

**Christ Child Catholic Church**  
***Dedicated to Growth in Christ and to the  
Challenges of Loving Service***

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**All Saints**  
**November 1, 2020**

**First reading Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14**

**The Seal of Israel**

At this point in Revelation, there remains just one more seal to break open on the scroll containing the final chapters in God's plan of salvation. John, witness and recorder of the vision, sees a flurry of activity as the time nears for the breaking of the seventh seal.

This book was most likely written in the final decade of the first century. Its original purpose was probably to encourage a particular Christian community during the persecutions encouraged by the Roman emperor Domitian (81-96 C.E.). But the message of this book is applicable to the faithful of any age.

The world! Throughout the book, the scene shifts between heaven and earth. In heaven, John sees the divine court celebrating God's plan of salvation; on earth, John sees this plan being played out in history.

The saints! But before anything is allowed to happen, God directs that the faithful are to be shielded from eternal destruction. The first group of faithful represents the new Israel (a multiple of the twelve disciples); the second group represents the countless number of faithful from all nations of the world.

**"These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their**

**robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb."**

*Lord, this is the people that long to see your face!*

**Second reading first Letter of Saint John 3:1-3**

**The Children of God**

The great dignity of Christians is that they are in a real sense sharers in God's life. This is due to the Father's generous love.

When Christians finally see God, they will be transformed into an even higher form of existence. This destiny motivates them to keep themselves "pure." As Matthew 5:8 reminds us, those who are pure of heart will see God.

**The Epistle of John tells us that we are called to be saints.** The Second Vatican Council spoke of the "universal call to holiness."

Holiness gives us true happiness, makes us blessed. The Beatitudes of today's Gospel show us how to practice the holiness that will make us happy.

**The gospel Matthew 5: 1-12**

**The Beatitudes**

**Happiness according to Jesus**

Jesus revealed eight characteristics that run contrary to our current ideas about happiness but describe the inner joy that can be experienced by those who would follow Him. Those who live in this way are blessed.

**The poor in spirit!** The humble! Those with destitute hearts sense their spiritual need and seek after God. They have the advantage –and the great joy- of being able to cry out to God for help.

**Those who mourn!** The hurting! The one who weeps over the pains of life can be confident of God's healing and comfort. The Greek word comforted translated is also used to describe the ministry of the Holy Spirit in our sadness, the Holy Spirit will move us to joy.

**The meek!** The harnessed! Meekness is not weakness but power under control. It implies a humble acceptance of one's lowly position before God. By trusting in Him, the meek will inherit the blessings of God's fulfilled promises.

**Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness!**

The hungry! These people seek to justice and holiness, and most importantly, God in whose presence "is fullness of joy."

**The merciful!** The helpers! For Christians, mercy is a Spirit-led ability to manifest practical, compassionate, and cheerful love toward those suffering. The merciful will obtain mercy and find true happiness in being merciful to others.

**The pure in heart!** The holy! These people have guileless motives, holy thoughts, and a clean conscience. In scripture, those who are most holy are also most joyful!

**The peacemakers!** The healers! The word peacemakers translated comes from a verb meaning "to join together." It pictures two opposing forces that are now being reconciled. Peacemakers experience joy and excitement as they help others reconcile with God and with one another.

**Those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake!** The harassed! Persecution is suffering wrongfully-being punished for being righteous. Although suffering is never fun, those who remain faithful through it are blessed to be identified with Christ.

**We all are called to holiness. Today we celebrate those who have given us the example of holiness, the famous and the ordinary people who we call saints.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

By request or appointment

**Anointing of the Sick**

Celebrated biannually at Mass or individually call for an appointment

**For Pregnancy Support**

Birthright 408-241-8444 or 800-550-4900

**PRAYER REQUESTS Can be sent to [christchildprayerline@gmail.com](mailto:christchildprayerline@gmail.com)**

**Every Saturday we pray the ROSARY together in the church at 4:30 pm. Please come to pray for our families, the Church and our Country!**

**MASS INTENTIONS Oct. 31 – Nov. 6**

**Saturday 5:00 p.m. + Jon Kelly**  
**Sunday 10:00 a.m. + Martina Durham**  
**Monday 9:00 a.m. All Souls**  
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. + Judith Ann Hammond  
+ Mary Frangione  
Thursday 9:00 a.m. + Irene Ann Miller  
Friday 9:00 a.m. + Ruth McCormick

**The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Giving at Greenfield is not going VIRTUAL!**

**Most of you may have received our request to sign up for a Greenfield family this week. Our friends in Greenfield could use our help more than ever! If you can help in any way, please fill out the Google form and send it to me ASAP. I hope to have family information early in November and I'd love to match you up with a family. There are other ways to participate including a financial donation, gift cards, or helping me shop and wrap gifts. I am concerned we might not have enough participation to adopt our normal 50 families. It is very important that I hear from you ASAP.**

**God bless, Karen Joesten 408-375-0984**  
[karengjoesten@gmail.com](mailto:karengjoesten@gmail.com)

**Religious Education!**

**This year we have to be at HOME with parents, the Parish will be there to help you with material and work.**

**Maria Del Carmen Madrigal**

**Please Call 650 793-4520**

**"Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father." Matthew 18:19.**

**The commemoration of All Souls** is rooted in the Church's strong conviction that we, the living have a serious responsibility in charity to pray for those who have died but who must yet complete the purification every human being needs to be able to enjoy the vision of God.