

St. John Berchmans School Herald

"Building the Mind and Spirit in Every Child!"

November 2, 2007
Volume 2, Issue 2

Principal-Mrs. Beverly Abbott
Vice-Principal-Mrs. Nora Garcia



All Saints' Day & All Souls' Day

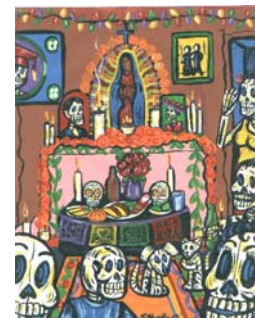
*"May the good saints protect you and bless you today, and may troubles ignore you each step of the way."
Irish Blessing*

ones who have passed away. This comes from the ancient Pagan Festival of the Dead, which celebrated the Pagan belief that the souls of the dead would return for a meal with the family. Candles in the window would guide the souls back home, and another place was set at the table. Children would come through the village, asking for food to be offered symbolically to the dead, then donated to feed the hungry.

Many customs are associated with The Day of the Dead celebration. In the home an altar is made with an offering of food upon it. It is believed that the dead partake of the food in spirit and the living eat it later. The ofrendas (offerings) are beautifully arranged with flowers such as marigolds (zempasuchitl), which are the traditional flower of the dead. There is a candle placed for each dead soul, and they are adorned in some manner. Incense is also often used, and mementos, photos, and other remembrances of the dead also adorn the ofrenda.

It is also traditional in some areas to see the play Don Juan Tenorio. Paper mache and sugar skulls are popular, as are cardboard coffins from which a skeleton can be made to jump out. Special masks are also worn, allowing a person to achieve a facial expression for which they feel they are inadequate to achieve.

<http://all-souls-day.123holiday.net/>



Contents

All Saints' Day & All Soul's Day	1
Daily Meditation	2
Thanksgiving Dinner	2
Piano Lessons	2
Birthdays	2
Sports	3

The Church has always honored those early witnesses to the Christian faith who have died in the Lord. (The Greek word for "witness" is martyr.) During the first three hundred years Christians were severely persecuted, often suffering torture and bloody death -- *because they were faithful*. They refused to deny Christ, even when this denial might have saved their own lives, or the lives of their children and families.

The early history of the Church is filled with stories of the heroic faith of these of witnesses to Christ's truth. The stories of these saints -- these baptized Christians of all ages and all states in life, whose fidelity and courage led to their sanctity or holiness -- have provided models for every other Christian throughout history.

In order to honor the memory -- and our own debt -- to these unnamed saints, and to recall their example, the Church dedicated a special feast day -- a sort of "memorial day" -- so that all living Christians would celebrate at a special Mass the lives and witness of those "who have died and gone before us into the presence of the Lord".

It is a principal feast of the Catholic Church. It is a holy day of obligation, which means that all Catholics are to attend Mass on that day.

<http://www.wf-f.org/AllSaints.html>

All Soul's Day is a Roman Catholic day of remembrance for friends and loved

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Saturday Nov 3-Dance Team clinic
- ◆ Monday Nov 5-School Council Mtg: 6:00
- ◆ Wednesday Nov 7- Parent Lunch
- ◆ Wednesday Nov 7- Second Early Bird Drawing
- ◆ Sunday Nov 11-Sell Raffle tickets at Holy Spirit Church
- ◆ Wednesday Nov 14- Turkey Dinner
- ◆ Friday Nov 16-Picture Retakes
- ◆ Wednesday Nov 21- Early Dismissal for Thanksgiving Holidays

Meditation

"The kingdom of God has come near to you"



After this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come. And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, `Peace be to this house!' 6 And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages; do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you; heal the sick in it and say to them, `The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, `Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off against you; nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.' I tell you, it shall be more tolerable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

Luke 10:1-12

Thanksgiving Dinner

We will be having our annual Thanksgiving dinner on Wednesday, Nov 14. The tickets for the dinner are now being sold. The cost of the dinner is \$5.50 a plate. The plate will include turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, stuffing, bread and tea. There will also be dessert for sale. You can come on the 14th just like you do for parent lunch. Please let us know ahead of time if you are attending so we can prepare enough dinners.



Guitar Lessons

Mrs. Hewgley will start giving guitar lessons on November 6. She will be available every Tuesday from 4:15-5:15. We do have some guitars available but you are free to bring your own guitar.



Lost Items

Some students have lost their jacket or sweatshirt. We have a brand new jacket in the office that was turned in. These items are expensive. Please make sure that your child's name is written on their jacket just in case it gets misplaced. Please look at the jacket or sweatshirt that they brought home to ensure that they are bringing their own item. Thank you for your help in this situation.

SPORTS NEWS

KIDS LEAGUE SOCCER

The schedule for this Saturday, November 3rd is as follows:

PK team play against CASA at 9:00am at CASA field #1

1st/2nd grade play against St. Cecilia at 3:00pm at CASA field #2.

Kinder team play against Harvest at New Life Christian Academy at 2:00pm.

3rd/4th grade play against Palm Heights at CASA field #2 at 1:00pm.

BASKETBALL

Tryouts and practice for 5th thru 8th grade students start on Monday, November 5th at the SJB Basketball Court at 3:45pm. Students must have a physical on file in order to participate. Parent volunteers with a CDL license are needed and will receive service hours.

KIDS LEAGUE BASKETBALL

Information will be announced at a later date.

CHEERLEADERS

The cheerleaders practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30pm to 6:45pm.

The dance team practices on Mondays and Tuesdays from 3:30pm-4:30pm. The Pep Squad practices on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:30pm-4:30pm.

THANK YOU

The eighth grade class would like to extend a big "Thank You" to all who came to the Haunted House and Halloween Dance. To all the parents and students who helped with the preparation of the night.



		= = = = =		
		The rules of soccer are very		
		simple, basically it is this: if		
		it moves, kick it. If it		
		doesn't move, kick it until it		
		does.		
		- Phil Woosnam		
		= = = = =		



We are on the web:
www.stjohnberchmans.com/school/

VISITOR SIGN IN

Please remember to sign in when you are picking up a child. The teachers will not release a student unless the office has notified them. We are responsible for the accountability of the students and we need your help and cooperation.