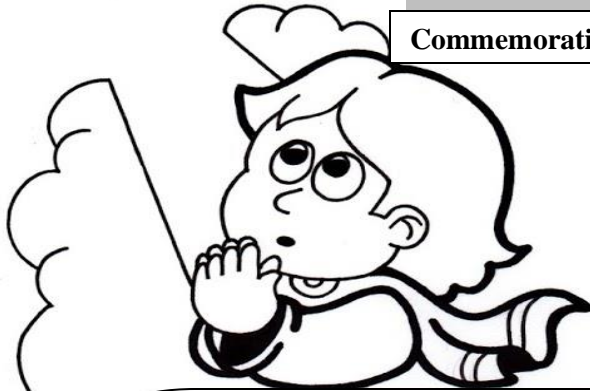




**Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed – November 2nd**



The tradition of praying for the dead dates back to the early Christians, when they already honored the memory of those who had died by offering up prayers and sacrifices for them.

When a person dies, they are no longer capable of doing anything to earn Heaven; however, those still living can offer our good works so the deceased can gain salvation.



With good works and prayer, we can help our loved ones obtain forgiveness and purification from their sins in order to participate in the glory of God.

These prayers are called suffrages.

The Church has wanted to institute a day, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November, which is dedicated specially to pray for those souls who have left earth but have not yet reached heaven. (Purgatory)

The best suffrage is to offer Holy Mass for the deceased.



Our prayer for the dead not only can help them, but later, when they reach Heaven, they can intercede for us. Those that are in Heaven, intercede for those that are on earth, so they may have the grace to be faithful to God and reach eternal life.

Adapted from: [www.catholic.net](http://www.catholic.net)