

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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November 1, 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

We come together once a year in the month of November to celebrate our Saints in Heaven and pray for those who are healing their wounds prior to entering completely into the Kingdom of Heaven. We jump in triumph for those souls whom we call Saints and we share in their joy of victory in making it to Heaven. These wonderful men and women demonstrated the Catholic faith perfectly and now are a model for us on how to live it.

Our Saints have beautiful Basilicas and shrines dedicated in their honor. We have our nice cemeteries where the remains of our loved ones await the great day when our Lord will come again and resurrect their decayed bodies and joyfully unite it with their souls and we are lovingly able to hold our loved ones once again in Heaven; this is a joy we await with great anticipation.

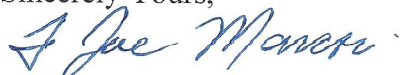
We have the task of taking care of the remains of our loved ones in our beautiful cemeteries. As beautiful as they are, time has not been pastoral to our cemeteries and they are in need of repair and upkeep. The collection for 'All Souls Day' goes to our cemeteries upkeep, but it is not nearly enough. We are asking for a small monthly donation to help compensate the expenses for the upkeep of these cemeteries. Any amount will do.

St. Joseph Catholic Church is responsible for the maintenance of 4 cemeteries - St. Joseph, St. Patrick in Sulphur Springs, St. Peter in New Gascony, and St. Mary in Plum Bayou. St. Mary was left with a trust which is kept by the Diocese to covers the expenses there. Expenses for the 3 cemeteries we maintain run roughly \$10,000 annually. It would be very helpful if you could give \$1 a day or \$30 dollars a month and if 28 people could do this monthly it would be enough to balance out the difference. Additional donations would be more beneficial to help repair the tombstones and the fences that have decayed over time.

We also have plans to build an in-ground columbarium at St. Joseph Cemetery, since more people are turning to cremation. It will be beautifully stylized with benches, nice landscape and wonderfully designed units that respects the dignity of our loved ones. I know there is much work to do, but we can do it.

I hope you take this moment and show how you can assist us in caring for our loved ones in these cemeteries. It won't take much for you to assist. We thank you for taking the time to consider how your donation can meet the needs to make these cemeteries some of the most beautiful and endearing places to care for all the wonderful people who have shown the face of Christ to us.

Sincerely Yours,



Fr. Joseph Marconi, Pastor