

**ALL SAINTS DAY
(01.11.2020)**

GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you.
and also with you.

For all the saints who went before us,
who have spoken to our hearts and touched us with your fire;
we praise you, O God.

For all the saints who live beside us,
whose weaknesses and strengths are woven with our own;
we praise you, O God.

For all the saints who live beyond us,
who challenge us to change the world with them;
we praise you, O God.

WELCOME

CONFESSION

God of all eternity,
as we seek your face, show us who we are.
Visit us deeply in the life-places which we refuse to name.
Speak to us in the silences, O God,
where our words of guilt and regret lie unspoken
and listen in the spaces where our souls whisper in longing
for different ways of being.

Forgive us, O God.
Lay your hands on our lives in grace, Jesus Christ.

As we stand before your holiness,
we know we will never be who we would like to be.
Our faith is too small and our faithfulness too brief,
our courage fails us and our care for others comes and goes.
We are often too slow to point to you if it costs us something
or it seems meaningless to do so.

Forgive us, O God.

Lay your hands on our lives in grace, Jesus Christ.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Come and see the grace of God for us.
We are loved as we are, not as we believe we should be.
We are given forgiveness as a gift,
beyond anything we have deserved or earned.
Let us lift up our hearts and receive our freedom.
Amen.

COLLECT

God of holiness,
your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example
with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

READINGS

Revelation 7:9-end

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,
'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith together:

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.**

**We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.**

**We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**

**We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE PEACE

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

Colossians 3:14,15

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

With saints and martyrs through the ages,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

BLESSING

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,
wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness,
protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders he has shown you.

May he bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors. **Amen.**

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

NOTICES

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