❤️ Dear Church Family,

Happy Feast of All Saints!

On this glorious solemnity, our hearts rejoice as we celebrate the triumphant communion of heaven—the countless men and women who have walked the path of holiness before us. All Saints' Day invites us to look up to the "great cloud of witnesses" and remember that holiness is not reserved for a select few, but a calling meant for each of us.

This year, we give special thanks for the incredible legacy of female saints throughout church history. From the courageous early martyrs like Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity, to great mystics and Doctors of the Church like Saint Teresa of Ávila and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, women have powerfully shaped our faith. We look to mothers like Saint Monica, whose persistent prayers bore rich fruit; visionaries like Saint Joan of Arc; and modern examples of selfless love like Saint Teresa of Calcutta.

These holy women remind us of the many ways God's grace manifests in daily life—through tenderness, strength, bold courage, quiet prayer, and unconditional service to the poor and suffering.

May the lives and intercessions of all the saints, especially the holy women of God, inspire us to shine with Christ's light in our own homes, workplaces, and community.

Wishing you and your families a joyful and blessed All Saints' Day!

🙏 Our Prayers

We continue to pray for Reverend Steven Young, asking God to grant him strength, comfort, and continued progress in his recovery. We also pray for Father Matthew and his son, Christian, asking the Lord to surround them with His healing presence, peace and protection. May God sustain Reverend Steven and his family, strengthen him in his ministry and bless him with renewed health and many more years of faithful service to our Parish.

We give heartfelt thanks to Reverend Louise for her dedicated service, compassionate heart, and joyful presence in our community. We pray that God will grant her good health, precious time to rest with her family, and a deep sense of peace. May she continue to feel cherished and supported by the love she has so generously shared with others.

Lord, hear our prayers, bring healing where there is suffering, hope where there is uncertainty, and peace to all who need Your comforting presence.

Amen.

⛪ Our Sunday Services – 1st November

- **9:15 am | St Nicholas:** Holy Communion
- **9:30 am | Holy Cross:** Holy Communion
- **9:30 am | St Michael and All Angels:** Holy Communion
- **11:15 am | All Saints:** Holy Communion followed by buffet lunch.

Weekday Eucharist, Prayers & Open Church.

- **Monday, 2nd November | 9:30 am:** Morning Prayer, All Saints
- **Tuesday, 3rd November | Sorry, no Lunchtime Prayers at All Saints**
- **Tuesday, 3rd November | 3.00 pm:** Holy Communion at Holy Cross, with pop-up cafè
- **Wednesday, 4th November | 10.00 am:** Holy Communion at St Nicholas
- **Thursday, 5th November | 9:30 am:** Morning Prayer, St Nicholas
- **Thursday, 5th November | 3.00 pm:** Songs of Praise, St Michael and All Angels
- **Friday, 6th November | 12.00 pm-2.00 pm:** Holy Communion and Open Church at All Saints (TBC)

Can you spare an hour?

We are always grateful for volunteers who help keep our beautiful churches open to the public during the week. This simple act of service offers others a quiet place to pray, reflect and encounter God's peace.

*If you can, please contact Reverend Steven at **rector.eabw@gmail.com**, or reply to this email with **"Volunteer"** in the subject line.*

🎄 Upcoming Parish Events

- **Saturday, 21st November | 10:00 am–2:30 pm:** Christmas Fair at St Michael and All Angels Church and Hall. Please see the pew sheets for further details.
- **Sunday, 29th November | 10:00 am:** Parish Service at All Saints, presided over by the Right Reverend Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of St Albans.

We look forward to sharing these special occasions with you and celebrating the fellowship that makes our Parish such a precious part of our lives.

🕊️ A Moment for Reflection

In the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1–12), Jesus turns our world's values upside down by declaring that true blessing belongs not to the powerful or self-sufficient, but to the humble, the merciful, and the peacemakers. To be "poor in spirit" is to acknowledge our deep need for God and open our hearts to receive His grace and love. As we go about our week, may we reflect Christ's kingdom by seeking peace, offering mercy, and trusting that God's presence is nearest to us in our moments of weakness.

Lord Jesus, grant us humble hearts and merciful spirits, that we may bring Your peace and light into our community today.

Amen.

With every blessing,

Alana

On behalf of the Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood

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