

# "Days of the Dead" Update & Pictures

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**Ephesians 5:11: "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."**

The excerpts below are straight from the official "Days of the Dead" Christian Festival 2006 which attacked 25,000 pseudo Christians. You will notice the strong connection with Catholicism, praying to the dead saints, necromancy, ancestor worship and total obsession with the dead (skulls, skeletons, Halloween). These crimes were so heinous that in the old Testament they were punishable by death under Levitical law. This festival seems to be an amalgamation of Roman Catholicism, Witchcraft, Mexican Occult Holidays all wrapped in a veneer of pseudo-Christianity. **Make no mistake about this is the future religion of this planet during the brief reign of the Antichrist: Witchcraft AKA "The Craft"** Speaking of the Antichrist the Word of God says:

**Daniel 8:25** "And through his policy also **he shall cause craft to prosper** in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many..."

The festival promotes contemplative spirituality and the emerging church. Last year, we reported that **World Vision and Wycliffe Bible Translators** were two of the festival's sponsors.

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**Keep the Hallow in Halloween!** (aka Saints Preserve Us!) The 2006 Imaginarium at Cornerstone Festival honors **Saints, Souls (and Bodies)** in a series of **Feasts of the Dead** — from *Día de los Muertos* to the **Celtic harvest revels that became All Hallows' Eve**. We'll also explore the darkest heart of the hit TV series *LOST*, survey the stylish and **subtle horror films of Val Lewton**, (re)acquaint ourselves with **Dr. Who**, and dig deep into the science, politics and even poetics of archaeology. Indeed, the imperial ruins of time and the **grinning skulls of the feasts of the dead** have much in common: human history has its own cycles of life and death — a continual reduction to rubble, a continual digging out. This year's Imaginarium explores both ends of that spectrum, reflecting on the **transience of the City of Man and the more lasting legacy of citizens of the City of God**. We've long claimed for our **patron saint, G. K. Chesterton** — and **St. Gilbert** may well have claimed for his own, **Francis, that "jester of God."** As a part of our All Saints focus, **we'll examine what it means to be a saint, with a special emphasis on the Poor Man of Assisi.**

<http://www.cornerstonefestival.com/imaginarium/2006/seminars.htm>

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(Dr. J. Commnet: Bacchus is the god of wine and debauchery)  
**WHY SHOULD THE DEVIL HAVE ALL THE GOOD BACCHANALS?**  
(This Is Not a Tame Seminar)  
by Mike Hertenstein



"This seminar was originally supposed to be on memory and mortality, the original title being "Memento Mori," which means "Remember you will die." It was inspired by our series of [films](#) and [activities](#) connected with our program on "the Days of the Dead." It was also inspired by our **meditation on ruins, and the witness and wisdom of the saints** — especially concerning the saints' repeated warning to us to number our days.

[Researching St. Francis](#), I was struck by the fact that so many of his portraits over time include a **prominently-placed skull**. In fact, on one of the

few actual samples we have of Francis's writing, he signs his name and includes a little drawing of a skull. **I'm told that St. Ignatius actually recommends employing a skull in his spiritual exercises.**

And St. Benedict's sobering charge is to "**Keep death ever before you.**" In a short story by St. James (that is, James Joyce), "The Dead," **the author describes a monastery where the monks sleep in their own coffins: a unavoidable daily memento mori.** Other **monasteries are famous as repositories of the bones of former residents, and entire churches have built of bones,** with an effect very like the house of bones that is this year's Imaginarium décor. Usually such places feature a sign with the famous adage, "I was once like you. You will someday be like me."



<http://www.cornerstonefestival.com/imaginarium/2006/dionysus1.htm>

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Given our emphasis on **monastics and Medieval piety**, it seemed appropriate to open the 2006 Imaginarium with our own version of a Vespers service — though if I'd have thought of it sooner, it would have been fun to find **some Benedictines willing to come to teach us how to chant.** As it was, we managed to stretch the borders of the Imaginarium to cover some new ground as Jon and Lint and others helped us with something resembling a mildly **liturgical worship** service Wednesday night. After some prayers and readings, we had a time when those in our little congregation could come forward and share a few words about the saints who have been most meaningful to them — and again, in the Imaginarium, **we stretched the borders to include saints from St. Francis to Flannery O'Connor to Atticus Finch.** Only in the Imaginarium will you hear a heartfelt and even genuinely-moving testimony **to the spiritually-formative influence of Batman in a young man's life.** It was inspiring to also hear a few grandpas and grandmas

remembered in the capacity of saint. As a part of our service, **everyone was invited to add with pictures of their saint a paper flower to the arch of our Mexican ofrenda, to symbolize their part in the Great Cloud of Witnesses.** The saints whose pictures were added to our gallery included **Rosa Parks, Dorothy Day, St. Anselm, Nelson Mandela, Mr. Rogers, Simone Weil, Wendell Berry and Johnny Cash.**

We made a more traditional use of the *ofrenda* the next night, on our *Dia de Los Muertos*. Of course,... (I was grateful for an advance look at an excellent upcoming book [\*Skulls to the Living, Bread to the Dead: The Day of the Dead in Mexico And Beyond\*](#) by Stanley H. Brandes)... I'm grateful that Paul Leggett (**who we have advertised as a man "who knows more about monster movies than any other Presbyterian minister in New Jersey"**) was on hand to lend some clerical credibility and structure to our second sort of worship service in so many nights at the Imaginarium. After passing out some very authentic Mexican *calaveras de azúcar* (**sugar skulls**), we encouraged attendees to make **their own authentic connection by writing their own name, along with the names of their living loved ones on the skulls.** Alternatively, they could also write the name of someone who had passed away who they wanted to remember in the Imaginarium.

<http://www.cornerstonefestival.com/imaginarium/2006/report.htm>



[http://www.cornerstonefestival.com/imaginariuim/2006/img/fest\\_pix/ofrenda2.jpg](http://www.cornerstonefestival.com/imaginariuim/2006/img/fest_pix/ofrenda2.jpg)

[http://www.cornerstonefestival.com/imaginariuim/2006/img/fest\\_pix/saints2.jpg](http://www.cornerstonefestival.com/imaginariuim/2006/img/fest_pix/saints2.jpg)

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Jude 3&4: "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common

salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should

earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."