

Litany of Saints

*Holy Mary...pray for us
(after each invocation)*



Michael, Gabriel, Raphael...
Angels of God...
Abraham, Moses and Elijah...
St. Peter and St. Paul...
St. Mary Magdalene...
All holy apostles and disciples of the Lord...
All martyrs...
St. Augustine and St. Basil...
St. Francis and St. Dominic...
St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Catherine...
St. Ignatius Loyola and St. Francis Xavier...
St. Vincent de Paul and St. John Bosco...
St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross...
St. Isaac Jogues and St. John Brebeuf...
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys...

All holy women and men...



Closing Prayer

Almighty and eternal God,
You were pleased to make Your Church
illustrious through the varied splendour of
the Saints.

As we venerate their memory may we
also follow such shining examples of
virtue on earth and thus obtain merited
crowns in heaven.

We ask this through
Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Amen.

*Compiled by Les Miller and
Melinda Rapallo
York Catholic District School Board*

All Saints' Day



Introduction

November is the month when the earth closes itself up for the winter. Trees give up their last leaves and hold dark, empty branches up to the sky.

November also starts a time to celebrate the lives of those who have passed on. Today is All Saints' Day. On this day, we celebrate the communion of saints—the union of prayer and love between saints on earth and the saints in heaven.

-Elizabeth McMahon Jeep

Introduction Prayer for All Saints' Day

God of Hope,
Autumn turns to winter.
Grass turns brown.
Leaves lose their last leaves,
Silent, empty branches reach upward.
You teach us with the gift of seasons
That death is not the end
And this lesson we need in a special way this month.

God of Wisdom,
Today is All Saints
We rejoice with those who have understood and lived
Your lessons of Love.
We reach out to them as we know You reach out to us
Through the communion of the saints.
Amen.

-Les Miller



Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

*A Reading from the Holy Gospel
according to Matthew .*

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying:

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

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall 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 be shown mercy.

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

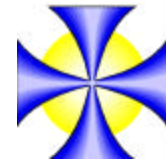
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

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



Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection

The Beatitudes are for people who have their hearts set on the kingdom. They are a way of life designed for those who want to be a blessing. Beatitude-people are kingdom people. They have a kingdom on their minds that won't let them rest until the world is just and holy and single hearted. They call us forth from the comfortable ruts of daily living and urge us on toward that kingdom. They tell us that the kingdom is already in our midst if we can bless the world with Beatitude-living. The Beatitudes are values that come straight from the mind of Christ. Let us remember now the saints who were kingdom builders.

-Author Unknown