

NOVEMBER 2, 2014



COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED/ALL SOULS' DAY



WISDOM 3:1-9

PSALM 27:1, 4, 7, 8B, 9A, 13-14

ROMANS 6:3-9 OR 5:5-11

JOHN 6:37-40

REFLECTION

On All Saints Day, November 1, we celebrate the lives of all the saints, and today, All Souls' Day, we pray for those who have died. We pray for the dead because as Catholics we believe that life doesn't end when our bodies die. Life continues. Jesus saves us—body and soul. For Christians in different parts of the world this is a day to visit the graves of their loved ones and remember them in a special way, with prayers, special foods, and family gatherings.



ACTION

Talk to family members about the people in your family who have died, especially those you may not have known yourself. Ask to see family pictures. Learn about your family history. Pray for your deceased family members today and throughout the month.

Throughout the month of November, Catholics remember the dead. Many churches display a *Book of the Names of the Dead*. We are invited to write in this book the names of those who have died—friends and family members—so that the entire Church can remember them in prayer. Sometimes people place photos of the deceased by this book. Look for the *Book of the Names of the Dead* in your church and write in the names of those close to you who have died.

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- What in our Catholic beliefs about death and heaven do you find comforting?
- Do you pray for anyone who has died? Do you ask them in prayer to pray for you?