

11-12-06 11-19-06 11-26-06

**Pentecost 22, 2006  
St. John's  
Children's sermon**

**Did you all have a good Halloween? What did you dress up as?**

**Explain Halloween in England when I was a kid; no dressing up or trick or treat, used turnips and potatoes to carve out lanterns. What do you use?**

**Pumpkins.**

**Halloween is the night before All Saints. It is really called All Hallows Eve which was shortened to Halloween. But it is a night before one of the most important festivals in the church. It is the festival when we remember all who have died and gone to heaven. We remember those we have known and those we have not known. All the saints. Saints are not some super human people who do incredible things. Saints are simply ordinary people who do Godly things.**

**You see, I believe that saints are like pumpkins.**

**Let me explain.**

**First of all, when we get a pumpkin, we choose it. Well, first of all God chooses you.**

**Then we take the pumpkin home and what do we do with it? We take off the top and take out the yucky bits.**

**When God chooses us he goes into us and removes the yucky bits. The seeds of envy, pride, anger and jealousy. The seeds of gossip and hate.**

**He takes them all from us and then he carves a face in us. Not an ugly face of malice or hate but a welcoming face of love. And then he lights his light and puts it inside of us so that through our face and our life we shine with the love of God.**

**A saint is simply someone who allows God to do that. And, you know, all of us are called to be saints.**

**Happy All Saints day.**

**Amen**