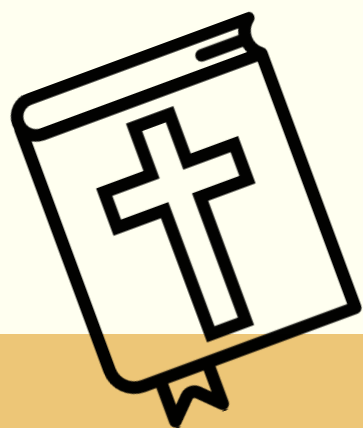




ALL HALLOWS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

WE NEED SAINTS!



WORD OF THE WEEK

MATTHEW 5: 1-12



NOW WHEN JESUS SAW THE CROWDS, HE WENT UP ON A MOUNTAIN SIDE AND SAT DOWN. HIS DISCIPLES CAME TO HIM, AND HE BEGAN TO TEACH THEM. HE SAID:

BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT, FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO MOURN, FOR THEY WILL BE COMFORTED.

BLESSED ARE THE MEEK, FOR THEY WILL INHERIT THE EARTH.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEY WILL BE FILLED.

BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL, FOR THEY WILL BE SHOWN MERCY.

BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART, FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD.

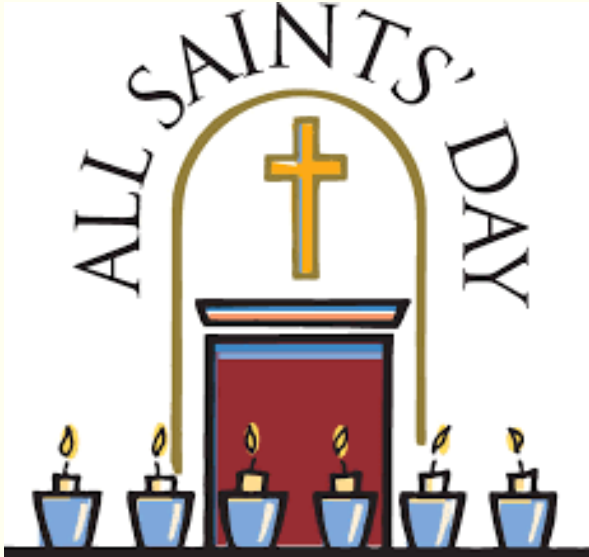
BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS, FOR THEY WILL BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD.

BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE PERSECUTED BECAUSE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

BLESSED ARE YOU WHEN PEOPLE INSULT YOU, PERSECUTE YOU AND FALSELY SAY ALL KINDS OF EVIL AGAINST YOU BECAUSE OF ME. REJOICE AND BE GLAD, FOR IN THE SAME WAY THEY PERSECUTED THE PROPHETS WHO WERE BEFORE.

Something to think about...

EVERY YEAR THE CHURCH RECALLS THE EXAMPLE, WITNESS, AND PRAYER OF THE HOLY WOMEN AND MEN WHO HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY THE CHURCH AS SAINTS. THESE SAINTS ARE MORE THAN JUST ROLE MODELS; THEY ARE FAMILY MEMBERS WITH WHOM WE CONTINUE TO SHARE RELATION, IN A BOND OF PRAYER, CALLED THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS. EVERY YEAR WE CELEBRATE THIS DAY. THE GOSPEL WE PROCLAIM, THE ONE WE HAVE JUST READ, RECALLS FOR US JESUS' TEACHING ABOUT HAPPINESS; THE BEATITUDES. WE QUICKLY NOTE IN THIS READING THAT NONE OF THOSE JESUS NAMES AS "BLESSED" OR "HAPPY" ARE EXPECTED... THE POOR IN SPIRIT, THE MEEK, THE PERSECUTED. JESUS' BLUEPRINT FOR HAPPINESS REFLECTS LITTLE OF WHAT THE WORLD MIGHT CALL HAPPINESS. WHAT DOES JESUS MEAN WHEN HE USES THE WORD "BLESSED"? THIS WORD IS SOMETIMES TRANSLATED AS "HAPPY" OR "FORTUNATE" OR "FAVoured". IN OTHER WORDS, JESUS IS SAYING THAT DIVINE FAVOUR IS UPON THOSE WHO ARE POOR, WHO MOURN, WHO ARE PERSECUTED. THIS MIGHT HAVE BEEN WELCOME AND SURPRISING NEWS TO THE CROWDS WHO HEARD JESUS THAT DAY. THE BEATITUDES CAN BE UNDERSTOOD AS A FRAMEWORK FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING. BECAUSE OF THIS, IT IS NATURAL THAT WE PROCLAIM THIS GOSPEL ON THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS. SAINTS ARE PEOPLE WHO LIVED THE SPIRIT OF THE BEATITUDES AS JESUS LIVED. ON THIS DAY, WE TOO ARE CHALLENGED TO MODEL OUR LIVES ON THE SPIRIT AND PROMISES OF THE BEATITUDES.



Something to talk about...

SAINTS WERE PEOPLE JUST LIKE US. THEY FELT HUNGRY, TRIED, ANGRY, AND DISAPPOINTED SOMETIMES, JUST AS WE DO. BUT THE SAINTS DID DIFFICULT THINGS EVEN THEN THEY DIDN'T WANT TO BECAUSE THEY LOVED GOD. THINK OF ONE THING YOU WILL DO TODAY BECAUSE YOU LOVE GOD. TALK TO THE PERSON NEXT TO YOU ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO DO EVEN THOUGH ITS DIFFICULT OR NOT SOMETHING YOU WANT TO DO, BUT KNOW IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO. IN YOUR HEART, PROMISE GOD THAT YOU WILL DO IT EVEN IT IF IS HARD.

Something to do...

OVER THIS WEEK RESEARCH A SAINT. MAYBE FIND ONE WITH THE SAME NAME AS YOU. FIND OUT WHAT THEY DID AND WHAT THEY ARE PATRON OF. FIND TIME THIS WEEK IN FORM TO TELL EACH OTHER ABOUT THE SAINT YOU RESEARCHED.



Prayer For the Week

GOD OF ALL THAT IS GOOD,
WE ASK THE HELP OF THOSE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE STRUGGLED AND STOOD FIRM,
WHO LOVED ONE ANOTHER,
WHO WORKED FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE,
WHO HEALED THE SICK AND FED THE HUNGRY AND WHO FOLLOWED YOUR WORD.
MAKE US AND ALL THOSE WE LOVE WORTHY TO BE CALLED YOUR SAINTS.
WE ASK THIS THROUGH YOUR LOVING SON, JESUS CHRIST.

AMEN

