

Coloma Catholic Life.

Liturgical Year

31st Week in Ordinary Time. Liturgical colour – Green

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November Entrusted to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

Dialogue and Reconciliation in the Near East

Pope Francis invites us to pray that a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

Gospel reflection for Sunday 4th November: Luke 19:1-10

Yesterday's Gospel once again focuses on those who were despised and marginalized at the time of Jesus. Luke, particularly, intended to show, through his Gospel, that Jesus' love and message is for everyone who accepts it. Tax collectors were seen as collaborators with the Roman occupying force and so despised. To go to the home of a tax collector and eat with them was an outrage, but Jesus' response was to point out that he had come to 'seek out and save what was lost.'

Pope Francis Tweet

The Gospel of Sunday shows us that the merciful gaze of the Lord reaches us before we even realise that we need it to be saved.

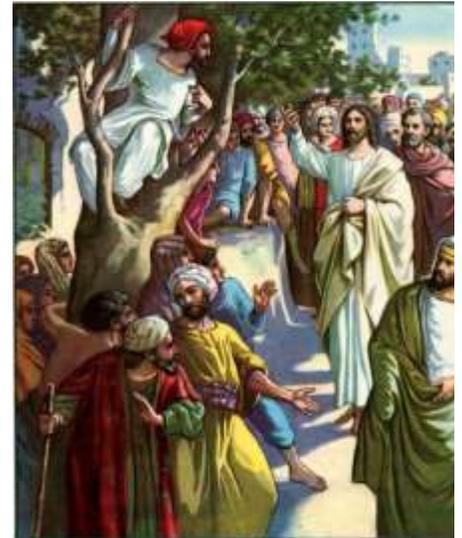


The Month of November

The month of November is a special month in the life of every Christian. It is a month we recall the wonderful unity existing between the saints in heaven (the church triumphant), the faithful on earth (the church militant) and the souls in purgatory (the church suffering). This wonderful unity is known as the communion of saints (in Latin, *Communio Sanctorum*).

In this beautiful union, the church triumphant intercedes for the faithful on earth, who in turn pray for the holy souls in purgatory (the church suffering).

However, the month of November is specially dedicated to these holy souls in purgatory. The church remembers all her faithful



Upcoming Events

20th November – Mass for Deceased Relatives & Friends 4:30pm School Hall

27th November
Year 11 Speaker from Cafod

28th November
Year 8 Retreat Day run by RISE Theatre

20th December – End of term Masses in the school hall

Prayer of the Month:

Eternal Rest.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Amen

children who have departed from this life, but for one reason or the other have not yet attained the joys of heaven. At this stage, the holy souls in purgatory cannot help themselves by any efforts of their own, but only through the expiatory works and intercessory prayers of the faithful on earth. The prayers which the church on earth offers for their departed loved ones are based on the words of the scripture that "it is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins". (2 Macab. 12: 43)

We know that a defiled soul cannot enter into heaven, let us therefore keep in prayers these our departed brothers and sisters, that the mercy of God, who never fails may rest on them.

Mass for Deceased Relatives and Friends of Coloma

This annual mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 20th November at 4:30pm in the school hall. It is an opportunity to gather together to remember and pray for all those who have died, especially during the last year. The date chosen is the anniversary of Margaret Dolan, one of our former head teachers and originally commemorated her anniversary. Now we commemorate those who are or have been associated with the school community. The mass is open to anyone who has suffered a bereavement.

Book of Life

In the Chapel there is a 'Book of Life' which contains the names of those who have died. We try to update this book regularly. If there is someone you wish to have included in the book please email Mrs Horsman at horsman@coloma.croydon.sch.uk giving the name of the person and, where possible, the date and year of death.

Prayer of the Week

This has been uploaded to General Teachers' Admin – Prayer of the Week Folder as a PowerPoint to use in lessons for all staff. Below is link to use during form time. This will be the prayer for the whole of November as it is dedicated to the Holy souls in Purgatory.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZPfkFo8mms>

Tuesday Lunchtime Mass

Mass will take place in the Chapel this week organized by 11Y & 9X – everyone is welcome.

Eucharistic Ministers

If you are a practicing Catholic, in good standing with the Church and would like to be consider for training to be a Eucharistic Minister, please email Pat Horsman horsman@coloma.croydon.sch.uk asap.

Further, if you know of Coloma girls being Eucharistic Ministers in their parish please email Pat Horsman so that we can involve them in the school services.

Additionally, any girl in Year 11 or above, who is over 16, been confirmed, a regular Mass attender can be considered for this role. If you can recommend any of our pupils, please let me know. Training will begin early next term.

Children's Hospital Pyjamas

Miss Coleman is organising for the collection of new children's pyjamas from Monday 4th November to Wednesday 20th November for the registered charity Children's Hospital Pyjamas. The purpose is to provide a new set of pyjamas for children who are in hospital over Christmas. A collection box will be available in Learning support for donations.



Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 10th November

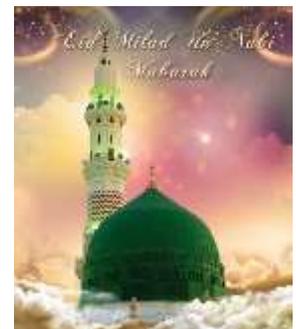
Remembrance Sunday is held in the United Kingdom as a day "to commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts". It is held at 11am on the second Sunday in November (the Sunday nearest to 11 November, Armistice Day, the anniversary of the end of hostilities in the First World War in 1918).

It is marked by ceremonies at local war memorials in most cities, towns and villages, attended by civic dignitaries, ex-servicemen and -women, members of local armed forces regular and reserve units, military cadet forces and youth organisations. Wreaths of remembrance poppies are laid on the memorials and two minutes' silence is held at 11am Church bells are usually rung half-muffled, creating a sombre effect. The service is held for about two hours.

Please remember to bring in some cash to buy a poppy. The money raised goes to help with the support and welfare of members of the Armed Forces including rehabilitation and careers advice for those who have left the service.

Milad un Nabi/ID-E-Milad – Sunday 10th November

Milad un Nabi marks the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad. Muslim parents will tell stories of the Prophet's life to their children. Those Muslims who celebrate this festival do so joyfully. It may seem strange to non-Muslims, but many Muslims do not believe in celebrating birthdays or death anniversaries because there is no historical evidence that the Prophet Muhammad ever did this. Despite this, large numbers of Muslims do commemorate the birth anniversary of the Holy Prophet, which falls on 12 Rabi-ul-Awwal of the Islamic lunar calendar. This date is important to Muslims because the birth of the Prophet Muhammad is regarded as a great blessing for the whole of humanity.



The Prophet Muhammad is deemed to be the chief of all the Prophets sent on earth and it is to him that the Holy Qur'an was revealed. There are only restricted festivities on Eid Milad-Un-Nabi because the same day also marks the anniversary of the death of the Prophet.

The event is marked by public gatherings of Muslims. At these meetings religious leaders make speeches about the life of the Prophet. Stories are told about different aspects of the life of the Prophet, his birth, childhood, youth and adult life. The most important part of Eid Milad-Un-Nabi is

focusing upon the character of the Prophet; on his teachings, sufferings, and how he forgave even his most bitter enemies.

Muslims think about the leadership of the Prophet, his bravery, wisdom, preaching and his final triumph over the Meccan Muslims. As well as recounting the Prophet's life, salutations and songs in his praise are recited. In some countries, streets and mosques are decorated and illuminated at night. Some Muslims donate to charity. Families gather together, feasts are arranged, and food is served to guests and the poor.

Saints of the Week

4th November St Charles Borromeo - Bishop (1538 – 1584)



Charles Borromeo was a leading figure of the Catholic Reformation. He was born in a castle on the shores of Lake Maggiore in northern Italy, to a powerful family. He was related to the Medici through his mother. As the second son, he was destined for a career in the Church from an early age. He received a doctorate in civil and canon law at the University of Pavia, and when his uncle was elected Pope Pius IV in 1559 he was summoned to Rome and made a cardinal. Among many other responsibilities he was made administrator of the vacant diocese of Milan and protector of the Catholic cantons of Switzerland and of the Franciscans and the Carmelites. He played a large part in the diplomatic efforts that led to the reopening in 1562 of the reforming Council of Trent, suspended since 1552. As long as the Church was

in a weak and corrupt state, emperors and kings could control it and its assets – and they would not easily give up control.

In late 1562 Charles's elder brother died, leaving him as head of the family. His relations wanted him to abandon his ecclesiastical career and marry, and even the Pope suggested it; but Charles saw his brother's death as a sign of the vanity of human wishes. Eventually, in 1563, he settled the argument by secretly being ordained priest. He was soon consecrated as Archbishop of Milan, but the Pope would not let him leave Rome because he was needed there. He worked on the catechism, the Missal and the Breviary, and reformed his own diocese as well as he could from a distance through trusted deputies. At length Pius IV died and in 1566 his successor permitted Charles to take up residence in his diocese. He began reform from the top, giving much of his property to the poor. He set up the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine to teach children the faith: it was the beginning and inspiration of the Sunday School movement. When famine struck the province, he fed 3,000 people at his own expense for three months and inspired others to do likewise. When plague came, he prepared himself for death, made his will, and went to the hospital where the worst cases were.

Charles encountered determined opposition to his programme of reform. His aunts, in Dominican convents, treated the introduction of grilles as a personal insult. More seriously, the canons of one church slammed the door in his face to prevent him making a visitation and their servants fired at him, damaging the crucifix he was carrying; and the members of a rich and corrupt order of monks were so opposed to being reformed that one of them dressed as a layman, joined Charles's household at evening prayer, and shot him. The assassin's bullet did not penetrate Charles's clothing. Charles's final visitation was of the cantons of Switzerland in 1583, where as well as the usual corruptions and abuses he had to deal with senior priests who were practising

witchcraft and sorcery, and enemies who claimed that his fight against heresy was a plot to extend Spanish domination into the region. Charles died on 3 November 1584 at the age of 46.

9th November Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (c.324)

The Lateran Basilica was built by the Emperor Constantine on the Lateran Hill in Rome in about 324. The feast of its dedication has been celebrated in Rome on this date since the twelfth century. In honour of the basilica, "the mother and head of all the churches of the City and the World," the feast has been extended to the whole Roman Rite as a sign of unity and love towards the See of Peter, which, as St Ignatius of Antioch said in the second century, "presides over the whole assembly of charity."

