Sacred Heart Parish (Canonically Erected 1868) Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale
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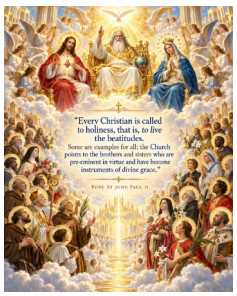
Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger

All Saints Day - Year A - 1 November 2026



"All saints give testimony to the truth, that without real effort, no one ever wins the crown."
– St Thomas à Becket

Entrance Antiphon: Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

First Reading Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14

A reading from the book of Apocalypse

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, Who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 23:1-6

R: Lord, this is the people that longs to see Your face.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is He Who set it on the seas; on the waters He made it firm.

2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in His holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things.

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God Who saves him. Such are the men who seek Him, seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3

A reading from the first letter of St John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge Him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like Him because we shall see Him as He really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia! Come to Me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. **Alleluia!**

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There He sat down and was joined by His disciples. Then He began to speak. This is what He taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on My account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Reflection

An excerpt from the Angelus Address by Pope St John Paul II on Thursday 1 November 2001:

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints. In the light of God, we remember all those who witnessed to Christ during their earthly life, doing their best to put into practice his teachings. We rejoice with these brothers and sisters who have gone ahead of us travelling the same path that we must take and now enjoy their merited reward in the glory of heaven. They are the ones who, as the Apocalypse describes it, "have passed through the great tribulation and have washed their garments and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" (Apoc 7,14).

They knew how to go against the tide, accepting the Sermon on the Mount (cf. Mt 5,3-10) as the norm that guided their lives: poverty of spirit and simplicity of life, meekness and non-violence; repentance for their sins and expiation of the sins of others; hunger and thirst for justice; mercy and compassion; purity of heart; dedication to making peace; sacrifice for justice (cf. Mt 5,3-10).

Every Christian is called to holiness, that is, to live the beatitudes. Some are examples for all; the Church points to the brothers and sisters who are pre-eminent in virtue and have become instruments of divine grace. Today we celebrate them all together, so that with their help we can grow in the love of God and be the "salt of the earth and light of the world" (cf. Mt 5,13-14).

Continue reading the reflection on the parish website (Resources>Parish News) or on the parish Facebook page on Sunday morning.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Mon, 2 November & Fri, 6 November - 8am to 1pm
Tues, 3 November - 8am to 12pm

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

We pray for: Repose of the souls of all those whose death anniversary occurs at this time; Repose of all souls in Purgatory.

the Recently Deceased: Michael O'Sullivan, Fr Barry Leech, Phillip Regan.

the sick: Fr Bernard Flood, Peter Moroney, Sr Gaye Lennon, Steven Kent, Erin Muggleton, Bernice Murray, Jennifer Wheeler, Christina O'Brien, Chris Perceval, Julie Daley, Christopher Pay, Lara Bentley, Elizabeth Albany, Fr Crabb, Rebecca Lane, Brian Barker, and all the sick members of our parish. **Please contact the Parish Office to add/ remove names to/from the Sick List and if you know a sick parishioner who would appreciate a visit from the priest.**

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Mon 2nd:	No Mass - Church open 8am to 1pm
Tues 3rd:	9am Rosary, 9.30am Holy Mass
Wed 4th:	10am Funeral Service for Michael O'Sullivan, 11.30am Rosary, 12 Noon Holy Mass, 12.30pm Ladies Lunch
Thurs 5th:	9am Rosary, 9.30am Holy Mass
Fri 6th:	11.30am Rosary, 12 Noon Holy Mass, 12.30pm Adoration, 12.45pm - 1.15pm Confession, 1.20pm Benediction 4.30pm - 5.30pm Church open for private devotion
Sat 7th:	9am - 10am Church open for private devotion 5.15pm-5.50pm Confession, 5.30pm Rosary, 6pm Holy Mass
Sun 8th:	8am Confession, 8.30am Rosary, 9am Holy Mass

Detailed Weekday Liturgy Schedule: This can be found on the noticeboards in the church and on the parish website.

PARISH NOTICES & EVENTS

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Ladies Lunch: Wed 4 Nov 2026, 12.30pm at Australia Café
Sunday Morning Tea: Sun 8 November 2026, after Mass
Men's Breakfast: Wed 11 Nov 2026, 8.00am The Haven Café, 140 Byron Street (across the alley from the Telstra shop)
Women's Breakfast: Fri 13 Nov 2026, 8.00am The Haven Café
SVDP Society Meeting: Wed 18 Nov 2026, 5pm - 7pm, meeting room
Novmber Altar Society Roster: Victoria Talampas & Neroli O'Brien

Upcoming Feast Days this Week

Monday, 2 November: All Souls Day
Tuesday, 3 November: St Martin de Porres, religious
Wednesday, 4 November: St Charles Borromeo, bishop

November Masses & Plenary Indulgence

From the beginning the Church has honoured the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified they may attain the beatific vision of God. (*CCC No. 1032*).

We dedicate the month of November to pray for all the departed. Our parish will offer the November Masses for them. The Church grants a plenary indulgence, which is applicable only to the souls in Purgatory, is granted when a member of the faithful in a state of grace visits a church between 1 and 8 November, and prays the Lord's Prayer and the Creed. The requirements for gaining the indulgence are:

- Sacramental Confession within 20 days of the work
- Eucharistic Communion - preferably on the day but within several days of the indulgenced act
- Prayer for the pope's intentions.
- Detachment from all sin (even venial)

This year, we will have our communal prayer at the Inverell Cemetery after the Holy Mass this Sunday. We will commence at

10am at the cemetery on the left-hand side (red mark on map), near the Catholic section, for the communal prayer. Anyone who would like an individual blessing of their deceased loved one's gravesite, may then approach Fr Juvi. The blessings will be done, section-by-section, commencing from the Catholic section then proceeding over to the new lawn cemetery on the right. The elderly may use their car to drive to the gravesite, after informing Fr Juvi of its location.

November Mass Offering Envelopes

Envelopes are available at the Church entrances for All Souls Day and the month of November. If parishioners would like a Mass offered for a departed friend or relation, please fill in the envelope and hand it to either the priest or it may be put on one of the collection plates. The recommended stipend from the Australian Catholic Bishops is $20.

The names of all the departed for whom Masses have been requested, will be placed on the side of the altar.

Morning Tea

Morning Tea will be held after the 9am Mass next Sunday. Please bring a plate of delicacies to share.

Youth Mass - Saturday 21 November

On Saturday, 21 November, all ministry roles during Mass will be done by the youth from Holy Trinity School.

Centacare Hampers Appeal

Centacare NENW is collecting non-perishable food items to create Christmas hampers for local families who are experiencing hardship. At each weekend Mass from 31 Oct to 29 Nov, parishioners may take up items they wish to donate during the Offertory and place them in the boxes near the Ambo. Suggested hamper items: Canned foods, pasta, rice & noodles, breakfast cereals & school snacks, long-life milk, condiments eg. jam & vegemite, tea & coffee, biscuits, toiletries & personal care items, cleaning products, and toilet paper.

Choir Practice for Christmas Eve Mass

Rehearsals will be each Sunday after the 9am Mass / Morning tea, commencing Sunday 8 November. If interested in joining, please place your name and phone number on the forms at the Church entrances.

Sisters of St Joseph - Thanksgiving Mass - Sat. 14 November

The Thanksgiving Mass for the Sisters will be celebrated in St Patrick's Church, West Tamworth at 11am. A light lunch will follow. RSVP by Tues 3 Nov to **Kim.McKenzie@sosj.org.au** or Ph: 02 8741 2311.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM - SUPPORT OF THE CLERGY AND PARISH

1st Collection: Presbytery (for support of priest)

BSB No. 082105 Account No. 001023550

Ac. Name: Sacred Heart Presbytery Inverell Savings Ac.

2nd Collection: Church upkeep, maintenance, expenses

BSB No. 082105 Account No. 001013072

Ac. Name: Sacred Heart Parish Inverell

For those on the Planned Giving Program could you please quote your surname and envelope number for the reference. If you wish to join the planned giving program, please contact the parish office.

Our Parish is committed to the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards and has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse. This is everyone's responsibility. If you have any concerns or feedback, please contact our Priest / Safeguarding Contact Person (Parish Secretary), or our Diocesan Safeguarding and Professional Standards Office at@armidale.catholic.org.au or on(02) 6771 8700.

Sunday Missal (Red Missal) for Sunday Mass:

* Proper of Mass, Page 1063
* Preface III of Saints, Pg 55
* Eucharistic Prayer No. 1, Pg 61 or No. 3 Pg 72

Weekday Missal (Blue Missal) for Weekday Masses:

Thirty-First Week of Ordinary Time commences on Pg 1348