

GOSPEL MESSAGE

November 1, 2026

ALL SAINTS DAY

The Church Triumphant

Today the church remembers those who are now in the realm of God, at rest from their earthly labors. Their baptism is complete, and they feast eternally at Jesus' welcome table.

As we speak or hear the names of deceased loved ones today, let us give thanks for the ways in which they shared the gospel with us. None of us would be following Jesus now without a faithful saint or two who told us their favorite Bible passages and stories, shared their favorite hymns with us, and exemplified faithful witness and service. Who was most instrumental in your faith development? Thank them today or, if they have died, offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their enduring legacy of faith.

Jesus prepares a place of inexpressible joy for us. Only good things await beyond the door we call death. Abundant blessings are in store for those who once were poor in spirit, mourning, or meek; for those who longed for justice and righteousness; and for the peacemakers and pure of heart. These saints are wrapped in the love of God for all eternity. They no longer experience hunger, thirst, tears, pain, suffering, or sorrow. The former things have passed away. All things have been made new!

While here we grieve the death of our beloved ones, we also take heart, knowing that one day we will join the church triumphant and unite our voices with the faithful of every time and place. Alleluia, thanks be to God!

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