

Dear Parish Family,

As I mentioned last weekend, the entire month of October is *Respect Life Month*. So, we, as a parish, continue to pray and work that the dignity of every person may be respected and upheld. Regardless of any circumstances, every person has an inherent and immeasurable worth and dignity. There are a variety of issues that fall under the Respect Life umbrella. Obviously, we know of the scourge of abortion, and the killing of the most innocent in the womb. We continue to pray and work where this is no longer a reality in our world.

Another scourge is that of physician assisted suicide, sometimes called euthanasia. As Catholics we are meant to support those who are facing any kind of illness. God's plan is carried out through hardship and joy alike, just look at Christ's Passion. Physician assisted suicide entails making lethal means available to the patient. Those whose lives are diminished or weakened deserve our respect, and, as the Catechism reminds us, should be helped to live their lives.

I am reminded of the later years of Pope St. John Paul the Great, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2001. Though his joints began to break down, had a difficult time moving, and he had a difficult time hearing and speaking, this great man continue to fulfill his role as the Holy Father. He even continued his travels. Despite his illness, the Holy Father lived what he taught.

It can be said of John Paul II that, "he showed us how to live and he showed us how to die." Physician assisted suicide tells the world that the person no longer matters, because they are no longer useful. May we reject these lies, and through the witness of St. John Paul the Great continue to fight for the dignity of the human person.

Looking ahead, November will be here before we know it. November is a special month because it is dedicated to honoring the dead and praying for the suffering souls in Purgatory. We have the celebration of Allhallowtide, which encompasses All Saint's Eve (Halloween), All Saints' Day (All Hallows), and All Souls' Day. Since All Saints' Day is a Holy Day this year, here is our mass schedule:

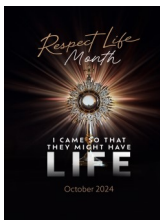
Thursday, October 31st at 6 p.m. at St. Michael

Friday, November 1st at 8 a.m. and 12:05 p.m. at St. Joseph.


On Saturday, November 2nd we will have mass for All Souls' Day in the St. Joseph Mausoleum at 7 a.m. On Sunday, November 3rd we will have the blessings of the cemeteries. Sensat Cemetery will be blessed after the 9 a.m. Mass at St. Michael, and St. Joseph Cemetery will be blessed after the 11 a.m. Mass. Iota Cemetery will be blessed immediately following the blessing of St. Joseph's Cemetery. I will give some more information on the plenary indulgences that can be gained for those in Purgatory when we get closer to the date.

God Bless, Fr. Killeen


All Souls Day— We will once again offer the 7 day candles for All Soul's Day. Because of the price increase in the past, we will need to charge \$10.00 per candle BUT we can allow up to 6 names to be placed on the label. Come by the church office or write your intentions and enclose them, along with the money, in an envelope and place them in the church collection. Please make sure the names are clearly printed. The candles will be placed in the mausoleum for All Souls Day Mass, which will be Nov.2nd at 7am. Hot chocolate and doughnuts will be offered after Mass. You are welcomed to bring your own chair for this Mass.



Respect Life Month
October is Respect Life Month and this Sunday is Respect Life Sunday. We will be using Prolife rosaries for the recitation of the rosary before every weekend Masses. There are some rosaries in the foyer of the church that you are welcomed to take.



We have several hours that need to be filled: Friday evening at 11pm, Saturday morning at 2AM & 3AM. Please call the office if you can take any of these hours.
If these hours are not filled this week we will be forced to close the Adoration chapel on the weekends



The Catholic Daughters 75th anniversary Raffle Fundraiser—
A limited number of raffle tickets are still available for \$1.00 each. Tickets can be purchased from any Catholic Daughter member or in the church office. **The drawing will be held Sunday, October 20th at their banquet.**

SILENT AUCTION- A display of prints of various land marks in Iota, donated by a local artist, have been donated to the Catholic Daughters and will be auctioned off as part of their annual fundraiser. These prints can be seen in the foyer of St. Joseph. Bids are being accepted now. Winner will be announced at the banquet, Sunday, October 20th.

