

INTRODUCTION:

All Saints Day focuses on celebrating both canonized and unknown saints, highlighting their perseverance through trials with God's grace and reminding us of our own vocation to holiness. It emphasizes that sainthood is a "homecoming" and a gift from God, encouraging us to live with hope and to draw strength from our faith, even when struggling.

READINGS:

First Reading:	Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
Second Reading:	1 John 3:1-3
Gospel:	Matthew 5:1-12a

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: As God's people on earth, let us unite our prayers with all the Saints in heaven for the needs of men and women everywhere:

Response: Lord, hear our Prayer

For the Church, that her leaders always teach the truth of the Faith, so that all her children may join the Saints Triumphant in the Kingdom of God, (pause). We pray to the Lord.

For all elected and appointed leaders, that they may always strive to work for peace, with justice, among all people, (pause). We pray to the Lord.

For those who suffer persecution in the cause of truth, that like so many martyrs, they may joyfully persevere in truth, (pause). We pray to the Lord.

For our own parish community, that, in our hunger and thirst for what is right, we may be peacemakers and show love and mercy to others, (pause). We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Ever-living God, we are gathered as your family to praise your name and honour your holy ones. In your kindness, answer our prayers and the prayers which the saints offer on our behalf. We ask this through Christ our Lord.