The Catholic origins of trick-or-treating.
Around October 31, European Catholics had a tradition of children visiting houses, begging for treats. While the modern tradition of trick-or-treating is focused on giving children candy for no apparent reason, it is in fact based on an earlier tradition from European Catholics.

November 2 is known in the Catholic Church as “All Souls Day,” and is dedicated to praying for the souls in purgatory. On this day Catholics pray for their deceased relatives and friends, often visiting cemeteries to remember those who are no longer on this earth.

It is with this celebration that many local traditions were created and became mingled with the festivities of All Hallows’ Eve when immigrants started establishing themselves in the United States.

In various cultures in Europe there developed a tradition of “souling” and baking “soul cakes” in honor of the faithful departed. These cakes were baked on All Hallows’ Eve (October 31) and children would go out on All Saints Day and All Souls Day, begging door-to-door for these cakes in exchange for praying for deceased relatives and friends.

Eventually this tradition was morphed in America with other customs, and after candy manufacturers caught wind of it, the Oct. 22, 2023 holiday was monetized and developed into what it is today.

As in so many other cases, the religious origins have turned into something quite different and trick-or-treating is now entirely removed from praying for the deceased.

**Daylight Savings Time Ends November 5, 2023**
Don’t forget to set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday evening, otherwise you will be early for liturgy.
Troparion and Kontakion:

*Troparion (5):* Let us the faithful acclaim and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, and born of the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to be lifted up on the cross in the flesh, to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*Kontakion (5):* You, my Savior, descended to Hades, and as the Almighty, You shattered its gates. With Yourself You, as Creator, raised the dead and shattered the sting of death, and delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Mankind. And so we cry out: Save us, O Lord.

Now and forever and ever: Amen.

Theotokion (5):* Rejoice, O Impassable Door of the Lord! Rejoice, O Rampart and Protection of those who have recourse to you! Rejoice, O Tranquil Haven and Virgin, who gave birth in the flesh to your Maker and God! Fail not to intercede for those who sing and worship the Child you bore.

Prokimenon:

*Prokimenon (5):* You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and for ever.

*Verse:* Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer left a just man.

*Prokimenon (5):* You, O Lord, will guard us and will keep us from this generation, and for ever.