Pastor's Letter

November 1, 2026 – All Saints Day

Dear Church Family,

One of the things that I find most interesting about the communion of saints is the wide variety of ways in which their holiness is expressed. There were saints who were great scholars like St. Jerome and St. Thomas Aquinas who have helped us grow in knowledge of Scripture and theology. There are spiritual giants like St. Francis and St. Theresa of Avila who show us how to pray and have a close relationship with God. There are great humanitarians like St. Vincent DePaul and St. Teresa of Calcutta who served the poor and remind us of God's special concern for the least among us. There are miracle workers like St. Pio of Pietrelcina, missionaries like St. Francis Xavier, martyrs like St. Charles Lwanga, church leaders like Pope St. John Paul II, and even internet content creators like St. Carlo Acutis. They come from every time and every continent. They have different talents and they faced different circumstances during their lifetimes but they shared a common love for God and desire to serve him and humanity.

When we read the Beatitudes in our Gospel reading for today, we see the desires and attitudes of the saints reflected in Jesus words. Blessed are they who mourn, the meek, they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the clean of heart, the peacemakers, the persecuted. The saints are the ones who have lived out these values and principles in ways that are examples for us all. They show us what the kingdom of God looks like in the flesh. They embody what the church looks like when it is living out its mission to the fullest. And they are not just an inspiration to us from the past. By their intercession they strengthen and protect the church on earth today as we seek to carry the Gospel forward in our own time.

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints. We remember the great cloud of witnesses whose service to God and neighbor has passed the faith down to us. They have also passed down to us a mission to hand on that faith to our own generation and proclaim in word and action God's infinite and eternal love for all creation. Like the saints, we are each called to do that in our own way and in our own situation. As your pastor, I am inspired every day by all the ways the people of our parishes live out our calling to love God and neighbor. I see the legacy of the saints being lived out in all of you. May their example continue to guide us and their prayers continue to uphold us as the one church of God, visible and invisible.

Blessings,

Fr. Scott

