
Granville

Catholic Church Record

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November 1, 2026

Solemnity of All Saints, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish



The Church Triumphant and the Church Suffering ~ United in the Communion of Saints ~

As we turn the calendar to November, the Church offers us two of the most beautiful and significant days in our liturgical year: the Solemnity of All Saints (1 November) and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, or All Souls' Day (2 November). During this month, our Holy Mother the Church lifts our eyes from the daily grind of this world and points them toward eternity. She reminds us of a comforting and powerful reality: the Communion of Saints.

The Church is not just the people sitting in the pews next to each of us at Mass. The Church actually exists in three distinct states. We are the Church Militant, fighting the good fight on earth and striving to remain faithful to God's commandments. Above us is the Church Triumphant, the saints enjoying the glory of heaven. And below us is the Church Suffering, the holy souls in Purgatory being purified before entering God's presence.

On All Saint's Day, we honour the Church Triumphant. This includes the famous saints like St. Joseph,

St. Therese, and St. Peter, but also the countless unknown men and women who lived ordinary lives with extraordinary faith and now gaze upon the face of God. They are our older brothers and sisters in faith. They have fought the same battles, faced the same temptations, and won the ultimate victory. Now, they stand before the throne of Almighty God, interceding for us. We should frequently ask for their prayers, knowing they want nothing more than to see us join them in paradise.

On All Souls' Day, our attention turns to the Church Suffering. The traditional teaching on Purgatory is a magnificent display of God's mercy and justice. Scripture tells us that nothing unclean can enter heaven (Revelation 21:27). Many souls leave this world in a state of grace, meaning they are guaranteed heaven, but they still carry the stain of venial sins or unhealthy attachments to the things of this world. Purgatory is the final cleansing of God's love, burning away these imperfections so the soul is ready to endure the blinding light of His glory.

The holy souls in Purgatory can no longer earn merit or pray for themselves. They are entirely dependent on us, the Church Militant. This makes our prayers for the dead a great act of charity. It is our spiritual duty to assist them in their purification. When we fulfil our Sunday Mass obligation and offer our participation in the Holy Sacrifice for them, when we pray the Rosary, or when we offer up our daily struggles, we hasten their journey to heaven. In return, once they reach their heavenly home, they will intercede powerfully for us.

This November, make a special effort to remember the dead. Visit a local cemetery, seek to gain the indulgences offered by the Church, and have Masses offered for your deceased family members and loved one.

Let this month be a powerful reminder that our ultimate goal is heaven, and that we are walking together down a common path, united in the glorious Communion of all the Heavenly Saints.

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Assistant Priest

Rev. Fr. Joseph Nguyen

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

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T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

Sam Eid, Sharlene Eid, Annette Akkary,
Paulo Lasalo

Flower Arranging

Samar Rjeily and Maroun Rjeily

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 7:15 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 2:

C.Buultjens, N.Chidiac, P.Zaiter

Readers

Vigil Rosette Chidiac, Racquel La Rosa,
Rebecca Hanson

10:00 a.m. Sisters, Jasmine Miranda,
Merlin Sandhiya

Children's Liturgy

Armani Barakat and Victor Liu

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy
Farrugia, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato, Thomas
Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Terese Jones,
Therese Khalil, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Zoe Mrzljak,
Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy
O'Connor, Don Provest, Ricardo Tognini, Sam Wardan



Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.

IN MEMORIAM

We prayerfully remember throughout November in a
special way, all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, and in
particular, all those listed in the parish's Book of
Remembrance.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them
May they rest in peace. Amen
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*



Reverence for the Holy Mass:

The Importance of Punctuality and a State of Grace

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the most sacred and profound event we will ever experience on earth. It is not merely a community gathering; it is Calvary made present. In this holy hour, heaven meets earth, and Our Lord Jesus Christ offers Himself completely for our salvation. Because this sacred mystery is so great, our outward actions and our punctuality must clearly show our deep, inward respect for God. When we truly understand who is waiting for us upon the altar, our desire to be present and prepared changes how we approach attending Holy Mass.

We are called to be seated, quiet and focused, long before the opening prayers begin. Arriving early is not just about being polite; it is a strict spiritual necessity. We need time to transition from the rush of our daily lives into the sacred silence of the church. Rushing through the doors as Mass starts distracts our fellow parishioners, disrupts the peace of the sanctuary, and leaves our own minds unsettled. We need those precious, quiet minutes before Mass to kneel, leave the world behind, examine our consciences, and prepare our souls to welcome the King of kings.

The Church has always emphasised that we must be present from the very beginning of the liturgy. Out of deep reverence for the Blessed Sacrament, the rule remains clear: anyone who arrives after the Gospel is read must not go forward to receive Holy Communion. The early prayers and the readings from Scripture are absolutely essential to prepare



our hearts. They are not optional introductions. Taking part in these foundational prayers ensures our minds are focused and our souls are adequately humbled. To miss them is to miss the vital preparation required to receive Our Lord worthily.

Furthermore, we must always approach the altar properly disposed. We must never receive Our Lord if we are aware of grave sin and have not first gone to Confession. Receiving Holy Communion is an intimate union with the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ, and it strictly demands that our souls be clean and in a state of grace. If we arrive too late or are not spiritually prepared, the most respectful action is to remain in our pew, make a spiritual communion, and simply adore Him. Let us make a renewed commitment to honour Our Saviour. By arriving early, praying in silence, and ensuring our souls are completely prepared before approaching the altar, we give God the respect, time, and adoration He truly deserves.

Quick Guide for Holy Mass

Arrive Early: *Be seated before the opening prayers begin.*

Prepare in Silence: *Dedicate the time before Mass to quiet prayer.*

The Gospel Rule: *Do not receive Holy Communion if you arrive after the Gospel is proclaimed.*

State of Grace: *Approach the altar to receive Our Lord only if you are free from grave sin.*

Adore from the Pew: *If running late or spiritually unprepared, remain seated and make a spiritual communion.*

Important Notice Regarding Saturday Vigil Mass and Confession Times

As we conclude the temporary Mass schedules introduced during the pandemic, our parish is making permanent timetable adjustments.

Because the earlier Vigil Mass time was so warmly received, the Saturday Vigil Mass at Holy Trinity Church will move to an earlier time of 5:00 p.m. (previously 6:00 p.m.) commencing next Saturday, 7 November.

Additionally, to assist with your spiritual preparation, the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) will now be available weekly at Holy Trinity Church prior to the Saturday Mass, from 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m., also starting on 7 November.

Please note that the temporary 4:30 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass at Holy Family Church will conclude, with its final Mass celebrated this weekend on Saturday, 31 October.

Mass of Remembrance at Holy Family Church

Join us on Saturday, 7 November, for the 9:15 a.m. Holy Mass at Holy Family Church to pray for the repose of the souls of our deceased parishioners and family members.

You are invited to bring a photograph of your departed loved ones to place on a table of remembrance near the sanctuary. This is a fitting way for us to honour those we mourn as a parish. To allow space for all, please ensure your photograph is no larger than standard A4 size.

Please gather with us to commend the faithful departed to the mercy of God, praying they may safely enter the eternal joy of the heavenly kingdom.

May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

First Thursday Holy Mass in Latin

This Thursday, being the first Thursday of the month, Holy Mass in Latin will be said at Holy Trinity Church at 7:15 p.m.

The first Thursday of the month is traditionally offered as an act of reparation to the wounds of Our Lord and in honour of the Blessed Sacrament and as a day to pray for Priests in honour of Our Lord Jesus Christ, High and Eternal Priest.

First Friday Mass, Rosary and Adoration

Join us this Friday at Holy Trinity Church for our regular First Friday of the month devotions in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in reparation for the sins of humanity. Confessions will be heard from 6:15 p.m., the Rosary will be prayed at 6:30 p.m., Holy Mass will be offered at 7:00 p.m. followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:30 p.m.

Plenary Indulgence for the Souls in Purgatory

From Sunday November 1 to Sunday November 8, the Church gives us a wonderful gift: a special Plenary Indulgence that can immediately free one soul from Purgatory each day.

To gain this great grace, the following conditions must be met:

- * Visit a Cemetery and say a prayer for the dead souls there.
- * Go to Confession (once in this time covers all 8 days).
- * Receive Holy Communion each day you seek the indulgence.
- * Pray one Our Father and one Hail Mary for the Pope's intentions.
- * Have the sincere desire to turn away from all sin, even small ones.

Let us pray for the souls who need our help to reach Heaven!

November Mass Intentions for the Souls in Purgatory

Envelopes for the parish's Book of Remembrance are now available at the doors of the church.

The Book of Remembrance is a special way to honour and pray for the repose of the souls of our beloved dead throughout the month of November.

If you wish to have the names of your deceased loved ones inscribed in the book, please take an envelope, clearly write the names, and place the sealed envelope in the clearly marked boxes located near the church doors.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

MASS FOR THE HOLY SOULS

Please offer Mass for the Family,
Friends, Relatives and Benefactors of:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Amount \$ _____

*It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead,
that they may be freed from their sins.*
11 Macchabees 12:46

November Masses

Holy Mass and Blessing of the Graves at Rookwood Cemetery

Save the date and join us on Saturday, 7 November for Holy Mass at 11:00 a.m. at Rookwood Cemetery, and where we will visit the graves of the past Parish Priests of Granville, bless the graves and pray for the repose of their souls.

For those who would like to attend but are unable to drive themselves or to arrange transport, the parish bus will be available to drive people to and from the cemetery. For those who would like a spot on the bus, please contact the parish office for further details.

Please be aware that there are limited places available on the bus and we may not be able to accommodate all requests for transport.



All Souls' Day



Monday, 2nd November



Holy Trinity Church

8:15am



Holy Family Church

6:00pm





HOLY MASS AND BLESSING OF THE GRAVES OF
Priests at Rookwood

Visitation of the graves of past Priests of Granville
at Rookwood Cemetery including Holy Mass at St. Michael's
Chapel followed by the blessing of the graves.

11:00 a.m. | Saturday, 7th November



*Enter Rookwood Cemetery on the corner
of East St. and Victoria St. East, Lidcombe
then continue down Necropolis Drive
until you get to the roundabout,
then turn left into the roundabout,
then the first left to St. Michael the Archangel Chapel*





AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED - RED NOVEMBER

The Blood *of* Martyrs: Tracing the History *of* Christian Persecution

As we begin November, a month when the Church traditionally remembers the Holy Souls, our parish once again joins Aid to the Church in Need in observing "Red November." Throughout this month, we dedicate our prayers to persecuted Christians worldwide. To understand why, we must look at the history of the Church. Persecution is not a new problem or a tragedy confined to history books. It began with Our Lord, Jesus Christ, upon the Cross. He warned His disciples "If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you" (John 15:20). From the beginning, being Christian meant readiness to suffer for the Truth.

In the early days of the Church, the Roman Empire demanded that Christians worship pagan gods and burn incense to the emperor. Because the early Christians refused to put the world before God, they were thrown to wild beasts, crucified, and martyred in the arenas. We still invoke many of these heroic individuals - like Saints Felicity, Perpetua, Agatha, Lucy, Agnes and Cecilia - in the Roman Canon of the Mass. Yet, instead of destroying the Church, these brave souls caused it to flourish. As the early Christian writer Tertullian famously said, "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church." The unyielding courage of these early saints became the ultimate witness to the Resurrection. Their ultimate sacrifice built the very foundation of the faith we hold dear today.

As the centuries passed, the attacks against the Church did not

stop; they merely changed their location and methods. During the English Reformation, great Saints like Thomas More and John Fisher chose public execution rather than betray the Catholic faith and the Holy Sacraments. In the great missionary eras, countless priests and religious gave their lives to bring the Gospel to dangerous and hostile lands. Moving into the twentieth century, millions of Christians suffered terribly under the godless systems of Communism and Nazism. Saints like Maximilian Kolbe offered their lives in the starvation bunkers of Auschwitz to save another. Astonishingly, more Christians died for their faith in the last century than in all the nineteen centuries prior combined.

Today, violent persecution still rages across the Middle East, Africa, and parts of Asia. Priests are kidnapped, historic churches are burned to the ground, and everyday believers are imprisoned simply for owning a Bible, teaching the catechism to their children, or wearing a crucifix. Aid to the Church in Need works tirelessly to support these suffering communities, keeping the light of Christ alive in the darkest and most dangerous regions of the globe.

However, we must not fall into a dangerous trap. It is very easy for us here in Australia to mistakenly believe that persecution is something that only happens in far-away countries. This is a false sense of security, and we must absolutely not become spiritually lax. We are not safe from persecution in Australia.

Here, the attacks on our faith often look different, but they are intensely real and growing stronger every year. It is what the Church calls a "white martyrdom." It starts quietly when the secular world mocks our traditional Catholic values regarding the family, marriage, and the sanctity of human life. It happens when laws are passed that pressure doctors, nurses, and teachers to choose between their livelihoods and their God-given conscience. When modern society tells us to keep our faith strictly "private" and demands we publicly accept what the Church clearly teaches is sinful, that is the seed of persecution taking root in our own backyard.

If we become comfortable and forget how to defend our Catholic faith in these everyday matters, how will we ever stand firm if, God forbid, harder trials come to our shores? We cannot afford to be lukewarm or indifferent. Christ calls us to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, no matter the cost.

This Red November, let us all wake up from spiritual slumber. As we remember the glorious martyrs of our past and the violently persecuted Christians of the present, let us ask Almighty God for the immense grace to be bold. We must pray fervently - especially the Holy Rosary - for those facing violence overseas, but we must equally pray for the courage to live as unapologetic, faithful Catholics here in Australia, ready to bear the cross whatever form it may take.



A Mass of Remembrance



Saturday 7th November



9:15am Mass



Holy Family Church, East Granville



This Mass will be offered for the repose of the souls of all our deceased parishioners and family members.



Parishioners are invited to bring a photo of their loved one for this particular Mass.



HOLY MASS IN LATIN

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

7:15 P.M.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Cnr. Randle St. and Bennalong St. Granville





AN EVENING WITH THE

Lord



6:15pm - 6:45pm: Confession



6:30pm: Holy Rosary



7:00pm: Holy Mass followed by Adoration

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Holy Trinity Church



Cnr. Randle St. and Bennalong St. Granville

Saints & STUFF

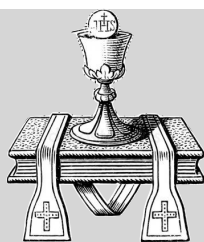
St. Marguerite Bays

On the Solemnity of All Saints, we hear the Beatitudes, Christ's blueprint for true happiness and eternal life. Jesus elevates the meek, the merciful, and the pure of heart, reminding us that everyday holiness often blooms in quiet, uncelebrated lives. A beautiful example of this hidden sanctity is St. Marguerite Bays, a 19th-century Swiss dressmaker and laywoman.

St. Marguerite never joined a religious order or achieved worldly fame. Instead, she lived the Beatitudes from her family's humble farmhouse. Working daily as a seamstress, she dedicated her free time to serving her parish, catechising children, and visiting the sick and dying in her village. After being miraculously cured of advanced cancer, she later received the stigmata, bearing the painful, hidden wounds of Christ with profound joy and patience away from the public eye.

Canonised in 2019, St. Marguerite's deeply ordinary yet radiant life proves that the Beatitudes are not reserved for the elite. Her inspiring witness challenges us to seek true sanctity exactly where we are, transforming our daily labour and quiet sufferings into a powerful offering of love to God.

*St. Marguerite Bays,
Pray for us!*



MASS MATTERS

CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

Called to Heavenly Glory

956 The intercession of the saints. 'Being more closely united to Christ, those who dwell in heaven fix the whole Church more firmly in holiness... They do not cease to intercede with the Father for us, as they proffer the merits which they acquired on earth through the one mediator between God and men, Christ Jesus...

957 Communion with the saints. 'It is not merely by the title of example that we cherish the memory of those in heaven; we seek, rather, that by this devotion to the whole Church the exercise of fraternal charity may be strengthened in the Spirit. Exactly as Christian communion among our fellow pilgrims brings us closer to Christ, so our communion with the saints joins us to Christ...

1717 The Beatitudes depict the countenance of Jesus Christ and portray his charity. They express the vocation of the faithful associated with the glory of his Passion and Resurrection; they shed light on the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian life; they are the paradoxical promises that sustain hope in the midst of tribulations...

CATHOLIC Trivia

The 400 Year Old Secret of Chartreuse

When you think of top-secret, heavily guarded formulas, you probably imagine the recipe for Coca-Cola or military codes. However, one of the most fiercely protected secrets in the world actually belongs to a quiet order of Catholic monks in the French Alps.

Since the early 17th century, the Carthusian monks have produced Chartreuse, a world-famous, naturally green liqueur. The legendary recipe, originating from an ancient manuscript gifted to the order in 1605, is an incredibly complex blend of exactly one hundred and thirty different plants, herbs, roots, and flowers.

The formula is so highly prized and meticulously guarded that only two monks in the entire global order are permitted to know the full recipe at any given time. These two designated brothers are uniquely responsible for selecting and mixing the botanical ingredients. To ensure the ancient knowledge is never lost to a sudden tragedy, these two monks are strictly forbidden from ever travelling in the same vehicle together!

This fascinating tradition reminds us that some of the greatest treasures in life require patience, silence, and careful preservation. So if you ever enjoy a glass of this vibrant liqueur, raise a quiet toast to those brilliantly secretive monks!

~ Relics in the Altar and the Cloud of Witnesses ~

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints, a perfect time to look closely at our altar. Did you know that embedded within Catholic altars is a small stone containing the relics (usually bone fragments) of saints and martyrs?

This ancient tradition dates back to the early Church, when Christians celebrated Mass underground in the catacombs over the tombs of the martyrs. Placing relics in the altar reminds us that the Mass is never celebrated alone. As the priest offers the Eucharistic sacrifice, we are surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses." Our earthly liturgy joins directly with the heavenly liturgy. We worship alongside the angels, the saints, and all the holy men and women who have gone before us.

Solemnity of All Saints

The Readings

Introit

Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints,
at whose festival the Angels rejoice
and praise the Son of God.

First Reading

The Book of the Apocalypse
(Revelation 7:2-4. 9-14)

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

Responsorial Psalm
(Ps 23:1-6. R. see v.6)

℟. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. ℟.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. ℟.

He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. ℟.

Second Reading
First Letter of St John
(1 John 3:1-3)

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

Gospel Acclamation
(Matthew 11:28)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened,
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel
The Gospel of Matthew
(Matthew 5:1-12)

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

Communio
(Matthew 5:8-10)

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

