

Today we have our Mass of Remembrance.

Our memory is a great gift. It takes us back to people and places that we once knew. It's almost like we are right back there again. Isn't that right?

We can remember the town where we grew up... the games we played... the walk to school... the house we lived in.

And there are some people and places in our lives that we will never forget.

Jesus wanted us to remember him. Some of his final words were: "Do this in memory of Me." What he was saying was: "Remember me.... don't forget me"

There is something in us that wants to be remembered.

What happens when we remember those we have loved? It is as if they are right back with us. We can almost feel again the joy, we can see their face, we can hear their voice, we can feel their presence.

Memory is a great gift.

Today at our Mass we remember those from our parish who have gone on to live with God. And we want to remember them.

We remember how they served at parish events, or as ushers, or ministers, or in the kitchen, or sang in the choir.

We remember where they sat in our church and prayed with us.

We remember how they loved their families, how they welcomed everyone to their homes.

We remember how they worked, how they suffered, how they brought joy.

We remember that they were a part of us.

And so we honor them today, calling their names in our litany, placing their names on our chapel wall, writing their names in our book of Remembrance.

We count on their prayers as we walk our own journey in life. We count on their encouragement until we are together.

We sing today... "For all whom we remember, there will ever be a place" ...

A place in our hearts, so that we never forget.....

A place that no one else can fill.