

THE ORIGINS OF HALLOWEEN

Halloween started in Ireland, the Celts according to their "Druid" religion created and celebrated this day.

November 1st was New Years on their calendar. They would start their celebration on October 31st. This day marked the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter, a time of year that was often associated with human death. Celts believed that on the night before the New Year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became the thinnest. They believed that the sprits of all those who died that year would rise and roam the earth on this night.

To commemorate the event, Druids built huge bonfires, where the people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices to their Celtic gods. During the celebration, the Celts wore costumes, typically consisting of animal heads and skins.

People would leave out food and sweets for the dead, in the hope that the evil spirits would leave them alone. They would also carve out turnips and rutabagas, and place embers in them to ward off the evil spirits and keep the souls of the dead away. Halloween is currently celebrated with costumes, treats, and superstitions, which all comes from this Druid Holiday.

The Roman Catholic Church created All Saints Day on November 1st to honor Saints and All Souls day on November 2nd to honor and pray for the souls of the dead. They created these holidays, in part to downplay the pagan holidays of Hallow Eve. Which didn't work!

Does everyone have a clearer picture now as to why Father doesn't want us to participate? Any questions, comments?