November: The Month of the Holy Souls

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Requiescant in pace. Amen

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, Amen.

We have arrived at the month of November, which is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Throughout November, Holy Mother Church asks us to offer sacrifices and prayers for the remission of debt incurred by those faithful departed souls whose sins were already forgiven. In order to assist these souls, we will remember the names of the deceased that are noted on the back of our All Souls Day envelope (sent to all parishioners, example of one pictured below) for the entire month of November. Although no stipend is required for this act of charity, your sacrificial contribution would be gratefully accepted. Envelopes can be returned by mail or dropped off in the collection baskets at Church.

Our Church also offers an important opportunity to relieve the Holy Souls in Purgatory through fervent prayers for the deceased. By visiting a cemetery and praying every day from November 1 to November 30, one may also gain a plenary indulgence for the faithful departed. Here is helpful information on obtaining plenary indulgences for the Poor Souls:

**SIX GENERAL RULES FOR OBTAINING A PLENARY INDULGENCE**

1. State of grace at least when performing the indulgenced act
2. Confession (20 days before or after the indulgenced act)
3. Reception of Holy Communion (20 days before or after the indulgenced act)
4. Prayers for the Holy Father
5. Complete detachment from sin (even venial sin)
6. Performance of the indulgenced act, usually a special good work with certain conditions, places or times

**INDULGENCED ACTS TO BE PERFORMED FOR A PLENARY INDULGENCE**

**NEW:** From November 1 to November 30: Visit a cemetery and pray for the poor souls (1 per day, with the indulgence applied to a faithful departed; extended to the entire month due to COVID)

**NEW:** From November 1 to November 30: Visit a Church or Oratory and recite one Our Father and the Creed (1 per day; extended to the entire month due to COVID)

A partial indulgence can be obtained at any time by visiting a cemetery and praying for the Poor Souls.