

# GARGOYLE GAZETTE

November 2023



## Remember Me

November is the month dedicated to our departed relatives, friends, and associates who have died.

The Scripture tells us that, “The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God and no torment shall touch them.” Wisdom 3:1. The Church exhorts us to pray for our beloved dead and to hold their memory in our hearts.

Death is a mystery but we do have Jesus’ words in Scripture. “Do not let your hearts be troubled, you have faith in God; have faith in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.” Jesus tells us that he is going to prepare a place for us. When Thomas asks Jesus where He is going, Jesus replies that, “He is the way, the truth and the life.” John 14:1-6. This 14<sup>th</sup> chapter of John is rich in imagery about the afterlife.

I believe that we prepare for our own death by the way we live here and now. I believe heaven begins on earth because we have the presence of God with us here and now. It is important to live in God’s presence and to follow the teaching of Jesus found in Scripture.

It is no accident that we have All Saints Day and All Souls’ Day one day after the other in November. Those who have died are now saints who also live in the presence of God. Rejoice, because now we have more people who can intercede for us here on earth.

On November 1, 2023, a holy day of obligation, our Mass at the Cathedral to celebrate All Saints will be at 10 a.m. and at 5:30 p.m. On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will have Mass for All Souls’ at 5:30 p.m., and although not a holy day of obligation, we encourage you to join together to pray for our beloved dead.

Peace be with you,

*Sr. Barbara Woeste, O.S.B*

