Dear Friend of Annunciation Parish & School,

Here in the Northern Hemisphere, our daylight hours are short in November. The dark and the cold begin to take over. Nature is dying. We all have a natural aversion to the darkness. The darkness can be scary, it can seem evil. Imagine how much truer this was before we had electricity or light bulbs! But as Christians we know that Christ conquers the darkness - Christ is our Light.

We first receive the Light of Christ at our baptism. We are called to be the light of Christ to others all throughout our life. And at our death, when our body is brought to the church, the casket is positioned to rest in the light of the Paschal Candle. Candles and fire are very much associated with our celebrations of All Saints and All Souls. Candles are placed on our home altars that honor our dead. In some cultures, lighted candles are placed on the graves in the cemetery. We light large bonfires, around which we celebrate. We light candles in our Jack-O-Lanterns. And someday we will live forever in the brilliant glory of heaven - in perpetual light…

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\begin{align*}
\text{Eternal rest grant unto them,} \\
\text{O Lord,} \\
\text{And let perpetual light shine upon them.} \\
\text{May their souls, and the souls of all the} \\
\text{faithful departed,} \\
\text{Through the mercy of God,} \\
\text{rest in peace. Amen.}
\end{align*}
\]

Sincerely,
Dr. Sandi Chakeres,
Director of Faith Formation

National Vocation Awareness Week

National Vocation Awareness Week will be celebrated in our country November 4-10, 2018. Please ask Our Lord for more dedicated, holy priests, deacons and consecrated men and women. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and respond generously to God’s gift of a vocation. The Archdiocese of Cincinnati Prayer for Vocations, written by Archbishop Dennis Schnurr, can be found here. Resources for parents to use in fostering vocational awareness in their homes, can be found here.

Special points of interest:

- Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 a.m. Sunday, November 4. Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday evening!
- Tuesday, November 6 is Election Day. Prayerfully consider your choices, and don’t forget to vote!
- Follow us on Facebook to get all our latest news and see all our latest photos!

**Icon at top left of page: Archangel Gabriel (Annunciation), 16th Century, Russian Heritage, Location: Andrei Rublev Museum in Moscow. Used with permission of St. Isaac of Syria Skete (Orthodox Byzantine Icons, Inc.); 25266 Pilgrims Way, Boscobel, WI 53805 www.skete.com**
Black Catholic History Month

The month of November is designated as National Black Catholic History Month. There are several reasons for this, which include the facts that November 3rd is the Feast Day of St. Martin de Porres, a Saint of African Descent (pictured here), and November 13th, 354 was the birth of Saint Augustine, the first Doctor of the Church from North Africa.

Take the opportunity this month to find out more information about the history of African American Catholics such as Mother Elizabeth Lange, the Healy Brothers, Daniel Rudd, and Father Augustus Tolton.

You can find many more resources at The National Black Catholic Congress web site.

Upcoming Events

- Friday, November 2: The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day): Mass at 8:00 a.m.
- Sunday, November 4 at Mass: Remembrance and Celebration of the Holy Women of Annunciation Parish
- Tuesday, November 6, 7:30 p.m.: St. Vincent de Paul Conference Meeting
- Thursday, November 8, 9:30-10:15 a.m.: Morning Prayer
- Thursday, November 8, 7:00 p.m.: Salt & Light Meeting
- Monday, November 12: Begin School Thanksgiving Collection benefiting the clients of the St. George Food Pantry
- Wednesday, November 14, 7:00-8:00 p.m.: Eucharistic Holy Hour
- Thursday, November 15, 7:00 p.m.: Reconciliation Family Preparation

Tuesday is Election Day...

As we approach the polls, may we understand & embrace the principles of our Faith that should guide our political engagement.

“Tolton: From Slave to Priest” – Come see this powerful stage performance about the life of Fr. Augustus Tolton, the first African American priest whose cause for canonization as a saint is currently in process. The performance is 90 minutes long and there is no admission charge. Performances will be held as shown below. For more information, go to www.aoc-tolton.org.

Sat. Nov. 3 at 3:00 p.m. Xavier University, Schiff Family Conference Center
Sun. Nov. 4 at 3:00 p.m. University of Dayton, Kennedy Union
Tues. Nov. 6 at 6:30 p.m. Elder High School, Schaeper Center
Wed. Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m. Purcell Marian High School, Alumni Hall