

## What's the Purpose of All Saints Day?

Ever wondered, "*Why do we celebrate All Saints Day?*" It's like this: if we understand the "why," we're way more likely to actually celebrate it in a way that matters. So, here's the deal:

### A Little History

Way back in the 4th century, the Church started honoring saints and martyrs as a way to remember their amazing examples. Pope Gregory III officially set November 1st as the day to celebrate *all* saints, those super cool people who lived for Christ and showed the rest of us how it's done. It's a reminder that living a holy life is, in fact, possible—and worth it.

In a world where everyone's rushing after fame or fortune, the saints show us there's a deeper happiness out there. They didn't care about likes or followers; they were following Jesus. All Saints Day is a reminder that *we're called to something more.*

### What We're Called To

#### Call to Exist

Our existence isn't an accident. *St. Catherine of Siena* said, "***Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire!***" Every single one of us is here for a purpose, made in God's image to shine His love. All Saints Day tells us: *you matter*, and you're made for more than just existing. Just like a flashlight shines in the dark, you're meant to bring God's light to the world.

#### Call to Holiness

Holiness isn't just for the few. It's for *you*. *St. Francis of Assisi* might say, "***Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.***" The saints were regular people who relied on God's grace to do amazing things. All Saints Day is a reminder that you, too, can be a saint in your own way. God doesn't call you to be someone you're not; He calls you to be holy in your own unique, awesome way.

#### Call to Love

Love is at the heart of everything the saints did. *St. Thérèse of Lisieux* said, "Do small things with great love." The saints didn't all go around doing big, flashy things—they often did small things with big love. All Saints Day challenges us to love like Christ, even in simple ways. It's a day to remember that loving others can be revolutionary.

#### Call to Be with God in Heaven

This life isn't the end game; we're made for Heaven. *St. Augustine* said, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in You." Heaven is our ultimate destination, and the saints show us that it's possible to get there. All Saints Day reminds us to keep our eyes on the prize: eternal life with God. Like travelers on a road trip, the saints had their sights set on Heaven, and they made it. They show us that we can, too.

#### Why Celebrate This Day?

So, why is this day important? It's not just a "holy day obligation"—it's a celebration of who we're called to be. In a world that's often pretty confused about purpose, happiness, and love, the saints show us that God's got the answers. They remind us that life is an adventure with God, and we're called to be more than we often imagine.

This All Saints Day, let's think about the saints not just as people in paintings or statues but as real, relatable people who lived with purpose. And maybe, just maybe, we can follow in their footsteps—because that's exactly what we're called to do.