

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

– some reflections based on the Beatitudes, the Gospel for this Solemnity

Which does our world prefer – moral regulations or the high ideals of the Beatitudes? Which do we prefer?

St Paul highlights that, with Jesus, love has overtaken the law. Love is the reason, the motivating force for how we live life as Christian disciples. This only makes our lot harder as we strive to be true to the Gospel, living out its vision for a world transformed.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, German theologian and martyred in 1944 under the Nazis, wrote a book, whose title says it all, about the life of one who follows Jesus – *The Cost of Discipleship*.

“The Beatitudes show Jesus’ teaching as being very down to earth, and so:

- What is my own desire for happiness?
- What do I imagine happiness to be?
- What is my own spirituality of discipleship, as I follow Jesus?
- What are my ways of coping with life and events?
- What is my approach to people?
- What is my approach living out the Gospel and service?”

Kieran O’Mahony osa

“The Beatitudes are a summary description of the character of the true disciple. They encapsulate the kind of person the disciple will be if faithfully following the Gospel and striving to rise to its demands.”

H. Benedict Green

“Jesus models precisely what he commands us in the Beatitudes. Jesus is humble and poor in spirit; mourns and grieves; hungers and thirsts with longing for God’s kingdom to be manifested; is pure in heart; shows mercy; and brings peace.”

Jonathan Pennington

“The Beatitudes give a description of how Jesus was and so offers a description of how the disciple must be.”

Kieran O’Mahony osa



FINAL HYMN: LEAD ME, LORD

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, longing for their Lord, for God's coming kingdom shall be theirs. Blessed are the sorrowing, for they shall be consoled, and the meek shall come to rule the world.
(R) Lead me, Lord, lead me, Lord, by the light of truth to seek and to find the narrow way. Be my way; be my truth; be my life, my Lord, and lead me, Lord, today.
2. Blessed are the merciful, for mercy shall be theirs, and the pure in heart shall see their God. Blest are they whose hunger only holiness can fill, for I say they shall be satisfied. (R)
3. Blest are they who through their lifetimes sow the seeds of peace; all will call them children of the Lord.
Blest are you, though persecuted in your holy life, for in heaven, great is your reward. (R)

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

Sainthood can seem impossibly remote from the reality of our lives. It ought not to. St John Paul II proclaimed a host of new saints with a clear catechetical purpose: he wanted us, the People of God, to realise that the Church’s catalogue of saints comprises men and women from every walk of life, of every shape and size; men and women very like ourselves. He wanted that realisation to prompt a question. If it could happen to them, why not to me? He wanted us to have spiritual ambition.

The notion of sainthood as something familiar and close is no news to readers of the New Testament letters. St Paul is positively promiscuous in his use of the term ‘saint’. Left, right and centre, he calls upon the ‘saints’ of this church or that. Not that he thought them all perfect in Christian stature. But he recognised in them that divine potential which makes an aspiration to sanctity not only licit but mandatory. Think of the prologue to 1 Corinthians: “*To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints.*”

Are we prepared for this challenge? Still, sanctity is not something we ‘achieve’. It is pure gift from beginning to end. Yet it is a gift we must be disposed to receive. God calls each of us to be a saint but he will not force us. We do not have to enjoy beatitude. We can opt out of communion with God. The call to be a saint comes in the form of an invitation. Almighty God, the Creator, approaches us with the modesty of a little child and has the courage to say: “*Do you want to be my friend?*” Such is the humility of our God. Such is the nature of his love.

He has lavished his love upon us. He has made us his sons and daughters. In Christ, he pours out his grace upon us continually. Just think how enormous all this is! Think what an extraordinary message we get from today’s liturgy! God has given us everything we need to know him, to love him, and – astonishingly – to be like him, to see him as he is. How have we received his gifts? How are we going to receive them today, here and now?

This great Feast commemorates the countless multitudes who have had the courage, love and longing to open their lives entirely to God’s love and be transformed by it. We are called to join the company of saints. Next time, we think, “*I am no saint*”, let us stop and ask ourselves: “*Well, why not?*”

Erik Varden – Entering the Twofold Mystery (2022)

CALENDAR

Monday

November 6
Weekday
Rom 11:29-36
Lk 14:12-14

Tuesday

November 7
Weekday
Rom 12:5-16ab
Lk 14:15-24

Wednesday

November 8
Weekday
Rom 13:8-10
Lk 14:25-33

Thursday

November 9
Dedication of
Lateran Basilica
Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12;
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17
Jn 2:13-22

Friday

November 10
St. Leo the Great,
Pope and Doctor
of the Church
Rom 15:14-21
Lk 16:1-8

Saturday

November 11
St. Martin of Tours,
Bishop
Rom 16:3-9,
16, 22-27
Lk 16:9-15

Sunday

November 12
Thirty-second
Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Wis 6:12-16
1 Thes 4:13-18
or 4:13-14
Mt 25:1-13

HOSPITALITY

Communion

We are the Body of Christ. This is who we are as Church. It is our profound mystery that we take and eat, take and drink at Communion. In doing so, we give expression to our identity.

If we are not in communion with the Catholic Church, it makes no logical sense for those to receive because simply, it is not their identity.

If you are Buddhist, from another Christian tradition or just our welcome guest, please feel free to come forward, not to receive communion but to ask for a blessing.

The simple practice of asking for a blessing is through the bodily posture of bowing one's head and crossing one's arms across one's chest when before the minister distributing communion.

If you are a parent with a child not receiving Communion, please take personal responsibility in asking the minister for a blessing for your child.

John P. Murray osa
Pastoral Leader, 10 am Mass Community

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Rev. Ignatius Adisak Somsaengsuang

ASSISTANTS:

Rev. Peter Booncharat Suksawang
Rev. Peter Withawat Kaewwaen

MASS SCHEDULE:

Mon-Fri : Thai 06:00 hrs.
Sat : Thai 06:00; 17:00 novena followed by
mass
Sun : Thai 07:00; 08:30 and 17:00 hrs.
English 10:00 hrs.

BAPTISM:

Thai : **First Sunday** during 8:30 am mass.
English : **Second Sunday** during 10:00 am
mass.

CONFESSION:

Sundays : Before all masses (Thai).
English before 10:00 am mass.

CATHOLIC CENTER:

For religious articles, please visit the center opposite
the entrance of the Cathedral.

Opening Hours:

Mon-Fri : 08:30 – 17:00 hrs.
Sat, Sun : Closed
& public holidays

Dear Padre

November 5, 2023

I would like to do more spiritual reading, but everything I've tried is either over my head or too sweet and pious for me. Do you have suggestions for any down-to-earth authors?

You might try reading shorter works. More is not necessarily better. Consider several publications available at Liguori.org. *In My Own Words* is a series of books that gathers excerpts from different authors: Dorothy Day, Sr. Thea Bowman, Pope St. John Paul II, and others. Also consider the *Wisdom* series for Advent and Christmas or Lent and Easter. These include the writings of ancients and a few more current authors like Pope Francis, Henri Nouwen, and Thomas Merton. *Daybreaks* for Advent and Lent are booklets of short meditations for each day of each season. *Catholic Update*, a four-page newsletter from Liguori, features in-depth articles on contemporary topics written by expert authors.

C. S. Lewis was a prolific and popular Christian author. His *Mere Christianity* is practical and informative. *A Grief Observed* is a beautiful meditation for those who have lost someone dear to them, as is Henri Nouwen's *In Memoriam*. Merton's *New Seeds of Contemplation* has inspired readers since it was first published in 1949.

Finally, the best place to start might be the Gospel of Mark—not to study or analyze. Rather, read it just to get to know Jesus a little better. ●

The Redeemtorists / DearPadre.org

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Priest: Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.
All: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

HOLY

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest. **PLEASE KNEEL**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

DOXOLOGY **PLEASE STAND**

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

GREAT AMEN

Amen. Amen. Amen.

COMMUNION RITE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (No. 387)

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.

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil; graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (Repeat)
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace. **PLEASE KNEEL**

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION HYMN: ON EAGLE'S WINGS (No. 691)

FINAL HYMN: LEAD ME, LORD (Please turn to the back page) **PLEASE STAND**

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

Sunday, 5 November 2023

ENTRANCE HYMN: FOR ALL THE SAINTS (No. 884) **PLEASE STAND**

INTRODUCTORY RITE

Priest: I confess to almighty God,

All: and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do;
– and, striking their breast, they say –

Through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;
Therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever-virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: **Amen.**

KYRIE, ELEISON / LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kýrie, eléison, (2); Christe, eléison, (2); Kýrie, eléison, (2).

GLORY TO GOD

Refrain: Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, on earth peace to people of good will.

1. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
2. Lord, Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us,
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand, the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. (R)

FIRST READING: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14

A reading from the Book of Revelation:

I, John, saw another angel come up from the East, holding the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were given power to damage the land and the sea, "Do not damage the land or the sea or the trees until we put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." I heard the number of those who had been marked with the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand marked from every tribe of the children of Israel.

After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb."

All the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They prostrated themselves before the throne, worshiped God, and exclaimed:

"Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen."

Then one of the elders spoke up and said to me, "Who are these wearing white robes, and where did they come from?" I said to him, "My lord, you are the one who knows." He said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb."

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 24: LORD, THIS IS THE PEOPLE



Lord, this is the peo - ple that longs to see your face.

1. The LORD's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it.
For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers. (R)
2. Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD? or who may stand in his holy place?
One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain. (R)
3. He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior.
Such is the race that seeks him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob. (R)

SECOND READING: 1 Jn 3:1-3

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John:

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure, as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALLELUIA PLEASE STAND

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Repeat)

**All: Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
And I will give you rest, says the Lord.**

GOSPEL: Mt 5:1-12a

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: A reading from the Good News according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

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

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

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

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

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

Priest: The Good News of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PLEASE BE SEATED

THE APOSTLES' CREED PLEASE STAND

Priest: I believe in God,

All: the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

**RESPONSE TO THE PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:
"Risen Lord, graciously hear us."**

PLEASE BE SEATED

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PROCESSION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN: ONLY THIS I WANT (No. 782)

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS PLEASE STAND