All Saints and All Souls

Collect

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Revelation 7 .9-17

9After this I looked, and there was a great
multitude that no one could count, from
every nation, from all tribes and peoples and
languages, standing before the throne and
before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm
branches in their hands. 10They cried out
in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to
our God who is seated on the throne, and to
the Lamb!' 11And all the angels stood around
the throne and around the elders and the
four living creatures, and they fell on their
faces before the throne and worshipped God,
12singing,

'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever!
Amen.'

13Then one of the elders addressed me,
saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and
where have they come from?' 14I said to him,
'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he
said to me, 'These are they who have come
out of the great ordeal; they have washed
their robes and made them white in the
blood of the Lamb. 15For this reason they
are before the throne of God, and worship
him day and night within his temple, and the
one who is seated on the throne will shelter
them. 16They will hunger no more, and
thirst no more; the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat; 17for the Lamb at the
centre of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the
water of life, and God will wipe away every
tear from their eyes.'

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 John 3. 1-3

1See what love the Father has given us, that
we should be called children of God; and that
is what we are. The reason the world does
not know us is that it did not know him.
2Beloved, we are God's children now; what
we will be has not yet been revealed.
What we do know is this: when he is
revealed, we will be like him, for we will see
him as he is. 3And all who have this hope
in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

GOSPEL Reading Matthew 5. 1-12

Hear the holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to S. Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying:
"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 sons 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, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.