



## St. Aloysius Religious Education 4<sup>th</sup> grade “SAINT WITNESS” project

The **Feast of All Saints** is a holy day of the Church honoring all saints, known and unknown. The word "saint" literally means "holy". Saints are those who closely followed Jesus Christ during their lives on earth and lived their lives according to his teaching. While other Christians struggled to live out the Gospel of Christ, these people were eminent examples of the moral virtues, and they easily practiced the theological virtues of faith, hope, and charity. ***We invite the entire 4<sup>th</sup> grade and their families to the All Saints Liturgy on Friday, November 1, 2019 at the 5:30pm daily Mass,*** where we celebrate the saints of the Lord, and ask for their prayers and intercessions. (This is a great way to fulfill your Holy Day of Obligation requirement!)

The Communion of Saints is the belief that all of God's people, on heaven, earth, and in the state of purification (called *Purgatory*), are connected in a communion. In other words, Catholics believe that the saints of God are just as alive as you and I, and are constantly interceding on our behalf. The Catholic Church created a process, called "canonization," through which venerable people could be recognized as saints by all Christians everywhere. Most of the saints whom we refer to by that title have gone through this process of canonization, others, received the title through acclamation, or the universal recognition of their holiness and good deeds. Catholics believe that both types of saints (canonized and acclaimed) are already in Heaven, which is why one of the requirements for the canonization process is proof of miracles performed by the possible saint *after* his/her death. Canonized saints can be venerated and prayed to, and their lives are held up to Christians still struggling here on earth as examples to be imitated.

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade Religious Education curriculum focuses on our call to live as disciples of Jesus; by our witness to speak and act upon what we know and believe about Jesus ... just like the Saints! All the 4<sup>th</sup> grade Religious Education students will be doing a home project on the life of a Saint. This endeavor should be *fun and faith filled* and will incorporate the whole class! Each student should choose and research one Saint and then “present” what they know about that Saint to the class.

Have your child pick a Saint and choose **ONE** of the following ways to present it:

1. ***Dress-up – as their Saint*** and attend the All Saints Liturgy on ***Friday, November 1, 2019 @ the 5:30pm daily Mass***. A sign-up sheet will be emailed out to 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents to let us know if this is the option your child is selecting.

Each student should come up with their own costume and write the following information about their saint on an index card, that they can refer to if one of the clergy should ask them about their Saint.

- Saint Feast Day
- Patron Saint of
- Impressive thing about this Saint or Life Lesson that I learned from the Saint or Quotable Quote that the Saint said
- Final Fact that I would like to say about the Saint **or,**

2. ***Create a diorama depicting an important scene from the life of the saint you choose and present it in class.*** The diorama should be the size of a shoe box. All dioramas will go home with the student after they present. ***(If you select this option please let your catechist know at your next class. They will coordinate with you a date when your child will present.)***

Resources for finding a Saint online are below:

[www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org)  
[www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org)  
<http://www.catholic-pages.com/dir/saints.asp>  
<http://catholic-saints.info/>

Please contact your catechist or Danielle Sibia at [directorreligious@starcc.com](mailto:directorreligious@starcc.com) or 203-652-1171 if you have any questions.