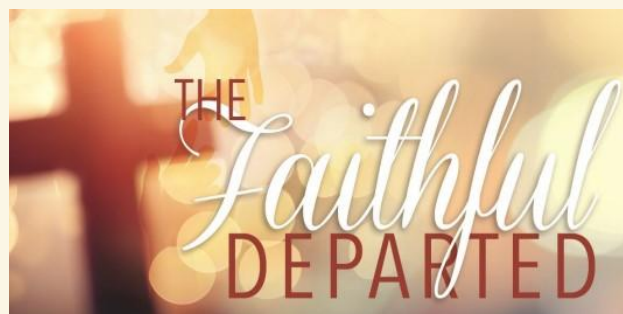




*From the Desk of Father Peter*

*We Remember*

*Love is stronger than death, and it reaches across time to bind us together. November for me has always been a special time. November is a time to be in communion with the Saints*



*and a time, too, to remember our loved ones who have gone before us. Our Church from time immemorial has treasured the witness and love of those whose faith and example built the community of Christ. They were never forgotten in the assembly of the people. This interconnectedness is a powerful tradition of our Catholic faith, a sign that we the living, are in communion with those who have gone before us marked by the sign of faith. It is even said that there are beautiful singing voices that can be heard at the Capuchin Friary at San Rotondo in Italy. The source of these voices is unknown, but St Padre Pio explained the phenomenon simply by saying, "Why are you so surprised? They are the voices of the angels who are taking souls from purgatory into heaven."*

*Padre Pio Archives, Capuchin Friary, San Giovanni Rotonda.*

*We remember this November, how beautifully the Church remembers the faithful departed in the liturgical celebrations of our worship. The tradition of the Church is to pray for those who have passed on from this world. This kind of intercession is possible because of the union of all those who belong to Christ, a union that is not broken even by death. The Eucharistic prayer at every Mass*

*includes a commemoration of the Saints as well as the dead. The Liturgy of the Hours has intercession prayers said every day, both morning and evening. Even the Grace after Meals that many of us committed to memory decades ago remembers the souls of the faithful departed. This month could we try and introduce something of our faith tradition to our own families? Take a trip with your family and visit the cemetery where a loved one is resting in peace.*

*We remember our veterans this November for their sacrifice and dedication. Forget me nots they say; and we shouldn't. Then soon we will celebrate Thanksgiving for the blessings received and give thanks to God for the fruits of our labor.*

*The Church invites us to remember this November the faithful departed. In faith we do so, praying that when we have departed from this world, others will remember us, pray for us, and make sacrifices on our behalf, too.*



*May God bless us all in the communion of the Saints.*

*Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*