

Celebrate Your Family on All Saints Day!

CONNIE CLARK

ave you ever been to a family reunion? You might play games, eat delicious food, and meet relatives you've only seen in pictures. It's a great way to celebrate all the people who share something awesome — being part of your family!

You're also part of God's family. We call that "the Communion of Saints." On All Saints Day, we celebrate members of this family—people whose lives were shining examples of heroic virtue. We honor well-known saints like Francis of Assisi, lesser-known saints like Germaine Cousin (she lived in a cupboard!), and countless people in heaven who haven't officially been declared saints.

How does anyone become a saint? Are saints perfect people

who never did anything wrong? On the contrary, saints struggled with weaknesses and sins (except Mary, who actually was perfect). Despite their unworthiness, saints trusted in God's love and mercy. That's why we recognize these awesome role models who show us God's grace at work in their lives. There are so many saints with so many amazing stories that you can easily find a saint — or two, or twenty — whose life story will inspire you!

All Saints Day (November 1) is a holy day of obligation, which means we go to Mass. And really, isn't that the best way to celebrate this feast? After all, at Mass we gather with God's family. Jesus strengthens us with his Body and Blood in the Eucharist. In the Gospel reading on All Saints Day, Jesus tells us how to be saints: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3).

Whenever you go to Mass, you get a glimpse of the amazing family reunion God has planned in the kingdom of heaven for his whole family of saints — and that includes you! So let's start celebrating!



CONNIE CLARK is editor of Living Faith Kids, a quarterly magazine of daily Catholic devotions for children. To learn more, visit LivingFaithKids.com.

Litany of Saints Word Search In the prayer called the Litany of Saints, we call on Mary and the saints to ask for God's help. Hidden in this puzzle are the names of 25 saints we mention in this prayer. As you find each name, try saying the prayer response: "Pray for us." Find the answer key plus more activities for this feast on the next page.

Α	Q	Ε	D	F	Ρ	Α	Ν	Τ	R	J	Υ	С	Α	G	Agatha	Lucy
Ρ	L	S	Ν	Р	R	1	G	Ε	F	Ν	С	Ε	Ε	Χ	Agnes	Martin
J	Χ	С	J	Ε	С	Α	Τ	Ν	0	М	L	С	W	L	Anastasia	Mary
Υ	U	0	R	Н	L		Ν	Н	Ε	М	Α	I	Ε	Α	Andrew	Mary
С	Η	D	0	Ε	Ε	Α	Τ	С	Α	S	R	L	Μ	W		Magdalen
D	Α	L	Ε	V	J	Ν	D	R	1	Ν	Ε	1	0	R	Anthony	Magdaten
N	Α	Т	L	U	Α	Р	Υ	G	F	S	М	A	L	Ε	Catherine	Matthew
S	Ε	Υ	Н	Α	Ν	Α	S	Τ	Α	S	I	Α	0	Ν	Cecilia	Nicholas
Τ	S	Н	W	Ε	Н	Τ	Τ	Α	М	М	Н	0	Н	С	Clare	Paul
Ν	Ν	Υ	Ρ	S	R	J	U	Α	Ε	Τ	Υ	Η	Τ	Ε	Б	Peter
F	1	С	R	F	F	ı	Ν	R	Α	F	Χ	R	R	Р	Dominic	retei
С	T	U	J	Р	T	D	N	G	Т	Р	Х	N	Α	L	Francis	Stephen
Ν	R	L	В	С	R	S	Α	Ε	Т	W	Z	Α	В	С	Jerome	Sylvester
I	Α	R	Χ	Ε	D	0	М	I	Ν	I	С	L	Q	Χ	Jude	Thomas
٧	М	F	W	S	Α	М	0	Н	Τ	Р	Ε	Τ	Ε	R	Lawrence	Vincent

'The Saints Go Marching In' —to help you!

We all ask friends and family for help sometimes. We can ask the saints for help too! Praying to the saints for help is called asking for their intercession with God. We know that the saints' prayers are powerful.

Think of a saint you know. Now think of someone who needs help. Write an intercession prayer to this saint. Say your prayer often!

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ANSWER to Our Lady of the Rosary Crossword puzzle



Bonus Puzzle from Living the Liturgical Year

What's in a name? Saints!

Write the letters of your first or last name. Then see how many saint names you can come up with for each letter. (It's okay to check the internet for answers.)

Permission Granted

You might notice this disclaimer on certain pages in *Catechist: "Permission is granted to copy for use with your classes and families."* We do hope you'll share our pages in your parish or school.

Here's three ideas for families:

- Send home the gentle wit and wisdom of **The Domestic Church** as a source of practical inspiration for parents.
- Use the **Catholic I.Q.** quizzes not only for class time use, but for bulletin inserts for families.
- Encourage family prayer time with **Praying With** the Pope.