Preparations underway for All Saints Day

By Kathleen Topp

It’s nearing the end of October and, although the weather is still warm, it is time to think about the holiday and the church which is observed in preparation for All Saints’ Day, Nov. 1.

The custom of decorating the gravesites and the graves themselves is an ancient one, dating back to the Roman Empire. In the Catholic Church, the tradition continues, and the All Saints Day is celebrated in all countries where Catholicism is practiced.

In the course of research for a book on All Saints Day, local author Mary Alice Fennell notes that originally this holiday was observed in the Church of England, and that it was adopted by the American Church in the 18th century.

In recent years, the holiday has become more popular in the United States, and many churches hold special services and events to commemorate the day.

In the Catholic Church, the All Saints Day is celebrated in a special way, with the reading of the names of the saints and the dead, and the offering of prayers for the souls of the departed.

St. Peter Parish in Carencro is growing rapidly

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St. Peter Parish in Carencro has seen a significant increase in membership in recent years, with an average of 1,000 new members joining each year.

Douglas Moore, the current pastor, attributes the growth to the parish’s strong community and the close relationship between the parish and the local community.

From its humble beginnings in 1873, the parish has grown to become one of the largest in the Diocese of Lafayette, with a membership of over 1,000 families.

The parish has a strong commitment to education, offering a variety of programs for children and adults, including Sunday school, Bible classes, and adult education classes.

In addition to its religious programs, the parish also hosts a variety of community events, such as the annual St. Peter’s Day celebration, which attracts hundreds of people each year.

Carroll Guillot, who heads the Diocese of Lafayette’s Committee on Community Relations, says, “We have a mission to reach out to the community and to help people see the value of being active in their faith.

“We want to be a good neighbor to everyone who lives in our community. We offer a variety of programs and services to meet the needs of our members and to reach out to the community at large.”

For more information about St. Peter Parish, visit the parish website at www.stpeterlafayette.org.