Called to holiness

SUNDAY Plus

1 NOVEMBER 2026

All Saints **Divine Office Week III** Year A

Recognise God's love



Ceiling in the Church of All Saints with fresco paintings of all saints, Minsk, Belarus © Jasen Wright, Shutterstock

The Saints are not supermen, nor were they born perfect. They are like us, like each one of us. They are people who, before reaching the glory of heaven, lived normal lives with joys and sorrows, struggles and hopes. What changed their lives? When they recognised God's love, they followed it with all their heart without reserve or hypocrisy. They spent their lives serving others, they endured suffering and adversity without hatred and responded to evil with good, spreading joy and peace. This is the life of a saint. Saints are people who, for love of God, did not put conditions on him in their life; they were not hypocrites; they spent their lives at the service of others…

Being holy is not a privilege for the few, as if someone had a large inheritance… We are all called to walk on the path of holiness, and this path has a name and a face: the face of Jesus Christ. He teaches us to become saints… In fact, the Kingdom of Heaven is for those who do not place their security in material things but in love for God, for those who have a simple, humble heart that does not presume to be just and does not judge others, for those who know how to suffer with those who suffer and how to rejoice when others rejoice. They are not violent but merciful and strive to be instruments for reconciliation and peace. Saints, whether men or women, are instruments for reconciliation and peace.

Pope Francis

The more we taste the mystery of God, the more we are attracted to it.

Pope Leo XIV

Our love continues

The real intent of our prayer for the dead is for us to stay in touch with them, to continue to be in a conscious communication, to maintain our relationship of love, to finish unfinished business, to apologise to them, to forgive them, to ask them to forgive us, to remain mindful of the special oxygen they breathed into the planet during their lives, and to occasionally share a celebratory glass of wine with them...

So, if you've lost a loved one in a situation where there was still something unresolved, where there was still a tension that needed easing, where you should have been more attentive or where you feel badly because you never adequately expressed the affirmation and affection that you might have, know it's not too late. It can still be done!

And, in having that make-up conversation, don't be afraid to share a laugh about how the inadequacy of our human situation has the devilish habit of fudging our best intentions.

Ronald Rolheiser OMI

Lord, people aren't born saints: they become saints. May every breath I breathe be an act of love for you. Amen.

Feast of the week
Monday 2 November

All Souls

The feast of All Souls is special for all of us because we are all thinking about people who have died, people whom we've known and loved, sometimes very dearly. Most of us can identify an aching corner of our heart which is occupied by memories of one or more very special individuals. However, All Souls' Day is a day of hope: the resurrection means that we will be together again, never to be parted. Love does not end at the grave: those who have died are enjoying life with God, but they are also living in our hearts and are only a thought 's distance away.

We pray for those who have died – those we have loved and lost, and those known only to God. May they rest in the peace and joy of eternal life with God.

READINGS

Today:
Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

Monday:
Isaiah 25:6-9
Romans 5:5-11
Matthew 11:25-30

Tuesday:
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 14:15-24

Wednesday:
Philippians 2:12-18
Luke 14:25-33

Thursday:
Philippians 3:3-8
Luke 15:1-10

Friday:
Philippians 3:17 – 4:1
Luke 16:1-8

Saturday:
Philippians 4:10-19
Luke 16:9-15

Next Sunday:
Wisdom 6:12-16
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13

redemptorist

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St Cecilia's Church

101 Stonecot Hill, North Cheam, Surrey SM3 9HN
Contact us via St Cecilia's Parish Office: Tel: 0208 641 3141
Email: northcheam@rcaos.org.uk **Website:**www.stceciliarcchurch.co.uk
Facebook: SaintCecilia Ncheam. **Instagram:** stcecilia101

Parochial Administrator: Fr Benedict Fadoju
Confessions: 5:00pm - 6:00pm Saturdays or please contact Fr Benedict on request.
Hospital Chaplain: Fr Philip Pak **Telephone: St Helier**: 0208 296 2917
Useful information can be found by visiting the Diocsan Website
at www.rcsouthwark.co.uk and the Sutton Deanery at www.suttondeanery.weebly.com

"Waiting and patience are necessary if we are to fulfill what we have begun to be, and to receive, through God's unfailing help, what we hope for and believe."

ALL SAINTS

Sat. 31st Oct. 12 noon CONFIRMATION MASS
Lillo Provenzano (RIP)
6:30pm **Bernard Hall (40 Days Mass RIP)**

Sun. 1st Nov. 9:30am **The Plumber and Maloney Family**
11:00am **Francis & Rose Marie Almeida (RIP)**

ALL SOULS DAY

Mon. 2nd Nov. 10:00am. **The Pope**
12 noon. **Holy Souls of the Parish**
Both the 10am and 12pm Masses will be followed by the Blessing of Graves in the Memorial Garden
7:00pm **Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed**

Tues. 3rd Nov. NO MASS

Wed. 4th Nov. 10:00am. **Jennifer Lobo Special Birthday**

Thurs 5th Nov. 10:00am. **For the People of the Parish**

Fri 6th Nov. 6:00pm. ADORATION AND BENEDICTION
7:00pm. **For Consecrated Souls in Purgatory**

Sat. 7th Nov. 6:30pm. **Charles Anderson (13th Anniversary RIP)**

Sun. 8th Nov. 9:30am. **Cathy Smythe (40 Day Mass RIP)**
11:00am. **Desmond Pheathean (Anniversary RIP)**
The 11am Mass will be followed by the Blessing of Graves in the Memorial Garden

Second Collection next weekend is for the Archbishop's Appeal which provides essential funds for Youth Evangelisation, Catholic Social Justice, and Care for Clergy and Active Ministry.

Saints of the Week 3rd St Martin de Porres/St Winifride; 4th St Charles Borromeo;

The Holy Souls Everyone is invited to write the names of departed loved ones you wish to pray for at all the Masses during the month of the Holy Souls, and place them in the basket on the altar. There are sheets available at each of the entrances to the church. All lists will be treated in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations and burned at the end of the month. Those who visit a cemetery between 1st and 8th Nov and pray for the dead may obtain a plenary indulgence applicable to the holy souls.

Upcoming Mass Intentions
11th Alf Oliva, 14th Teresa Elson, 15th Ian Tait, 15th Maria Gallagher

Prayers for the Sick & Housebound Please pray for the wellbeing of: D.H. Adelaide Cotter; Paul Fairhall; E.K.U.; Marie Goti; Michael Christou; Mary Silva; John Rosenow; Michael Hoskins; Phyllis Sibley; Martha Gilbert, Mary Nassan, Joe Mendes; Baby Cian and Dominic Carter.

For the Repose of the Soul Please pray for **John Bourke** whose Funeral Mass is 12.30pm on the 17th November followed by a burial at 2pm at Sutton Cemetry SM3 9PX. ***May he Rest In Peace.***

PARISH LIFE

SAVE THE DATES
International Evening Friday 20th November celebrating the feast of our patron saint.
Christmas Concert Sunday 6 December
If you love to entertain or help out behind the scene now is the ideal time to get involved. Sign ups and posters for both of the above events are in the churc

Church Parade Sunday 8th November at 9.30am Mass. We welcome all associated Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Rainbows, Brownies and Guide groups.

Accomodation Urgently Required A Professional Fait Community seek suitable shared rental accommodation, locally, for six residence. Please contact the parish office by email, if you know of anywhere suitable.

Back to the Body begins Tuesday 10th November from 11.15am to 12.15pm in the Church Hall Back to Body is a 4 week gentle introduction to cardio, stretc and strength exercise. For cost & booking see poster on the narthex noticeboard or contact Pauline on 07958 313106. Everyone welcome.

The Blessing of Graves Sunday 8th November at 2.30pm. There is an outdoor service at the Chapel in Merton and Sutton Joint Cemetery in Garth Road. Members of the clergy will be available to bless individual graves of relatives & friends buried there, c in Morden Cemetery Crematorium.

Mass Offerings: 24th/25th Oct. Offertory: £1094.12; **Candles:** £105.49; **Mass Attendance:** 449