"For all the saints" ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH "Oasis of Joy" USA 13350 S. LaGrange Road Orland Park, IL 60462 October 20, 2020 Don Borling, Pastor 708-448-2939

Hello, Friends ...

Not even sure where to begin. I hope we're doing "ok" in staying connected. Always open to your feedback and suggestions. We continue to have worship at 8:30 and 10:00. We have been in the sanctuary since the end of June. We appreciate you making a "reservation" by using the "app" on our web-site or simply calling the church. You have been very respectful about wearing face-coverings when coming into the building. You do not have to make a reservation for our 7:00 service on Thursday evenings.

We continue to have our full Sunday morning services live on-line. They are live on our "Friends of All Saints" Facebook page and YouTube (you can access the service anytime). The services are also uploaded to our web-site ---- www.allsaintsjoy.com.

We are continuing our "thought for the day" ---- every day at noon.

WE HAVE A FEW THINGS COMING UP ...

Please ... with all the "stuff" going on ... because things are different ------ never hesitate to call. We are here ... we will do our best to help you navigate all these uncertainties.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 1.

It won't be quite the same ... but it's still an important spiritual day. We will have votive candles in memory of our loved ones. You can sign-up if you are here Thursday or Sunday. Also – you can call the church and give us the name you want remembered ... or email us at <u>allsaintsjoy@sbcglobal.net</u>.

We are also dedicating our ROCK GARDEN on November 1. Most of the rocks are painted by our Sunday School kids and teachers. Thanks to our "stitch and sew" ladies and Sunday School for making this possible. Jim Melka has planted a nice tree in the middle ---- it's just outside the back-end of the gym. We will do this after the 10:00 service. If you are here ... you are welcome to stay. If you are not here for worship ... you are welcome to join us "out-back" about 11:00. (We are dedicating our garden to the memory and spirit of Lori Gloodt.)

WE HAVE DECIDED TO PUSH BACK THE OPENING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES.

There are 3 Sundays after Thanksgiving weekend ---- December 6, 13, 20. Our first "official" opening of Sunday School will be Sunday, December 6. We will make these 3 weeks special ---- as we celebrate the meaning of Christmas. Obviously ---- if for any reason we don't think it's safe to open ... we won't. If you haven't registered your son/daughter for Sunday School, please do so ... even if you aren't sure about attending. We need to plan ahead and be well organized. You can register on-line ---- using the reservation "app." We also have form at church if you'd like to drop by. Please call if you have any questions.

**WE ARE CONFIRMING our 10 confirmation graduates on All Saints Sunday. It will be a 2:00 PM service for the students and their families. It's nice to be able to share some "normal" moments ... in an "un-normal" world.

page 2.

FIRST COMMUNION

Our spring class for "first Communion" obviously got cancelled because of the pandemic. So, here is the plan.

This is for our young people who were in Lori Gloodt's 3rd grade class last spring ... and for any kids who are now in the 4th grade or older and have not yet received Holy Communion. Some of you were signed-up last year ... but then we didn't have our class. I know some of you received an email last month regarding the re-scheduling.

WE ARE HAVING YOUR FIRST COMMUNION ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15. *At 1:30 ... I have a class for the kids and parents.

Very brief.

*After a short break ... we will have a "first Communion worship service" in the sanctuary ... this will be at 2:30. We can't have a big crowd ... but you are welcome to have close family like grandparents join us at 2:30.

Even if you signed-up previously please do so again by calling the church (708-448-2939) or sending an e-mail (allsaintsjoy@sbcglobal.net).

I look forward to sharing this meaningful moment with you.

We so miss our "leader" Lori Gloodt. She loved sharing First Communion with our kids ...

she will continue to be our "guardian angel."

WE WILL BE DOING OUTREACH THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

We are still working things out with the township and St. Coletta's ----- to determine where we can best be of assistance.

We all know there are lots of needs out there. And, please if you know someone ... or if you need help ------ we are only phone call away.

This has been a tough time for all of us. Each of you ... the church ---- we've all been affected. Your prayerful, spiritual, financial support are getting us through. Please ---- do what you can ... take care of yourself and your families ... and let's continue to walk this journey together.

love and joy to all

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