



VERMILION CATHOLIC
a legacy of Mount Carmel

VC families,

Nov 12, 2025

We're almost halfway into the month of November, but it's not too late to remind ourselves of what the Church asks us to consider this month. November always falls in the very end of the Liturgical Year. The Civic New Year starts on January 1st, but our Church's Liturgical Year starts with the 1st Sunday of Advent.

So, as our liturgical year comes to a close, the readings turn to focus on the end of the world. November also starts with All Souls Day on Nov. 2. This adds up to mean the Church asks us in a special way to pray for our deceased loved ones in the month of November. As I wrote in [the parish bulletin](#), there are an unfortunate number of people who no longer have a Funeral Mass when their loved ones pass on. I urge you to read that article which explains why this concerns me. I also urge you to make sure you include a funeral Mass for yourself and your loved ones in any plans you're a part of. This is an important part of preparing for our final meeting with the Lord. In the meantime, please continue to remember our deceased loved ones in prayer and to have Masses said for them on occasion.

Looking forward, as Advent approaches, please prayerfully consider how you'll [make the most of this lovely season](#). While a lot of people want to immediately rush into acting like Christmas has arrived, we are called to enter into a period of prayerful preparation, hope, and even a little bit of penance. Yes, there is a kind of anticipatory joy in this season, but it still should have a an element of "not yet" and self-denial built in. I recommend, of course, the Advent wreath in your homes. There's also a good number of devotional [books](#), [apps](#), and [video series](#) to use like an Advent Calendar. Lastly, consider giving up something small, kind of like a lighter version of Lent.

Finally, a reminder for the parents of sophomores, juniors, and seniors that I'm leading a wilderness trip in July. An information meeting will take place at 6pm on Tues, Jan 13 in the Ministries Hall at St. Mary Magdalen. You can sign up for more information here: forms.gle/EPHCkZexRgHUJvaQ7. You can also email me if you have questions.

In Christ,

Father Alexander M. Albert,
Pastor, Vermilion Catholic, a legacy of Mount Carmel
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P.S. As Lagniappe, here's a pretty intense conversation about navigating difficulties in marriage that you may find enlightening: youtube.com/watch?v=nbKYnfK3db5

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