November 1st 2026 Sunday Feast of All Saints – Year A Matthew 5:1-12

5-1 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His
disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them.
He said:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom
of heaven.
11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil
against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

➢ **Read and re-read** – out loud and slowly the Gospel. ➢ **Meditate -** on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.	➢ **Pray -** Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition. ➢ **Action** – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).

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In this Sunday's gospel we have the Sermon on the Mount. The word 'happy' appears nine times in this gospel. This is often translated as 'Blessed'. Jesus is speaking of facts of life not just teachings. All the beatitudes speak of our inner dispositions which are reflected in our daily words and actions. They are ideals of human behaviour at every level of our lives. At any stage in our lives we will find that one of the beatitudes either gives us joy or maybe even sometimes upset.

When have you experienced a deep and blessed experience through the better understanding of a particular beatitude which you may have been avoiding?

Prayer:

Thank You Lord for the peacemakers of this world which are now more needed than ever. They help us to look at others with compassion and an open heart.

Forgive us Lord as a church for thinking we are superior to others and feed our ego by trying to be popular with those on our side rather than reaching out for the 'lost sheep' which is what Jesus requires of us .

Help us Lord to be 'Pure of Heart' and free from ego-centred-ness. Let us look at people with open hearts and compassion which will help peace and joy to come into our very troubled world .