

## [Undas \(All Saints and All Souls Day\)](#)

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Posted by [desireeann](#)

"Trick or treat!" That's what we often hear on TV during [Halloween](#). It's different in the [Philippines](#) though. Before Halloween evolved into a costume-wearing, trick-or-treating event, the day was considered sacred. The name came from All Hallows which means All Saints. That's what we observe in the Philippines, plus another day for All Souls. These events are celebrated on November 1 and 2.

[Undas](#), as what it's known in [Filipino](#), is celebrated in a completely different manner from Halloween. Instead of candies, we have *kakanin* (rice cooked in different ways) like *biko*, *suman*, [puto](#).



Instead of scary costumes, we actually get a [real](#) scare by going to the [cemetery](#) and sleeping there. [People](#) would bring tents, sleeping bags, and [food](#). Some would play cards while others would make the situation more adventurous by playing hide and seek or telling ghost stories.



The real purpose of Undas though, is to remember our departed [loved ones](#). Even people from abroad would come home just to visit their deceased [family](#)'s graves, light a candle, clean their graves, and offer prayers. The cemetery is just jam-packed with people. It's like a mini-reunion; a Christmas in the cemetery. This celebration depicts how tightly knitted families are in the Philippines, that even those that have passed away, are still remembered and cared for.



Ref.: <http://www.thinkphilippines.com/life/undas-all-saints-and-all-souls-day.html>