

November 1, 2026

All Saints Day

See what love the Father has bestowed on us
That we may be called the children of God.
-1 John 3:1a

SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH

1690 Janes Road, Arcata, CA 95521

SAINT JOSEPH'S MISSION CHURCH, BLUE LAKE

office@stmarysarcata.org **www.stmaryschurcharcata.org**

FR. FRANCIS GAYAM, PASTOR
FR. GNANA PRAKASH THUMMA, PAROCHIAL VICAR
DEACON JOHN GAI
DEACON JON PEDICINO

Parish Office/Rectory: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Monday through Friday (707) 822-7696

For Emergency Only: (707) 672-5859

Mission Statement: We, the parishioners of St. Mary's Church and St. Joseph's Mission Church, are a welcoming, Catholic community in the northern part of Humboldt County, who strive, through grace, to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Word, Sacrament, and service to others.

Vision Statement: Through prayer, fellowship and by sharing our God-given gifts of time, talent and treasure, we will become disciples of Christ, beacons of light and love, as we build the Kingdom of God.

Masses:

Saturday Vigil:	4:00 pm St. Mary's, Arcata
Sunday:	8:30 am and 11:00 a.m. St. Mary's Arcata
Weekdays:	8:30 am Tuesday through Friday
Blue Lake:	12:30 pm Third Sunday of Every Month

Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary's Church
2:00-2:30 pm Saturdays, or by appointment

SACRAMENTS:
Baptisms: By appointment. Please call the rectory.
Marriages: Please call the rectory six months in advance.
Pastoral Care of the Sick and Homebound: Please call the rectory for home or hospital visits.
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA): For those inquiring about Initiation and Communion with the Catholic Church, please contact the rectory.
Parish Registration: We welcome new parishioners. Registration forms are available in the office or the church.

Week of November 1, 2026

Sat/Sun 2nd Collection: Annual Ministry Appeal (10/31-11/1)
Sun 9:45 am Religious Education (11/1)
Mon 8:30 am All Souls Day Mass (11/2)
6:00 pm Cemetery Blessing (11/2)
6:30 pm All Soul's Day Mass (11/2)
Tues All Day Voting Day
Sat 10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (11/7)

Week of November 8, 2026

Sun 9:45 am Religious Education (11/8)
Tue 6:45 pm Knights of Columbus Rosary/Meeting (11/10)
Wed 9:30 am Altar Society Meeting (11/11)
Thu 10:30 am Women's Bible Study (11/12)
Sat 10:00 am Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (11/14)

Mass Intentions– Please contact the office at 707-822-7696 if you would like to schedule a Mass Intention.

Saturday, October 31: Weekday: St. Wolfgang, Bishop
4:00 pm – Ana & Avelino Homem +
Rdgs: Phil 1:18b-26 Ps 42:2-3, 5cdef Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday, November 1: All Saints Day
8:30 am – Natalia & Joe Avelar +
11:00 am – Eduardo & Maria dos Santos Rafael +
Ana & Avelino Homem +
Rdgs: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14 Ps 24:1b-4b, 5-6 1 Jn 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a

Monday, November 2: All Soul's Day
No Mass
Rdgs: Wis 3:1-9 Ps 23:1-6 Rom 5:5-11 Jn 6:37-40

Tuesday, November 3: Weekday; St. Martin de Porres
8:30 am – Susan Hartman +
Rdgs: Phil 2:5-11 Ps 22:26b-32 Lk 14 :15-24

Wednesday, November 4: St. Charles Borromeo
8:30 am – Joe Avelar +
Rdgs: Phil 2:12-18 Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 Lk 14:25-33

Thursday, November 5: Weekday
8:30 am – Cecilia Mendonca +
Rdgs: Phil 3:3-8a Ps 105:2-7 Lk 15:1-10

Friday, November 6: Weekday
8:30 am – Ana & Avelino Homem +
Rdgs: Phil 3:17 – 4:1 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 16:1-8

Saturday, November 7: Weekday
4:00 pm – Augusto & Maria Fraga +
Rdgs: Phil 4:10-19 ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a, 9 Lk 16:9-15

Sunday, November 8: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 am – Deceased Family Members of Joe Avelar
11:00 am – Diana Bridges +
Rdgs: Wis 6:12-16 Ps 63:2-8 1 Thes 4:13-18 Mt 25:1-13

Monday November 2 – All Souls' Day

Mass Times

8:30 am St. Mary's
9:00 am Christ the King
6:30 pm St. Mary's

Cemetery Blessing

6:00 St. Mary's Cemetery

The Story of the Solemnity of All Saints

The earliest certain observance of a feast in honor of all the saints is an early fourth-century commemoration of "all the martyrs." In the early seventh century, after successive waves of invaders plundered the catacombs, Pope Boniface IV gathered up some 28 wagonloads of bones and reinterred them beneath the Pantheon, a Roman temple dedicated to all the gods.

The pope rededicated the shrine as a Christian church. According to Venerable Bede, the pope intended "that the memory of all the saints might in the future be honored in the place which had formerly been dedicated to the worship not of gods but of demons" (*On the Calculation of Time*).

But the rededication of the Pantheon, like the earlier commemoration of all the martyrs, occurred in May. Many Eastern Churches still honor all the saints in the spring, either during the Easter season or immediately after Pentecost.

How the Western Church came to celebrate this feast, now recognized as a solemnity, in November is a puzzle to historians. The Anglo-Saxon theologian Alcuin observed the feast on November 1 in 800, as did his friend Arno, Bishop of Salzburg. Rome finally adopted that date in the ninth century.

Reflection: This feast first honored martyrs. Later, when Christians were free to worship according to their consciences, the Church acknowledged other paths to sanctity. In the early centuries the only criterion was popular acclaim, even when the bishop's approval became the final step in placing a commemoration on the calendar. The first papal canonization occurred in 993; the lengthy process now required to prove extraordinary sanctity took form in the last 500 years. Today's feast honors the obscure as well as the famous—the saints each of us have known.

FRANCISCAN MEDIA

ALL SOULS DAY/ MONTH INTENTIONS

There are All Souls Day envelopes on the tables in the narthex. If you would like to have loved ones remembered at the Holy Mass, please fill out the All Souls Day envelopes with their names. If you wish, you may include a donation and place the envelope in the collection basket or in the wooden donation box. These names will be placed on the Altar during the month of November.

Also, the names of those parishioners and family members from St. Mary's who have passed in the last year are published in this week's bulletin.

Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention for November 2026

For the proper use of wealth: Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

More announcements on the back page of the bulletin!

The Story of the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

The Church has encouraged prayer for the dead from the earliest times as an act of Christian charity. "If we had no care for the dead," Augustine noted, "we would not be in the habit of praying for them." Yet pre-Christian rites for the deceased retained such a strong hold on the superstitious imagination that a liturgical commemoration was not observed until the early Middle Ages, when monastic communities began to mark an annual day of prayer for the departed members.

In the middle of the 11th century, Saint Odilo, abbot of Cluny, France, decreed that all Cluniac monasteries offer special prayers and sing the Office for the Dead on November 2, the day after the feast of All Saints. The custom spread from Cluny and was finally adopted throughout the Roman Church.

The theological underpinning of the feast is the acknowledgment of human frailty. Since few people achieve perfection in this life but, rather, go to the grave still scarred with traces of sinfulness, some period of purification seems necessary before a soul comes face-to-face with God. The Council of Trent affirmed this purgatory state and insisted that the prayers of the living can speed the process of purification.

Superstition easily clung to the observance. Medieval popular belief held that the souls in purgatory could appear on this day in the form of witches, toads or will-o'-the-wisps. Graveside food offerings supposedly eased the rest of the dead.

Observances of a more religious nature have survived. These include public processions or private visits to cemeteries and decorating graves with flowers and lights. This feast is observed with great fervor in Mexico.

Reflection: Whether or not one should pray for the dead is one of the great arguments which divide Christians. Appalled by the abuse of indulgences in the Church of his day, Martin Luther rejected the concept of purgatory. Yet prayer for a loved one is, for the believer, a way of erasing any distance, even death. In prayer we stand in God's presence in the company of someone we love, even if that person has gone before us into death.

FRANCISCAN MEDIA

Thank you, Father Francis and Father Prakash for answering God's call to the priesthood!

Our Beloved Souls

Please pray for the souls of these individuals who passed into eternity since November 2025:

Maria Cecilia Mendonca	11/5/2025
Daniel Adams	11/29/2025
John De Amatos	12/6/2025
Margaret "Ruth" Villier	1/16/2026
Avelino Homem	2/20/2026
Michael Francis Goodman	3/31/2026
Gabriela S. Murphy	4/1/2026
Jose Homem	4/22/2026
Hazir Dinshaw Kermani	4/23/2026
Pietro "Pete" Stagnoli	5/17/2026
Ana Margarida Homem	5/26/2026
Deborah Renee Clancy	5/28/2026
Lynette Maureen Cahill-Young	6/11/2026
Jose Trigueiro Gonzalves	6/24/2026
Manuel Morais Leal	7/14/2026
Joao S. Morais	7/18/2026
Durvalina Machado	10/13/2026
Susan Bernadette Hartman	10/19/2026
Maria Albertina Furtado	10/21/2026

Prayer Requests

PRIEST'S VISIT: If you would like a priest to visit for Anointing of the Sick and/or to receive Holy Communion, please call the office at 707-822-7696.

PRAY FOR THE SICK: *Names are listed here by request & will remain for four weeks. Please call the office to extend the listed time or to add a name.*
Ruth and Steve Nunes, Nathan Lehmann, Kenny Richards, Kenneth Wright, Scott Cahill, Margie Pilot, Marjorie Dimmick, Lithia Burns.

WELCOME TO ST MARY'S! Whether you are a long-time parishioner, a returning Catholic, or a new member, we hope your time with us is a meaningful and spiritual experience. If you haven't registered, please complete this form and return it to the parish office or place it in the offertory basket.

Name:_____ New Parishioner yes / no Phone: _____

Address:_____ Email:_____

St. Mary's Needs Your Support

Please consider donating to St. Mary's Church, 1690 Janes Rd, Arcata, CA 95521, or online at www.stmarysarcata.org.
Thank you for your generosity!

Offertory Donations for October 24 & 25, 2026. . . . . .$1,199.00
St. Joseph's Blue Lake, October 18, 2026 . . . . . 105.00
2nd Collection: World Mission, Blue Lake 65.00
Online Donations October 18-24, 2026 . . . . . 350.00

Humboldt Newman Club – Students!

Sunday, November 1 - Feast of All Saints
5:30 pm Mass at St. Mary's
7:00 pm Pumpkin and Chicken Dinner and Faith Discussion at Newman (700 Union Street, Arcata)

Wednesday, November 4
11:00 am All Christian Club Prayer Meeting on Campus
6:00 pm Disciples

Thursday, November 5
5:15 pm Meet at the Newman Center to carpool to the St. Mary's Arcata Cemetery
5:30 pm Prayer and Blessing by Candlelight for the Holy Souls in the Cemetery
6:30 pm Tamales, Mexican Hot Chocolate, and Pan de Muerto at the Newman Center
Bring a photo for the All Souls Remembrance Altar

Friday, November 6
At the Newman Center
5:00 pm Choir Practice
6:00 pm Friday Fun Night

Sunday, November 8
5:30 pm Mass at St. Mary's


St. John Henry Newman

Additional Mass Opportunities



Newman Mass (St. Mary's)
Sunday – 5:30 pm

Christ the King (McKinleyville)

Weekdays:
Monday Mass – 9:00 am
Friday Adoration – 3:30 pm
Friday Mass – 4:00 pm
Weekends:
Saturday Mass – 5:30 pm
Sunday Mass – 9:00 am

Holy Trinity (Trinidad)
Saturday Mass – 6:30 pm
First Saturday of the month and every Saturday during the summer (June, July & August)

St. Kateri Tekakwitha (Hoopa)

Sunday Mass – 11:30am

St. Joseph (Blue Lake)

Sunday Mass – 12:30pm
Third Sunday of the month

Timber Ridge (McKinleyville)

Wednesday 10:00am
First Wednesday of the month

Priest Appreciation Week
November 1-7



Parishioners and students, please show your appreciation for Fr. Francis and Fr. Prakash with a letter, note, gesture, or other form of thanks. Our priests are available 24/7, and they are devoted to the parish and your spiritual and corporal needs.

Catholic Detention Ministries

During the month of November, we will again be collecting unused **Christmas cards** and unopened individually **wrapped candy**. These small gifts will bring comfort to the Inmates of the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. Please place your donations in the designated box in the Narthex.

Questions? Contact the parish office, (707) 822-7696

California Catholic Conference Voter Guide
Go to cacatholic.org and click on the 2026 Ballot Propositions Guide button.
Voting Day is this week, Tuesday, November 3.

Thanksgiving Meal donations and volunteers needed for St. Vincent de Paul Dining Facility

St. Vincent de Paul Dining Facility will host a Thanksgiving Holiday Meal on Thursday, November 26, 2026. Donations of both perishable and canned foods as well as volunteers for food prep and serving are needed.

Food Donations – Turkey, Ham, Yams / Sweet Potatoes, Yukon Gold Potatoes, Bread Stuffing, Broccoli, Fruit Pies, Whipped Cream (Spray Cans or Cool Whip Tubs)Canned Goods (large #10 size, if possible)– Green Beans, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Crispy Fried Onions, Cheese Sauce, Cranberry Sauce.
Black Nitrile Gloves-sizes M, L, and XL (US Chef's Store & Harbor Freight)
Volunteers are needed for the following:
Food Prep: NOV 24-25, 12 – 4 PM
Thanksgiving Day: Serving Table Set-Up & Kitchen Help: 8:30 – 10:45 AM Meal Service
Kitchen Help: 10:30 AM –1:30 PM
Clean-Up: 1:30 – 3:30 PM
Drop-Off Winter Wear Donations – Wool Blankets, Gloves, Snowcaps, Heavy-Duty Socks, Winter Coats, Back-Packs, Ponchos / Raincoats, Tarps (4' x 6' or larger)

Please contact Mary or Jeremiah at 707-445-9588 for donations or drop off at SVDP Dining Facility - 35 W. Third Street, Eureka 95501

To volunteer contact Liz at 707-599-6138