ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ADVICE FOR halloween Parishioners are encouraged to fortify their prayerful offerings during this coming week when so many misguided persons in the world invoke evil powers for the purpose of destroying all that is good. Live in the Light, pray and shine the light on Truth and goodness to help people find Life in Christ! How can we do that? Make a point to offer one or more rounds of the Jesus Prayer on your prayer rope especially who for those who know little to nothing about the Living God or the Christian Faith. Be open to sharing with others about your own spiritual journey and pray that God will use your experience for the benefit of others. October 29-Nov 3 are calendar days when wickedness is especially exalted and practiced by those who hate God and Christianity. Would you join in praying the Akathist to St. Cyprian during those days? It's found here:https://www.stjosephflorenceaz.org/resources/akathists/Akathist_Hymn_to_St_Cypian.pdf

St. Cyprian was once a great sorcerer and became an even greater Christian and a holy martyr for Christ! Read his spiritual bio here:https://otftd.blogspot.com/Praying this akathist is a way to thwart the works practiced on those days by those who hate God and worship the adversary.October 31 through November 3 are days when evil is perpetrated and honored by those who embrace wickedness. Take a stand, pray much, invoke Ss.Cyprian and Justina to protect the innocent and further tear down those dark strongholds in the lives of many.

Something to think about: Christians are enlightened by God and carry the grace of the All-Holy Spirit by our participation in the Holy Mysteries. It's good not to shrink back from denouncing what is dark and wicked. It is good to refuse to participate in works of darkness or practices that imitate them. It is especially good not to involve children in these things. It is good to refuse to give the Adversary of our souls an open door into our lives. It is good to expose that occult practices, related games, spell-casting, rituals, etc. are not benign so that others can avoid entrapment. It is best not to go along with dark sorts of activities as if it's all fun and games because it is a deception and there is a power attached to these things that is not from God. These are not good doors to open in one's life or the lives of children.

This message comes from someone who was once a dabbler in astrology and other divining games. Please don't go there or encourage your children to go there, either, for "fun." These are doors to spiritual entanglement and can lead to spiritual entrapment.Teach your children what is good and wholesome is commendable before God. Celebrate the beautiful autumn season and rejoice in the harvest and its abundance from God.