



HALLOWEEN- THE CATHOLIC WAY

What is HALLOWEEN?



“ALL HALLOWS’ EVE” is where the name of halloween comes from. A hallowed person is another name for a saint.

We call October 31 - All Hallow’s Eve because, it is the eve of All Saints’ Day which is on November 1.

The mass that the Catholic Church celebrated on Nov. 1 was called “Allhallomas”. This meant mass of all the hallowed (saintly people). It was commonly called “All Hallows’ Day”.



The night before Nov.1 became known as *Allhallowe’ en*, which was short for “evening before All Hallows’ Day.” It was then shortened to what we now know as Halloween.



Why do we celebrate All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day?



November 1 is a special day called the feast of All Saints. It is the day the Church celebrates with all the people who have died and are now with God in heaven. Everyone who has lived and died in Jesus’ love is a saint. We do not know the names of all the saints. Some of these people were so much like Jesus that after they died, the Church said they were definitely in heaven.



November 2 is a special day called the feast of All Souls. It is celebrated in honor and remembrance of the souls of our dearly departed loved ones, and to pray for other souls that still need our prayers. The Church honors this day as a solemn day for all souls in purgatory who are being cleansed before entering Heaven.



How can we celebrate Halloween?

1. Dress up like “Little Saints”

Let’s do our best to remind everyone that this day is the eve of the feast of All Saints. We honor the saints by dressing up like them instead of dressing up as anything that glorifies sin, horror or rebellion from God. By our good example, people will be curious to learn more about “All Hallows’ Eve” and may even study the lives of the saints.



3. Go to Mass

On Nov.1 and Nov.2., the most important thing we can do is to attend the Holy Mass and offer it for all the Holy Saints, and our dearly departed loved ones. By doing this, we give honor to them.

2. Visit the graves of our dearly departed

On Nov.1 and Nov.2, let’s go to the cemeteries to pray at the graves of our dear departed. We can also adorn it with flowers and lighted candles.



4. We say a prayer

While we celebrate Halloween, we pray to and honor our saints and pray for our dearly departed. We can say the rosary or other prayers at home or upon visiting the grave of our departed loved ones.

