NOVEMBER 2026

Holy Souls

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A Candle for the Holy Souls

November is a time to remember those we have loved and lost. We light a candle for each Holy Soul, and in that small flame we place our grief and our hope.

We pray for them not because they need our prayers, but because praying for them draws us closer to the mercy of God.

And so we trust. God's love is eternal, and no soul He has loved is ever truly lost.

Amen.

The Month of the Holy Souls

November is the month the Church sets apart for the Holy Souls. We turn our hearts to the faithful departed — the mothers and fathers, friends and neighbours who have gone before us — and we remember them in prayer.

We offer Masses, light candles, and whisper Hail Marys in their names, trusting that God's mercy reaches every soul He has loved. In remembering them, we are drawn closer to the hope of eternal life, and to the love that holds all of God's family together.

Let our prayers be a quiet act of gratitude for the lives they gave us. In remembering them, we keep their love alive in our own hearts, and we carry their names with tenderness.

And in all this we find hope. Christ promised eternal life to those who believe in Him, and no death can undo that promise. The Holy Souls are not lost — they are loved, remembered, and waiting for us in heaven.

November 2 is All Souls' Day, when the Church prays for the faithful departed. Let us remember them with gratitude, and rest in God's mercy and the hope of eternal life.

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Spiritual Reflection for November 2026

"Pray for the dead, that they may rest in peace." — 2 Maccabees 12:46

These words remind us that prayer for the faithful departed is not a duty, but an act of love and hope. When we pray for those who have gone before us, we hold them close in our hearts and entrust them to the mercy of God.

Let our prayers rise like incense before the throne of God. In remembering them, we keep their love alive in our own lives.

Saint Gertrude the Great taught that the Church on earth, in purgatory, and in heaven is one Body of Christ. Her devotion to the Holy Souls invites us to pray with confidence, in union with Mary and the saints.

Let us, then, keep the Holy Souls close in our remembrance and in our prayer. God's mercy reaches beyond death, and our love for them becomes a lamp of hope — until we meet them in the joy of eternal life.



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

In this prayer we entrust the faithful departed to the mercy of God, who alone can free every soul He has loved. May our remembrance be a lamp of hope, and may we one day meet them in the joy of eternal life.

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Saint of the Month

As we celebrate November as the Month of the Holy Souls, we remember Saint Gertrude the Great, whose tender devotion to the Holy Souls and her trust in God's mercy remind us that no soul is ever beyond the reach of divine love.

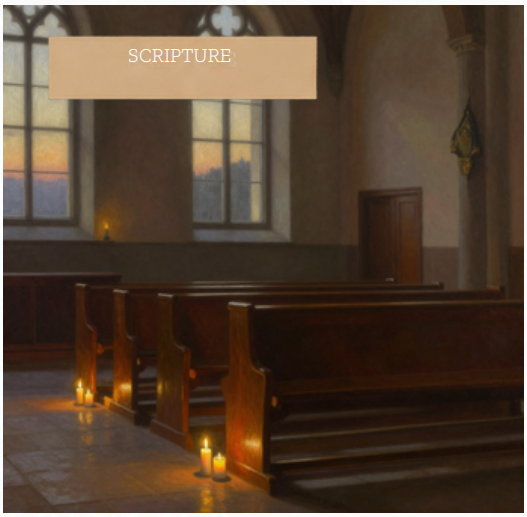
Saint Gertrude taught that the Church on earth, the Church in purgatory, and the Church in heaven are one Body of Christ. Her example invites us to pray for the faithful departed with confidence, knowing that our prayers are offered in union with the intercession of Mary and the saints.

Let us follow her example this month: light a candle, offer a Mass, and remember the names of those we have loved. In doing so, we share in the hope of eternal life and the joy of reunion with all God's family in heaven.

Prayer of St. Gertrude for the Holy Souls

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home and within my family.

Amen.



Scripture Inspiration

“The souls of the upright are in the hands of God, and no torment can touch them ” — Wisdom 3:1

During the month of November, the Church calls us to remember the faithful departed and to pray for the Holy Souls. As we meditate on Wisdom 3:1, we are reminded of the comforting truth that death cannot separate us from the love of God. Those who have died in His grace remain secure in His care, held tenderly in His hands. Even amid the sorrow of loss, we find hope in knowing that God's love is stronger than death and that His mercy continues to surround those who have gone before us.

While the world often views death as the end of life's journey, our faith teaches that it is the beginning of eternal life with God. Those who die in His friendship are never lost or forgotten; they remain cherished and securely held in His loving care. This assurance comforts us in our sorrow and renews our hope in the promise of everlasting life.

All Souls' Month reminds us that our loved ones who have gone before us remain united with us in the communion of saints. Through prayer, sacrifice, and works of mercy, we lovingly commend the Holy Souls to God's infinite compassion while growing in our own readiness to one day stand before Him. Wisdom 3:1 fills us with hope, assuring us that the faithful are never abandoned, but are forever held in the tender and loving hands of our Heavenly Father.

As we practice *memento mori* during November, this verse helps us keep our eyes fixed on what truly matters. Earthly things pass away, but our relationship with God endures forever. May the remembrance of the Holy Souls inspire us to live holy lives, trust in God's mercy, and pray faithfully for those who await the fullness of heavenly glory.

Inspirational Corner

Held in the Hands of God

In November's quiet twilight glow,
When autumn winds begin to blow,
We turn our hearts to those we've known,
Whose earthly journey now is flown.

We speak their names in whispered prayer,
And feel the weight of love still there.
Though absent from our sight today,
They live in God, not far away.

Held in His hands, so strong and kind,
Beyond the limits of space and time,
Each soul is gathered, cherished, blessed,
Forever cradled, forever at rest.

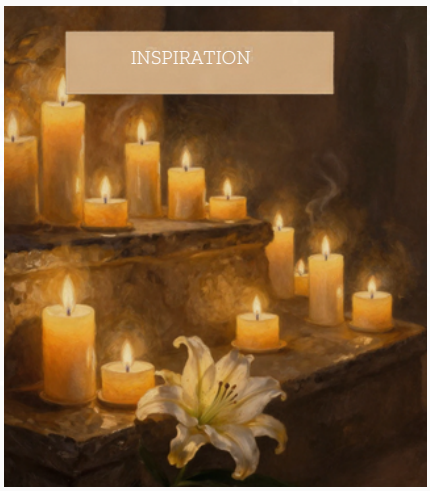
The hands that formed the stars above,
The hands that healed with boundless love,
The hands stretched wide upon the tree,
Now hold our loved ones tenderly.

When grief arrives and tears are near,
His gentle voice still calms our fear.
For death does not have the final word,
Where faith has trusted and hope has stirred.

And we, who walk this earthly road,
Are carried too beneath His hold.
Through joy and sorrow, loss and grace,
We're never lost from His embrace.

So light a candle, softly pray,
Remember those who paved our way.
For in God's care, both great and small,
Are safely held, beloved all.

And when our own life's day is done,
And setting sun gives way to dawn,
May we, with those we've loved and missed,
Awaken in eternal peace,



Still held in His hands.
Always.
Forever.

Prayer Intention of the Month

Heavenly Father, during this month dedicated to the Holy Souls, we lift up to You all the faithful departed, especially those who have no one to pray for them. In Your infinite mercy, purify them and welcome them into the fullness of Your presence. Comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones and strengthen their hope in the promise of the resurrection.

May our prayers, sacrifices, and acts of charity bring spiritual consolation to the souls in purgatory and remind us of our own call to holiness. Help us to live each day with hearts turned toward heaven, trusting in Your love and mercy.

We also pray for our families, friends, and parish community, that we may grow in faith, persevere in hope, and one day rejoice together in the eternal joy of Your kingdom.



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