



## The Greatest Commandments

We all have rules and regulations that we have to follow as we go through life. Even in our spiritual lives, we are bound to live a certain way. The Catholic Church has rules and regulations in place, not to make life burdensome, but to help us live as Jesus wishes us to live. In Jesus' day there were many rules and regulations, called the "Law" to help people understand what God expected of them. Unfortunately, there were so many laws (many laws added after Moses' time with various interpretations) that most people could never remember all of them.

In the Gospel today, Jesus clarifies what is most important. The two greatest commandments are to love God and our neighbor as our self. Both of these commandments involve love. If you look at any of the other commandments, you will see that they somehow fall under these two general categories (the first three of the Ten Commandments involve love of God and the other seven involve love of neighbor.) Love is the most important theme throughout the Scriptures. Jesus reminds us that if we follow these two commandments, we are doing the right thing. Let us strive to always put God first in our lives, and show our Lord how much we love Him, by loving our brother and sisters as we love ourselves.

We presume that we love ourselves. It is not selfish or wrong to love oneself. As long as we are not so much in love with ourselves that we neglect others, it is healthy and important to care for ourselves. Only when we have taken care of our personal needs can we fully be available to help others. At times, though, sacrifices will be required of us. We put our needs on hold for a while so someone else may be cared for. Let us also strive to keep that balance of taking care of ourselves and ministering to those around us.

*Father David*

## All Saints and All Souls Day

Wednesday, November 1, is All Saints Day, a Holyday of Obligation. Masses are at 8:00 AM, 12:15 PM and 7:00 PM. Thursday, November 2, is All Souls Day, a day to remember and pray for our beloved deceased brothers and sisters. Mass is at 8:00 AM that day. On November 2 as well as the weekend of November 4-5, you are invited to bring a photograph of deceased family members and place it on the table in the front of church. *(Please label the back of your frame with your name and number.)* The souls of the faithful departed will be prayed for at all Masses that weekend. Please remember to take the photograph with you at the end of the Mass you attend.

*Father David*