



18 October 2026 + Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

This year All Saints Day, the patronal feast day of our parish, falls on a Sunday and is celebrated at all of the weekend Masses. This also marks the beginning of special prayers for our beloved dead. It is also time for you to renew or enroll your deceased loved ones in the All Souls Novena of Masses, offered once a month throughout the year. To renew or enroll your loved ones use the envelope provided in your quarterly packet you receive through the mail. If you can't find that envelope, there should be extras in each of our churches or our parish office. The first novena Mass is always on All Souls Day, November 2nd. Even though we normally do not have a public Mass on Mondays, I will be offering a Mass that day at St. Rose of Lima Church in Cadott at 6:30pm. I especially encourage those who are offering the novena of Masses to come, if possible.

I am also going to take the opportunity, this November, to speak a bit about the importance of respecting the Catholic traditions of Christian burial, the proper disposition of the body or remains of the dead, and the importance and care of Catholic cemeteries. I am sure you are well aware of the fact that Christian burial is rapidly being replaced by various secular, and even pagan burial practices. I hear so often people read the obituaries of very devout Catholics only to discover that no services or rites are being done at church; rather, a brief prayer service is held at the funeral home or at the cemetery. Celebrations of life have somehow become the purview of the local bar. Strange things are happening to the cremated remains of loved ones. We encounter people digging a hole on family plots and burying ashes. We even encounter ashes being spread on top of graves. It is no wonder Halloween is becoming such a prominent "festival" in our culture.

All of this comes from a very radical change in our culture concerning the sanctity of the human body and person, a proper Christian understanding of death and eternal life, and a lack of connection to what we know in the Church as the communion of saints on earth, heaven, and in purgatory. If you have any particular questions or issues you would like me to address concerning these things, please send me an email.

We begin our Diocesan/Parish Annual Appeal this weekend. Please do all you can to help reach our goals and pay off our loans with your support.

Blessings and best wishes to you all,