

# November 1

## All Saints Day

**Discuss these with your family:**

**Whose feast do we celebrate on All Saint's Day?**

**Do you have to be famous to be a saint?**

**Do you really think you are able to become a saint or is it just reserved for a few privileged folks?**

**Something to Pray: Litany of All Saints**

(It is long—but use that as a reminder of really how many saints there are in heaven—and this doesn't even scratch the surface.)

**Litany of the Saints**

Responses are *italicized*

Lord, have mercy on us.

*Lord, have mercy on us.*

Christ, have mercy on us

*Christ, have mercy on us.*

Lord, have mercy on us.

*Lord, have mercy on us.*

Christ, hear us

*Christ, graciously hear us.*

God, the Father of heaven, (Answer these *have mercy on us*)

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

God the Holy Spirit,

Holy Trinity, one God,

Holy Mary, (Answer these *Pray for us*)

Holy Mother of God,

Holy Virgin of virgins,

St. Michael,

St. Gabriel,

St. Raphael,

All you Holy Angels and Archangels,

St. John the Baptist,

St. Joseph,

All you Holy Patriarchs and Prophets,

St. Peter,

St. Paul,

St. Andrew,

St. James,

St. John,

St. Thomas,

St. James,

St. Philip,

St. Bartholomew,

St. Matthew,

St. Simon,

St. Jude,

St. Matthias,

St. Barnabas,

St. Luke,

St. Mark,

All you holy Apostles and Evangelists,

All you holy Disciples of the Lord,

All you holy Innocents,

St. Stephen,

St. Lawrence,

St. Vincent,

Sts. Fabian and Sebastian,

Sts. John and Paul,

Sts. Cosmos and Damian,

All you holy Martyrs, St. Sylvester,

St. Gregory,

St. Ambrose,

St. Augustine,

St. Jerome,

St. Martin,

St. Nicholas,

All you holy Bishops and Confessors,

All you holy Doctors,

St. Anthony,

St. Benedict,

St. Bernard,

St. Dominic,

St. Francis,

All you holy Priests and Levites,

All you holy Monks and Hermits,

St. Mary Magdalene,

St. Agatha,



St. Lucy,  
St. Agnes,  
St. Cecilia,  
St. Anastasia,  
St. Catherine,  
St. Clare,  
All you holy Virgins and Widows,  
All you holy Saints of God,

Lord, be merciful, (Answer these *Save Your People*)

From all evil,  
From all sin,  
From your wrath,  
From a sudden and unprovided death,  
From the snares of the devil,  
From anger, hatred, and all ill-will,  
From the spirit of uncleanness,  
From lightning and tempest,  
From the scourge of earthquake,  
From plague, famine, and war,  
From everlasting death.  
By the mystery of your holy  
Incarnation,  
By your Coming,  
By your Birth,  
By your Baptism and holy fasting,  
By your Cross and Passion,  
By your Death and Burial,  
By your holy Resurrection,  
By your wonderful Ascension,  
By the coming of the Holy Spirit,  
On the day of judgment,

Be merciful to us sinners, (Answer  
*Lord, hear our prayer.*)

That you will spare us,  
That you will pardon us,  
That it may please you to bring us to  
true penance,  
Guide and protect your holy Church,  
Preserve in holy religion the Pope, and  
all those in holy Orders,  
Humble the enemies of holy Church,  
Give peace and unity to the whole  
Christian people,

Bring back to the unity of the Church  
all those who are straying, and bring  
all unbelievers to the light of the  
Gospel,  
Strengthen and preserve us in your  
holy service,  
Raise our minds to desire the things of  
heaven,  
Reward all our benefactors with  
eternal  
blessings,  
Deliver our souls from eternal  
damnation,  
and the souls of our brethren, relatives,  
and benefactors,  
Give and preserve the fruits of the  
earth,  
Grant eternal rest to all the faithful  
departed,  
That it may please You to hear and  
heed  
us, Jesus, Son of the Living God,  
*Spare us, O Lord*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins  
of the world, *spare us, O Lord!*  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins  
of  
the world, *Graciously hear us, O Lord!*  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins  
of the world, *Spare us, O Lord!*

Christ hears us *Christ, Graciously hear  
us, O Lord!*

Lord Jesus, hear our prayer. *Lord  
Jesus hear our prayer*  
Lord, have mercy on us.  
*Lord, have mercy on us.*  
*Christ, graciously hear us*  
Christ have mercy on us  
*Christ, have mercy on us.*  
Lord have mercy on us  
*Christ, have mercy on us.*

## Nov. 2, All Soul's Day

### **Something to Do:**

Visit the graves of your family. Spruce them up. Plant flowers. Sprinkle with Holy Water. If this is not possible, visit another cemetery as representing your family's cemetery and pray for your family members there.

Put out pictures of the deceased members of your family and friends at home.

### **Something to pray:**

**Eternal rest grant unto him/her (them), O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon him/her (them). May he/she (they) rest in peace. Amen.**

## **Nov. 11 St. Martin of Tours (and Veteran's Day)** Martin was born at Upper Pannonia, which is called Hungary today. His father was a Roman military officer and tribune. Although his parents were pagans (did not believe in God), he began to study the Christian religion.

Those who study the Christian religion are called catechumens until they are baptized. He joined the Roman imperial army in Italy when he was only fifteen in a unit that served as the emperor's bodyguard that very rarely had to fight in battle.

One very cold winter day, when Martin was on horseback, he and his companions came upon a beggar at the gate of the city of Amiens. The man's only clothes were nothing but rags and he was shaking with cold.

The other soldiers passed by him, but Martin felt that it was up to him to help the beggar. Having



nothing with him, he drew his sword and cut his long cloak in half. Some laughed at his funny appearance as he gave one half to the beggar. Others felt ashamed of their own selfishness.

That night, Jesus appeared to Martin. He was wearing the half of the cloak that Martin had given away. "Martin, still a catechumen, has covered me with this garment," Jesus said. Right after this wonderful event, St. Martin went to be baptized at the age of eighteen.

Just before a battle, Martin announced that his faith did not allow him to fight. They called him a coward and put him in jail. His commander planned to put him in the front line in the battle, but when the enemy made peace the battle did not take place.

A few years later, the saint left the army. He became a disciple of St. Hilary, the bishop of Poitiers, France. Because of his strong opposition to the Arian heretics (non-believers) in various cities, Martin had to go into exile. But he was happy to live in the wilderness with other monks.

When the people of Tours asked for him as their bishop, he refused but they would not give up. They got him to come to the city to visit a sick person and when he got there, they took him to the church.

As bishop of Tours, St. Martin did all he could to make the people of France friends of Jesus and give up their unbelief. He prayed, he worked and preached everywhere.

Our Lord let Martin know when his death was near. As soon as his followers heard of it, they began to weep. They begged him not to leave them. So the saint prayed: "Lord, if your people need me yet, I will not refuse the work. Your will be done."

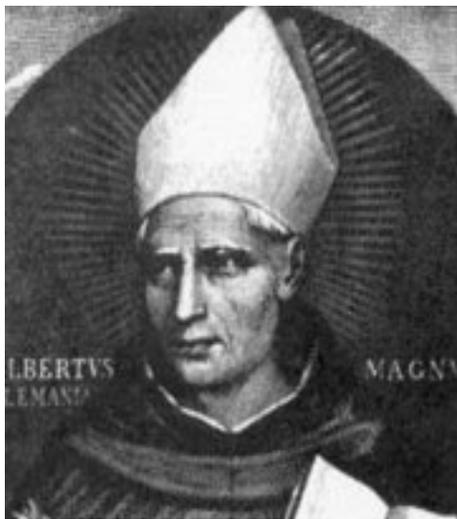
He was still laboring for the Divine Master in a far-off part of his diocese when death finally came in 397. St. Martin's tomb became one of the most famous shrines in all of Europe. (From HolySpiritInteractive)

### **Something to Pray:**

#### **St. Martin of Tours Prayer for Our Soldiers**

St. Martin, you were first a soldier like your father. Converted to the Church, you became a soldier of Christ, a priest and then a Bishop of Tours. Lover of the poor, and model for pagans and Christians alike, protect our soldiers at all times. Make them strong, just, and charitable, always aiming at establishing peace on earth. Amen.

## **Nov. 15 St. Albert the Great**



### **Did you know that St. Albert the Great (Albertus Magnus):**

- Was born in 1206 in southern Germany and joined the Dominicans in 1223.
- Taught theology and philosophy for 22 years. So many people came to hear him that he had to lecture outdoors.
- Had a great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament as did his most famous pupil, St. Thomas Aquinas.
- Is the "Father of the Natural Sciences". He was an authority on physics, geography, chemistry, astronomy, and biology.
- Built the first mechanical man.
- Is generally considered the most learned person of the entire medieval world. Wrote an encyclopedia.
- Attributed all his learning and the success of his work to the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- Was appointed bishop of Regensburg and was an advisor to popes, bishops and kings.
- Was declared a Saint and Doctor of the Church in 1931 by Pope Pius XI.

*St Albert the Great reminds us that there is friendship between science and faith and that through their vocation to the study of nature, scientists can take an authentic and fascinating path of holiness.*  
~Pope Benedict XVI

### **Something to pray:**

Dear Scientist and Doctor of the Church, Natural science always led you to the higher science of God.

Though you had an encyclopedic knowledge, it never made you proud, for you regarded it as a gift of God. Inspire scientists to use their gifts well in studying the wonders of creation, thus bettering the lot of the human race and rendering greater glory to God. Amen.

# Nov. 17 St. Elizabeth of Hungary



**From Saints.sqpn.com:**

## St. Elizabeth of Hungary was

Princess, and the daughter of King Andrew of Hungary. Great-aunt of Saint Elizabeth of Portugal. She married Prince Louis of Thuringa at age 13. Built a hospital at the foot of the mountain on which her castle stood; tended to the sick herself. Her family and courtiers opposed this, but she insisted she could only follow Christ's teachings, not theirs. Once when she was taking food to the poor and sick, Prince Louis stopped her and looked under her mantle to see what she was carrying; the food had been miraculously changed to roses. Upon the death of Louis, Elizabeth sold all that she had, and worked to support her four children. Her gifts of bread to the poor, and of a large gift of grain to a famine stricken Germany, led to her patronage of bakers and related fields.

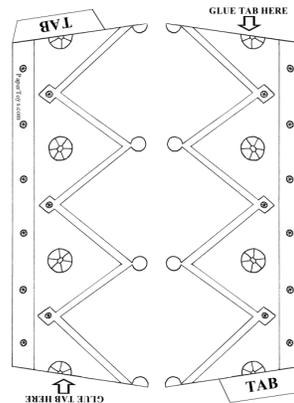
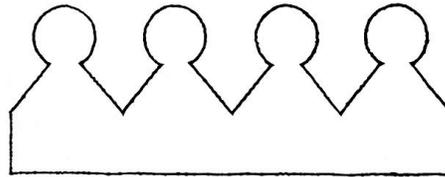
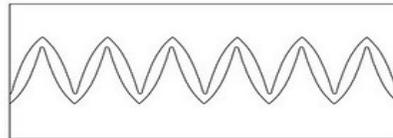
## Something to pray:

A Prayer to St. Elizabeth

**Almighty God, by whose grace your servant Elizabeth of Hungary recognized and honored Jesus in the poor of this world:**

**Grant that we, following her example, may with love and gladness serve those in any need or trouble. In the name and for the sake of and through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

# Sunday Before Advent "Christ the King"



<http://papertoys.com/kingscrown.htm>

## Dinner Discussion:

Does Christ reign as King in my life and in our home?

How can we do this better?

### **Something to Pray:**

#### *PRAYER TO CHRIST THE KING*

O Christ Jesus,  
I acknowledge You as King of the universe.  
All that has been created has been made for You.  
Exercise over me all Your rights.  
I renew my baptismal promises,  
Renouncing Satan and all his work and pomp.  
I promise to live a good Christian life  
And to do all in my power to procure  
The triumph of the rights of God and Your  
Church.

Divine Heart of Jesus,  
I offer you my poor actions  
In order to obtain that all hearts  
May acknowledge Your Sacred Royalty,  
And that thus the reign of Your peace  
May be established throughout the universe.

Amen.

## **Nov. 21, The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**



Say a decade of the Rosary today.

## **Nov. 22 St. Cecilia**

Ironically, St. Cecilia is the patron saint of music and musicians because of this short entry in her biography during her wedding, "While the musical instruments sounded, she sang in her heart to the Lord alone, saying, 'Let my heart and my body be undefiled, O Lord, that I may not be confounded'"

A Christian in a pagan 4<sup>th</sup> century Roman household, St. Cecilia did not want to be wed. That night, she explained her faith to her bridegroom Valerian, saying that an angel had crowns for them both if he would convert. Though dubious, Valerian looked into it, consulted with Pope Urban, converted, and even brought his brother into the fold. The story continues with the martyrdom of the brothers and then the trial and passion of St. Cecilia herself. The judge ordered her burned in the baths. When this failed, he ordered her decapitated. This was only partly successful, so she lived three more days, time enough to preach the faith, convert multitudes, and give her goods to the poor. She was interned a couple of times after her death and was found incorruptible. There are many musical compositions, poems, and great works of art dedicated to her. Chaucer, Handel, and Raphael all used her as their subject in their works.

### **Something to Pray:**

O Glorious Saint,  
who chose to die instead of denying your  
King,  
we pray you please to help us  
as His fair praise we sing.

We lift our hearts in joyous song to honor  
Him this way,  
and while we sing, remembering,  
to sing is to doubly pray.

At once, in our hearts and in our tongues, we  
offer double prayer  
sent heavenward on winged notes  
to praise God dwelling there.

While in our hearts and tongues we try with  
song to praise God twice,  
we ask dear saint, to help us  
be united close to Christ!



## Third Thursday, Thanksgiving

It certainly is the American version of a traditional feast day. Look it it's Christian origins:

President Abraham Lincoln responded in 1863 by setting aside the last Thursday of November as a national Day of Thanksgiving . . . Lincoln's original 1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation (His speech which gives glory and thanksgiving to God) came - spiritually speaking - at a pivotal point in his life. During the first week of July of that year, the Battle of Gettysburg occurred, resulting in the loss of some 60,000 American lives. Four months later in November, Lincoln delivered his famous "Gettysburg Address." It was while Lincoln was walking among the thousands of graves there at Gettysburg that he committed his life to Christ. As he explained to a friend:

**When I left Springfield  
[to assume the  
Presidency] I asked the  
people to pray for me. I  
was not a Christian.  
When I buried my son,  
the severest trial of my  
life, I was not a  
Christian. But when I  
went to Gettysburg and  
saw the graves of  
thousands of our  
soldiers, I then and  
there consecrated  
myself to Christ.**

(From Christiananswers.net)

**Something to pray:** Besides the usual dinnertime blessing, it is nice to have someone compose a prayer mentioning many of the things your family is thankful for. If it is a child doing the composing, he can ask several family members for their contributions.

