Living the Word

Matthew's Beatitudes are a perfect masterpiece. They are a blueprint of the Christian life. In this sermon on the mount Jesus was communicating what was at the heart of his teaching. This profound and succinct instruction depicts the face of Christ himself. The Beatitudes also express wonderfully the vocation of every believer. We all want to be happy; this is a basic human desire which is divine in its origin and impulse. The key to finding this happiness is in living as Jesus teaches. The Beatitudes outline the goal of human existence; we are on earth to live out the blessings of the Beatitudes in our daily lives. However, if one truly examined one's life by the standard outlined in the Sermon on the Mount, we would give up before we started. Although we are capable of extraordinary acts of kindness, we cannot live the grace of the Beatitudes purely through our own strength. They are the disposition of the new creation, the new humanity borne from the side of Christ on the cross. Only those who have received God's grace will be empowered to live the Beatitudes in their daily lives. Only those who turn to God each day in repentance asking for his strength will be enabled to live as Jesus lived.

November: month of the Holy Souls

Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord, and, as our faith in your Son, raised from the dead, is deepened, so may our hope of resurrection for your departed servants also find new strength. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Society
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Sunday 1st Nov. 2026
All Saints
Gospel: Matt. 5: 1 – 12



Before his martyrdom in July 2016 at the hands of a terrorist, the French priest Fr Jacques Hamel, wrote, 'Do not think holiness is not for us. Holiness does not mean doing extraordinary things. We are sons and daughters of God. It is by living this relationship, day by day, that we become saints.' Whenever Christians participate in the Eucharist, they proclaim Christ's death, not in fear but in the knowledge of the victory of Christ over death. Now is the time for us to stop believing that we cannot be saints, to stop focusing on what we think of as our lack of holiness, to stop offering ourselves excuses, and to live out the Gospel of the Kingdom, proclaimed by Our Lord in the Gospel passage known as the Beatitudes. November is the month of not only the Holy Saints but also of Holy Souls in Christ. In our worship we already share in the glorious Kingdom to which the saints bear witness, as we pray for God's will to be done in the departed, and in those of us who are still on our earthly pilgrimage. We know that our prayers are united with the whole of heaven.