

## The Saints, Anchored in Hope

The Feast of All Saints...reminds us that the goal of our existence is not death, it is paradise! The apostle John writes, "It does not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). The saints—who are the friends of God—assure us of this promise that does not disappoint. During their earthly existence they lived in profound communion with God. In the faces of the humblest and least of our brothers, the smallest and most despised brothers, they saw the face of God, and now they contemplate him face to face in his glorious beauty.

And on All Saints' Day and the first day that we commemorate the faithful departed, we need to think a little about this hope that accompanies us in life. The first Christians depicted hope with an anchor, as though life were an anchor cast on heaven's shores, with all of us journeying to that shore, clinging to the anchor's rope. This is a beautiful image of hope: to have our hearts anchored there, where our beloved predecessors are, where the saints are, where Jesus is, where God is. This is the hope that does not disappoint; today and tomorrow are days of hope.

Through this feast, the saints give us a message. They tell us, "Trust in the Lord because the Lord does not disappoint!" He never disappoints, he is a good friend always at our side. Through their witness the saints encourage us to not be afraid of going against the tide or of being misunderstood and mocked when we speak about Jesus and the Gospel. By their lives, the saints show us that the one who stays faithful to God and to his Word experiences the comfort of God's love on this earth and then a "hundredfold" in eternity. This is what we hope for and ask of the Lord, for our deceased brothers and sisters. With her wisdom the Church has placed the Feast of All Saints and All Souls' Day near each other. May our prayer of praise to God and veneration of the blessed spirits join with the prayer of suffrage for the souls of those who have preceded us in the passage from this world to eternal life.

Saints are people who for love of God did not put conditions on him in their lives; they were not hypocrites but spent their lives at the service of others. They suffered much adversity but without hate. The saints never hated. Understand this well: love is of God. Then from whom does hatred come? Hatred does not come from God but from the devil! And the saints removed themselves from the devil; the saints are men and women who have joy in their hearts, and they spread it to others. Never hate but serve others, [especially] the most needy; pray and live in joy. This is the way of holiness!

Being holy is not a privilege for the few, as if someone had a large inheritance; in baptism we all have an inheritance, which is the ability to become saints. Holiness is a vocation for everyone. Thus, we all are called to walk on the path of holiness, and this path has a name and a face: the face of Jesus Christ. He teaches us to become saints. In the Gospel he shows us the way, the way of the Beatitudes (see Matt. 5:1-12).

—Excerpted from *The Joy of Discipleship* by Pope Francis



## ST. MONICA PARISH

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PASTOR: **Rev. Robert Wong, SJ**

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

**9:30 am – 1 pm / 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

### MASS SCHEDULES

WEEKDAYS: **9:00 am**

SATURDAYS: **9:30 am & 5:00 pm**

SUNDAYS: **9:00 am & 11:00 am**

### CONFESSION SCHEDULE

SATURDAYS: **4:30 pm – 4:55 pm**

CONFESSIONS: 10 MINUTES BEFORE DAILY

MASS OR BY REQUEST AT OTHER TIMES

### NOVENA TO

**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**

WEDNESDAYS: **7:00 pm**

MASS FOLLOWED BY NOVENA

& BENECTION

### BAPTISM COURSE

EVERY 2<sup>ND</sup> TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT **6 pm**

### BAPTISMS

4<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY AFTER 9:30 am MASS

### HOUSE BLESSINGS

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

November 1, 2020

**All Saints**

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*We are all called to be saints.*

Imagine ourselves sitting among the crowd in today's gospel, we seek direction through his Word and spiritual nourishment through the Eucharist. Placing our hope in God and striving to lead virtuous lives, we look forward salvation and eternal life, and are reminded that we are all called to be saints.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, John relates his heavenly vision salvation for God's chosen people. In the second reading, John writes that we are the *children of God*, and we have been called to place our hope in him. In the Gospel, Jesus preaches the Sermon on the Mount, reassuring his followers that the reward for those who live according to the new law *will be great in heaven*.

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**Today's Readings:**

*1st: Revelation 7.2-4, 9-14*

*Psalm: 24*

*2nd: 1 John 3.1-3*

*Gospel: Matthew 5.1-12a*

## Second Collection: Peter's Pence

In a year marked by hardships caused on a global scale by COVID-19, there is ever greater need for a concrete sign of the Pope's support and love, and of his universal charitable work. Even the smallest offering shows our solidarity. Thanks to these donations, it will be possible to carry out projects that tangibly bring Pope Francis close to those who suffer the consequences of the coronavirus. Give at your parish or online at [support.rcav.org](http://support.rcav.org)

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## Sunday Missal 2020 - 2021

We have ordered 350 copies of the *Living with Christ*, same as in previous years, anticipating our church will return to the normal schedule before the First Sunday of Advent. Meanwhile, you are encouraged to own a copy of the Missal for your perusal at home. \$5 a copy is a great investment for your faith life all year round. This new missal is available NOW. You can get your copy at the Office or in the church foyer. Thank you for keeping up your spiritual life with the Word of God.

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## Project Advance 2020

Many parishioners have made your donation online via the RCAV.org website. THANK YOU for your support and generous response of our parish commitment to this year's appeal of the Archdiocese. Our share is \$13,000. Our total goal is \$40,000 plus expenses for the refurbished new floorings in the Parish Centre and classrooms. PA2020 continues until December 31. May the Lord bless you always!

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## Virtual Catechists Evening with Archbishop Miller

Come and join the hundreds of catechists in the Archdiocese of Vancouver for this annual event where Archbishop Miller will honour, celebrate, thank, commission and give his annual exhortation to those involved in the catechetical ministry - PREP, RCIA, Liturgy of the Word with Children (LWC) and CGS (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd). This event takes place on Friday, Nov. 13 from 7:00 pm - 8:30pm. Register online at [beholdvancouver.org/events](http://beholdvancouver.org/events)

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## Remembrance Day Mass and Commemoration

Join us for Mass and prayers as we remember those who gave their lives for our country. Mass and a special ceremony will take place on Nov. 11 at 10:00am in the Evangelist Chapel at Gardens of Gethsemani in South Surrey. Pre-registration is required at [rcav.org/events](http://rcav.org/events)

## A Stewardship Moment

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches his followers about "blessedness," a word not used much in American culture. The Beatitudes Jesus evokes in this Gospel reading are not promises of happiness, but promises of a new life with God; blessedness is key to a new way of living through the human experiences of mourning, meekness, peacemaking, persecution, and poverty of spirit. For Christian stewards, "blessedness" does not depend on wealth or health or status. Rather, Christian stewards recognize that blessedness is God's gift. In the kingdom of God, life is not governed by honor and fame, but by the promise of abundant life. Embracing a poverty of spirit and meekness reveal God's abundant life "breaking into" our world. Reflect on the Beatitudes this week. How might they help us improve our relationship with the Lord?

## Resumption of Saturday Morning Mass

Since the beginning of COVID, there was no Saturday morning Mass except on a few occasions. We have now resumed the Saturday 9:30am Mass. You will still need to register for this Mass as usual. You may phone the Office or send us a note by email for your Mass registration. Thank you for your cooperation.

## All Souls' Day Mass with Archbishop Miller

Join Archbishop J. Michael Miller, CSB for All Souls' Day Mass on Monday, Nov. 2 at 6:00 pm live from the Evangelist Chapel at Gardens of Gethsemani. Register to attend in-person or by livestream at [rcav.org/events](http://rcav.org/events)

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## November – All Souls

This month we remember our deceased family, relative and friends. Special All Souls envelopes are available for your Mass offering. You may obtain the envelope at the back inside the church. You can bring it to the parish office or put it in the Sunday collection basket. Thank you!

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**The Feast of All Saints** is a time for the Church to honour and celebrate all the saints and martyrs in Heaven - both known and unknown. We especially honour the saints who have not been canonized or do not have a special feast day. Throughout the month of November, Catholics also pray for souls in purgatory who may be undergoing a process of purification before entering into the presence of God. Sign up to receive Holy Souls prayers in your inbox for each day of November at [rcav.org/november](http://rcav.org/november)

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One way for you to pray this month is through lighting a candle as a way of showing solidarity with the person on whose behalf the prayer is offered. We will place a lit candle on the grave of a loved one during Hallowtide if they are interred at Gardens of Gethsemani. Order online at [rcav.org/store](http://rcav.org/store)

**Knights of Columbus**  
**59th Annual Charity Appeal**  
**Tickets only \$3 - WIN \$177,000 in prizes - Limited Tickets!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$100,000**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$50,000**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$10,000**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize \$5,000**

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize \$2,000**

**6<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> \$1,000 each**

**BUY YOUR Tickets ONLINE -**

**KofCDraw.net/C12861**

**Prizes will be drawn with the grand prizes and 12 consolation prizes on Saturday January 30, 2021**

## Mass Intentions

**Nov 1-7, 2020**

Mon, Nov 2 - 9am, Alfred & Regina  
Buenaventura (+)  
Tue, Nov 3 - 9am, Gerard Clarke (INT)  
Wed, Nov 4 - Lau family (+)  
Thu, Nov 5 - 9am, Martine Nunes, Ilona de  
Souza, Lilian Barton (INT)  
Fri, Nov 6 - 9am, Juanita Coros (+)  
Sat, Nov 7 - Cyril Saturnino Dias (+)  
Pastora Mingoa (+)