# “**All Saints Day**”

Monday is All Saints Day. Although it is not a Holy Day of obligation this year, it is still a time to remember, honor and be inspired by those believers who have gone before us loving God with all their hearts. When John the Apostle reports the vision of heaven that he was given in the Book of Revelation, chapter 7, he sees a vast multitude of believers praising God: “They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands”. In the company of countless angels and the elders, they are praising God the Father and Jesus Christ the Lamb. John is told that these people are “These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb”. Jesus has truly shed His blood for us and we are called to unite ourselves to him and follow Him all the days of our life.

We also remember all of our loved ones on All Souls Day who have gone before us trusting in Jesus. Although not declared Saints by the Church, we entrust them to Jesus who said: “Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me” (John 6:37-38). If we sense the Holy Spirit tugging at our heart, if we feel God our Father drawing us close to Him, it is up to us to say yes to Jesus and follow in His steps. God draws us in, but He leaves us free to either accept His grace or turn away. So, we put our loved ones in God’s hands, pray for them and continue to follow Jesus ourselves, so that we may one day become what we are all created to be, saints in the Kingdom of God.