

# Shrine of St. Jude Thaddeus

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## Feast of All Souls: *“You Are Not Alone”*

October 2016

Dear Friends of St. Jude,



One of the most hopeful doctrines we Catholics have is the doctrine of purgatory. While we do not aim for purgatory as the final goal in our lives – we aim instead for heaven – nevertheless when we die, if we are not completely purified and ready to become saints, we have an opportunity for further purification to make us holy and perfect and fit for the kingdom. And our prayers here on earth can help those souls in purgatory.

The greatest prayer for the dead is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. There are three liturgical colors permitted for the Masses for the dead: white, violet, and black. White is the color of the resurrection. Christian death is death in hope – hope of heaven and in the world to come. However, we know that we are sinners, and we need penance; and violet is the color of penance, reminding us that we need purification. Finally, black is the color of mourning. Even though we have hope in the resurrection, we are still saddened by the deaths of loved ones and friends - and being sad is okay; we miss them. However, you do not have to grieve alone. The reason the priest wears black vestments is to show the solidarity of the Church with the family and friends who are left behind to mourn.

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE!**

We extend this solidarity of Christ's church to all of you, dear friends of St. Jude. At the Shrine we will pray for your family, friends, and loved ones throughout the month of November, the month of the dead. Please send the names of your loved ones so that we can put them on the altar of the Shrine for remembrance through the month of November.

Let us keep each other, the whole of the Church, in prayer - the Church militant here on earth, the Church being purified in purgatory, and the Church triumphant in heaven, our destiny.

Sincerely in Christ and St. Jude,

Handwritten signature of Fr. James Junípero Moore, O.P.

Fr. James Junípero Moore, O.P.  
Director