



# Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League

faith

service

SOCIAL  
JUSTICE



**CATHOLIC**  
and **LIVING IT!**

## The Solemnity of All Saints November 1



### Our Spiritual Advisor

Fr. Jorge Mario de los Rios Londoño

### Our Members

Lacey Bernardin, *Past-President*

Megan Bernardin

Lynne Bernier

Susan Bernier

Irene Bialek

Valerie Bonnefoy, *Chair*

Jacqueline Bouchard

Lindsay Bouchard

Jolene Capina

Sr. Maryse Chartier, *CSC*

Lucille Chay, *President*

Crystal Chernichan

Monica Chernichan

Rolande Chernichan

Jaquelyne Cournoyer

Patricia Danylchuk

Adrienne Dennison

Suzanne Desmarais

Janine Durand-Rondeau

Gisèle Falk

Yvette Gregoire

Constance Haas

Chisom Omuruzua Ibeme

Monique Jeanson

Sue Johannesson

Monique Johnson

Delaney Kolowca

Heather Kolowca

Nettie Lambert

Marie McCall

Madelyn McConnell

Kathleen Messner

Suzanne Moore, *Treasurer*

Carol Mravinec

Mary-Ann Novak

Agatha Olayiwola

Jennifer Opara

Marcia Poirier, *Secretary*

Jennifer Poitra

Marie-Ange Prevost

Mae Ross, *PPC rep*

Faith Suttorp

Jaclyn Suttorp

Iris Swiderski

Joanne Touchette

Marilyn Toutant ✝

Sr. Anna Marie du Sacré Coeur de Jésus



# Lucille's Letter

Dear Fr. Mario & Sisters in The League

As we start the month of November, a month dedicated to all saints, all souls and all men and women who lost their lives in global conflicts, I am feeling quite distressed by current world events. The war in Ukraine persists; the wars in many African nations are less reported on in the West but they are, nonetheless, affecting millions of people and now, the Middle East war between Israel and Hamas is causing untold death and destruction with no end in sight. The saddest thing to come out of this latest conflict is the hatred it is engendering in our own country as opposing sides try to make a case for their cause.

Prayers for peace are needed more now than they have been needed since WW2. Who will care for all the refugees? Who will give them shelter and food? Who will take care of the orphans? How will surviving children ever be "normal" again? How will affected adults ever be "normal" again? I find myself heartbroken and, other than praying for peace, having no clue how I can make a difference!



Condolences are extended to the families and friends of our Sisters in The League, Marilyn Toutant, who died on October 13th and Crystal Reiter who died October 25<sup>th</sup>. May songs of the angels welcome you

and guide you along your way. Thank you to all CWL ladies who participated in the honour guard at these funerals.

Please continue to pray for other council members and/or their family members who are seriously ill or recovering (Sue Johannesson, Carol Mravinec, Lynne Bernier, Lacey Bernardin, Suzanne Moore, Bob Chernichan, Clarence Bialek, Agatha White)

Thank you to all CWL members who helped in any way with our pancake breakfast fundraiser. The fundraiser was a big success generating about \$1100.00 profit.

Our next big event will be our soup Sunday on November 5<sup>th</sup>. This is also time change weekend so we get to sleep that extra hour we have all been searching for. LOL. You are still most welcome to bring a pot of soup on Sunday morning and possibly stay to help serve or clean up. This is our opportunity to thank the parish for their support throughout the year so it would be great if our council was well represented that morning.

Don't forget we have 2 exciting things happening at our November general meeting: Faith Anderson (St. Boniface Diocesan Council/Life Member) will be leading us in discussion as to how we want our council to proceed in future and we will be having a baby shower for Jennifer Opara! I hope many of you are able to attend.

Mark your calendars for our Advent Gathering scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Bles d'Or. As in previous years, the afternoon will be filled with good food, good company and good fun. You don't want to miss this event.

See you soon.

*Lucille Chay*



## CWL Unity Outreach Program



### November 2023 For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

## 2023 Pope's Intentions





# November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> All Saints Day	<b>2</b> All Souls Day	<b>3</b>  Adoration 5—6 Kathleen & Lacey	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Mass to Intentions of deceased CWL  CWL SOUP SUNDAY	<b>6</b> Monique Jeanson	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Holy Mass @ 6:15 Mtg @ hall, 7:00 pm Unity Project, Baby Shower	<b>9</b> Iris & Louis Swiderski	<b>10</b>  Adoration 5—6 Valerie & Heather	<b>11</b> Remembrance Day
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Marcia & Armand Poirier	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Kathleen Messner Suzanne Moore  Adoration 5—6 Irene & Jaquelyne	<b>18</b> Lindsay Bouchard
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  Adoration 5—6 Nettie & Angel	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Madelyn McConnell	<b>28</b> Patricia Danylchuk	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Dec 1</b>  Adoration 5—6 Kathleen & Marie	<b>Advent 2023</b> Begins Sunday, December 3



# MARILYN FRANCIS TOUTANT

(née PAGE)

August 1, 1941 – October 13, 2023

It is with the heaviest of hearts we announce the passing of our dearly beloved mother, Marilyn Francis Toutant. Mom passed away peacefully on Oct 13, 2023 at Ste. Anne Hospital with her family by her side and in the loving embrace of her daughter.

She was predeceased by her parents George and Mary Page, her brother and sister-in-law Erica Page and her devoted and loving husband of fifty-seven (57) years, Robert Leo Toutant, who

passed away July 19, 2022.

Mom and Dad were blessed with two children, John (Tammy) and Jacqueline (Gilbert) who in return blessed them with six grandchildren; Carolyn (Brian), Daniel (Karlee), Joanne (Andrew), Megan (Siara), Jessica (Arthur) and Natalie (Kris), who also blessed them with seven great grandchildren.

Mom was born in Winnipeg and lived in St. Vital her whole life up until the past 15 years when she and Dad moved to the community of Lorette. Mom was the church secretary at St. Emile Parish and after retiring, she and Dad enjoyed spending their time between Long Lake and Arizona and with their children.

When Mom's health started to decline, they sold the cabin and trailer and moved in with Jacqueline and Gilbert where they became active in volunteering in the community of Lorette, giving 15 years of service to the food bank, Catholic Women's League, Knights of Columbus and helping out wherever needed. Mom and Dad loved to travel and go camping, spending time outdoors with their many wonderful family and friends.

Mom was a fantastic cook and loved planning family gatherings and parties. The food was always very important and there was never a lack even for the smallest of events. She made the best homemade soups and buns!!

Mom will be greatly missed, but we are comforted in knowing she is back in Dad's loving arms and blessed with all the wonderful promises her faith and love for God has bestowed upon her. She will remain now and forever in our hearts.

A Celebration of Mom's life will take place on Thursday Oct 19, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at Notre Dame de Lorette Parish in Lorette, Manitoba. Mom's final resting place will be in the Lorette cemetery with Dad.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who Prayed for Mom during this time and other times when asked; The Catholic Women's League, Parishioners of Notre Dame de Lorette Parish, the Knights of Columbus and all Family and Friends. Also, much appreciation to everyone who was involved in Mom's care, the wonderful nurses, HCA's and Dr's at Ste. Annes Hospital and Home Care Services throughout the years.

**ETHICAL DEATH CARE**

**Cremation & Life Celebrations**

530 St. Mary Avenue - Winnipeg

204-421-5501 - [www.ethicaldeathcare.com](http://www.ethicaldeathcare.com)







# CWL Commendation of Marilyn Frances Toutant

Led by Angel Prevost, October 19, 2023

We, the members of the Catholic Women's League of Notre Dame de Lorette parish are gathered here today to commend our deceased sister Marilyn Toutant to God.

Marilyn was our friend and our sister in the League. She strived to say "Yes" to the Lord, and to imitate our Patroness, Our Lady of Good Counsel. Through her service to "God and Canada" in the Catholic Women's League of Canada, she sought to further God's reign here on earth. We are saddened that she is no longer with us and we will miss her, but we entrust her to God with confidence. May she now live in peace, joy and happiness.

As is our tradition, we will now enter Marilyn's name in the Catholic Women's League of Canada's Book of Life. The presentation of a single red rose will be made by Lucille Chay, our president. As we enter her name in the Book of Life, we acknowledge her participation within the League, her commitment to its ideals, and her desire to deepen her faith through life's journey.

I ask the members of the Catholic Women's League to recite the League Farewell Prayer together:

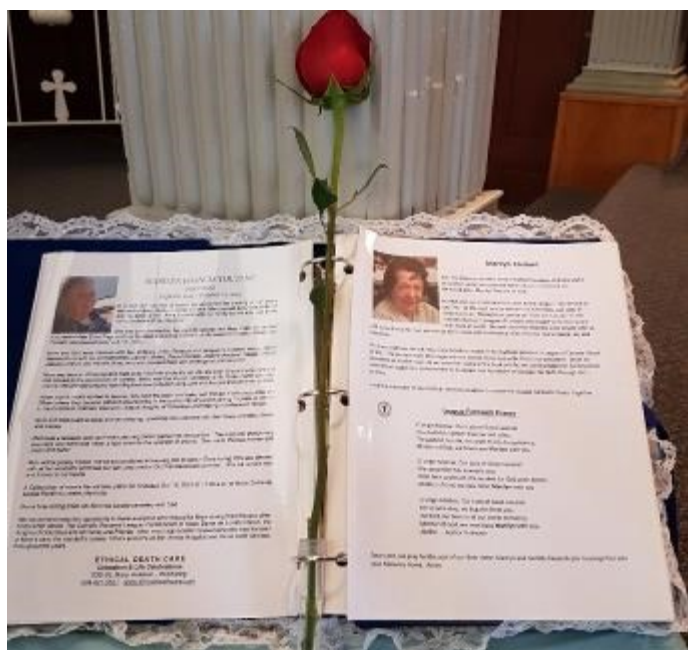
## League Farewell Prayer

O Virgin Mother, Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Your faithful member bids her last adieu  
Throughout her life, she went to you for guidance;  
Mother of God, we now leave **Marilyn** with you.

O Virgin Mother, Our Lady of Good Counsel  
We remember her example true  
With faith and trust, she worked for God and Canada;  
Mother of God, we now leave **Marilyn** with you

O Virgin Mother, Our Lady of Good Counsel  
For us who stay, we beg this from you:  
Increase our faith in all our works of mercy!  
Mother of God, we now leave **Marilyn** with you.  
AMEN. - *Author Unknown*

Dear Lord, we pray for the soul of our dear sister, Marilyn and humbly beseech you to accept her into your heavenly home. Amen.





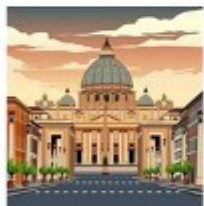


The St. Boniface Diocesan Council of  
The Catholic Women's League of Canada

## Day of Reflection

Saturday, October 14, 2023  
Christ the King Parish Hall  
847 St. Mary's Rd. Winnipeg  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Featuring Deacon Gilles Urquhart

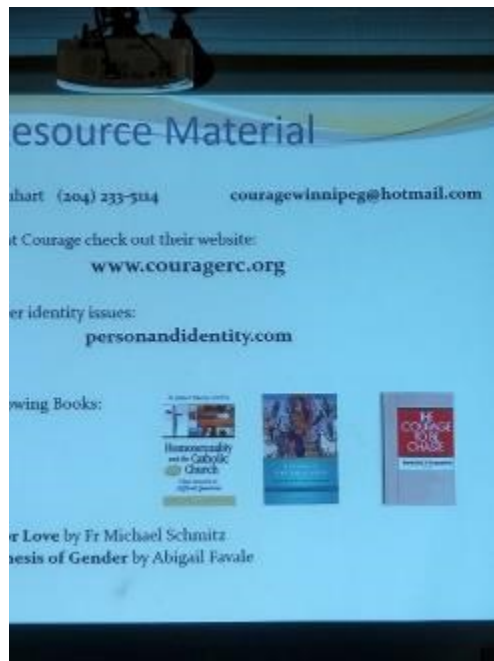


## The Catholic Church and the LGBTQ Community



Beverages & Snacks Provided

\$10 per person  
Cheques made payable to CWC  
Registration opens at 8:30 am  
Registration form attached





# Pancake Breakfast

## FUNDRAISER

Come out and support The Catholic Women's League  
with a delicious breakfast of pancakes, sausages,  
juice and coffee!

**Saturday, October 21, 2023, 8:00—11:00**

**\$12.00**  
PER PERSON

**Silent Auction**

At the:  
**Lorette Diner**  
113 Lagimodiere  
Lorette, MB







**Sunday, November 5, 2023**

**After both Masses**

**Sponsored by the CWL**

**Freewill offering**

**Proceeds to: Taché Food Resource Centre**



## CATHOLIC WOMEN UNITE T-SHIRT

We'll be accepting orders for the first print run until November 15th, 2023.

**\$24.00**

**Order by November 15th to be Part of the First Print Run!**

- Navy blue shirt with white graphic
- 9.1-oz, 100% cotton
- Compacted yarns to minimize shrinkage
- Taped neck and shoulders
- Tear away label
- Side seamed
  - Classic fit
  - *We'll be accepting orders until November 15th.*
  - *T-shirts will be printed and shipped between November 15th and December 7th, 2023.*



[https://store.catholicwomenunite.ca/catholic-women-unite-t-shirt/?fbclid=IwAR2be-Ir5\\_NTt1mlgF6irMIEWm8AFVAhRZ468hFX9ZUZlt2iVyQvrPBshIU](https://store.catholicwomenunite.ca/catholic-women-unite-t-shirt/?fbclid=IwAR2be-Ir5_NTt1mlgF6irMIEWm8AFVAhRZ468hFX9ZUZlt2iVyQvrPBshIU)



**WE WANT YOU!**



**YOUR Chance to  
Serve as a CWL  
Officer**

## Council Elections 2024

### Changes to our CWL Executive, 2024

#### THE CWL EXECUTIVE AT ALL LEVELS

##### Officers Then: (8)

- President
- President-Elect
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Treasurer
- Past-President

##### Officers New: (5)

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- (Secretary-Treasurer at the National Level)
- Past-President

#### CHAIRPERSONS

##### Chairpersons Then: (9)

- Spiritual Development
- Organization
- Christian Family Life
- Community Life
- Education and Health
- Communications
- Resolutions
- Legislation
- Parish Liaison

##### Chairpersons New: (3)

- Faith
- Service
- Social Justice

#### FAITH SUMMARY

ACTIVITY	FORMER CHAIR
Spiritual growth of members	Spiritual development
Study of Catholic teachings	Spiritual development
Role of women in the church	Spiritual development
Lay ministries	Spiritual development
Ecumenism and inter-faith endeavours	Spiritual development
Sanctity of life	Christian Family Life
Vocations	Christian Family Life

#### SERVICE SUMMARY

ACTIVITY	FORMER CHAIR
Evangelization and mission assistance	Spiritual Development
Marriage and family	Christian Family Life
Ministry to various groups	Christian Family Life
Refugees, immigration and citizenship	Community Life
Development and Peace	Community Life
Developing countries	Community Life
Catholic education	Education & Health
Literacy and continuing education	Education & Health
Scholarships and bursaries	Education & Health
Wellness and sickness/disease	Education & Health
Pornography	Communications
Liaison with pastoral councils	Parish Activities
Parish assistance	Parish Activities

#### SOCIAL JUSTICE SUMMARY

ACTIVITY	FORMER CHAIR
Dignity and rights of persons	Community Life
Social and economic justice	Community Life
Environment	Education Health
Genetics	Education Health
Research and preparation of resolutions and briefs	Resolutions
Study and implementation of resolutions	Resolutions
Presentation of resolutions to government	Resolutions
Monitor and study legislation	Legislation
Preparation of briefs on proposed legislation	Legislation

#### VICE PRESIDENT

ACTIVITY	FORMER
Recruit members and maintain membership	Organization
Leadership development	Organization
League resource material	Organization
Annual reports	Organization
Life membership	Organization

#### SECRETARY

ACTIVITY	FORMER CHAIR
The Canadian League magazine	Communications
Media for various groups	Communications
Media relations	Communications

**NOMINATE NOW!**

# 11 NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE DAY

*Lest we forget*



**Remembrance Day** is commemorated on November 11th each year and marks the end of World War I in 1918. It may also be commonly known as **Armistice Day**.

The intention of the day is to remember the fallen on both sides in the Great War (first world war).

Remembrance Day is a federal statutory holiday in Canada. It is also a statutory holiday in three territories (Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut) and in six provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador).

In Nova Scotia, it isn't listed as a paid holiday, but all government and bank employees have this day as a holiday and all staff are paid extra to work this day.

Why Remembrance Day is important

On Remembrance Day, Canadians pause to honour the men and women who have served and continue to serve Canada during times of war, conflict, and peace. More than 2,300,000 Canadians have served and more than 118,000 made the ultimate sacrifice.

The poppy is the symbol of Remembrance Day. In the run-up to Remembrance Day, replica poppies are sold by the Royal Canadian Legion to provide assistance to veterans.

The reason that the poppy is worn for Remembrance Day is due to a Canadian physician and poet who noticed how quickly poppies had grown over the graves of soldiers who had died during the Battle of Ypres. This symbolism of the blood-red flowers was beautifully captured by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae in his 1915 poem "In Flanders Fields." The poem was apparently discarded by McCrae but was found by soldiers who sent it to a London-based magazine named Punch.

In 1921, people began wearing the poppy three years after the war ended. For the centennial observance of Remembrance Day in 2021, the Royal Canadian Legion released a commemorative replica of the original fabric pin from 1921.



November 11th marks the signing of the armistice (peace agreement) between the Allies and Germany at Compiègne, France.

The armistice took effect at eleven o'clock in the morning - the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month."

*Did you know?*

*The last Canadian killed in action in World War I was Private George Lawrence Price of the Canadian Infantry (2nd Canadian Division) who was killed at Mons at 10.58 on November 11th, two minutes before the armistice. Officially, Price was the last Commonwealth soldier to be killed in World War One.*

However, while this date is used to reflect the end of the whole war, it technically relates to the cease-fire on the Western Front; fighting continued after November

11th in parts of the Ottoman Empire.

After the 'end' of the war in 1918, it didn't take long before the signing of the armistice was adopted as a suitable time and date for countries involved in the war to mark the sacrifice of their soldiers, with official remembrance services taking place in the UK and USA in 1919.

The national ceremony is held at the National War Memorial in Ottawa. The Governor General of Canada presides over the ceremony. It is also attended by the Prime Minister, other government officials, representatives of Veterans' organizations, diplomatic representatives, other dignitaries, Veterans as well as the general public.

In advance of the ceremony, long columns of Veterans, Canadian Armed Forces members, RCMP officers, and cadets march to the memorial lead by a pipe band and a colour guard. At the end of the ceremony, they march away to officially close the ceremony.

When did Remembrance Day become a stat holiday?

From 1921 to 1930, Armistice Day was held on the Monday of the week in which November 11th fell and Thanksgiving was held on the same day. In 1931, Alan Neill, Member of Parliament for Comox-Alberni, introduced a bill to observe Armistice Day only on November 11th. Passed by the House of Commons, the bill also changed the name to "Remembrance Day". The first Remembrance Day was observed on November 11th 1931.

Remembrance Day is not a statutory holiday in Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and Manitoba. Some employers in those provinces may give employees Remembrance Day off work, but there is no legal obligation to do so.

On March 1st 2018, An Act to amend the Holidays Act (Remembrance Day) received royal assent making November 11th is a legal holiday throughout Canada.

However, the revised status does not mean that all employees will now automatically get a public holiday on Remembrance Day. In Canada, the individual provinces and territories decide which days are public holidays for the vast majority of employees. The federal government cannot force the provinces to make Remembrance Day a paid day off for employees.

<https://www.officeholidays.com/holidays/canada/canada-remembrance-day>





**école catholique d'évangélisation**

*Jesus Alive in Us!*

**A free one day retreat with special guests John and Tracy Connelly!**

A retreat on the five Interior Life Exercises of Saints

**INSPIRE US** to live daily interior life renewal  
**RENEW US** to deepen our awareness of Jesus  
**ACTIVATE US** as communities of practicing disciples

**Friday Nov. 17th**  
 Pre-retreat for ages 17-35  
 Friday 7pm-10pm  
 Accommodations available

**Saturday Nov. 18th**  
 Open to all ages  
 Saturday 9:30am-4:30pm  
 Lunch included

Location: Pre-retreat will be at the CSE  
 Main retreat will be at St. Malo Parish

Visit [catholicway.net/jesusalive](http://catholicway.net/jesusalive) for more details, or click below to register

**WINTER CAMPS**

TRAINING WEEKEND	JANUARY 12-14
8-12 ENGLISH	JANUARY 19-21
8-12 FRENCH	JANUARY 26-28
12-15 ENGLISH	FEBRUARY 2-4
12-15 FRENCH	FEBRUARY 9-11
REVIVE RETREAT	FEBRUARY 16-18

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS!



## The Four Constitutions of Vatican II Webinar Series

In preparation for Jubilee 2025, the year 2023 is dedicated to Vatican II.

The CCCB Office for Evangelization and Catechesis will host a webinar series, "The Four Constitutions of Vatican II", inviting the faithful to reflect on the meaning of these documents for the life of the Church today. Simultaneous interpretation

(French/English) will be available for all four sessions:

1. "Sacrosanctum Concilium" — Msgr. Murray Kroetsch, PH, VG (Tue 7 Nov — 1:00-2:30 pm EST)
  2. "Dei Verbum" — Bishop Yvan Mathieu, SM (Tue 14 Nov — 1:00-2:30 pm EST)
  3. "Gaudium et Spes" — Sr. Donna Geernaert, SC (Tue 21 Nov — 1:00-2:30 pm EST)
  4. "Lumen Gentium" — Dr. Catherine Clifford (Tue 28 Nov — 1:00-2:30 pm EST)
- All webinar sessions will be recorded and packaged with a reflection guide for later release. If you wish to attend any of the webinar session or to be notified when session recordings are made available, please register now!

[https://cccb-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/5416951355664/WN\\_Xf09Vsi\\_SjiilwdLPzWMdQ#/registration](https://cccb-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/5416951355664/WN_Xf09Vsi_SjiilwdLPzWMdQ#/registration)



# ALL SAINTS' & ALL SOULS' DAY



## We Celebrate All Saints Day

We celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Why do Catholics celebrate the lives of the Saints? Why do we ask for their Intercession? St. Thomas Moore answers these questions saying, "Those in the Catholic Church, whom some rebuke for praying to Saints and going on pilgrimages, do not seek any Saint as their savior. Instead, they seek saints as those whom their Savior loves, and whose intercession and prayer for the seeker He will be content to hear. For His Own sake, He would have those He loves honored. And when they are thus honored for His sake, then the honor that is given

them for His sake overflows especially to Himself."

We are made for relationship and know the path to holiness includes our relationship with God and others. On this feast of All Saints Day, let us seek to grow in relationship with the Saints. They are our brothers and sisters in Christ who have 'won the race.' Because of this, they can help us as we strive towards Heaven. As we seek for wellness and whole health is Spirit, Mind, and Body, the Saints can lead us. The communion of Saints can provide us with inspiration and prayers as we seek to live Fully Alive.

<https://cmfcuro.com/2022/11/01/all-saints-day-the-importance-of-community/>

## How You Can Offer a Plenary Indulgence for the Souls in Purgatory



In order for one to obtain a plenary indulgence, whether it be for the poor souls or for oneself, the person working to obtain the it **must be detached from all sin**. If the soul is not detached, a partial indulgence will be applied.

(You only have to go to confession once during this time period)

### 3) Receive Holy Communion

Simple as that! (Just please do it in the state of grace)

### 4) Pray for the Pope

The Church suggests that the faithful pray one 'Our Father' and one "Hail Mary" for the current Holy Father.

### Additional Requirements for Indulgences

The Church asks that if possible, "the sacramental Confession, and especially Holy Communion and the prayer for the Pope's intentions take place on the same day that the indulgenced work is performed."

However, since this is not always possible, **one must perform the above within about 20 days before or after praying at a cemetery.**

If you wish to gain more than one plenary indulgence for the poor souls in purgatory, you must receive communion, visit a cemetery and pray for the pope each time you wish to grant the plenary indulgence. This must take place between Nov. 1-8.

<https://www.churchpop.com/2018/11/05/how-you-can-offer-a-plenary-indulgence-for-the-souls-in-purgatory-this-week/?fbclid=IwAR2uUElc1-qADIErUB5w8dHITbESMeMtlI3DsCLE-OYt0KZeLzGW6tDnaY>

Every November, the Church offers the faithful have the opportunity to offer a plenary indulgence for the souls in purgatory.

This means we can release souls from their temporal punishment in purgatory so they can immediately go to heaven!

**You can offer one year-round, but this specific plenary indulgence is only recognized from Nov. 1-8.** This method is a partial indulgence any other time during the year.

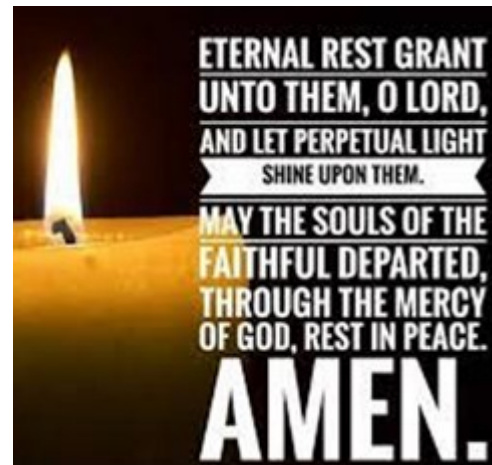
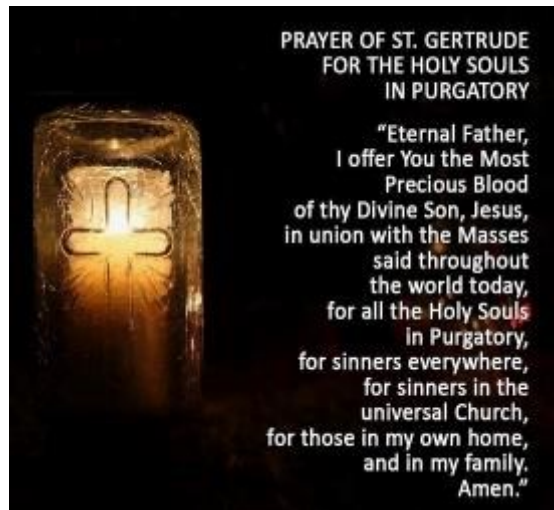
It is possible for the person offering the indulgence to **release one soul from purgatory per day** during this time period. How awesome is that?!

### Steps to Obtain a Plenary Indulgence for Souls in Purgatory:

#### 1) Pray at a Cemetery

It doesn't matter which cemetery, as long as you pray at one.

#### 2) Go to Confession







# Letter

## to the people of God

16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops



#Synod2023  
Letter to the people of God

"We lived this blessed time in profound communion with all of you. We were supported by your prayers, bearing with you your expectations, your questions, as well as your fears."



#Synod2023  
Letter to the people of God

"We do not need to be afraid to respond to this call. Mary, Mother of the Church, the first on the journey, accompanies our pilgrimage. In joy and in sorrow, she shows us her Son and invites us to trust. And He, Jesus, is our only hope!"



#Synod2023  
Letter to the people of God



"Above all, the Church of our time has the duty to listen, in a spirit of conversion, to those who have been victims of abuse committed by members of the ecclesial body, and to commit herself concretely and structurally to ensuring that this does not happen again."



#Synod2023  
Letter to the people of God



"We hope that the months leading to the second session in October 2024 will allow everyone to concretely participate in the dynamism of missionary communion indicated by the word 'synod'. This is not about ideology, but about an experience rooted in the apostolic tradition."



#Synod2023  
Letter to the people of God



"Firmly united in the hope brought by His Resurrection, we entrusted to Him our common home where the cries of the earth and the poor are becoming increasingly urgent: *"Laudate Deum!"* ("Praise God!"), as Pope Francis reminded us at the beginning of our work."



#Synod2023  
Letter to the people of God



"Our assembly took place in the context of a world in crisis, whose wounds and scandalous inequalities resonated painfully in our hearts, infusing our work with a particular gravity, especially since some of us come from countries where war rages."



#Synod2023  
Letter to the people of God



"Using the conversation in the Spirit method, we have humbly shared the wealth and poverty of our communities from every continent, seeking to discern what the Holy Spirit wants to say to the Church today."

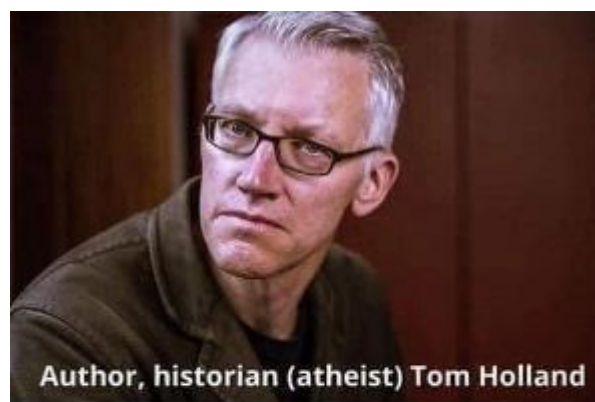


#Synod2023  
Letter to the people of God



"It is 'trust' that gives us the audacity and inner freedom that we experienced, not hesitating to freely and humbly express our convergences, differences, desires and questions."

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
THE LARGEST  
CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION  
IN THE WORLD.**



Author, historian (atheist) Tom Holland

While studying the ancient world, Holland writes, he realized something. Simply, the ancients were cruel, and their values utterly foreign to him. The Spartans routinely murdered "imperfect" children. The bodies of slaves were treated like outlets for the physical pleasure of those with power. Infanticide was common. The poor and the weak had no rights.

How did we get from there to here? It was Christianity, Holland writes. Christianity revolutionized sex and marriage, demanding that men control themselves and prohibiting all forms of rape. Christianity confined sexuality within monogamy. (It is ironic, Holland notes, that these are now the very standards for which Christianity is derided.) Christianity elevated women. In short, Christianity utterly transformed the world.





What would it look like if the disciples valued worship and community like many believers do their church gatherings?

Peter - "My mother-in-law came in for the weekend."

Andrew - "I was up kinda late last night."

James (the son of Zebedee) - "Really needed some 'me' time."

John - "I was there last week. Besides, I'm not really being fed."

Philip - "Finally had a sunny day to hit the lake."

Bartholomew - "Had brunch scheduled with my Uncle Zed."

Thomas - "I doubt it would have been any good today."

Matthew - "I had to get my taxes done." James - "My dad (Alphaeus) wanted to fish today."

Thaddaeus - "The kids needed a rest day."

Simon - "I didn't hear my alarm. Because I didn't set it. Because I don't have one."

Judas - "Getting tired of hearing the same old message."

Going to church is not about checking a religious box off your "make God happy" list. It's about being invested in the lives of others. Participating in the mission of the gospel. Loving and being loved. Following Jesus was never meant to be a solo experience. Pull up a seat at the table. It is a level table and there is room for all of us.

They once asked Padre Pio what was the problem with clapping at Mass.

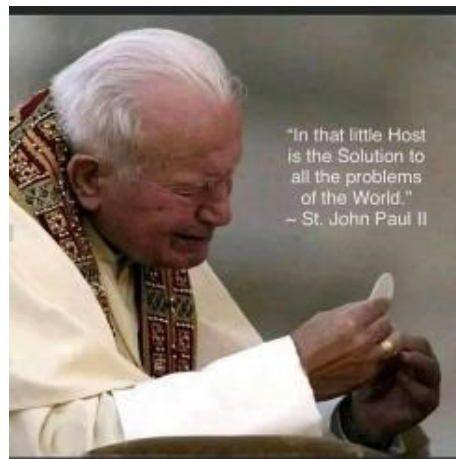
He answered, "In Calvary there were those applauding Christ's death: soldiers and demons."



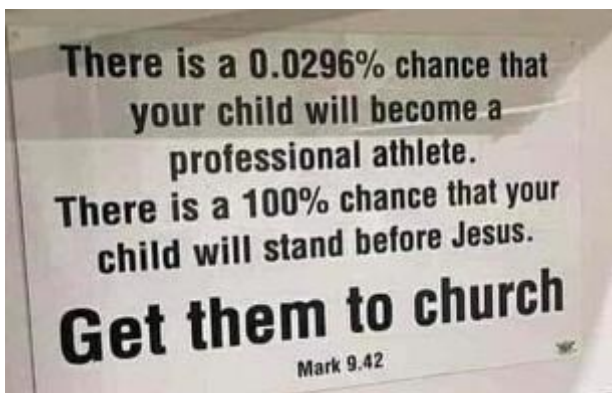
You're right, that's not a golden calf, that's a statue of the Virgin Mary. Jesus is the King, and per Jewish tradition, the King's mother, Virgin Mary, is the Queen. Kneeling before a queen is not idolatry or worship, it's honor.



"In that little Host is the Solution to all the problems of the World."  
~ St. John Paul II



There is a 0.0296% chance that your child will become a professional athlete.  
There is a 100% chance that your child will stand before Jesus.  
**Get them to church**  
Mark 9.42



"IF I WERE NOT A CATHOLIC, AND WERE LOOKING FOR THE TRUE CHURCH IN THE WORLD TODAY, I WOULD LOOK FOR THE CHURCH WHICH THE WORLD HATES."

VEN. FULTON J. SHEEN





# Priest names 13 simple ways the laity can make Mass more reverent

We all want a more reverent Mass. But how often do we in the pews reflect on how WE can make that happen? Fr. Jerry Pokorsky suggests:

**1. Arrive on time.** We all run late at times, but when we consistently run late, we have a problem. The mandatory count of Mass attendees recently revealed that over 30 percent of the people come late to Mass, usually skipping the Penitential Rite (“I confess” and “Lord have mercy”). From a statistical perspective, the high rate suggests habit. Reasons vary, of course. We have become so familiar with the Mass that we’ve grown casual about it. None of us would habitually come late to movie theaters. The whole Mass is the perfect worship of God. Arrive in time to invoke the Holy Spirit to help you participate worthily. Coming on time is sometimes all we can manage, but arriving on time is to be late.

**2. Genuflect before entering the pew.** If in doubt, observe the youngsters. Sometimes the best an oldster with creaky bones can do is to bow respectfully.

**3. Maintain reverent silence and subdued speech.** Upon entering a church, greeting family and friends with discretion is customary. We smile, say good morning under our breath, and so on. There is always room for such courtesies. But there is a problem when we hear a crescendo of chit-chatting, oblivious to the tabernacle and people praying.

**4. Vocalize the responses in rhythm.** During Mass, we vocalize a conversation with God. With every ritual, maintaining attention is difficult. So it helps when we correctly and humbly respond (e.g., “And with your spirit”). If our lips are closed when we’re supposed to vocalize prayer, the silence indicates that our minds are probably distracted.

**5. Listen attentively during the readings.** You can check your text messages and clip your fingernails later. (We’ve seen it all!)

**6. Think about the structure of the Mass.** It takes a lifetime to understand the splendor of the Mass. We prepare for Holy Communion by confessing our sins, glorifying God, and listening to his word. We affirm our faith in the Creed, beg God for favors, and offer him bread and wine, the work of our hands. We enter into the re-presentation of the cross and the Resurrection, and we receive his body, blood, soul, and divinity. He blesses us and sends us into the world to continue his

work of redemption.

**7. Control your kids.** Every parent knows that controlling a riotous baby is tricky. There is a difference between a child chirping and a temper tantrum. Know when to hold them, know when to fold them, know when to walk away, and know when to run.

**8. Focus on the consecration.** The consecration of the Mass is the central sacred event. The ringing of the bells wakes us from our slumber and reminds us to pay attention to our Lord’s return, his real presence under the appearances of bread and wine, and his holy cross of sacrifice.

**9. Recite the Lord’s Prayer with devotion.** Jesus speaks to us directly and personally during the Our Father. We place his words on our lips. The Lord’s Prayer is the perfect prayer because Jesus crafted it.

**10. Before Communion,** focus on the words of John the Baptist. When the priest raises the host and directs us to “behold the Lamb of God,” all activity should stop. Gaze upon the host with devotion. Do not use the sacred Moment as a distraction to rush to the lavatories. Even the ushers bend a knee.

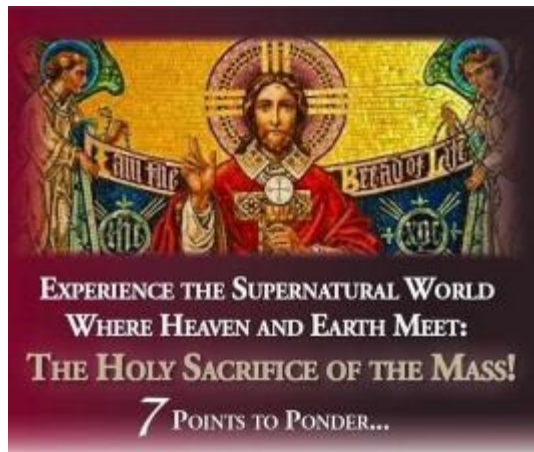
**11. Approach Communion with reverence.** The priest works hard during the distribution of Communion as you pray. Give him his space. As a priest makes a special delivery in the congregation, respectfully hold your position. There is no need to beat him as if you’re outracing traffic on the Interstate. Be polite.

**12. Receive Communion with devotion, and stay in your lane.** The rail provides an efficient way to distribute Communion . . . but you must play your part. Stay in your lane with good posture. You know the options: kneel or stand, receive on the hand or the tongue. Communion on the tongue while kneeling is the best option, if possible. But sometimes it’s not possible. When receiving on the tongue, moisten your tongue, tilt your head, and close your eyes. Open eyes often cause you to lunge for the host. The priest values his fingers and hygiene. When receiving on the hand, be graceful. Please don’t clutch or grab. In both cases, be polite. Keep your elbows off the table, just as your mother taught you. Do not extend into the lane of the priest with your hands and arms.

**13. Say “amen” as if you mean it.** When we receive Holy Communion, by responding

“amen,” we not only acknowledge our reception of Jesus, but renew our baptismal promises and our belief in all that the Church teaches: Creed, commandments, sacraments, and prayer. Every “amen” we make throughout the Mass also assents to the recited prayers. Use vocal cords unless you’re hoarse. In the meantime, expect priests to celebrate Mass with devotion and do their part as good examples. Indulge their quirks and failures as they indulge yours—up to a point. (If they’re messing with the Mass, clobber them . . . metaphorically.) “Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.”

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/13-steps-to-a-good-mass-laity-edition>



**1. BECOME A STUDENT OF THE HOLY MASS:**

Enter into the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass to adore, atone, petition and give thanks.

**2. PREPARE YOUR BODY, MIND, AND SPIRIT FOR HOLY MASS:**

Fast from food, drink, and distractions; arrive early for silent prayer.

**3. ALLOW THE PRAYERS, READINGS AND HOMILY TO TOUCH YOUR HEART:**

Imagine the angels at Mass singing the Gloria!

**4. BRING ALL OF YOUR INTENTIONS, NEEDS, AND DESIRES TO GOD AT THE OFFERTORY:**

The Offertory is a time of thoughtful recollection. It is not an intermission!

**5. REMAIN IN PROFOUND AWE AT THE CONSECRATION:**

The Consecration is the time when the angels bring the bread and wine to the altar in heaven.

**6. APPROACH THE COMMUNION RAIL WITH REVERENT AWE:**

Pray as you approach to receive the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ.

**7. AFTER MASS ENDS, SPEND A FEW MOMENTS GIVING THANKS:**

Don't rush out. Say prayers of thanksgiving for the great gift you have received.



# The Lowdown on Lying

Is it okay to lie? To answer, we have to know what lying actually is.

The Catholic tradition takes the Eighth Commandment—"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor"—extremely seriously. Strict condemnations of all kinds of lying can be found from the Fathers of the Church, notably St. Augustine (who wrote two short works on the subject), to the Doctors and the modern Magisterium. The act of lying is *per se malum*: it cannot rightly be done even for a good end.

One reason for this is that lying is contrary to the nature of God, who is Truth. It is of the utmost importance that we can believe what God tells us—both what he reveals about himself and what he promises to those who love and obey him—since this is the basis of the Christian life. God could permit the children of Israel to take others' property, as when the Israelites conquered Canaan, because he is the primary owner of the whole universe. God could permit Abraham to kill Isaac, because all humans born in original sin owe God a life. But he cannot permit anyone to tell a lie.

**Nevertheless, the question of exactly what lying is remains fraught.** God appears to have rewarded the Israelite midwives who lied to Pharaoh to explain their failure to commit infanticide (Exod. 1:19-20). We might read this story as about God rewarding them despite their lying, but it is cases like this that cause the most problems: lying to protect the innocent.

The untruths of drama and fiction have also caused some confusion, but it is generally agreed that a stage play is not a lie, as there is no intention to deceive. Our Lord did not hesitate to use fictional stories to illustrate his teaching, and in presenting these parables, the Evangelists do not seem overly concerned about making disclaimers. It is just obvious that the Parable of the Sower is fiction; it has nothing to do with lying. The existence of conventions and reasonable expectations among an audience is as relevant to the question of telling the truth as the meaning of the words the performer is using, which is set by the way the words are used in a language community.

In a different way, a statement made with the intention to deceive, but that is not actually untrue, may be contrary to justice for a number of reasons, but it is not a lie. If the intention is

to defraud someone or to lead him into some unjust harm, then that is enough to show that the action is wrong. In such cases, we might say that the person we are talking to had the right to know the truth, and you have wronged him by causing confusion. But what if he has no right to know the truth? What if he is demanding information to use unjustly, or something you are under an obligation to keep secret?

The story is told of the great St. Athanasius, on one of the many occasions he was obliged to flee persecution, rowing along a river to escape. Rowing in the opposite direction were a group of people searching for him, who called out: "Where is the heretic Athanasius?" It would have been a lie for him to have replied, "I don't know" or to have given a false location. He replied, "He's not far away" and kept on rowing.

During the English persecution of the late sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the Jesuits became particularly associated with this approach and took it to rather extraordinary extremes. When challenged as to whether they were priests, for example, they knew that it was not just their own safety that was at issue, but that of every family they had stayed with in England—indeed, everyone who had so much as spoken to them.

Missionary priests like St. Robert Southwell and Henry Garnet wrote on the subject of lying, seeking a way to deal with the problem. They developed two related ideas. *Equivocation* is an ambiguous statement; *mental reservation* is an unexpressed qualification to what one is saying. We exercise mental reservation when, asked if we can "spare any change" by a beggar, decide that in the circumstances, it would not be prudent to give him money and say "no," even if we have money on us. We mean more than what we explicitly say: something like "not for you."

Under persecution, a refusal to answer a simple question might be tantamount to an admission of guilt, and Catholic priests in England would go so far as to deny being priests. They could tell themselves that, according to the Protestant theory of the man questioning them, the only true priest was Christ, and since they were not Christ, on the Protestant view, they were not priests. Or they might say "I am not a priest" with the mental qualification "of Apollo."

(Pope Innocent XI put an end to the more

extravagant growths of this line of thinking in 1679, but the debate has not entirely gone away.)

**The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* defines lying** by quoting St. Augustine: "A lie consists in speaking a falsehood with the intention of deceiving" (2482). This leaves open certain possibilities: for example, to say what is not true when there is no intention to deceive, as in a stage play.

We are not bound to tell the whole truth, and indeed such a duty would be impractical. On the contrary, we may be strictly bound to protect secrets, as priests are bound to protect the seal of confession. So in response to an unwarranted enquiry we may say something that is true but either gives a misleading impression or effectively changes the subject. How to do this best is not a matter of morality, but of verbal dexterity.

If the axe-murderer of the popular example is on your doorstep, demanding to know if your friend is at home—and he is—it may seem a bit tough to say that the correct way to deal with the situation is to tell the truth, but to do it in such a clever way as somehow to put the axe-murderer off the scent. We can't have a moral obligation to be cleverer than we are. But we have the same difficulty when trying to save a friend from an unjust lawsuit or a life-threatening car accident.

Morality can alert us to courses of action that are ruled out; it is for us to make the best of the situation, choosing among the courses of action that are not wrong, and employing whatever skills, knowledge, and hard work we can.

<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/the-lowdown-on-lying>

People be lying for no reason





IT HAD TO BE SAID



Grandma: "What u want for Christmas my dear?"

Me: "Nice rims for my car"

Grandma : "Say no more"



The view from my husbands dinner plate



Me after leaving 36 reusable bags at home and the cashier asks if I need to buy one



When I complained to Amazon about a missing parcel they asked me to send photographic evidence.



The meeting was clearly over, yet Brad kept asking questions. Steve's feelings were telling him to punch Brad in the face.



THE WHEELS ON THE BUS....



How can u eat these precious creatures?????



Ted Altizer  
9 mins 11/25/2016 5:43pm

Is this rhetorical or are you looking for recipes??

Parking lot in front of the Laser Eye Surgery Center.



Where did you sit?





