



WE ARE CHURCH International

Saturday, 1 November 2025

Celebrating All the Saints – 1 November 2025

Facilitator: Kathy Gibbons Schuck

Introduction

Opening Song: *Litany of the Saints* © 1987 John Becker

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Xh8oXmynvQ&list=RD7Xh8oXmynvQ&start_radio=1&t=

Gathering

We gather in the presence of Love, Love that Creates, Love that Incarnates, and Love that Animates everything that is sacred.

Amen!

Reader 1 Patricia M. Opening Prayer - Excerpts from *Litany for All Saints Day* by Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB

O Cosmic Christ, in you and through you and for you,
all things were created; in you all things hold together and have their being.

Through Teilhard de Chardin, scientist of the cosmos,
you imagined a new heaven and a new earth.

Through Teresa of Avila, charismatic leader, you inspired a church of courage and wisdom.

Through Mahatma Gandhi, great soul, you became nonviolent in the struggle for justice.

Through Catherine of Siena, fearless visionary, you forged a new path for women.

Through Meister Eckhart, creative mystic, you refused to abandon the inner light.

Through Hildegard of Bingen, greenness of God, you poured out juicy, rich grace on all creation.

Through Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., drum major of freedom, you shattered racial barriers and freed dreamers to dream.

Through Anne Frank, writer and witness, you preserved goodness in the midst of great evil.

Through Cesar Chavez, noble farmworker, you transformed the dignity of human labor.

Through Harriet Tubman, prophet and pilgrim, you led the captives into freedom.

Through Vincent Van Gogh, artist of light, you revealed the sacredness in sunflowers and in starry nights.

Through Pope John XXIII, window to the world,
you awakened awareness to the signs of the times.

Through Mary Magdalene, apostle to the apostles,
you ordained women to proclaim the good news.

Through Julian of Norwich, anchoress and seer, you showed the Mother image of God.

Through Rumi, poet in ecstasy, you illuminated friendship as mystical union.

Through Maura Clarke and Companions, martyrs of El Salvador,
you rise again in the hopes of the dispossessed.
Through Dorothy Day, pillar of the poor, you recognized holiness as bread for the hungry.
O Cosmic Christ, in your heart all history finds meaning and purpose.
In the new millennium, in the celebration of jubilee help us find that which we all seek:
a communion of love with each other and with you, the Alpha and Omega,
the first and last, the yesterday, today, and tomorrow, the beginning without end. Amen.

Reader 2: Paul U. *Beatitudes for the 21st Century* by Rev Becky Withington

Blessed are the marginalized, for they are extravagantly welcome in the culture of God.

Blessed are those who care for the earth, for they promote a healthy, dynamic ecosystem that care for us all.

Blessed are the bold, for they see the culture of God manifest before their eyes.

Blessed are the empathetic, for they heal the brokenness of the world.

Blessed are the inclusive, for they see through the eyes of love.

Blessed are those with integrity, for their hearts, minds, words and actions are one.

Blessed are those who commit themselves to peace, for they disarm violence.

Blessed are those who organize, struggle and sacrifice for freedom and equality, for they bend the moral arc of the universe toward justice.

Blessed are we in the amazing diversity of our ethnicity, age, ability, and orientation, for we make visible the glory of Creation.

Wisdom inspired by our God.

Thanks be to God!

Sung Response: *Sing of a Blessing* by Miriam Therese Winter; © Medical Mission Sisters 1982, 1987

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bMn85e-NPU&list=RD8bMn85e-NPU&start_radio=1

Sing, we sing of a blessing. Sing, we sing of a blessing.

A blessing of love. A blessing of mercy. Love will increase a blessing of peace.

Pray now, pray for a blessing. Pray now, pray for a blessing.

A blessing of joy. A blessing of justice. Love will increase a blessing of peace.

Share now, share in a blessing. Share now, share in a blessing.

A blessing of hope. A blessing of courage.

Love will increase a blessing of peace.

Live, live, live as a blessing. Live, live, live as a blessing.
A blessing within. A blessing among us. Love will increase a blessing of peace.

Send forth, send forth a blessing. Send forth, send forth a blessing.
A blessing to all now and forever.
Love will release a blessing of peace. Love will release a blessing of peace.

Reader 3: Maeve W. *What Comes Next* by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer

Author Diana Butler Bass simply said "*Love Relentlessly*."
Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer developed that phrase into a poem:

Love relentlessly, she said, and I want to slip these two words
into every cell in my body, not the sound
of the words, but the truth of them, the vital, essential need for them,
until relentless love becomes a cytoplasmic imperative,
the basic building block for every action.

Because anger makes a body clench. Because fear invokes cowering, shrinking, shock.
I know the impulse to run, to turn fist, to hurt back. I know, too, the warmth of cell-deep
love—
how it spreads through the body like ocean wave, how it doesn't erase anger and fear,
rather seeds itself somehow inside it, so even as I contract love bids me to open
wide as a leaf that unfurls in spring until fear is not all I feel.

Love relentlessly. Even saying the words aloud invites both softness and ferocity into the
chest,
makes the heart throb with simultaneous urgency and willingness. A radical pulsing
of love, pounding love, thumping love, a rebellion of generous love, tenacious love, a love
so foundational every step of what's next begins and continues as an uprising, upwelling,
ongoing, infusion of love, tide of love, honest love.

Wisdom inspired by our God.

Thanks be to God!

Sharing of thoughts

Prayers of the community

Eucharistic Prayer

Reader 4: Margarida P. With gratitude, we place our gifts, our dreams, our joys, and our sorrows on the tables of love we gather round. Abundant Giver, we give thanks for Your amazing gifts of life and love. Help us savor them! Spirit Sophia, we open ourselves to You. Fill us with your healing presence. We join as one at tables around the world.

Thank you for inviting us, for helping us find each other, and for Your wondrous gift of Eucharist. We join our voices with all those on whose shoulders we stand as we struggle to bring about the kingdom, a deeply rooted culture of kinship here on earth.

~ Please extend your hands in blessing ~

Pour out Your Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may be vehicles of justice and compassion as we and they become the body and blood of Jesus.

Reader 5: Soline H. (Lift the bread) On the night he was betrayed, while at supper with his friends, Jesus gave thanks and broke the bread saying what You have said to Your beloved family and friends throughout the ages: Share with me!

All: ***This is my body which is given up for you. When you break bread together, remember me.***

(Lift the cup) After supper, Jesus took the cup, blessed it and said:

All: ***Take this all of you and drink. This is my blood, the new covenant of God-with-you. When you drink from this cup, remember me.***

Holy One, we are living in difficult, perplexing and challenging times. Please give us moral courage. May we never be too busy or too frightened to stand up and speak out for justice, equality, freedom, and peace.

Reader 6: Soline H. (Raise gifts) May we be one with all creation. May all divisions be healed. May we come together in Your Spirit, recognizing that all is truly sacred.

All: ***Amen!***

Prayer of Jesus – Rev M Jade Kaiser (enfleshed.com)

All: ***Mother of us all, who dwells within and beyond, Sacred is your name.***

May your holy vision for collective flourishing come to fruition among us.

May your dreams of justice, love, compassion, and connection be enfleshed on earth.

Provide us today with what we need to be nourished in body, soul, and heart.

Forgive us the harm we cause as we seek to forgive those who have harmed us.

Lead us away from everything that destroys and liberate us from the hands of evil.

For you are the ultimate source of hope.

Your power-with exceeds all power-over.

Your presence incites eternal wonder.

All praise to you, our comfort and strength.

Amen.

Reader 7 Colm H. Greeting of Peace - Shalom is the Hebrew word for 'peace.' It carries a deeper, more comprehensive perspective that encompasses harmony, wholeness, completeness, and flourishing. Shalom, the peace of Christ is with you always. Let us share greetings of Shalom with one another.

(Raise gifts) This is Jesus, who models humility and justice, who frees us to be our best selves; whose Spirit continues to heal and transform us and our world. Happy are we who are nourished at tables of love around the world.

All: ***Jesus, make me worthy to receive you, and by your word, we are healed.***

Receive who you are, the body and blood of Christ.

Amen.

Communion Song: Mystery by Miriam Therese Winter © Medical Mission Sisters 1987
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljG5f3fKn7U&list=RDljG5f3fKn7U&start_radio=1

Prayer after Communion – from The Talmud

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.
Do justly, now. Love mercy, now. Walk humbly, now.
We are not obligated to complete the work,
But neither are we free to abandon it.
To this we say Amen!

Let's Bless Each Other – Blessing from Miriam Therese Winter © 1987

May the blessing of God go before you. May Her grace and peace abound.
May Her Spirit live within you. May Her love wrap you 'round.
May Her blessing remain with you always. May you walk on holy ground.

Sending Forth Song: We Are One © Miriam Therese Winter
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46NmLp15WnA&t=16s>

I am in you are in me; we are one.
What was is over, yet something surreal has begun.
Starlight and shadow, and warmth of the sun,
Being is what we become when doing is done.

I am in you are in me; we are one.
Rooted in that which sustained our life on the run.
Memories and meaning and dreams we have spun
Spill over into the hearts of everyone.

I am in you are in me; we are one.
When crossing over, our spirits continue as one.
Song of the sparrow and dance of the drum
Pulse of a planet at play is what we become.

I am in you are in me; we are one.
Wonderful has been the journey, regrets there are none.
Now and forever, love everyone.
Love, real love, remains when our days are done.

Love everlasting remains when our days are done.
Being is what we become when doing is done.