

October 22, 2023 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MISSION STATEMENT We, at All Souls Church, are a multicultural Catholic Community called to share our gifts and to grow through worship and spiritual formation. We are brothers and sisters in Christ led by the Holy Spirit to witness the Good News to all.

OFFICE MANAGER

Ms. Diep Dinh ddinh@allsouls-la.org

FIRST COMMUNION

Patricia Magallanes firstcommunion@allsouls-la.org

> YOUTH CONFIRMATION COORDINATOR

> > Vivian Vasquez Ext. 214

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SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Dr. Patrick Allison pallison@allsoulsla.org

> OFFICE ASSISTANTS

Sofia Rua Merci Arguello Teena Fogenay

All Souls Catholic Church



• PASTOR •

Rev. Patrick Mbazuigwe PMbazuigwe@allsouls-la.org

DEACON
 Deacon, Eudoro Benalcazar

PASTORAL CENTER HOURS Monday-Friday 9am-7pm Closed for Lunch: 12:30pm-1:30pm

PARISH MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays/Entre Semana Monday-Saturday 7:30am

> Saturday/Vigil: 5:30pm

Sunday/Domingo English: 7:30am, 9:00am, 5:30pm Español: 10:30am

Holy Days to be Announced

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4-5pm & by appointment

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK Please call the Pastoral Center for a priest. Uncion de los Enfermos: favor de llamar al Centro Pastoral para contactar a un sacerdote.

> SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Español: El primer sabado del mes a las 10am English: Third Saturday of the month at 10am

SACRAMENT OF HOLY MATRIMONY Book for an appointment at least 6 months in advance Llame al Centro Parroquial por lo menos 6 meses antes

DEVOTIONS Holy Hour: 1st Friday of the month at 7pm (Bilingual)

Office of Liturgy

Funeral Services Diep Dinh Ext. 219

Altar Servers Paul/Marleny Gutierrez (626)281-0466

Lectors Eng: Esperanza Canale (626)281-0466

Span: Eleana Benalcazar (626)281-0466

Ushers Darin Doerning/Jose Serna (626)281-3042

Sacristan Librado Mercado (626)281-0466

Wedding & Quinceañeras Eleana Benalcazar (626)281-0466

Assist. Director of Music Jerry Yslas (323) 919-1906

Eucharistic Ministers Lupe Valencia/Humberto G. (626)281-0466

RCIA Dn. Eudoro/Cathy Dorsey (626)281-0466

Apostolates & Organization

Ministry of the Sick Safeguard the Children Bereavement Ministry Legion of Mary Cursillos in Christianity English Bible Study Spanish Bible Study Knights of Columbus Guadalupanos Rosario de Misericordia Our Lord's Mission St. Vincent de Paul Encuentro Matrimonial Amigos de Jesus Filipino Ministry Youth Ministry Catholic Women's Association

Larry Dumont Irene Oaxaca Diep Dinh Salvador Agudo Aida Gonzalez Sheila Henderson-Linan Maria de Jesus Martinez Frank Bodeman Marina Ramirez Angelina Farias Josephine Espinosa Pearl Martinez Victor Pla Estela Murga Rose Pichon Leticia Urtecho Ma Grace N. Tima



Readings & Prayers for the Sick

First Reading:

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp, subduing nations before him. (Is 45:1) Psalm: Give the Lord glory and honor. (Ps 96) Second Reading: We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love. (1 Thes 1:2-3) Gospel: "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." (Mt 22:21) ©LPi Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6/Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10 (7b)/ 1 Thes 1:1-5b/Mt 22:15-21 Monday: Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 12:13-21 Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 12:35-38 Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Lk 12:39-48 Thursday: Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94/Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16

Annette Lopez Palma Jones Norma Ferriols Gloria Moore Loan Le Angelica Ruedas Matthew Perez Pilar Garza Gary Meraz David A. Jr. & Family Lucy Tsang **Rosa Martinez Ramirez Family** Wally & Becky Puente Cynthia Manriquez William Gonzalez Joel Lopez Guadalupe Nevarez Evelyn De Guzman Hortencia Palafox Francis Araiza **Rafael Garcia** Sonia Gorope

Victor Ramirez Salazar Maria Martin Erik Lifrak **Ethelyn Beltran** Karen Katsumura Andrea Primicias Cecilia Chow Erik Lifrak **Ray Argueta & Family** Jose Crespo Joe Negrete Bernardina Castañeda **Reyes Family** Mercedes Tarrazona Fernando Torres Gerardo Duran Cidronio Abelar Yessenia Alvarez Juanita Madrigal Mark Venegas Marco de la Garza Therese Huyen-Duong Thi Vu Elizabeth Pham

FROM THE PASTOR'S CORNER

29TH Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year "A"

"Is it lawful to pay census tax to Caesar?"

People who live in America may better understand the importance of April 15. This is the deadline for sending in your income tax documents. While no one looks forward to that date, tax professionals love it because this is the season they make a lot of money especially due to the complicated nature of the tax system in America.

To better appreciate the importance of tax in America, I will like to share the following true stories about people who had some encounter with tax agents and the IRS.

There is a story about Aaron Zeff, the owner of Harv's Metro Car Wash in Sacramento, California. Two IRS agents showed up at his place of business requesting payment for back taxes. Aaron's onsite manager was surprised. He was surprised not only because two IRS agents showed up at the Car Wash, but because they said the business owed 4 cents from the year 2006. The total tax bill with penalties and interest totaled \$202.35. Yes, penalties can destroy your life if you fail to pay your taxes, especially if you do not file. In reality, did the IRS really need to send two IRS agents to collect \$202.35?

There is also the story about Diana Peffer of Omaha, Nebraska who received a letter from the IRS. When she went to open the letter, it said she owed a total of 4 cents in back taxes from the year 2007. It probably was an automated letter created by the IRS computer system because no one in their right mind would spend \$5 dollars to get three cents back. Do you think she should send the IRS a 4-cent check so that they could send her a 1-cent refund? You make the call.

Genevieve Motola of New York gets a \$5,700 tax bill from New York State. She's 82 years old and it is unclear why she would receive such a large bill. It turns out the bill was from 20 years ago when she closed her store G&P Ceramics, Inc. Wow, hopefully, this is not a sign that New York is about to go bankrupt, is it?

Although not as recent but there is this tax-story about Cynthia Hess, AKA, "Chesty Love" of Indiana, who was an exotic dancer. She tried to deduct her \$2,088 breast implants. The IRS rejected her claim and she sued the IRS in U.S. Tax Court. She won the case actually. She was able to prove, that the breast implants that left her with a size 56FF, allowed her to make more money than she otherwise would have. No comment.

Finally, there is the story about Sara P, of Orlando, FL (a single, recently divorced, mother with two children) attempted to file her taxes for the first time. Her ex-husband had always filed her taxes before so this was something new for her. She went to see my friend for help and as my friend tried to eFile her Federal tax return, he got it kicked back because there was a problem with the birthday for one of her sons. She insists that he does not know what he is doing and the birthday is correct. Anyway, she called my friend back a few days later and tells him she had remembered the wrong birthday for years. Really? (Stories told by Matt Robinson).

In today's gospel story we notice how "evil enjoys company." The Pharisees and the Herodians who were not the best of friends plotted together to entrap Jesus by asking Jesus a religio-political question. Let us remember that the Pharisees were orthodox Jews who believed strongly in the commonwealth of Israel while the Herodians worked for the interest of Caesar Augustus in Rome. Ordinarily the Pharisees and the Herodians cannot sit together for lunch.

However, to entrap Jesus, they were willing to bury the hatchet. Hence, they conspired together to ask Jesus – Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not? To answer this question Jesus asked them to show Him a denarius – the coin that is used to pay the census tax.

This question is a trap because if Jesus says – Yes, pay tax to Caesar, the Pharisees will conclude that Jesus does not love Israel. If Jesus says – Don't pay tax to Caesar, then, Jesus will be in trouble in the hands of the Romans which could lead to a capital punishment.

To escape their trap Jesus asked them – Whose image is this and whose inscription? They replied – Caesar's. Jesus answered them saying "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." This answer has often been interpreted to mean the separation of church and state, but come to think of it, the answer given by Jesus has a far deeper meaning.

Jesus knows very well that everything belongs to God. By saying "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar ..." Jesus knows that even Caesar belongs to God. Hence, everything should be given to God. Christians are encouraged to pay their taxes, but such should be encouraged if the money realized from paying taxes is used for the good of humanity and the glory of God.

While this gospel calls for the respect of constituted authorities of the government even when you may disagree with them, yet, it may not be morally permissible for Christians to pay taxes to support or fund unjust wars, capital punishment, the promotion of abortion, etc.

By exposing the hypocrisy of the Pharisees and the Herodians who wanted to entrap Jesus with their question, Jesus also uses this gospel message to call on the children of God to always act with sincerity and integrity in all their dealings.

Although the world may be evil, yet, Christians are called to live in the world. God can use both Cyrus and Caesar Augustus for the glory of His name. hence, Christians need to be careful to navigate the complexities of living in the world while maintaining their faith in God. Since virtue lies in the middle, we need to maintain a balance between spiritual and civic responsibilities.

Jesus calls on God's children to be always wise as the serpent and cunning as a dove. By evading the trap set for Him, Jesus encourages us to always employ wisdom in handing complex and tricky questions that may want to divide or entrap us. Life is larger than logic, hence, the need to pray for the wisdom that comes from God.

Finally, we must at all times avoid idolatry. A Roman denarius has the image of the emperor and its inscription would read something like "Tiberius Caesar, Augustus, son of divine Augustus." Such money could be used by Christians for the purpose of living well in the world and for promoting the work of God on earth. While it is good to respect the civil authorities, we must also work hard to support laws that promote justice and the integrity of all sentient beings.

Finance Report

COLLECTION

October 15, 2023

TOTAL

\$ 5,440.00

Thank you for **YOU** continuous support and generosity.

Did you Know?

Protecting children from pornography is getting harder and harder in today's increasingly sexualized and digital world. When young people become addicted to pornography, it changes their brain chemistry and hinders their ability to grow in healthy, normal ways. Viewing pornography can also blur boundaries for a young person, leaving him or her more vulnerable to sexual abuse. In fact, abusers often use pornography to desensitize their victims. For more information on the dangers of pornography and addiction, read the VIR-TUS[®] article "Pornography Addiction and Neurobiology" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know.

SPECIAL MASS INVITATION You are invited to join **The 41st Annual**

Red Mass at the Cathedral on October 25 at 5:30 PM with Archbishop José H. Gomez! During this Mass, we honor and pray for all public servants and political leaders so they can have guidance and strength to fulfill their professions. Members of all faiths and traditions are encouraged to attend.

SATURDAY	OCTOBER	21-2023
5:30pm	Jesus & Maria Estrada	Dec.
SUNDAY	OCTOBER	22-2023
7:30am	Francisca & Franklin	Dec.
	Genkuong	
	Ella Bolano	Birthday
9:00am	Paul Adamu Badeo	Dec.
	Vincent Sama Fobi Tima	Special Int.
	Aloysius Nchinda Clan	Special Int.
10:30am	Mercedes Benitez	Dec.
	Loreto & Armando Romero	Dec.
	Estela Vega	Dec.
	Camila Gonzalez	Dec.
	Lucas Moreno–Plata	Dec.
5:30pm	Holy Souls in Purgatory	
	Helen Arinze-Odumodu	Thanksgiving
MONDAY	OCTOBER	23-2023
7:30am	Holy Souls in Purgatory	
TUESDAY	OCTOBER	24-2023
TUESDAY 7:30am	OCTOBER Rafael Cortez Balbuena	24-2023 Dec.
	Rafael Cortez Balbuena	Dec.
	Rafael Cortez Balbuena Zhang Liang Yuang	Dec. Dec.
	Rafael Cortez Balbuena Zhang Liang Yuang Qin Hui Sheng	Dec. Dec.
7:30am	Rafael Cortez BalbuenaZhang Liang YuangQin Hui ShengHoly Souls in Purgatory	Dec. Dec. Dec.
7:30am WEDNESDAY	Rafael Cortez Balbuena Zhang Liang Yuang Qin Hui Sheng Holy Souls in Purgatory OCTOBER	Dec. Dec. Dec. 25-2023
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All Souls Catholic Church

PREGUNTAS DE LA SEMANA

Primera Lectura:

Dios le reveló al rey persa, Ciro, que él sería un instrumento del Señor, demostrando que no existen otros dioses. ¿Qué te convence de que solo hay un Señor del universo?

Segunda Lectura:

En sus palabras de apertura a los creyentes de Tesalónica, Pablo ofrece una oración de acción de gracias a Dios por su fe y esperanza en Jesús. ¿Por qué o por quién estás agradecido con Dios? **Evangelio:**

Los líderes religiosos en Jerusalén trataron de "atrapar" a Jesús con la pregunta: "¿Es lícito pagar el impuesto del censo al César o no?" ¿Con qué frecuencia sientes que tienes que defender tu fe?

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LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo: Is 45, 1. 4-6/Sal 95, 1. 3. 4-5. 7-8. 9-10 (7)/ 1 Tes 1, 1-5/Mt 22, 15-21 Lunes: Rom 4, 19-25/Lc 1, 69-70. 71-72. 73-75/Lc 12, 13-21 Martes: Rom 5, 12. 15. 17-19. 20-21/Sal 39, 7-8. 8-9. 10. 17/ Lc 12, 35-38 Miércoles: Rom 6, 12-18/Sal 123, 1-3. 4-6. 7-8/Lc 12, 39-48 Jueves: Rom 6, 19-23/Sal 1, 1-2. 3. 4 y 6/Lc 12, 49-53 Viernes: Rom 7, 18-25/Sal 118, 66. 68. 76. 77. 93. 94/Lc 12, 54-59

Sábado: Ef 2, 19-22/Sal 18, 2-3. 4-5/Lc 6, 12-19



¿Sabla usted?

Proteger a los niños de la pornografía es cada vez más difícil en el mundo de hoy cada vez más sexualizado y digitalizado. Cuando los jóvenes se vuelven adictos a la pornografía, ésta cambia la química de su cerebro y obstaculiza su capacidad de crecer de manera saludable y normal. Ver pornografía también puede desdibujar los límites para un/a joven, dejándolo/a más vulnerable al abuso sexual. De hecho, los abusadores suelen utilizer la pornografía para insensibilizar a sus víctimas. Para obtener más información sobre los peligros de la pornografía y la adicción, lea el artículo en inglés de VIR-TUS[®] "Pornography Addiction and Neurobiology" (Adicción a la pornografía y neurobiología) en lacatholics.org/did-youknow.

AMIGOS DE JESUS

El grupo de oración, Amigos de Jesús, les invita a unirse a una noche de reflexión, alabanza y oración en comunidad. Las reuniones son a las 7pm cada miércoles. Si gusta unirse, favor de llamar al Centro Pastoral para mas detalles.



VISITA NUESTRA CAPILLA

Cada minuto que dedicamos a la adoración de nuestro Señor profundiza nuestra relación con Él. Tómate un descanso de las preocupaciones del mundo y ven a



pasar un tiempo con Él en meditación silenciosa.

Nuestra Capilla de Adoración está abierta en el mismo horario que nuestro Centro Pastoral.

Ven a visitar a nuestro Señor y continua este año con sus bendiciones.

PARISH NEWS



COUNTING CATHOLICS

Every October, parishes are asked by the Archdiocese to give a head count of Mass attendees. We will be counting attendees next week during offertory time to minimize distractions.

We thank you for your cooperation in this very important activity. See you at Mass!

Remembering the faithful Departed

In preparation for All Souls Day, November 2nd, the Parish Environment Committee invites you to write the names of those loved ones that make up our **faithful departed** to be used as part of our Parish Liturgical Environment. A basket containing colorful paper cutouts in the shape of **FALL LEAVES** has been placed at the entrance of the church. You are invited to take leaves to <u>write *multiple names* of</u> <u>loved ones on *one side* of each leaf</u>. A second basket will be available at the entrance of the church for completed, filled-in leaves. Feel free to decorate! Every leaf will allow our parish to recall and pray for those who have gone before us and renew our faith in the promise of eternal life that is made ours by the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Also, remember to submit your <u>parish envelope</u> for the All Souls Day novena of Masses, which will take place at the daily Mass at 7:30 am from November 3rd through November 11th for those departed faithful whose names appear on these envelopes.

P.S. If you would like for the picture of your deceased loved one to be part of our Altar of the Dead, please feel free to drop it off on the week of October 23rd with your name and phone number on the reverse. You may reclaim them by the week of November 20th.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



Today, we celebrate World Mission Sunday, heeding Pope Francis's call to keep our "Hearts on fire, feet on the move." On this day, we reflect on our baptismal promise to be disciples and missionaries, sharing the Good News. The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith directly aids priests, religious, and lay leaders in the Pope's missions, allowing them to minister to and uplift communities in dire need. Let's light up the world with our prayers and generosity. Thank you for your heartfelt contribution! Make plans to attend our festival on Sunday, November 5th, from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm. This is our parish's largest fundraising event of the year, together with the parish raffle.

This year's festival will showcase our ministries' cultural foods. We will have entertainment and games.

Please help by buying or selling raffle tickets, by donating your time setting up for the festival, and/ or by donating **baked goods and desserts**, water, soda, paper plates, plastic utensils, and/or napkins. Please bring your donations to the Pastoral Center by 7 pm on Friday, November 3rd.

We thank you for your help, and we look forward to seeing all of you on Sunday, November 5th!!!



FESTIVAL REMINDER

Please note that on the weekend of the parish festival (11/4-11/5), please

enter the church grounds through the Main Street entrance ONLY. The Electric Avenue entrance will NOT be open. We apologize for the inconvenience.

DONATIONS NEEDED!!!

To keep costs down for our parish festival, we ask that you



kindly consider donating baked goods for the festival. We are looking for cakes, cupcakes, cookies, brownies, cinnamon rolls, donuts, muffins, and pan dulce. Please bring your donations to the Pastoral Center by 7 pm on Friday, November 3, 2023.



Dear Ministry Leaders:

There will be a final festival meeting this Monday, October 23rd, at 7 pm, in the parish hall. It is very important that you attend this meeting to finalize all details before our festival.