

Prayer Service for The Feast of All Souls.

November 2nd.

Leader: We pray for family, friends, relations and neighbours who have died. We ask God to bring them to Heaven so that they can be with God and the saints forever. We remember them especially during the month of November.

You will need:

- A Remembrance Tree __either a bare branch standing in a pot or vase or the outline of a tree or branch drawn on a piece of card.
- One prayer leaf for each person. (see templates)These should be completed before the Prayer Service begins and placed on the Remembrance Tree. One child from each class or group can keep their prayer leaf and put it on the tree during the service.
- A hole- puncher and some string to attach the prayer leaves to the tree.
- Eight children to read
- One child from each class/group to place their prayer leaf on the Remembrance Tree.



Sacred Space

- Violet cloth.
- Bible open at 1.Thessalonians 4:(13-18)
- Candle.
- Crucifix



Opening Song: Remember Them. (Alive-O 2,3,6,-Term 1)

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us begin with our Morning Prayer.

All: Father in heaven, you love me,

You are with me night and day.

I want to love you always

in all I do and say.

I'll try to please you Father.

Bless me through the day. Amen

Leader: We gather together today to remember all those we knew and loved who have died. Earlier we wrote their names on prayer leaves and these now hang on our Remembrance Tree. We invite one person from each class/group to come forward one by one, and place their leaves on the tree, representing all of our prayers for those who have died.

(Reflective music may be played during this time)

Leader: While it may be sad for us to think about people who have died, we know that Jesus brought us Good News. Let us listen to that Good News now.

Reader 1: *A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians.*

We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for all those who love Jesus. When they die, God will bring them with him. When we die we will meet the Lord in heaven, and stay with him forever.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Together, we pray for those who have died. The response to each prayer is “May the light of Christ shine on them.”

All: May the light of Christ shine on them.

Reader 2: For all grandparents who have died. (Response)

Reader 3: For all parents who have died. (Response)

Reader 4: For all past teachers in this school who have died. (Response)

Reader 5: For all past priests of our parish who have died. (Response)

Reader 6: For those who have died and have no one to remember them.
(Response)

Reader 7: For all those whose names are included on our Remembrance Tree.
(Response)

Leader: We know that Jesus prayed constantly to his father in heaven. He asked us to pray to God the Father too. And so, as Jesus asked us we dare to say:

All: Our Father...../ Á r nAthair.....

Leader: Let us pray:

Loving God,

We thank you for the lives of our loved ones who have died.

We ask you to care for those who are missing them at this time.

May we always remember your promise that, one day we will all be together in heaven.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Reader 8:

Poem/ Resurrection

The autumn leaves were laid to rest
But now the trees are green,
And signs that God brings all to life
Throughout the world are seen.

And Jesus is alive, they say,

And death is not the end.

We rise again in heaven`s light

With Jesus as our friend.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Closing Song: “ Close to You” (You Tube version with video by Marilla Ness.

This can be shown on the I.W.B.



