

# Happy All Saints' Day

Halloween is short for All Hallows' Eve. The word "hallows" means holy. Halloween marks the day before the Christian Feasts of All Saints' Day (Nov. 1) and All Souls' Day (Nov. 2).

It is quite possible that the Catholic Church placed these feasts during this part of the year to supplant ghoulish pagan rituals with feasts of hope.

Over the years many customs developed.

One English custom was for beggars to beg at the door of a house for a "soul cake" in return for which he promised to pray for the souls of the dead of the household.

During November, let's remember to pray for all souls everywhere and especially for our dearly departed.

*Soul, soul, an apple or two,  
If you haven't an apple, a pear will do,  
One for Peter, two for Paul,  
Three for the Man who made us all.*

