

**Newsletter from St. Francis de Sales parish Tucson  
Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time (Year B)**

**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!!**

**Wishing our parishioners, and especially our little kiddos, a happy and safe 2021  
Halloween experience.**

**Novena Masses for the Dead: (Nov. 2-5 & Nov 8-12); 6pm each day.**

Beginning on Tuesday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, in addition to the regular weekday Mass, there will be Mass at 6pm each evening for the following 9 days, as we pray for, and remember our departed brothers and sisters, relatives and friends. Though the entire month of November is dedicated to remembering the dead, the special Novena of Memorial Votive Masses are offered specifically to honor the memory of our parishioners in particular, who worked tirelessly in their lifetime for us to have a parish today, many of whose names are listed on plaques and benches at the Prayer Garden, and other places around the parish grounds. May they rest in peace. Amen!

**SCHEDULE CHANGE: Tuesday Adoration (November 2<sup>nd</sup> ONLY)**

As a result of the Novena Mass on Tuesday evening, this week's Benediction will begin at 5:45pm rather than the usual 6pm. This is to enable us finish Benediction in time for the Novena Mass at 6pm. Please note the change in schedule (This Tuesday only), and thank you for your understanding.

**Parish Council discernment sessions I & II**

Many thanks to those who were able to attend either of the discernment sessions (or both), in view of the future formation of a Parish Council for St. Francis de Sales. I appreciate your time. Anyone who may feel called to be a part of this future Council, please call parish office to indicate your interest. A total of 12 parishioners is required to constitute a council.

A post-discernment session for those who indicate interest to join the future Council will be held on Wednesday December 8 at 6pm in the O'Leary Room.

**The Synod**

Are you aware that the Roman Catholic Church is preparing for a synod? Well, Our Holy Father Pope Francis has called for one, and the process has begun across the Catholic Church from Rome to dioceses and on parish levels. Want to know what this is all about? Visit [www.synod.va](http://www.synod.va). Read all about it, follow the process, pray for the success of the synod.

Also, the Diocese of Tucson has launched a new website for the Synodal Process: [www.SynodTucson.org](http://www.SynodTucson.org). Bishop hopes that you will join him in helping our Church as it discerns how to move forward under the influence of the Holy Spirit—a Church of communion, participation, and mission. Please check the web site often as it will be updated periodically with local information. Soon as parishioners, you will be invited / called upon, to participate in the Synod process on the parish level, with open discussion sessions / forums.

Follow the synod on social Media:

Instagram and Facebook: @SynodTucon      Primary hashtag: #SynodTucson

**ROME** — With the COVID-19 pandemic still underway and with restrictions on gatherings still in place in some countries, the Vatican has again extended the period of time when people can earn a plenary indulgence for visiting a cemetery and praying for the souls of the faithful in purgatory.

Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican tribunal dealing with matters of conscience, said the indulgences traditionally obtained during the first week of November can be gained throughout the entire month of November, the Vatican announced Oct. 28.

The cardinal said he was acting in response to “pleas recently received from various sacred pastors of the church because of the state of the continuing pandemic.”

Traditionally, the faithful could receive a full indulgence each day from Nov. 1 to Nov. 8 when they visited a cemetery to pray for the departed and fulfilled other conditions, and, in particular, when they went to a church or an oratory to pray Nov. 2, All Souls’ Day.

Because of the pandemic and the popularity in many cultures of visiting cemeteries for All Souls’ Day, some local governments and dioceses closed cemeteries in the first week of November to prevent crowding. That led Cardinal Piacenza to issue a decree in 2020 extending the period for the indulgences. The decree for 2021 renewed those provisions.

Indulgences are granted when a Catholic visits a cemetery to pray for the dead, goes to confession, attends Mass and receives the Eucharist and prays for the intentions of the pope.

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment one deserves for one’s sins; people often will seek the indulgence on behalf of a loved one who has died or, especially in early November, for an unknown soul in purgatory.

The church teaches that prayer, particularly the Mass, and sacrifices may be offered on behalf of the souls in purgatory. The feast of All Souls differs from the Nov. 1 feast of All Saints precisely because it offers prayers for the eternal peace and heavenly rest of all those who died in a state of grace, but not totally purified.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, “All who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven.”

<https://cruxnow.com/vatican/2021>

### **Prayer Garden / Boys Scouts of America**

To get their Eagle Scouts wings, the Boys Scouts are required to carry out a project in the community. This time, they have picked out our parish prayer garden as their Scouting project. Soon, they will be carrying out renovation work on the Prayer Garden towards achieving their Eagle scouts badge.

This project is of no cost to us at all, but a self-funded project by the Scouts themselves. We are excited about this development. Please keep them in your prayer.

### **Call for Ministries:**

Parish still in need of Readers (7:30am; 11:30am)

Parish is still in need of Altar Servers (7:30am; 11:30am)

Parish is still in need of Ushers (or greeters) (7:30am; 11:30am)

If you are moved to be a part of any of these or other ministries, please call parish office.