opportunity to teach children about the reality of evil and hell, the reassurance that evil was conquered by Jesus, and the hope of Heaven for those living holy lives. After all, Satan has no power over those who live in Christ. In balance, we must teach them to not live in the life of sin but in the state of grace and to protect themselves from all things occult – Ouija boards, casting spells, and calling down spirits must not be attempted or tolerated. These things only invite the devil into our lives.

Those of us in the earthly Church Militant should remind others of the power of the Holy Name of Jesus, sacramentals, and prayers such as the St. Michael Prayer. And don’t forget to pray for the intercession of the saints. Pray that those who don’t know Jesus will come to know His love and mercy. Jesus, the God-Man, who loved us so much that He allowed himself to suffer and die for us!

B. Jones



How do you engage in your faith journey?

Help us to better serve you

Here's what to know:

- Just 2 short questions
- Takes less than a minute
- Completely anonymous
- Helps improve parish & Diocesan programs

Scan the QR code below to share your input!

Thank you for being part of this journey.



Survey powered by
Serve Business Consulting LLC



Questions? Contact us at
info@servebc.com

“Bishop Golka and his staff want to hear from you! Above you’ll find a QR code with a link to a very short survey. The survey has only 2 questions about how you engage in your faith journey. Your input will help both the Diocese and our parish start to fine tune what we currently do to support your journey. Thank you for your participation!”