



Purgatory & Prayer - A Catholic November

The Catholic Church teaches that after we die, we might go to heaven, hell, or purgatory. Heaven is the ultimate goal to which we aspire, but those of us who die in a state of grace but aren't quite ready for the glory of God will end up in purgatory. Think of it as a purification, where we're cleansed of anything that could keep us from experiencing God fully. It's a beautiful act of charity to pray for those we believe are in purgatory. We call them the Holy Souls. Our prayers can bring them great comfort and help them move on to heaven. The Catholic belief in purgatory is rooted in several scriptural passages. In *2 Maccabees 12:46*, Judas Maccabeus prays for the forgiveness of sins of the dead, suggesting an afterlife state where purification is possible. The idea of purification by fire is mentioned in *1 Corinthians 3:12-15*.

While the word "purgatory" isn't explicitly used in the Bible, the doctrine is developed in Church tradition and writings of early Church Fathers. Thinkers like St. Augustine and St. Gregory the Great described a state of purification after death for those going to heaven.

Purgatory is seen as a place of loving purification even if it involves suffering and atonement, it's a chance to be made ready for the glory of heaven. The souls there experience the fire of God's merciful and cleansing love and long for union with Him, desiring to be freed from attachments or imperfections that need to be resolved.



Our prayers and sacrifices for the Holy Souls make a real difference. It's like helping someone trapped in a difficult situation by reaching out in love and compassion. Our actions bring them relief and speed their journey to the heavenly home.

The Church sets aside special times for remembering the dead, like All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, usually falling on November 1st and 2nd respectively. It's a time for reflection and remembering those who've gone before us. Many parishes have additional Masses and prayer services

throughout the month. Some people also light candles or visit cemeteries as a way to remember and console the souls of loved ones who have passed.

One of the most well-known prayers for the Holy Souls is the Eternal Rest prayer: *"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."* Another is the Prayer for the Holy Souls: *"O God, whose blessed Son took upon Himself the burden of our sins, mercifully grant eternal rest to the souls of Your faithful departed, and deliver them from all punishment; through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen."* We also have the Soul of Christ prayer: *"Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O good Jesus, hear me. Within Your wounds hide me. Permit me not to be separated from You. From the malignant enemy defend me. In the hour of my death call me, and command me to come to You, that with Your saints I may praise You forever and ever. Amen."*



Parish Newsletter

**Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth &
St. James', Kinross**

In the Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld - Scottish Charity Number: SC001810

Sunday 27th October, 2024 - 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Friday 1st November is the Solemnity of All Saints, and a Holyday of Obligation

Masses for the Holyday of Obligation will be as follows:

Thursday 31st October - Holy Mass at 5.00p.m. in St. James', Kinross

Thursday 31st October - Holy Mass at 7.00p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth

Friday 1st November - Holy Mass at 10.00a.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes', Perth

Friday 1st November - Holy Mass at 7.00p.m. in St. James', Kinross

The traditional three consecutive Masses for the Holy Souls on All Souls Day (2nd November) will take place in St. James', Kinross. The first of the Masses will begin at 9.00a.m. on Saturday 2nd November, with the 2nd beginning roughly around 9.30a.m., and the third beginning around 10.00a.m. Those who attend all three Masses are permitted to receive Holy Communion at two of those Masses. This does not pose a problem receiving Holy Communion later at a Vigil Mass, since this is technically Mass on a different day (i.e. the Vigil of Sunday).

Contact details:

Parish Priest - Fr. Martin Pletts

Permanent Deacon - Rev. Des Connors

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Our Lady of Lourdes' Website: ourladyoflourdes@perth.church

St. James' Website: www.catholickinross.com

Office Hours for the Parish Secretary (Dianne Mitchell): Thursday 10.00a.m. to 12.00 noon

(Phone 01738 626979 only in order to speak to the Parish Secretary)

Parish Secretary's E-Mail addresses: ololadmin@dunkelddiocese.org.uk or stjamesadmin@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator E-Mail for Our Lady's: ololpsc@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator E-Mail for St. James': stjamespsc@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

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Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency: www.scssa.org.uk

Telephone Number for the Diocesan Curial Offices: 01382 225453

Dunkeld Diocesan Website: www.dunkelddiocese.co.uk

Times of Holy Mass, Confessions, etc.

Monday 28th October

No public Mass
St. James’ Parish:
Catechism Class after school until 4.30p.m.
Prayer Group Meeting in the church hall at 7.30p.m.

Tuesday 29th October

Votive Mass of the Holy Angels (W)
Our Lady of Lourdes’ Parish:
Holy Rosary at 9.30a.m.
Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.
Clergy Deanery Meeting and meal in Our Lady’s church hall from 1.00p.m. today, therefore no teas/coffees after Mass this morning and no evening Adoration and Confessions.

Wednesday 30th October

Votive Mass of St. Joseph (W)
St. James’ Parish:
Holy Rosary at 9.30a.m.
Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.
Tea/Coffee in the church hall after Mass - all are welcome
Adoration and Confessions 6.00 - 7.00p.m.

Thursday 31st October

Vigil of the Solemnity of All Saints (W) - Holyday
St. James’ Parish:
Vigil Mass at 5.00p.m.
Our Lady of Lourdes’ Parish:
Vigil Mass at 7.00p.m.

Friday 1st November

The Solemnity of All Saints (W) - Holyday of Obligation
Our Lady of Lourdes’ Parish:
Holy Mass at 10.00a.m.
St. James’ Parish:
Holy Mass at 7.00p.m.

Saturday 2nd November

The Commemoration of All Souls (B)
St. James’ Parish:
N.b. Holy Mass at 9.00a.m., 9.30a.m. (approx.) & 10.00a.m. (approx.)

Saturday 2nd November

Our Lady of Lourdes’ Parish:
Vigil Mass of the 31st Sunday of the Year - B. (G)
Confessions 4.00 - 4.45p.m.
Holy Mass at 5.00p.m.
St. James’ Parish:
Holy Mass at 7.00p.m.
Confessions after Holy Mass

Sunday 3rd November

31st *Sunday of the Year - B. (G)*
St. James’ Parish:
Holy Mass at 9.00a.m.
*****Holy Hour for the Holy Souls 7.00-8.00p.m.*****
Our Lady’s Parish:
Holy Mass at 11.00a.m.

Readings for the 30th Sunday of the Year - B. 27/10/24

A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah 31:7-9
I will guide them by a smooth path where they will not stumble.

Psalm 125(126)
Response: What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews 5:1-6
‘You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.’

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark 10:46-52
Go; your faith has saved you.

Mariola’s Handmade Cards

Beautiful handmade cards will be on sale after Mass in Kinross 16th/17th Nov., and 23rd/24th Nov., and in Our Lady of Lourdes on 30th Nov./1st Dec., and 7th/8th Dec.

Bay Leaves
A big thanks to everyone who supported the recent bay leaves sale in both St James’ and Our Lady of Lourdes’ parishes. The total sum raised for Church funds was £67.00.
Liz