

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED

PREPARATION

*Prepare a 'Book of Abiding Memory'. Children are encouraged to write the name or place a photograph of their loved one in the book. When all entries are complete, the book is placed in a prominent place in the Prayer Space. This book can remain in the Prayer Space during the month of November. **or** The names could be pasted onto a Memory Scroll and hung on the wall during November.*

SACRED SPACE

A large cross draped with white and gold material - resurrection colours

A large candle - representing the Risen Jesus

Place the 'Book of Abiding Memory' or the 'Memory Scroll' in the Prayer Space

Autumn leaves scattered here and there.

HYMN

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, we gather to give thanks and remember our loved ones who have now passed to the other side of this life. Although they have gone from us, their lives continue to affect who we are. Their goodness remains within our hearts and souls. So we pray that you will send your angels to guide them to the fullness of life, in union with you. We ask this, in the name of Jesus who came on earth, that all would have the fullness of life. Amen.

SCRIPTURE (Isaiah 40:31)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

The word of the Lord

GOSPEL (Matthew 5:14-16)

A reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew

"Here is another way to put it:

You're here to be a light, bringing out the God-light in you to the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a lamp stand to shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.

The gospel of the Lord

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Leader

Today, we gather in the presence of each other and in the presence of the Lord, to pray for all who have died.

Pupil 1

We place in God's loving care all who have died and we pray that he will bring them to a place of peace and happiness.

Lord, hear us.

Pupil 2

We remember our loved ones ... *think of those who have died (pause)*...

We give praise and thanks to God for all the love and joy they brought to our lives.

We ask that we will continue to draw strength from their goodness.

Lord, hear us.

Pupil 3

We remember all the young people who have died,
especially those who were killed on the roads this year.

We remember them and their families (*pause*)

May they Lord bring them to a place of peace and serenity.

Lord, hear us.

Pupil 4

We pray for those who have lost family members.

May God's peace and consolation give them the courage to move through their grief.

Lord, hear us.

CLOSING PRAYER

Loving God,

We place in your loving hands all our loved ones who have died.

We come to you in faith and confidence

that the power of your love may light their way to your heavenly homeland.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Music Suggestions

'You Raised Me Up' by Josh Grogan

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS OF IRELAND: 6TH NOVEMBER

Alive O

See {Alive O 5, T1, L7}

See {Alive O 8, T1, L 13-16}

See {*St. Brendan: Alive O 5, T1, L7 & T3, L8*}

See {*St. Columba, Alive O 3, T1, L6*}