

October 15, 2016

Dear Parishioners:

As I write this, we are preparing for the installation of the pipe organ. It begins the week of October 24, the day after I leave for the pilgrimage in the Holy Land. The process will take several weeks and will involve closing the church during the weekdays. If you want to see the progress of the installation and how the organ will look, go onto to our parish web site.

November is the month in which we focus on stewardship as a way of discipleship. According to the U.S. Bishops in their pastoral, *Stewardship, a Disciple's Response*, a steward is "One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in love and justice with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord." This means giving to the Lord the first portion of their time, talent, and treasure. On the weekend of November 5-6, your fellow parishioners will share how they have strived to live out stewardship in their lives. On the following weekend I will be asking all households to make their treasure commitment for the next year. It should be done in the spirit of prayer and gratitude.

November is also the month in which we remember those who have died. We celebrate All Souls' Day on Wednesday, November 2. On Monday evening, November 7, at 7:30 we will have a special Mass of Remembrance for all those who have died this past year. It has always been a very moving celebration for those present, especially those who have lost their loved ones.

Enclosed is an "All Souls" envelope. Throughout the month of November we will be offering one of the Masses each day for those whose names are mentioned in these envelopes. Please return the envelope as soon as possible, either to the Parish Office or in the collection basket, so that we can place it on the altar throughout the month. As Catholics we believe that the Communion of Saints includes the faithful on earth, the blessed in heaven, and the souls in purgatory.

Let us pray for one another.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. David A. Sork
Pastor