

At the end of the month, we will have 3 things to celebrate! **October 31st is Halloween** or All Hallows Evening. Remember that hallow means holy so Halloween is the evening before the feast of the Holy ones also known as the saints or All Saints Day. There are many traditions for this day. In some places children originally went around asking for a “soul cake” which was a sweet bread, in exchange for praying for the person who gave it to them on All Saints day. Tradition says someone started to make them with a hole in the middle and a sweet coating – a doughnut!

All Saints Day, November 1, is a Holy Feast Day when we go to Mass and pray with all the saints. We remember that we want to be with them when we die. Remember: saints are people who have died and are now in heaven. Some we know about and can learn from them and ask for their help. There are many saints that we don’t know about. We can pray to them, too. For your Confirmation, you need to choose a saint that we know about so that their life can be an example for you and you can learn from them.

The next day, **November 2, is All Souls Day**, also called the Day of the dead. It is the day that we remember and pray for our family members who have died and all the souls who maybe haven’t made it to Heaven yet and are waiting in Purgatory. Many places have traditions to honor the dead. Do you do anything special to honor them?

What are your Halloween, All Saints Day and All Soul’s Day traditions? Start a new tradition and pray for everyone that gave you treats on Halloween. You could play the song “Soul Cake” by Allison Crowe or Peter, Paul and Mary or Sting – they are on YouTube. (Search for Soul Cake song.)