

A Letter from Fr. Patrick Kizza

November 2, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each year, as the leaves fall and November begins, the Church invites us into a sacred time of remembrance — **All Saints Day** and **All Souls Day**. These two celebrations, though distinct, are beautifully connected in the mystery of our faith. They remind us that we are part of something far greater than we can see: the **Communion of Saints**, the unbroken bond of love that unites the Church on Earth, in Purgatory and in Heaven.

On **All Saints Day**, we celebrate the countless men and women who now behold the face of God, known and unknown, canonized and ordinary, those who lived their faith with love and courage. They were parents who prayed with their children, workers who acted justly, the poor who trusted in God, and martyrs who gave their lives for Christ. These saints remind us that holiness is not perfection but fidelity, being faithful to God in the ordinary moments of daily life.

Then, on **All Souls Day**, we turn our hearts in prayer for all who have died, our family members, friends, parishioners, and even those who have no one to pray for them. We believe, as Jesus says in today's Gospel, that the Father's will is "that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life." Death is not the end; it is the doorway to eternal life in Christ. Yet, some souls are still being purified, their love being perfected, and our prayers, our Masses, and our sacrifices can help them on their journey to heaven.

The Church dedicates the entire month of **November** to remembering the dead. It is a time to light candles, visit cemeteries, and whisper prayers of gratitude and hope. If you have time this month, go to a cemetery near you, walk among the graves, read the names, and pray: *"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them."* This simple act is a powerful work of mercy. It reminds us of our own destiny and strengthens our hope in the Resurrection.

In a world that fears death, we **Christians stand firm in the promise of Christ**: "I will not reject anyone who comes to me... I shall raise him on the last day." Our faith does not erase grief, but it transforms it. We mourn, yes, but with hope — knowing that those who have gone before us are not lost; they live in the light of God's love.

So as we celebrate these holy days, let us thank God for the saints who inspire us and pray fervently for all the souls who await the fullness of glory. May our prayers, especially this November, help them draw nearer to the joy of heaven — where one day, we too hope to join them in everlasting peace.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.
Amen.*



Fr. Patrick