

Anglicans have continued to pray for the departed since the Reformation but the celebration of All Souls became fixed in popular practice only after the Great War (1914-18). Anglicanism looks to the practice of the Early Church and the edited article below from *Aleteia.org* describes some of the practice of the Early Church.



**Prayer for the Dead in the Early Church** from *Aleteia.org*

Aside from the New Testament itself and some of the early letters of the Church Fathers, the catacombs are the oldest witness to the Christian faith. The oldest of them, the Catacombs of Domitilla, whose uncle was the Emperor Domitian, dates back to the 2nd century. According to some scholars, the last book to be written in the New Testament—the Gospel of John—was composed during Domitian’s reign. Those years also coincide with one of the earliest Fathers, Clement, a pope whose epistle dates back to this period. The inscriptions and art in the catacombs thus offer a window into the mind and heart of the very early Church, showing how the faith that was preached in the gospels and epistles was lived out by the first Christians.

The catacombs are replete with inscriptions that offer abbreviated prayers known as acclamations for the dead. Here are some of them:

- Pax tibi | Peace to you.*
- Aeterna lux tibi | Eternal light for you.*
- Pax tibi cum angelis | Peace for you with the angels.*
- Pax tibi cum sanctis | Peace for you with the saints.*
- Deus tibi refrigeret | May God refresh you.*

Some of the inscriptions are more explicit in asking for prayers for the dead:

- Ut quisquis de fratribus legerit, roget Deum ut sancto et innocenti spiritu ad Deum suscipiatur.*
- If any of the brethren reads this, let him ask that this holy and innocent soul may be received by God.*

How sure can we be that early Christians really prayed for the dead? Are these short invocations enough? Fortunately there is testimony outside of the catacombs that validates their message. One is Tertullian, who lived from around 155 to 240. In *On Monogamy*, he writes the following in reference to widows:

- Indeed, she prays for his soul, and requests refreshment for him meanwhile, and fellowship with him in the first resurrection; and she offers her sacrifice on the anniversaries of his falling asleep...*

In his *Confessions*, St. Augustine also records his mother Monica asking him to pray for her after her death. And one inscription in the Cemetery of Praetextatus directly asks for the intercession of the deceased when he meets Christ the judge at the moment of his death:

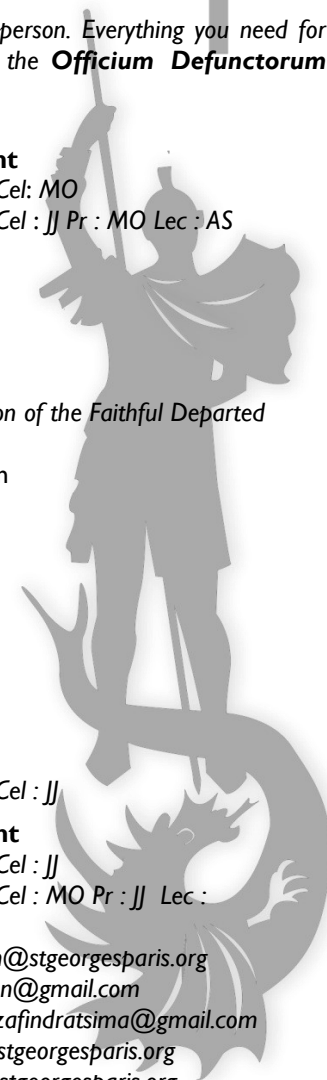
- Succurrite cum iudicabit. | Help us when you come to the judge.*

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# St George’s Paris

## All Souls : 2nd November 2022

A warm welcome to St George’s worship this week—online or in person. Everything you need for today’s service you’ll find in this pamphlet. Today the choir sings the **Officium Defunctorum (Requiem 1605)** by Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611).



Sunday 30th	0830 1030	<b>4th Sunday before Advent</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Cel: MO Solemn Eucharist Cel : JJ Pr : MO Lec : AS
Monday 31st	1800/1830	<i>Martin Luther, reformer</i> Evensong & Eucharist
Tuesday 1st	1030	<i>All Saint’s Day</i> Solemn Eucharist
Wednesday 2nd	1200 1930	<i>All Souls Day—Commemoration of the Faithful Departed</i> Eucharist of Requiem Solemn Eucharist of Requiem
Thursday 3rd	0915 1800/1830	<i>Richard Hooker</i> Morning Prayer Evensong & Eucharist
Friday 4th	0915 1800/1830	<i>Feria</i> Morning Prayer Evensong & Eucharist
Saturday 5th	1200 1800	<i>Of Our Lady</i> Eucharist l’Eucharistie en français Cel : JJ
Sunday 6th	0830 1030	<b>3rd Sunday before Advent</b> Holy Communion (BCP) Cel : JJ Solemn Eucharist Cel : MO Pr : JJ Lec :

- |                           |                               |                                 |
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## The Gathering

Please stand when the bell rings. The Choir will sing the **Introitus** of the Mass.

*Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine.  
Et lux perpetua luceat eis.  
Te decet hymnus, Deus, in Sion,  
Et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem  
Exaudi orationem meam  
Ad te omnis caro veniet.*

*Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord  
And let perpetual light shine upon them  
A hymn, O God, becometh Thee in Zion  
And a vow shall be paid to thee in Jerusalem  
Hear my prayer  
All flesh shall come before you.*

### Greeting

+ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord,  
**and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen.**

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ, who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father. Grace and mercy be with you.  
**and also with you.**

The celebration is introduced and we are invited to remember and confess our sins in preparation for our celebration together. The choir then sing the Kyries which is the ancient hymn asking God's mercy.

### Penitential Rite

*Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.*

### Collect

Eternal God, our maker and redeemer, grant us, with all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection that, in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### First Reading: Lamentations 3:17-26, 31-33

My soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is; so I say, 'Gone is my glory, and all that I had hoped for from the Lord.' The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in him.' The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject for ever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Please remain seated for the choir to sing the **Versa est in luctum**

*Versa est in luctum cithra mea  
et organum meum in vocem flentium.  
Parce mihi, Domine, nihil enim sunt dies mei. Spare me, Lord, for my days are nothing.*

### Second Reading: Romans 5:5-11

And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak,



### The Place of Meeting by Thomas Noyes-Lewis,

A popular print shortly after WWI it depicts a Requiem for the Dead with statues of the soldier saints, George & Joan with the Communion of Saints, many in military uniform.

### Post Communion Prayer

God of love, may the death and resurrection of Christ which we have celebrated in this eucharist bring us, with all the faithful departed, into the peace of your eternal home. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our rock and our salvation, to whom be glory for time and for eternity. **Amen.**

*After the Blessing and Dismissal the choir sings the Libera Mei whilst the clergy and servers leave the sanctuary. You are invited to remain in your seats for this final act of worship.*

The Lord be with you  
**and also with you.**

+ May they rest in peace.  
**Amen.**

*Libera me, Domine,  
de morte aeterna  
in die illa tremenda  
quando coeli movendi sunt et terra  
dum veneris judicare saeculum  
per ignem.*

*Tremens factus sum ego et timeo,  
dum discussio venerit  
atque ventura ira.*

*Dies irae, dies illa,  
calamitatis et miseriae,  
dies magna et amara valde.*

*Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,  
et lux perpetua luceat eis.  
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison*

*Deliver me, O Lord,  
from eternal death,  
on that fearful day  
when the heavens are moved and the earth  
when you will come to judge the world  
through fire.*

*I am made to tremble, and I fear,  
when the desolation shall come,  
and also the coming wrath.*

*That day, the day of wrath,  
calamity, and misery,  
that terrible and exceedingly bitter day.*

*Rest eternal grant them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine on them.  
Lord have mercy, Christ, have mercy,  
Lord, have mercy*

### Libera Mei

at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

*Please stand for the gradual hymn (NEH 330).*

**What sweet of life endureth  
Unmixed with bitter pain?  
'Midst earthly change and chances  
What glory doth remain?**

**All is a feeble shadow,  
A dream that will not stay;  
Death cometh in a moment,  
And taketh all away.**

**O Christ, a light transcendent  
Shines in thy countenance,  
And none can tell the sweetness,  
The beauty of thy glance.**

**In this may thy poor servants  
His joy eternal find;  
Thou calledst them, O rest them,  
Thou lover of mankind!**

### Holy Gospel: John 5:19-25

Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished. Indeed, just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whomsoever he wishes. The Father judges no one but has given all judgement to the Son, so that all may honour the Son just as they honour the Father. Anyone who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent him. Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under judgement, but has passed from death to life. 'Very truly, I tell you, the hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

### Intercessions

*We read the names of those whom we love but see no longer and all for whom we are bidden to pray by the Lord's command to 'love one another'. There are a lot of names—if you need to sit please do so. We conclude our prayer for the Dead by using the prayer below:*

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with the saints:  
where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all:  
and we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth,  
and unto earth shall we return.  
For so you ordained when you created me; saying:  
'Dust you are and to dust you shall return.'  
All of us go down to the dust,  
yet weeping at the grave, we make our song:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with the saints:  
where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

### The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The peace of the Lord be with you  
and also with you.

The hymn at the Preparation of the Table is sung (NEH 329).

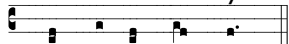
**Jesus, Son of Mary, fount of life alone,  
here we hail thee present on thine altar- throne.  
Humbly we adore thee, Lord of endless might,  
in the mystic symbols veiled from earthly sight.**

**Think, O Lord, in mercy on the souls of those  
who, in faith gone from us, now in death repose.  
Here 'mid stress and conflict toils can never cease;  
there, the warfare ended, bid them rest in peace.**

**Often were they wounded in the deadly strife;  
heal them, good Physician, with the balm of life.  
Ev'ry taint of evil, frailty and decay,  
good and gracious Saviour, cleanse and purge away.**

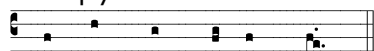
**Rest eternal grant unto them, after weary fight;  
shed on them the radiance of thy heav'nly light.  
Lead them onward, upward, to the holy place,  
where thy saints made perfect gaze upon thy face.**

The Lord be with you



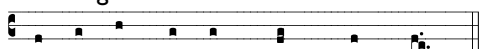
and al-so with you.

Lift up your hearts.



**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

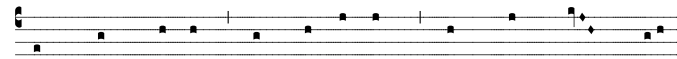
Peace

Eucharistic Prayer

The celebrant praises God for his mighty acts in the Preface and the choirs sing the **Sanctus** and **Benedictus**.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

The prayer continues until the Proclamation of Faith



**Christ has died. Christ is ri-sen. Christ will come again.**

At the end of the prayer we all respond **Amen**. We remain standing to pray together

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily  
bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass  
against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For  
thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

As we prepare for Holy Communion the choir sings the **Agnus Dei**.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
dona eis requiem. Grant them rest.*

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
dona eis requiem sempiternam. Grant them eternal rest.*

**Invitation to Communion**

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, Alleluia!

The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

**Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb**

All who are baptised and communicant members of one of the Christian churches are welcome to receive communion with us. Those who are prevented from doing so by their conscience, or the discipline of their Church, are most welcome to come to the altar for a blessing at the time of communion. If you are reading this at home you may like to use the following prayer:

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament,*

*I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul.*

*Since I cannot receive you now sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my soul.*

*As though you were already there I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you;*

*permit not that I should ever be separated from you. Amen.*

During Communion the Choir will sing **Lux Aeterna**.

*Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine,*

*cum sanctis tuis in aeternum,*

*quia pius es.*

*Requiem aeternam dona eis Domine,*

*et lux perpetua luceat eis,*

*quia pius es.*

*Let everlasting light shine upon them, Lord,*

*with Thy saints for ever,*

*for Thou art merciful.*

*Grant them eternal rest, Lord,*

*and let perpetual light shine upon them,*

*for Thou art merciful.*