

Remembering the Holy Souls in Purgatory especially the month of November

"In full consciousness of this communion of the whole Mystical Body of Jesus Christ, the Church in its pilgrim members, from the very earliest days of the Christian religion, has honored with great respect the memory of the dead; and 'because it is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins she offers her suffrages for them.'" Our prayer for them is capable not only of helping them, but also of making their intercession for us effective. (CCC 958)

I heard earlier this week that Jesus told the Servant of God, Luisa Piccarreta, that 9 out of 10 souls pass through purgatory. Let us help these souls with our prayers and obtain indulgences for them. Here are some more paragraphs from the Catechism on Purgatory and indulgences.

CCC 1030 All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven.

CCC 1031 The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned. The Church formulated her doctrine of faith on Purgatory especially at the Councils of Florence and Trent. the tradition of the Church, by reference to certain texts of Scripture, speaks of a cleansing fire (Cf 1 Cor 3:15 and 1 Pt 1:7)

CCC 1471 The doctrine and practice of indulgences in the Church are closely linked to the effects of the sacrament of Penance. What is an indulgence? "An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven, which the faithful Christian who is duly disposed gains under certain prescribed conditions for either himself or the departed. They are granted through the action of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints." There are many prayers and pious actions that carry with them partial or plenary indulgences, one example is **you can Obtain a Plenary Indulgence for a soul of the faithful departed by a Visit to a Cemetery**. Only applicable to the souls in Purgatory when one devoutly visits and prays for the departed. A PLENARY INDULGENCE is bestowed for this work each day between November 1 and November 8. Complete detachment from sin and the usual conditions must precede or follow: 1) Sacramental Confession, 2) Receiving Holy Communion, and 3) Prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father (reciting 1 Our Father and Hail Mary), all to be performed within several days of each other if not at the same time. Another great devotion and prayer in which a plenary indulgence is granted is praying the Holy Rosary when recited in a church or when you pray it as a family, in a religious community, or pious association. Devout meditation of 5 of the Mysteries is to be added to the vocal prayer along with the usual conditions (see above).

In the Holy Mass we remember the living and the dead. Participation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass far surpasses any other activity as regards sanctifying and purifying.

