

# Sister's Spin

October 29, 2021

Halloween--Holiday or Holy Day??? It is interesting to me that there are so many articles on the Internet that discuss the Catholicity of Halloween. It seems to be a live topic these days. The gist of these articles is that when one really considers this day, one can go back to its roots in the history of our Faith. The word itself refers to a holy night (hallow--holy and eve comes from the shortening of evening). The night was originally meant to be celebrated as the beginning of the feast of All Saints, and there were many customs in various countries that included dressing up as saints, or giving food to the poor who came to one's door. The skeletons and ghost costumes were even reminders of the separation of body and soul at the time of death, with the soul living on and the body decaying. The secularization of these days cannot take away the beauty that lies behind them if one just takes a few minutes to think about it and a few minutes to pray about it. So, as you pass out that candy and marvel at the creativity of some costumes, remember you follow in the footsteps of your ancestors in the Faith by your charity and kindness. Halloween--Holy Day or Holiday? It can be both! Happy Halloween!

-Sister Marcianne

