



## Guardian Angels Parish

1161 Broughton Street, Vancouver BC V6G 2B3

Tel: 604-684-5775; Fax: 604-684-5757

Email: parish.ga@rcav.org; Website: guardianangelsvancouver.ca

Pastor: Rev. John Alex Pinto, OCD

## All Saints Day

October 30, 2020

**Dear Parishioners,**

The most important document of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vatican Council is called Lumen Gentium, which is the dogmatic constitution of the Church. In the 5<sup>th</sup> Chapter of this document, faithful of all hierarchy is privileged to pursue the path of holiness. Let me quote Nos. 39 & 40.

*39. The Church, whose mystery is being set forth by this Sacred Synod, is believed to be indefectibly holy. Indeed Christ, the Son of God, who with the Father and the Spirit is praised as "uniquely holy," (1\*) loved the Church as His bride, delivering Himself up for her. He did this that He might sanctify her.(214) He united her to Himself as His own body and brought it to perfection by the gift of the Holy Spirit for God's glory. Therefore in the Church, everyone whether belonging to the hierarchy, or being cared for by it, is called to holiness, according to the saying of the Apostle: "For this is the will of God, your sanctification".(215) However, this holiness of the Church is unceasingly manifested, and must be manifested, in the fruits of grace which the Spirit produces in the faithful; it is expressed in many ways in individuals, who in their walk of life, tend toward the perfection of charity, thus causing the edification of others; in a very special way this (holiness) appears in the practice of the counsels, customarily called "evangelical." This practice of the counsels, under the impulsion of the Holy Spirit, undertaken by many Christians, either privately or in a Church-approved condition or state of life, gives and must give in the world an outstanding witness and example of this same holiness.*

*40. The Lord Jesus, the divine Teacher and Model of all perfection, preached holiness of life to each and everyone of His disciples of every condition. He Himself stands as the author and consummator of this holiness of life: "Be you therefore perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect".(216)(2\*) Indeed He sent the Holy Spirit upon all men that He might move them inwardly to love God with their whole heart and their whole soul, with all their mind and all their strength(217) and that they might love each other as Christ loves them.(218) The followers of Christ are called by God, not because of their works, but according to His own purpose and grace. They are justified in the Lord Jesus, because in the baptism of faith they truly become sons of God and sharers in the divine nature. In this way they are really made holy. Then too, by God's gift, they must hold on to and complete in their lives this holiness they have received. They are warned by the Apostle to live "as becomes saints", (219) and to put on "as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved a heart of mercy, kindness, humility, meekness, patience", (220) and to possess the fruit of the Spirit in holiness.(221) Since truly we all offend in many things (222) we all need God's mercies continually and we all must daily pray: "Forgive us our debts"(223)(3\*)*

*Thus it is evident to everyone, that all the faithful of Christ of whatever rank or status, are called to the fullness of the Christian life and to the perfection of charity;(4\*) by this holiness as such a more human manner of living is promoted in this earthly society. In order that the faithful may reach this perfection, they must use their strength accordingly as they have received it, as a gift from Christ. They must follow in His footsteps and conform themselves to His image seeking the will of the Father in all things. They must devote themselves with all their being to the glory of God and the service of their neighbor. In this way, the holiness of the People of God will grow into an abundant harvest of good, as is admirably shown by the life of so many saints in Church history.*

As we celebrate this Sunday, All Saints Day, let us give thanks to God for this call and let us explore this path of holiness. Let us also pray for the departed members of our families, that they may be purified from their imperfections and enter in the Holy of Holies.

I am happy to announce that we will have PREP Classes starting from Nov 8. For schedule and registration process, please call the Parish Office.

Mass on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, All Soul's Day, will be at 8 am, 9 am and 6 pm.

Prayers and blessings,

**Fr. John Alex Pinto OCD - Pastor**

Source: <https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/>

### November 01: Solemnity of All Saints

Today we honor those holy men and women who have gone before us in faith and have done so in a glorious way. As we honor these great champions of faith, let's reflect upon who they are and what role they continue to play in the life of the Church. The following excerpt is from [Chapter 8](#) of *My Catholic Faith!*:

**The Church Triumphant:** Those who have gone before us and now share in the glories of Heaven, in the Beatific Vision, are not gone. Sure, we do not see them and we cannot necessarily hear them speak to us in the physical way they did while on Earth. But they are not gone at all. St. Thérèse of Lisieux said it best when she said, "I want to spend my Heaven doing good on Earth."

The saints in Heaven are in full union with God and make up the Communion of Saints in Heaven, the Church Triumphant! What's important to note, however, is that even though they are enjoying their eternal reward, they are still very much concerned about us.

The saints in Heaven are entrusted with the important task of intercession. Sure, God already knows all our needs and He could ask us to go directly to Him in our prayers. But the truth is that God wants to use the intercession, and therefore, the mediation of the saints in our lives. He uses them to bring our prayers to Him and, in return, to bring His grace to us. They become powerful intercessors for us and participants in God's divine action in the world.

Why is this the case? Again, why doesn't God just choose to deal with us directly rather than go through intermediaries? Because God wants all of us to share in His good work and to participate in His divine plan. It would be like a dad who buys a nice necklace for his wife. He shows it to his young children and they are excited about this gift. The mom comes in and the dad asks the children to bring the gift to her. Now the gift is from her husband but she will most likely thank her children first for their participation in giving this gift to her. The father wanted the children to be part of this giving and the mother wanted to make the children a part of her receiving and gratitude. So it is with God! God wants the saints to share in the distribution of His manifold gifts. And this act fills His heart with joy!

The saints also give us a model of holiness. The charity they lived on Earth lives on. The witness of their love and sacrifice was not just a one time act in history. Rather, charity is living and continues to have an effect for the good. Therefore, the charity and witness of the saints lives on and affects our lives. This charity in their lives creates a bond with us, a communion. It enables us to love them, admire them and want to follow their example. It is this, coupled with their continuing intercession, that establishes a powerful bond of love and union with us.

*Lord, as the saints in Heaven adore You for eternity, I beg for their intercession. Saints of God, please come to my aide. Pray for me and bring to me the grace I need to live a holy life in imitation of your own lives. All saints of God, pray for us. Jesus, I trust in You.*

### November 02: The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All soul's Day)

The following excerpt is from [Chapter 8](#) of *My Catholic Faith!*:

As we celebrate the Commemoration of All Souls, let's reflect upon our Church teaching on Purgatory:

**The Church Suffering:** Purgatory is an often misunderstood doctrine of our Church. What is Purgatory? Is it the place we have to go to be punished for our sins? Is it God's way of getting us back for the wrong we've done? Is it the result of God's anger? None of these questions really answer the question of Purgatory. Purgatory is nothing other than the burning and purifying love of our God in our lives!

When someone dies in God's grace they are most likely not 100% converted and perfect in every way. Even the greatest of saints most often would have some imperfection left in their lives. Purgatory is nothing other than that final purification of all remaining attachment to sin in our lives. By analogy, imagine that you had a cup of 100% pure water, pure H<sub>2</sub>O. This cup will represent Heaven. Now imagine that you want to add to that cup of water but all you have is water that is 99% pure. This will represent the holy person who dies with just some slight attachments to sin. If you add that water to your cup then the cup will now have at least some impurities in the water as it mixes together. The problem is that Heaven (the original cup of 100% H<sub>2</sub>O) cannot contain any impurities. Heaven, in this case, cannot have even the slightest attachment to sin in it. Therefore, if this new water (the 99% pure water) is to be added to the cup it must first be purified even of that last 1% of impurities (attachments to sin). This is ideally done while we are on Earth. This is the process of getting holy. But if we die with any attachment, then we simply say that the process of entering into the final and full vision of God in Heaven will purify us of any remaining attachment to sin. All may already be forgiven, but we may not have detached from those things forgiven. Purgatory is the process, after death, of burning out the last of our attachments so that we can enter Heaven 100% freed of everything to do with sin. If, for example, we still have a bad habit of being rude, or sarcastic, even those tendencies and habits must be purged.

How does this happen? We do not know. We only know it does. But we also know it's the result of God's infinite love that frees us of these attachments. Is it painful? Most likely. But it's painful in the sense that letting go of any disordered attachment is painful. It's hard to break a bad habit. It's even painful in the process. But the end result of true freedom is worth any pain we may have experienced. So, yes, Purgatory is painful. But it's a sort of sweet pain that we need and it produces the end result of a person 100% in union with God.

Now since we are talking about the Communion of Saints, we also want to make sure to understand that those going through this final purification are still in communion with God, with those members of the Church on Earth, and with those in Heaven. For example, we are called to pray for those in Purgatory. Our prayers are effective. God uses those prayers, which are acts of our love, as instruments of His grace of purification. He allows us and invites us to participate in their final purification by our prayers and sacrifices. This forges a bond of union with them. And no doubt the saints in Heaven especially offer prayers for those in this final purification as they await full communion with them in Heaven. It's a glorious thought and a joy to see how God has orchestrated this entire process for the ultimate purpose of the holy communion to which we are called!

*(see next page)*

## Reflection

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All Saints' Day: November 01, 2020

"Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you (falsely) because of me." - *Matthew 5:11*

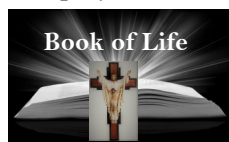
We are all at different points on the path to holiness, on getting to Heaven and becoming a saint. Part of the journey is being mocked and ridiculed by others. When this happens, how do you respond? Do you become silent? Do you react in anger or do you react with love? Fortunately, as one Body of Christ, we are united with the saints already in Heaven. Ask your favorite saint for guidance in defending the Faith.


**Mass Intentions**

	Day		Intention
Saturday	Oct 31	4pm	For the Parishioners
		6pm	Sp. Int. of Karen Hakim
Sunday	Nov 01	9am	Sp. Int. of Matthew & Sabiola Wisnieska
		11am	Sp. Int. of Alerome Botor
		1pm	+Ronald Bainbridge+
Monday	Nov 02	8am	Deceased members of Daluro, Jarcia & Botor Family
		9am	Souls in Purgatory
		6pm	+Rodolfo Tayag+
Tuesday	Nov 03	8am	Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday	Nov 04	8am	Anonymous - Intention #1
Thursday	Nov 05	8am	Sp. Int. of Florinda & Rufina
Friday	Nov 06	8am	+Fr. Frank Doyle, SJ+
		6pm	+Cameron Cooper+

**BOOK of LIFE**

**All Souls Day – November 2nd, 2020:** The Church devotes the month of November to pray for the deceased members of our families and friends. You are invited to offer Mass(es) for your deceased loved ones throughout the year, but most particularly during the month of November. Envelopes and a marked box, for this purpose, have been placed in front of the statue of St. Joseph. A stipend of \$10 per envelope is suggested. The Book of Life is displayed where you can enter the name(s) of the loved ones that you wish to have remembered and prayed for.



*For the living know that they will die, but the dead know nothing, and they have no more reward, for the memory of them is forgotten. - Ecclesiastes 9:5 -*

Lord, I pray for those souls going through their final purification in Purgatory. Please pour forth Your mercy upon them so that they may be freed of all attachment to sin and, thus, be prepared to see You face to face. Jesus, I trust in You.

(from previous page)

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS****Nov 01: Solemnity - Solemnity of All Saints:**

Today is primarily a Sunday, the Lord's day; the saints are the principal witnesses to Christ and to the saving power of his death and resurrection. This is the focus of today's celebration. - *Ordo 2019-2020 p. 382*

**2nd Collection: Peter's Pence** - In a year marked by hardships caused on a global scale by COVID-19, there is ever greater need for a concrete sign of the Pope's support and love, and of his universal charitable work. Indeed, thanks to these donations, it will be possible to carry out projects that tangibly bring Pope Francis close to those who suffer the consequences of the coronavirus.

**Nov 02: The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day)****Nov 04: Memorial: St. Charles Borromeo****Nov. 6 - First Friday of the Month**

There will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament after the 8 am and 6 pm Mass.

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**

Sessions are for persons inquiring about the Christian faith or wanting to deepen their understanding of the Catholic Faith. Session is ongoing and is held every Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.

**Parish Religious Education Program**

PREP Classes 2020-2021 starts November 8 every Sunday. For inquiries about PREP classes for the year 2020/2021, please email [parish.ga@rcav.org](mailto:parish.ga@rcav.org) or call 604-684-5775; or send your email direct to the PREP Coordinator at [carmelacorpus@hotmail.com](mailto:carmelacorpus@hotmail.com)

**PROJECT ADVANCE 2020**

Total donations to date is \$21,500. Many thanks to those who have contributed so



far. Please remember that you can donate online, by mail, or by enclosing your contribution in an envelope marked "Project Advance" and placing it in the collection basket during the offertory at Mass. Please check out our PA custom website at <https://support.rcav.org/guardianangels/>

**Nov. 1 -****Sunday:****DST ends**

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## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### **⚠ Email Fraud Warning**

The Archdiocese has received multiple reports from parishioners and priests who have fallen victim to a recent Internet email phishing scam. Imposters, posing as priests and using email addresses that are similar to those of our priests, have been emailing people asking for personal donations, gift cards, and other forms of financial assistance.

### **November: The Month of Holy Souls**

The faithful are called to pray for the dead especially during November, the month of Holy Souls. During the Halloween Triduum, the Feast of All Saints is a time for the Church to honour and celebrate all the saints and martyrs in Heaven - both known and unknown. We especially honour the saints who have not been canonized or do not have a special feast day. Throughout the month of November, Catholics also pray for souls in purgatory who may be undergoing a process of purification before entering into the presence of God. Sign up to receive Holy Souls prayers in your inbox for each day of November at [rccav.org/November](http://rccav.org/November)

### **All Souls' Day Mass with Archbishop Miller**

Join Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB for All Souls' Day Mass on Monday, Nov. 2 at 6:00 pm live from the Evangelist Chapel at Gardens of Gethsemani. Register to attend in-person or by livestream at [rccav.org/events](http://rccav.org/events)

### **Highways to Heaven - Lives of Blesseds Carlo Acutis & Chiara "Luce" Badano**

We only have one life to live, so how can we find true fulfillment and meaning? Let's look to Carlo and Chiara and hear their stories. Join us this Saturday, Nov. 7, at 7:00 pm on Zoom to get to know these two extraordinary youth through storytelling and artistic performances. Register online at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events). Presented by young adults from SFU Chaplaincy and Focolare Movement.

**LITTLE FLOWER ACADEMY** is accepting applications from prospective Grade Eight candidates for the 2021-2022 school year. All students wishing to apply must sit the ENTRANCE EXAM on Friday, December 4, 2020. For more information on our VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE and online application, please visit our website [www.lfabc.org](http://www.lfabc.org) or contact Kathi Wilson, Registrar at [wilsonk@lfabc.org](mailto:wilsonk@lfabc.org) or 604-738-9016 ext. 114.

### **KIDS & SENIORS CORNER** *(Contributed by Nyles Fernandes)*

Halloween originated from an ancient Celtic festival called Samhain.

This year will be the first Halloween in 19 years to have a full moon.

Jack-o-lanterns originated in Ireland.

Jack-o-lanterns were originally carved out of turnips, potatoes and beets.

The All Saints day was also called All-hallows or All-hallowmas and the day before was All-Hallows Eve, and eventually, Halloween.