

Here's a text if you've only a minute ...

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world, and those who dwell in it.

Psalm

Beloved, we are God's children now.

Second Reading

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, says the Lord,
and I will give you rest.

Gospel Acclamation

God our Father, source of all holiness,
the work of your hands is manifest in your saints,
the beauty of your truth is reflected in their faith.

May we who aspire to have a part in their joy
be filled with the Spirit that blessed their lives,
so that having shared their faith on earth
we may also know their peace in your kingdom.

Old Opening Prayer

This week's texts if you'd like to reflect further:

Revelation 7: 2–4.9–14; Psalm 24 (23); 1 John 3: 1–3; Matthew 5: 1–12a

Jan Brueghel the Elder, *Sermon on the Mount* (1598)



'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

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ST BEUNO'S OUTREACH IN THE DIOCESE OF WREXHAM



PREGO LEAFLET

The Feast of All Saints
Year A, 1st November 2026

'Beloved: See what kind of love the Father
has given to us, that we should be called
children of God ...'

Today's feast is an occasion for great thanksgiving, honouring all the saints, both known and unknown, who offer us memories and models of holiness. We, too, are called to holiness; to be saints. The Communion of Saints prays for us, willing us on to join them.

We can try to do this by following the message and example of Jesus, as portrayed in the **Gospel**. Here Jesus teaches the disciples God's law in a new way. His values and attitudes, summed up in the Beatitudes, are a map comprised of eight different paths. By following them, we align our lives with the heart of God and 'holiness'.

The **First Reading** gives us a vision of heaven. Those who belong to the Lord are marked with a seal and kept safe, 'an innumerable number from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages'.

In the **Second Reading**, John addresses us as 'beloved', reminding us that we are children of God. Although today's world may misunderstand God's Way, we are promised eternal life when we will see God as he is.

The **Psalmist** sings of the created world and all dwelling in it. Those who seek the Lord's face with clean hands and a pure heart will receive his blessing.

On this feast, let's pray for all those persecuted for their faith; for those suffering injustice; and for those affected by any form of violence.



Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God, by whose gift
we venerate in one celebration the merits of all the Saints,
bestow on us we pray, through the prayers of so many intercessors,
an abundance of the reconciliation with you
for which we earnestly long.

Psalm 24 (23)

R./ Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world, and those who dwell in it.

It is he who set it on the seas;
on the rivers he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The clean of hands and pure of heart,
whose soul is not set on vain things.

Blessings from the Lord shall they receive,
and right reward from the God who saves them.

Such are the people who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

As I settle, I make myself comfortable in the way I know best. I may like to position myself near a window to enjoy the beauty of God's creation outside. I now let any busyness of the day slip away, and try to relax. I pay attention to my breathing, taking a few deep breaths in and out. Perhaps I rest here with the Lord quietly for a while, allowing his deep love to embrace me and fill me. He is delighted that I am here, just as I am.

When ready, I turn to the Psalm and read it through or say it aloud, pausing after each line.

Where am I being drawn?

Which word, phrase or image is staying with me?

Perhaps *fullness, firm, pure heart, clean hands, blessings, saves, reward, receive, seek ...?*

I ponder why this is. What does this mean to me?

What do I most 'seek' at the moment? On what desire am I most set?

Are my desires always attuned to seeking God, or are there times when my own thoughts and feelings get in the way?

Knowing that he understands, I share my feelings and thoughts with the Lord. I ask him for the grace he feels I need.

Perhaps there's a blessing for which I'm especially thankful? I savour this, and with gratitude, I slowly close my prayer. '*Glory be ...*'

Gospel Matthew 5: 1–12a

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'

I notice how I'm feeling as I come to prayer, and gradually become still.

I try to be conscious of the Lord being gently present to me.

In time, I slowly read these familiar words, trying to hear them as if for the first time. I may like to place myself in the scene, hearing Jesus speak directly to me.

I ponder each 'blessing' and what is promised. How am I reacting?

These are not a set of regulations but a vision of how we can find true happiness, by trying to live like Jesus.

I may like to choose and reflect on one blessing that affirms me, and then another that calls me further, and challenges me today.

Which is the blessing that I most deeply desire at this time ... for myself ... for my family or community ... for the world? With Jesus, I ponder and share.

Perhaps I reflect on the differing values of the world I see around me.

Where might Jesus be inviting me to share in and be part of his own values?

I ask him to show me, and I take time to listen.

Where have I seen these values and qualities in the lives of others?

Where might these values and qualities have flowed from me, at times?

I ponder, and give thanks.

I end this time slowly, and with Jesus pray '*Our Father ...*'