



Remember Your Great Cloud of Witnesses - All Saints & All Souls



This week we honor two special days back-to-back – All Saints and All Souls – Nov. 1st and 2nd respectively. Let us remember, every soul is called to be a saint!

Don't sell yourself short. Don't give up without even trying. No matter how unworthy we feel, how broken we are or how ashamed we consider ourselves, God's mercy is boundless for those who love Him. He created all of us – on purpose – and calls all of us to live saintly lives.

So, find purpose through Him even if you have to start over again and again.

Saint Paul reminds us in his letter to the Hebrews (12:1), "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us..."

The great apostle is telling us that we need to have confidence as we run our race on earth, because we're surrounded everyday by great prophets and saints cheering us on and are there to pick us up when we stumble.

ALL SAINTS

Pope Francis used the imagery of a stained glass to describe the saints, "Saints are not perfect models, but are people whose lives God has crossed," and can be compared with the stained-glass windows of a church, "which allow light to enter in different shades of color.

"They have fought to take away the stains and darkness of sin, so as to let the gentle light of God pass through," he said, adding that "this is the purpose of life, even for us."

He shared repeatedly during his Angelus and general audiences five years ago.

The Beatitudes shared in Matthew's Gospel readings on All Saints Day give us a path to happiness – a map outlining each "blessed" step to get there.

"Whoever is with Jesus is blessed, is happy," Pope Francis said, explaining that happiness "is not having something or becoming someone," but rather "true happiness is being with the Lord and living for love."

Saints and blessed souls "are the

simple, the humble who make room for God, who know how to weep for others and for their own errors, those who stay meek, who fight for justice, who are merciful toward all, who guard purity of heart, who always work for peace and remain in joy, not in hate, and, even when suffering, respond to evil with good."

He reminds us that living out the beatitudes conditions our bodies, minds, and hearts to stay focused on Christ.

Like us the saints had to "breathe the air polluted by the evil that's in the world, but along the way they never lose sight of Jesus' path, the one indicated in the beatitudes - the map of Christian life."

"God never abandons us. Each time we need it, one of his angels will come to lift us up again and give us comfort; 'angels,' at times with a human face and heart because God's saints are always here, hidden in our midst. This is difficult to understand and also to imagine, but saints are present in our lives."

continued...

ALL SOULS

On All Souls' Day and throughout the month the Catholic Church remembers and prays for the dead.

What can we do to honor them? Light candles for our loved ones, holy innocents, souls in purgatory, and those who have died we never knew. Visit cemeteries and mausoleums. Pray. Don't know what to say? Repeat the Psalm for All Souls Day, Psalm 23 - "The Lord in my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Though I walk in the valley of darkness, I fear no evil, for you are with me."

Reflect on these Bible verses as you remember the souls who have strengthened your faith whether through their good example and even their bad example:

"I thank my God every time I remember you!" - Philippians 1:3

"I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day." - 2 Timothy 1:3

"When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God." - Philemon 1:4

"In our prayers for you we thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." - Colossians 1:3

"We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly." - 1 Thessalonians 1:2

"We must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters, as is right, because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing." - 2 Thessalonians 1:3

PADRE PIO RELICS IN MORGANTOWN, SUNDAY, NOV. 5

Padre Pio's relics will be at **St. John University Parish, located at 1481 University Ave., Morgantown, from 8am to 4pm on Sunday, November 5th.** The relics will be on the main altar during the Sunday Masses (8:30 and 11:00 am; and 1pm).

"We are so blessed to be hosting the relic tour of St. Padre Pio here at St. John's," Pastor Fr. Brian Crenwelge said. "It's important for us as Catholics not only to know about the witness of the lives of the saints, but also to have a deep devotion to them. St. Padre Pio is a modern saint who we can definitely relate to in many ways, and who offers a witness of deep holiness and a witness of what it means to surrender to suffering in one's life. I hope many people can come out to venerate this great modern saint!"

In the Catholic Church, relics are physical objects associated with a saint or candidate for sainthood – part of the person's body or something with which he or she was in contact. Relics are not worshiped but treated with religious respect. Touching or praying in the presence of such an object helps a faithful individual focus on the saint's life and virtues, so that through the saint's prayer or intercession before God, the individual will be drawn closer to God.

The first and second-class relics of Saint Pio available for public veneration thanks to the Saint Pio Foundation include:

- The crusts of his wounds
- Cotton gauze bearing his blood stains
- A lock of his hair
- His handkerchief soaked with his sweat only hours before he died
- A piece of Padre Pio's mantle

Please, contact the parish at (304)296-8231 or via email at secretary@mountaincatholic.com for additional information. For more information on the foundation or securing the relics for your parish or vicariate go to: www.saintpiofoundation.org

[SAINTPIOFOUNDATION.ORG](http://www.saintpiofoundation.org)



SAINTS OF THE WEEK

ON OCT. 29 HONOR THE TEEN REMEMBERED FOR COURAGE AND FAITH



Although the last two years of her life was full of pain due to bone cancer it was “lived in love and light, a light that shone around her and that came from within: from her heart full of God,” said Pope Benedict XVI at the 2010 beatification of **Blessed Chiara “Luce” Badano**. She was given the nickname “Luce,” the Italian word for

“light,” due to her vibrant joy.

Chiara Luce was a radiant light of Christ, and Pope Benedict credited her parents Rubbero and Maria Teresa Caviglia Badano for lighting the fire in their child’s heart – the most important responsibility of a parent.

“They were the ones who first turned on this light, which comes from faith and love: her mother and father sparked the flame of faith in their daughter’s soul, and they helped Chiara to always keep it burning, even in the most difficult moments of growth and especially during the great trials of suffering.”

Blessed Chiara “Luce” Badano is a shining example for all of us for her courage, positive attitude, and fierce faith. She was cute, loved tennis, a confidant to her friends, and enjoyed everything a typical teenage girl does. She had heartaches, anxiety, and failures, but she was different in how she accepted her own suffering, as well as how she cared for others.

When Chiara was 17, she experienced sharp and debilitating pain in her shoulder playing tennis. Doctors thought it was due to a fractured rib, but the pain then radiated throughout her body, and she was later diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma. Her first chemo treatment took away the strength in her legs and her mobility. It wasn’t long after, she was declared bedridden.

Throughout Chiara Luce’s life her mother was frequently told, “You have a daughter who is not of this world,” because of the extraordinary genuine kindness and courage she showed.

According to the book *In My Staying is Your Going* – her mother described the final months of her precious child’s life, “I saw our roles reverse. So much so that one day during a conversation I told her: ‘Chiara, now it’s you who are mothering me,’ Little by little, Chiara taught us to transform every suffering into love. She united all her

suffering to Jesus, creating the conditions for us to have Jesus’ presence in our midst, giving us the strength to accept His will in the best way possible. Ruggero would say: ‘For our family, these two years of Chiara’s illness were the most blessed by God!’

While she was able Blessed Chiara Luce journaled about her life and faith. “Before, I used to live this ideal superficially and I was accepting (Jesus) only to expect joy in return. I realized I was going about things the wrong way. I must not exploit Him but just love Him and nothing else. I discovered that Forsaken Jesus is the key to unity with God. I understood that I can find Him in the distant ones, the atheists, and that I must love them in a very special way, without interest! ‘Give, and it shall be given to you’: I must learn to trust Jesus more, to believe in His immense love. At this point I have nothing left, but I still have my heart and with that I can always love.”

She passed away after receiving Holy Communion – “her food for her heavenly journey” on Oct. 7, 1990, three weeks shy of her 19th birthday. Her feast day is her birthday, Oct. 29th.

ON NOV. 3 HONOR THE FEAST DAY OF ST. MARTIN DE PORRES.

The story of the life of **St. Martin de Porres** is an example of true strength of mind and heart. He teaches us that with God we can tune out the noise and any hatred toward us. In St. Martin we see to not only focus on Christ, but be merciful and compassionate to all like He taught us.



St. Martin was born in Peru in 1579. He was of mixed race - his mother was a freed slave, and his father was of Spanish nobility. Martin, his mother, and sister were abandoned by his father, forcing the family into poverty. No matter the difficulty they faced St. Martin knew to honor God with his life for He is our heavenly Father. At the age of twelve, he took up the trade of barber, which also in that era included minor medical procedures and medicine/pharmacy roles.

While he wanted to enter religious life, he was forbidden in Peru, because it was against the law for anyone of African or Native American descent to take vows. He

persisted with his desire, and when he was 15, he was accepted as a volunteer for the Dominicans who assigned him the least favored tasks at the monastery – cleaning, laundry, and barbering.

Eight years later, his diligence, loving heart, and reverence paid off, Juan de Lorenzana disregarded the law discriminating against St. Martin because of his race, and allowed the young man to take his vows as a member of the Third Order of St. Dominic. That didn't mean life was easy for St. Martin, nor did it stop the racist and mean comments from some of his brother religious, who shamed him, called him degrading names, and mocked his presence.

Saint Martin kept his focus on his dream job as a religious brother, and did so with God at the center of his life.

St. Martin was assigned to care for the sick, diseased, and dying. It is recorded that he had extraordinary abilities and truly miraculous knowledge.

His life on earth was the epitome of one living out Christ's mission. He was friends with St. Rose of Lima, who was a member of the Third Order of Saint Dominic, and Dominican friar, St. Juan Macias. Many miracles have been attributed to him both after his life and during it.

Twenty-five years after his death his body was exhumed and was completely intact and reportedly a beautiful fragrance filled the air around those viewing the incorrupt body.

The image shared is a digital painting by Lee of Pixel Perfexion - www.etsy.com/shop/PixelPerfexion

ON NOV. 4 HONOR ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO – PREACH BY THE WAY YOU LIVE!

Saint Charles Borromeo was one who worked toward educating seminarians, reforming the Catholic Church, and creating the first catechism of the Church.



If he were of our world today, he may be mocked for nepotism. After receiving a degree in both theology and law by the age of 22, he was summoned by the pope – who happened to be his maternal uncle. Pope Pius IV made Charles a Cardinal. The young man was known for his

organizational skills and ability to relate to all people. As Cardinal he served over several countries and religious orders before he helped organize the Council of Trent in 1562.

Despite his position of privilege, St. Charles remained focused in his positions, actions, and reforms to reflect Christ's love for the faithful. He wanted them to know that they are the Church and God listens to them – all of them not just the people of power.

In 1566, he was able to return to Milan to serve among the people of the Church and the streets. When the people were suffering from a devastating plague, he sold his possessions and even the curtains of his palace in order for the poor to have proper medicine.

“Charity knows no distinction... we are all brothers and sisters in the Lord,” he said.

He was known for not only preaching, but living out his faith with his loving heart and strong will to please God, bringing Christ alive within us.

He said, “Be sure that you first preach by the way you live.”

Faithful in White Sulphur Springs are celebrating the 120th anniversary of the establishment of their parish – St. Charles Borromeo.



PLAN AHEAD

Daylight Saving Time
ends on Sunday, Nov. 5th.

Set clocks back 1 hour before
going to bed next Saturday night.

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Exodus 22:20-26

God hears the cry of all. We may be strangers to each other, but not to God. Treat others as you want to be treated – help the oppressed and those who hunger. It could easily turn to be you.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 18

“I love you, Lord, my strength.”

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

Love God and live in a way that the love, trust, and joy of your Christianity is a model for all.

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

Love! We show love by giving our time. Making time to pray is making time to be with God, trusting Him and showing our love for Him. Jesus wants all of to show love for one another, giving our time to our neighbor's in need. With great love one can follow the commandments set by God.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/102923.CFM

PRAYER INTENTIONS

That the Church may be a model for the world in the way that we love and care for those in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our leaders, that they may serve all with a loving empathetic heart, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all those who have strengthened our faith through their good example and even their bad example, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For those who need the love and compassion of a stranger—refugees, migrants, and those seeking freedom and peace—that they may know the love of God in the care they receive from strangers, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

First Reading: Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14

Once sinners the saints rejoice in the heavenly liturgy! They survived great distress and enjoy eternal joy through the Redeemer's love and mercy!

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 24

“Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.”

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

We are children of God, be like Him.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Jesus shares the beatitudes. Yes, blessed are they who mourn and hunger, and those who are meek, merciful, persecuted, clean of heart, and peacemakers. Those who love God are not guaranteed to be free from the hardships of life on earth, but be grateful to God in all things and you will be rewarded in heaven.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

BIBLE.USCCB.ORG/BIBLE/READINGS/110123.CFM

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we spread the Good News in our words and actions to every nation, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For all in positions of authority, that they work tirelessly to create a better future for all people, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For peacemakers, and all who work to bring peace to families, communities, and the world, let us pray to the Lord. . .

That we make time for our own catechesis reading the Bible and learning about saints – our role models for Christian living, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

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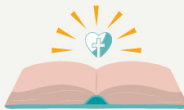
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LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.