

Observing our Faith - OoF†

All Saints Day 1 November



*Oh, when the saints
go marching in
Oh, when the saints
go marching in
Oh Lord I want to be
in that number
When the saints go
marching in.*

Black Spiritual

The forerunners of Christ with the saints and martyrs attributed to Fra Angelico

About this festival

This is the great feast on which we celebrate the great people of our faith, young and old. It has been celebrated since the fourth century and used to be called All Hallows.

Saints are people whose lives have excited others to holiness. The saints are in communion with the Church on earth and the Church in heaven.

This leaflet is to help you celebrate the feast at home.



A Word from Scripture

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,"

Hebrews 12.1

The saints are people of faith whose lives encourage us to live like them and follow Christ more nearly. There are generations of these witnesses before us who can help us on the way!

Don't think of them as only in the past. Act as if they are here now, encouraging us on as we run the marathon of life!

An example to inspire - Saint Josephine Bakhita is venerated as a modern African saint. She has been adopted as the patron saint of Sudan and human trafficking survivors. She was sold into slavery as a child and beaten and tortured. She joined a convent in Venice where she served as the convent's cook, seamstress, sacristan, and welcomer until her death in 1947. She was declared a saint in October 2000. Her life shows how transformation can come through suffering.



An activity to try



In times past, a saint would be commemorated in stained glass. These days it is more likely be on a t-shirt! Is there a modern saint you would put on a t-shirt, perhaps someone in your life who helped you grow in faith or someone whose life and example you want to imitate?

Why not find an object that speaks to you of what they mean?

Take a photo and tell us why you have chosen that person and what the object represents about them.

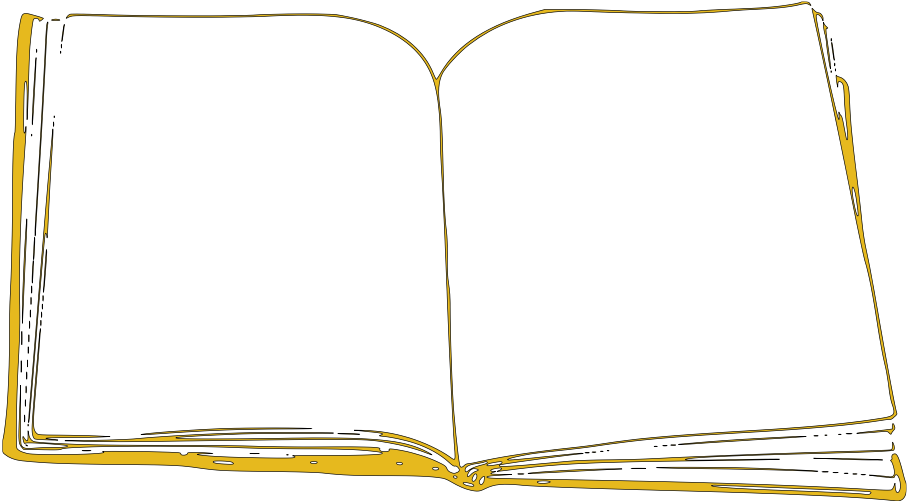
Put it on our Facebook page, email it, or Whatsapp it and we'll add it to the OoF webpage.

The SEC Collect Prayer for All Saints Day

**Almighty God,
whose people are knit together in one holy Church,
the mystical Body of your Son:
grant us grace to follow your blessed saints
in lives of faith and commitment,
and to know the inexpressible joys
you have prepared for those who love you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**

Your prayer to offer

Find a time and place to remember your saint. What aspect of their character or life do you long to imitate? Ask them to help you to grow in it every day.



Write your intentions and requests above. You can illustrate your note with pictures, colours or stickers.

Next leaflet: Advent

Rector: Rev'd Reuben Preston 07971 895897

Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk



The Scottish Episcopal Church at prayer
in church together and at home

Growing in faith and holiness
United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway

