



Fr. Matt's Musings November 2, 2018

November, the Month of "L"s

The title may seem confusing since there is no "l" in the spelling of November; however November is filled with important words that begin with the twelfth letter of our alphabet. We begin this month celebrating loving and living. The past two days were All Saints' Day and All Souls Day. Both days tell us that our God is the God of life and love who wants to share both of those gifts with us eternally as so many of our brothers and sisters who have preceded us are doing so now in God's eternal kingdom. The teaching is clear: the Saints of November 1st and the Souls of November 2nd will live in love with God forever.

For those of us who remain on this journey, that is pause for joy, comfort and hope. The deep desire of the same God of life and love is to share with us this same eternal glory. I hope we share this same desire and longing. Yet, with living and loving, November is also a time when we remember losing and longing. Throughout this month, we remember those whom we have lost, especially through death. The pain of loss is very real this month as we are asked to name and bring pictures and memories of our beloved deceased. They are our symbols of loss but also of longing and trust. They symbolize our faith and hope that we will be reunited one day. So, I think this November should be a month of longing. It is our personal longing to believe that the God of love and life has shared that eternal gift with all those whom we remember this month.

It is also the longing that the God of consolation will help us through our own losses to be a more compassionate presence to those who suffer and are in pain. It is also the call to believe with total faith in the God who kept His promise in Christ and will reunite us in love in heaven eternally with our God and all of those we love, have lost and long to see again. Happy month of

longing!

Live Jesus!

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