

November^{to} **REMEMBER**

**Saints, Scripture
and Activities
for the Month of
Remembrance**





November 1

All Saints

Who are the saints? Are they just a select group of ancient martyrs, Church leaders and scholars who “made the grade”? All Saints Day reminds us that God calls all people to holiness and invites them to live forever with him in heaven.

Through one baptism we are united with the entire Church, those who are alive as well as those who have died. This is the “communion of saints” we profess in the Apostles’ Creed. As we pray and serve together as families, friends and parishes, we are transformed by grace and the Holy Spirit.

*God, make me holy, and teach me
to live as one with your people.*

He saved us and called us to a holy life, not according to our works but according to his own design and the grace bestowed on us in Christ Jesus before time began...

—2 Timothy 1:9



November 2

All Souls' Day

Today we remember the generations of disciples, including our loved ones, who have left this world in death. Some are in heaven; others are in purgatory being cleansed of the effects of sin. Purgatory, remember, is not a punishment, but a preparation. We don't know if it lasts only a moment or a long time, but we do know that the souls in purgatory are destined for heaven.

Lord, we remember the souls in purgatory. Comfort them and grant them speedy entrance into heaven.

We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed... For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality.

—1 Corinthians 15:51, 53





November 3

St. Martin de Porres

St. Martin de Porres was the son of a Spanish knight and a freed slave from Panama. Because he was dark-skinned and his parents were not married, he was looked down upon. He joined the Dominican order and dedicated his life to caring for the neglected, poor, hungry and sick—especially for orphans and African slaves.

St. Martin reminds us that poor and rich, light and dark, minority and majority are equal in God's eyes. He is the patron saint of African Americans and interracial justice.

*Lord, remind me that everyone,
regardless of birth, status or color, needs you.
Help me care for all as brothers and sisters.*

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither
slave nor free person, there is not male and female;
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

—Galatians 3:28



November 4

St. Charles Borromeo

As a young man, **St. Charles Borromeo** was made a cardinal. Already a bishop with a law degree, he undertook major reforms in the Church. He reopened the Council of Trent and established the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, which taught children the faith. He is the patron of religion teachers and those preparing to join the Church.

Activity: Reach out to someone who doesn't know the faith. Invite them to Mass or a parish event, and share something you like about being Catholic—even if it is just a prayer or Bible story.

**Take these words of mine into your heart and soul...
Teach them to your children...**

—Deuteronomy 11:18-19





November 5

Your Beloved Departed

When people we love die, it is not the end. We are united to them in God, and we hope to see them again when our time on earth is over.

List any family, friends, teachers, leaders or others who have died below:

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God...
They seemed...to be dead...
But they are in peace.

—*Wisdom 3:1-3*



November 6

Becoming a Saint

How do you receive the title of “saint”?

1. Live a life of virtue and/or die defending the faith. Try to follow Christ more closely every day.
2. After you die, the local bishop opens a cause for your sainthood and investigates your life. If your actions were heroic or you truly died for the faith, you are declared “venerable” and given the title “Servant of God.”
3. If a miracle is granted through your intercession, you are beatified and called “Blessed.”
4. A second proven miracle leads to canonization. The pope declares you are a “Saint” in heaven and worthy of imitation. Your feast day is added to the Church calendar.

Tombs were opened, and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised.

—*Matthew 27:52*



November to REMEMBER

In November, we remember many things—the saints, loved ones who died, blessings of the year—and give thanks for them all. Like the end of any time, class, event or relationship, we use our final days to look back and examine, hoping and learning to make the next one even better.

These thirty reflections, one for each day of the month, remind us of our calling as Catholics and show us ways that calling can be lived out. Call upon these saints for strength, help and inspiration. Venerate (praise and honor) them for the examples they set. God is ever near, but they, too, remember the challenges of a life lived in faithfulness.



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