



*A Journey
Remembered . . .*

Ritual of Remembrance

All Saints and All Souls Day

2023

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Welcome—Catherine White mfc
Acknowledgement of Country
Table of Memories

A Remembering Heart

God, grant to me a heart that remembers
The life in the seed that lies buried in dark night.
All the mystery You have revealed to me,
In the tapestry of my life,
A remembering heart ooh.

God, grant to me a heart that is faithful,
As the word is made flesh in the breaking of bread.
The call you speak to me, the song you sing in me,
The desire for You, My God
A faithful heart ooh.

God, grant to me a heart that is grateful,
As the blind one who now sees sings in praise of Your name.
The gift you give to me, the life You free in me,
All the goodness you bestow,
A grateful heart ooh.

God, grant to me a heart that truly loves
As the one who surrendered His life for his friends
That I may dare to be more true to You
In the face of all who need.
A loving heart ooh.



Introduction—Mary Franzmann pbvm

We are pulled upward
through forgotten
ghosts and unexpected angels.
And, there is nothing left to say
but we are That.
And, that is what we sing about.
(Millennium Blessing : Stephen Levine)

Litany of the Saints

Refrain:

Saints of God in glory,

Be with us, rejoice with us, sing praise with us

And pray with us now.

Mary, Mother of Jesus

Joseph

John the Baptist

Peter

Andrew

James & John

Mary of Magdala

Martha & Mary of Bethany

Paul

All women and men of the gospel: ***Refrain***

Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Tenison Woods

Bede Polding

John Wallis

John Baptist Scalabrini

Elizabeth Hayes

Paul of the Cross

Euphrasie Pelletier

Louis Chauvet

All Founders who responded to the call of their times: ***Refrain***

Dominic

Mary Aikenhead

Eusebius of Esztergom

Jaime Bonet

Arnold Janssen

Ignatius of Loyola

Madeline-Sophie Barat

Victoire Larmenier

Claude Poullart des Places

Eugene de Mazenod

All Founders who responded to the call of their times: ***Refrain***

Nano Nagle

John Baptist de La Salle

Helene de Chappotin

Marcellin Champagnat

Alexander IV

Ignacy Posadzy

Mary Ward

Matthew Alakaïam and Joseph Paredon

Magdalen of Canossa

All Founders who responded to the call of their times: ***Refrain***



Catherine McAuley
Daniel Delany
August Halond
Edmund Rice
Angela Merici
Francis of Assisi
James Alberione
Jules Chevalier
Teresa of Jesus

All Founders who responded to the call of their times: **Refrain**

Opening Prayer

Let us Pray

God of our journey, you companion us through life
just as you did with our founders.
You call your people to holiness.

As we keep the festival of the saints
and remember those on whose steps we walk,
give us their meekness and poverty of spirit,
a thirst for righteousness, and purity of heart.

May we share with them the richness of your kingdom
and be clothed in the glory you bestow.

Through Jesus Christ, our resurrection and life,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever. Amen



Listening

From the Letter to the Colossians

Let us give thanks to God for having made us worthy
to share the inheritance of the saints in light.
God has delivered us from the power of darkness
and transferred us into the kingdom of God's beloved Son, Jesus,
in whom we have redemption,
for the forgiveness of our sins.

***Refrain sung Shepherd Me O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

Jesus is the image of the invisible God,
the first-born of all creation;
in Jesus, the Christ, all things were created,
in heaven and on earth, things visible and invisible.
All things were created through Christ;
all were created for Christ.
Christ is before all else that is.
In Christ all things hold together.

Refrain sung

Christ is the beginning,
the firstborn from the dead,
that in everything, Christ might be above all others.
In Christ all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and, through Christ to reconcile all things
whether on earth or in heaven,
making peace by the blood of his cross.
The Word of God.

All: Thanks be to God.



Everything Falls Away

Reader 1

Everything Falls Away
There's a thread you follow.
It goes among things that change.
But it doesn't change.
-William Stafford

Reader 2

Sooner or later, everything falls away.
the work you've done, your successes,
large and small, your failures, too.

Reader 1

Everything falls away, except the thread
you've followed, unknowing, all along.
The thread that strings together all you've
been and done, the thread you didn't know
you were tracking until, toward the end,
you see that the thread is what stays
as everything else falls away.

Reader 2

Follow that thread as far as you can and
you'll find that it does not end, but weaves
into the unimaginable vastness of life.
Your life never was the solo turn it seemed to be.
It was always part of the great weave of
nature and humanity, an immensity we
come to know only as we follow our own
small threads to the place where they
merge with the boundless whole.

Reader 1 & 2

Each of our threads run its course,
then joins in life together.
This magnificent tapestry –
this masterpiece in which we live forever.
- Parker J Palmer



Reflection—Leader

We pause to remember the thread that has brought your congregation from beginning to present day.

To repeat the last lines of the poem:

***"Each of our threads run its course, then joins in life together.
This magnificent tapestry – this masterpiece in which we live forever".***

On the table of remembrance, we have placed a photo of each member who has entered Eternity Life since our 2021 Ritual of Remembrance.

I invite two members from each Congregation to come to the Table of Remembrance – one to place a sprig of Rosemary, a symbol of remembrance, on the photos.

The other to sprinkle incense into the bowl.

As the sprig of Rosemary is placed on the photo, the particular group prays: *let us hold our loved members who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith.*

As the incense is placed into the bowl, the group prays: *as we watch the incense rise, let us remember our faith-filled member/s who committed their lives wholeheartedly to God's mission.*

A Journey Remembered

***O praise the Lord, my soul.
My God, how great you are.
My heart and my soul sing out your praise.
My God, how great you are.***

You have carried me within your arms
whenever I've known fear.
You have waited patiently for me,
then you drew me near.
You have run beside me even when
I didn't want to know
that you are my home and my joy.

In the doubting times you touch'd my hope
and showed me how to be.
In the hours of fear and hopelessness
your truth set me free.
In the memory of family
I learnt to know your name,
learn that you are my home and my joy.

Lord, bless the place where I was born
and those who carried me.
Lord, bless the many smiles,
who have kindly set me free.
Lord, bless the many little ones
who've shown your face to me:
you are my home and my joy.



Reflection

To understand the future we need to take time to remember. "Remember" in Spanish come from re-cordis, to run through the heart once more. We remember that we tell our stories not to find the way, not because we need to solve a problem; not as a nostalgic view of what is gone; we tell our stories to know who we are.

Leader: We reflect on our past with gratitude;
We step forward together in faith;
We rejoice in the blessing that continues to be ours.
We have much for which to be grateful.

Side A Each of us stands at the gate of tomorrow,
facing the future ...
This is a sacred journey,
one that is held in and
surrounded by mystery ...

Side B We stand on the edge of
our hopes and dreams
and ask in love and trust
to be supported by a Love and Energy
much larger than we can imagine.

Side A We ask to walk here in courage and integrity,
as we attempt to discern the voice of God ...
As we stand on the edge
of this sacred journey,
the layers of memories and stories
become our teachers ...

Side B To risk the journey and to face the future
is simply to walk in faith,
for there are no linear words that capture
the massive Mystery of God ...

Leader: But always in our knowing and unknowing,
we are escorted into tomorrow by Love.
- Doris Klein CSA

God of the Living and the Dead.
Inspired by the lives of those
who have gone before us
and desiring to embrace life in all its reality,
we join with Jesus
in the prayer he taught us ...

Our Father ...



Final Prayer

Loving God,

We have remembered our past members with gratitude and we have touched into the mystery of their ever-present gift to us. They blessed and inspired us by the way they lived their lives and are now embraced in the love of their gracious and ever faithful God.

We now step forward together, the Communion of Saints.

May your Spirit guide us to continue God's mission in our world, sure in faith, strong in hope and perfect in love.

When our earthly journey is ended, lead us back to the home – the heart of God – we have never left.

We make this prayer in through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Blessing

May God bless us with hearts that dare to dream;

May God bless us with courage to embrace the call to launch into the deep;

May God bless us with the belief that God will meet us 'in the deep'.

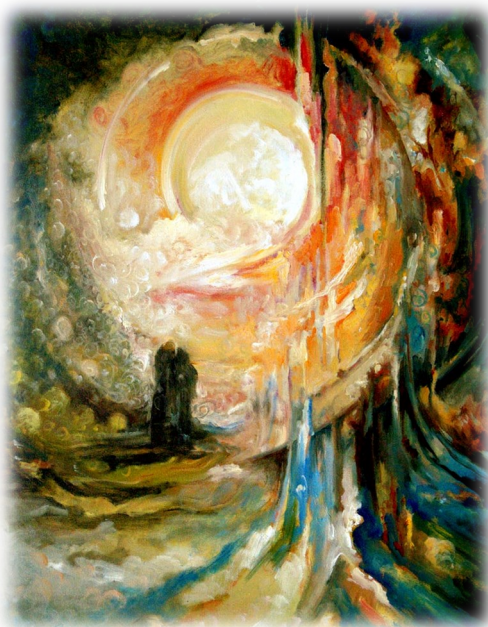
Into the Deep

Stirring in our hearts, in the depths of our souls,
we now hear a call, to launch into the deep,
to move beyond our fear,
beyond all we have known,
to believe with a faith that dares to trust,
our God will meet us there.

*Into the deep, come launch out with Me,
Into the depths of faith, come see what trust can bring,
Into the deep, come launch out with Me,
Into the depths of love, come fix your gaze on Me,
Into the deep.*

More than we could know, far more than we could hope,
a promise of great things, in hearts that dare to dream,
such bright imaginings and possibilities,
that our God will bestow abundantly,
on all who heed God's call.

We will find in God, the courage that we need,
to embrace the call, to risk familiar ways,
if we but look to God, and let love be our guide,
we will know in our hearts such unity,
God's blessing upon us.



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