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All Saints Sunday 1st November 2026

This weekend there is a Special Second Collection for the Diocese of Bamanda in Africa

Except in exceptional circumstances any information for the newsletter must be given to me by Monday

Page 184 Revelation 7: 2-4,9-14 1 John 3: 1-3 Gospel Matthew 5: 1-12

The feast of "All Saints" has a long history starting in the early Church when Christians wanted to honour all martyrs who died for their faith. In the 4th century the Eastern Church began a special feast day on the Sunday after Pentecost. Later in the 8th century the Western Church wanted a special day and Pope Gregory III set 1st November as "All Saints Day". The Church teaches about the "Communion of Saints"- those who have reached heaven, the souls in purgatory and the faithful on earth. Those declared as saints by the Church are close to God so can intercede for us if we pray to them for our intentions.

The first reading is from the Book of Revelation which often speaks of struggles and trials but here we see that those who belong to the Lord are marked and kept safe. This is a vision of hope in the midst of turmoil. Later in the reading the multitude from every nation shows the universality of salvation, emphasising God's victory over evil and the gathering of the faithful.

The second reading from John states God's love makes us the children of God even if the world fails to see it and often is misunderstood by the world. Believers are called to purity and the hope of transformation and the promise of salvation.

In Matthew's Gospel we hear the Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount. They set the tone for Jesus teaching as the new Moses showing God's law in a new way. The Beatitudes have themes of mercy, righteousness and justice. They reverse worldly values by showing God's favour for the humble, the weak, the persecuted, the peacemakers and the suffering.

Mass times	Feast Days
6pm: Confessions **6.30pm Vigil Mass** **Theophilus Thomas RIP**	**Saturday 31st Blessed Winchester Martyrs** Blessed John Slade was born in Dorset. Studied at New College Oxford. Went to Douai College in France to study Catholic Canon Law. Returned to England as a school teacher in Winchester. He did not accept the authority in spiritual matters of Queen Elizabeth I and refused to swear the "Ecclesial Supremacy Oath". Hanged, drawn and quartered on All Souls Day, 2nd November 1583 in Winchester Market Place. Blessed John Adams was born in Dorset. An Anglican Minister who converted. Went to Englih College in Rheims. Ordained a Catholic priest. Returned to minister in Winchester. Eventually arrested and banished to France with 72 other priests in 1584. Next year returned to Winchester and arrested again. Executed in 1586 at Tyburn in London being a Catholic priest trained in France. Blessed Laurence Humphreys was born an Aglican in Hampshire. Very religious and helped the poor, visited the sick and people in prison and encouraged people to live good lives. Converted by a Catholic priest. Became seriously ill. While delirious called Queen Elizabeth a harlot and a heretic. Arrested. At his trial could not recall his words. Executed 1591 in Winchester aged 20. Blessed James Bird, an Anglicasn born in Winchester. He had doubts about his religion and went to study at the English College in Rheims and converted to Catholism. Returned to England. Did not accept the authority in spiritual matters of Queen Elizabeth I. Refused to swear the "Ecclesial Supremacy Oath". Hanged, drawn and quartered in Winchester 1593 aged 19. His head was put on a spike at the gate of Winchester much to his fathers's horror.
9.30 am Mass	**Sunday 1st November All Saints**
6.30 pm Mass	**Monday 2nd Feast of All Souls** The day we remember the souls of the departed who have died but might not have reached heaven and need our prayers and Masses offered for the repose of their souls that need cleansing from their sins. Various customs have developed over the years.
10 am Mass Thanksgiving Mass for Bincy Tomy	**Tuesday 3rd St Martin de Porres** Born in 1579 in Lima, Peru. Martin was illegitimate, mixed race, raised by his mother who was a freed black slave from Panama. His father was a Spanish grandee, later Governor of Panama. He was trained as a Barber-Surgeon. Being mixed race not allowed to join religious Order. Lay helper and servant boy in the hospital of the Dominicans. Aged 34 joined Order after abbot ignored rules. Put in charge of infirmary. Fund raiser for the sick and poor with a skill for gaining donations from rich people. Founded an orphanage for abandoned children and slaves. Spent hours in prayer. Cared for all regardless of race or wealth. Remarkable rapport with animals. Very devout. Rich and poor all loved and respected him. Crowds attended his funeral
SVP Social 1 pm to 3 pm **6.30 pm Mass**	**Wednesday 4th St Charles Borromeo** Born in 1538 in Italy, a descendant of nobility. Charles was not handsome with a speech impediment. Gained Doctorate in Canon and Civil Law. Uncle was Pope Pius IV who made Charles a Cardinal and member of Roman Curia aged 21. Charles lived an austere life style. Reopened the last session of Council of Trent. Reformer of Vatican. Archbishop of Milan. Stopped corruption and selling of indulgences in his diocese. He reformed monasteries and clergy practice. Charles was a leading figure in Counter Reformation. Founder of seminaries and other establishments to improve training of priests. Founder of lay organisation to help in parishes. First Sunday Schools. Set up soup kitchens and hospitals during plague. Renowned for his charity. Cared for English Catholics fleeing persecution. Charles died on 4th November 1584 aged 46

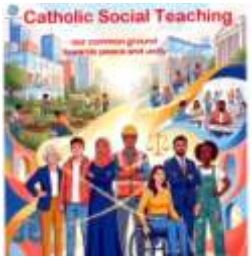
10 am Mass	**Thursday 5th St Elizabeth and St Zechariah** Elderly parents of John the Baptist. Elizabeth was Mary's aunt, sister of St Anne (Hannah in Hebrew), mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Zechariah was a priest in Temple in Jerusalem and his duties alternated between each of the family lines descended from those appointed by King David. They both prayed that they would have a son to take over the work in the Temple. When Elizabeth reached about 60 years old, the Angel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah to tell him they would have a son to be called John. The Virgin Mary travelled many miles with Joseph to visit Elizabeth. When Herod started killing babies at the *Massacre of the Innocents,* Elizabeth fled to the hills for safety. Zechariah was arrested and questioned. He was then murdered in the Temple when he refused to disclose the whereabouts of Elizabeth.
NO MASS	**Friday 6th St Illtyd the Knight** Born in 5th century in a Welsh community in France. Popular Welsh saint who initially had a military career as a knight with his cousin King Arthur and was married. Moved to Wales with his wife. Known as Illtyd the Knight. Deserted his wife and his military career to become a monk. Developed a new method of ploughing and reclaiming land from the sea. Founded a school and monastery believed to be Britain's earliest centre of learning and founded monastery on Caldey Island off the south coast of Wales. Organised corn ships to his birth place in Brittany during a famine. Many churches names after him including on Caldey.
6pm: Confessions 6.30pm Vigil Mass Trevor Delves RIP	**Saturday 7th St Willibrord of Utrecht** Born in 658 in Northumbria. An Anglo-Saxon educated in Ripon and Ireland. Went as missionary to Netherlands to convert pagans, "Apostle to the Frisians". First Bishop of Utrecht. Founded monastery of the Abbey of Echternach in eastern Luxembourg. He invited monks from Ireland. Established a prestigious library. Then expanded missionary work to Denmark. Flouted the pagan customs to demonstrate power of Christianity. Pagan king conquered Frisia. They destroyed churches, killed missionaries and built pagan temples from 1716. Willibrord fled. Frankish King Charles Martel then retook Frisia in 719 so Willibrord returned. St Boniface later joined him and led mission to Germany. As Willibrord grew old, he retired permanently to the monastery in Echternach. He eventually died there on 7th November 739
9.30 am Mass	**Sunday 8th November Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Also Remembrance Sunday**
PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK CAPITALS WHEN RECORDING NAMES FOR MASS INTENTION	
Your prayers are needed for the following people	
Hazel Sale Mary Light Pat Sweeney Phil Boulton David Keates Chris Fitzgerald	

NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Except in exceptional circumstances, I am not including any information given to me after Monday before me having the newsletter ready to send to Lina Maria for distribution on Thursday. The last things to be included are the Mass intentions which I check on the Wednesday. I start the newsletter at the weekend.

This weekend there is a Special Second Collection for Bamenda, African Diocese with which we are linked
For many years we sent priests from the Portsmouth Diocese as missionaries to the Diocese of Bamenda in central west Africa. They included Fr Michael Peters and Fr Antony Gatt. Now priests from Bamenda are serving in the Diocese of Portsmouth. It is very important that we continue to give financial support especially as the political and religious situation in the country and the area is so unstable. For those who gift aid there is a special orange envelope in your box as gift aid can be claimed on these donations as it if for our diocese.

Next SVP Social is this Wednesday 4th November – 1pm to 3 pm
Another opportunity to meet for refreshments and a chat. Come along with your friends. No need to stay for the whole time, a few minutes or 2 hours, whatever suits you.



Discover Catholic Social Teaching. Induction presentation on Friday 27th November
Our Catholic faith is very practical and responds to the needs in society. This makes it especially relevant in the world today. This series of talks aims to make accessible to all of us our Christian faith. From them we will realise just how much of this social teaching from the Church we already live in our everyday lives. The induction presentation is at 7.30 pm at the Immaculate Conception. The six presentations will start on Friday 22nd January and finish on Friday 22nd May. See QR code opposite for more details.

Parish Collection for last weekend 24th and 25th October 2026

Parish Gift Aid Envelopes	Gift Aid	Parish Loose Collection	Direct debits, standing orders	Gift Aid	Total of Offertory Collection	Other money	Gift Aid	Loose	TOTAL of all money
£62	£15.50	£217.70	£242.54	£51.98	£589.72				**£589.72**

The Posada this year will be available from Tuesday 1st December to Thursday 24th December

Saturday 12th December from 10.30 am to 3 pm Advent reflections including Mass, Rosary and Adoration

Sunday 13th December Children's Day from 2 to 4 pm. More details of these events next week.