St. Michael School

Fall River, Massachusetts

Dear SMS Families –

As we prepare for the month of November, I want to bring to your attention some opportunities going on at the parish to enhance your faith and that of your children.

We as Catholics traditionally remember and pray for those who have died during the month of November. Throughout the month, there will be many opportunities to remember and pray for each of our loved ones who have died.

1.) MORNING PRAYER: Each morning our normal prayers will end by us praying:
(Leader) Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord,
(Response) And may perpetual light shine upon them
(Together) May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, Amen!"

2.) CANDLELIGHT VIGIL PROCESSION: On Wednesday evening, November 1st there will be a 6:30pm Mass at St. Michael's followed by the annual candlelight procession to the cemetery to pray for all of those who have died, both our family and friends, and also those that we do not know. It is a great way to teach children about death and the importance of praying for the souls of loved ones. You are all invited to join us. We will also be encouraging students to write the names of deceased family members and friends so that we might pray for their souls throughout the month.

3.) THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE: This past weekend at all Masses, bags that were decorated by the school children were passed out to parishioners to collect food for Thanksgiving baskets for families in need. This is a great way of teaching children about generosity and caring for those who are less fortunate.

4.) VIRTUE OF THE MONTH – GRATITUDE: During the month of November, we will focus on the virtue of "Gratitude," teaching our students to be mindful of all the things that we have in our lives and all the blessings that God has bestowed upon us. It is very easy to embrace the worldly influence of always wanting more. To combat that temptation, we cultivate a spirit of gratitude for what we do have and also concern for those who are not as fortunate.

God Bless,
Fr. Jay