

Sunday Connection

A Gospel Reflection by Loyola Press

Saturday, November 1, 2025

All Saints' Day (C)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus teaches what it means to be happy.



Background on the Gospel Reading for All Saints' Day

Every year the Church recalls the example, witness, and prayer of the holy women and men who have been identified by the Church as Saints. These saints are more than just role models; they are family members with whom we continue to share relation, in a bond of prayer, called the Communion of Saints. Every year when we celebrate this day, the Gospel we proclaim recalls for us Jesus' teaching about happiness, the Beatitudes. We quickly note in this reading that none of those Jesus names as "blessed" or "happy" are expected... the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted. Jesus' blueprint for happiness reflects little of what the world might call happiness.

What does Jesus mean when he uses the word "blessed?" This word is sometimes translated as "happy" or "fortunate" or "favored." In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favor is upon those who are poor, who mourn, who are persecuted. This might have been welcome and surprising news to the crowds who heard Jesus that day.

The Beatitudes can be understood as a framework for Christian living. Because of this, it is natural that we proclaim this Gospel on the Feast of All Saints. Saints are people who lived the spirit of the Beatitudes as Jesus lived. On this day, we too are challenged to model our lives on the spirit and promises of the Beatitudes.

For more background information on the Gospel for the weekend, visit www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

NOVEMBER 2, 2025

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

100 S. Main St. - PO Box 187 - Spearville, KS 67876 - www.stjohnspearville.com

Pastor

Fr. John Forkuoh, 385-2212

Parish Secretary/DRE

Jenny Schmidt, 385-2202

Bookkeeper

Tena Gleason, 385-0615

Parish Council-1st Thursdays @ 8PM

President: Stephanie Hornung

Parish Center Office Hours

Hours listed are approximate and change often.

Fr. John - frjohn47@yahoo.com:

T/W/F : 10 am-12 pm

(by appointment for sacramental needs)

Jenny - jschmidt@stjohnspearville.com:

M-F: 12 pm-3:30 pm (during the school year)

MASS SCHEDULE: NOVEMBER 3RD - 9TH

DAY	TIME	LOCATION	MASS INTENTION
M-11.3	No Mass on Mondays - Father's Day Off		
T-11.4	8:30am	Parkview	NO DAILY MASS
"	9:30am	Southwind	NO DAILY MASS
W-11.5	8:30am	Parkview	NO DAILY MASS
Th-11.6	8:30am	Parkview	NO DAILY MASS
F-11.7	8:30am	Parkview	NO DAILY MASS
Sat-11.8	6:30pm	Church	Marvin Gleason
Sun-11.9	8:00am	Church	All Parishioners of St. John

Confessions: Saturdays at 5:45 PM or by appointment.

MASS MINISTERS - NOVEMBER 8TH & 9TH

Collection: Lynnette Hessman & Phil Gleason

MASS	SATURDAY - 6:30 PM	SUNDAY - 8:00 AM
Sacristan	Jenny Schmidt	LynAnn Bowman
Servers	Calder Ackerman Hallie Ackerman	YOUTH MASS 2 nd & 12 th Grades
Lector	Audrey Ackerman	YOUTH
EMHC	Lynnette Hessman Mike Hubbell Tonya Hubbell	Levi Benjamin Mary Benjamin Phil Gleason
Music	Jenny Schmidt	Jenny Schmidt
Ushers	Cory Ackerman Kevin Rabe	YOUTH
Gifts	Kirk Konrade Fam.	YOUTH

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1. Visit formed.org/signup
2. Enter our zip code and select our parish.
3. Enter your name & email.

Join the Email Prayer Chain

To join the list or to send a prayer request, email Ginny Werner (ginny_werner@yahoo.com) or Lynnette Hessman (nettemae1984@yahoo.com).



K of C Meetings

1st Mondays

7:45 PM Rosary

Meeting Follows



D of I Meetings

2nd Mondays

7:00 PM

Oak Room

BIRTHDAYS: 11/3-11/9

11.3	Katie Gleason Reid Schmidt
11.4	Katie Ackerman
11.6	Makenzie Preisner
11.7	Carolyn Gleason Andrew Bowman Addilyn Connelly
11.9	Shirley Moritz Mark Howerton



Parish Announcements, News, and Events

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: On All Saints' Day, we honor those who lived as faithful stewards, using their gifts to glorify God and serve others. Their lives inspire us to embrace holiness in our own stewardship, sharing our time, talents, and treasures with generosity and love as we journey toward sainthood in Christ.

TITHING REPORT - OCT. 25TH/26TH:

Box Collection: \$ 2,226.00

Online Collection: \$ 1,350.00

DURING FATHER'S VACATION:

If there is an emergency or an immediate need for sacraments, please contact Jenny and she will get in touch with a priest for you.

cell: (620)357-4198

office: (620)385-2202

We will have Fr. John back by Friday.

ROSARY CHALLENGE:

November Intention: For all struggling with mental health & suicidal thoughts, that they find the support, care, & love in their community they need to know their lives are valuable.



Nov. 2nd-9th: Keith & Jonita Brack

ST. MARY'S 60TH ANNUAL PHEASANT FEED

All are invited to St. Mary's Heritage Hall on **Saturday, November 8th** for the 60th Annual Pheasant Feed. They'll be serving soups, chili dogs, beans, sandwiches, and pie for a free-will donation from **11am-2pm**.

There will also be a bake sale. Bring your family, bring friends, enjoy the fun, & have some good food!



VOCATION REFLECTION:

The souls of the just are in God's hands because Jesus opened the gates of heaven. We pray for those who are unable to pray for themselves.

If you're discerning the priesthood, contact our Diocesan Director of Vocations: **Fr. John Stang @ 620-227-1500 or vocationpromotion@dcdiocese.org**

Stewardship Spotlight: *Ushers & Gifts*

OFFERTORY IN THE LITURGY

"The offertory is a part of the Liturgy of the Eucharist where members of the congregation present the gifts of bread, wine, and monetary contributions to the clergy. This collection symbolizes the offering of the faithful's work, hardships, and joys, as well as their whole lives, to God."

We offer what we can to God during this portion of the Mass. From our money in the baskets, to the intangible sacrifices of our joys, fears, sufferings, and work, we offer all that we'd like transformed by God in the sacrifice of the Eucharist, and lay it at the foot of the altar.

We thank all our parishioners that have volunteered to be our ushers and pass around the collection baskets, and the couples and families who have humbly presented the gifts during Mass. Thank you for helping with this beautiful symbol and task within the liturgy. Your willingness to participate in this ministry is appreciated.

ALL SAINTS DAY NOVEMBER 1

- Feast of the highest rank
- Has a vigil and an octave
- Holy Day of Obligation
- Commemorates the Communion of Saints
- Symbols: Saint Icons, Manus Dei (the hand of God), the crown, a sheaf of wheat
- Liturgical Colors: White or gold

VS.

ALL SOULS DAY NOVEMBER 2

- Feast of the first class
- Part of the octave of All Saints
- Not a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses are Requiems this day.
- Commemorates all the faithful departed
- Symbols: Skulls, altars, marigold flowers, candles, fire
- Liturgical Colors: Black, violet, or white

What is All Saints Day?

A liturgical solemnity in honour of all the saints in heaven, known and unknown. We celebrate every year on November 1st.

Why do we celebrate saints?

The Church canonizes saints and celebrates their lives:

1. To encourage asking their help and prayers
2. So that their lives become a model for us to imitate
3. Because they give us reassurance: "If Christ can do it in them, He can do it in me!"

SOURCE: www.catholicnewsagency.com



How does one become a saint?

All Christians are candidates for sainthood. Anyone who has lived a life of great charity and held Christian heroic virtues worthy of imitation can become a saint.

STAGE 1 - Wait 5 Years

A person is only considered for sainthood if five years have passed since their death, allowing for time to examine their life.

(This step can be waived by the pope.)

STAGE 2 - Become "Venerable"

With the help of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, the pope has to formally recognize a deceased person as having lived a life of heroic virtues or martyrdom.

(This is a very long process of scrutiny.)

STAGE 3 - Become "Blessed" BEATIFICATION

Once venerable, a posthumous miracle must be attributed to his or her intercession.

(This requirement can be waived for martyrs or those who died for their religious cause.)

STAGE 4 - Become "Saint" CANONIZATION

To be recognized as a saint, the blessed must be responsible for a second miracle after their beatification.