



Liturgy Cycle A

All Saints Day, 1st November

Introduction

Today we honour, not just the canonized saints, who are likely to be well known, but all the uncanonised ones, who are unknown and unrecognized. Every one of us has known a saintly person.

First reading (Apocalypse 7:2-4.9-14)

Here we have a vision of the victorious followers of Christ rejoicing in his presence in the heavenly Kingdom. They come from every nation, race, tribe, and language.

Second Reading (1 John 3:1-3)

St. John tells us that in heaven we shall see God as he is. However, if we want to attain to this vision we must live like Christ.

Gospel (Matthew 5:1-12)

Here Jesus stresses the qualities he wishes to see in his disciples, qualities we see exemplified in the lives of the saints.

Prayer Of The Faithful

The saints show us that, in spite of our weakness, it is possible with God's grace to live like Christ. Let us pray to our heavenly Father for the grace to imitate them.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For the Church: that all its members may realize that holiness is the most important thing in life. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all our leaders: that the saints may inspire them to be gentle and merciful, wise and prudent, in the exercise of their responsibilities. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all those who are suffering persecution because they are living the Gospel. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.



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That our devotion to the saints may bring us closer to Christ, the model of all true holiness. We pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

Communion Reflection

The spiritual life is the life of one's real self.

We cannot become holy if we are false.

**We can become holy by being ourselves,
our ordinary selves.**

**The saints take on various forms,
and this is as it should be.**

We do not come out of a common mould.

Each of us is an original.

**Our supreme task in life is to draw out
all that is authentic and truly our own.**

**Alas, many people go through life
with a pale copy of their true selves,
whereas if they walked the way of the saints
they could have had the original itself.**

The saints were holy because they were themselves.

**They show us what human beings are capable of
when they are true to all that is best in them.**

**They even give us the glimpse of God himself
because his image shines out through them.**