**Play ehills values slideshow as people arrive**

**All Souls Day Liturgy followed by brunch or morning tea**

**Intro**

All Saints day (Nov 1) and All Souls day (Nov 2) are ancient celebrations. A time when when we remember we are part of an ancient family. A day when we remember and give thanks for the lives of all the Christians who have gone before us and celebrate that we are one family with them, in all our diversity.

The bible the word Saint is used to describe everyone in the Christian community. From early times however All Saints day was a time to remember particular, inspiring heroes of the faith who had died and all All Souls day was an extension of this celebration to remember everyone, particularly family and friends who have died and are equally part of God’s family.

**Opening Prayer**

**Slide 1**

In all our weakness and strength,

with our youth- led spirits and aging bodies,

**we come to be your people, O God.**

Strong in faith and eager with questions,

singing our praise and whispering our prayers,

**we come to be your people, O God.**

Filled with saintly determination

yet mindful of our human limitations, **we come to be your people, O God.**

Made strong in your endless love for us, we know ourselves to be yours and

**we come to be your people, O God.**

May we truly become your people today. Amen.

<https://www.seasonsonline.ca/files/all-saints-day_cong-life_yr-a.pdf>

**The Beatitudes: An Intergenerational Version**

(based on Matthew 5: 1-12)

Jesus said to us in Matthew 5:1-12..

**Slide 2** [**https://unsplash.com/photos/YGJyFwmEC68**](https://unsplash.com/photos/YGJyFwmEC68)

Blessed are the saints who trust God’s power and loving care,

for they are part of the kingdom of heaven.

**Slide 3** <https://unsplash.com/photos/4YJkvZGDcyU>

Blessed are the saints when they are sad because the world is so unfair,

They have God’s promise that justice will come.

**Slide 4** [**https://unsplash.com/photos/8oWXPd\_KM2E**](https://unsplash.com/photos/8oWXPd_KM2E)

Blessed are the nobodies who know they are nobodies and still do God’s work. In God’s world they are the leaders.

**Slide 5** <https://unsplash.com/photos/cD7_Bs6GyeM>

Blessed are the saints whose greatest wish is to do what God desires.

God will give them what they want.

**Slide 6**  <https://unsplash.com/photos/4BABC9tmbjc>

Blessed are the saints who treat other people gently,

God will treat them gently.

**Slide 7** <https://unsplash.com/photos/Qc6vnbE4JQs>

Blessed are the saints who get in trouble when they do what God requires,

For they are surely among God’s saints.

*— Carolyn Brown, on her site*[***Worshiping with Children***](http://worshipingwithchildren.blogspot.com/2011/08/year-all-saints-day-october-30-or.html)***.****Check that site for other great ideas for use with children on All Saints Day.*

**A Song – In the Sweet by and by.**

Now we are going to take a moment of rest listening to an old hymn. It has an interesting story to it. I love hearing the stories of the people who passed these songs down to us.

**Slide 8 –** Picture of Sandford Bennett

**Story:**

This is Sandford Bennett, he was born in NY in 1836. He was a doctor and also liked writing poetry and lyrics to songs. He was good friends with a guy called Joseph who was a musician and composer which means he wrote music.

Just like all the rest of us, Joseph Webster had his off days. So when he walked into the office of his friend Dr. Sandford Bennett, the doctor instinctively knew that the musician was down in the dumps.  **'What's the trouble now,' Bennett asked Webster, ..'Oh, nothing,' said Joseph 'Everything will be alright by and by.'**

Doctor Sanford looked over at Webster who by this time was warming himself at the stove and then reached for his writing paper and pen.

Bennett knew that the best remedy for his partner's bouts of gloom was a batch of verses to be set to music and Webster's casual remark had given him a theme and quickly he had gone to work.  While the physician wrote hastily at his desk two other townsfolk joined the musician at the stove. In a few minutes Bennett handed Webster three verses and a chorus; and in less time than it had taken the doctor to write the words the composer set it to music.  He gave the melody a few rounds on his violin and the four men sang the new hymn for the first time.  There's a land that is fairer than day,  And by faith we can see it afar, For the Father waits over the way To prepare us a dwelling-place there  In the sweet by and by, We shall meet on that beautiful shore.  In the sweet by and by, We shall meet on that beautiful shore.  To our bountiful Father above We will offer the tribute of praise, For the glorious gift of His love, And the blessings that hallow our days.

<http://www.popularhymns.com/in_the_sweet_by_and_by.php>

**Slide 9 -** Play clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhNxXBTIjfk>

**Offering & Announcements - Slide 10**

*Kids Big hearted gift stall, soccer, youth bible study Thursday, Blessing of kids service and youth lunch Sunday. Advent calendar. volunteers to run the bbq for soccer event ‘Tour of Hope’ Wed 29th. Rsvp xmas dinner.*

**Memory garden**

*Wooden chopsticks, streamers.*

**Slide 11-** [**http://archive.wf-f.org/AllSouls.html**](http://archive.wf-f.org/AllSouls.html)

All Saints/All Souls day is a special time for the Christian family. Traditionally families/churches come together and honor not only the famous saints but also the saints/the people of faith from their own families who have died. On this day in all different countries people bring flowers or light candles at the graves of their loved ones. In Latin America, this day is known as “Day of the Dead” and is an occasion of great festivity. Bakeries sell sweets and cakes in the shapes of skulls, skeletons, and coffins. In Mediterranean cultures, children receive gifts of candy. It is also common to set up shrines to remember those who have died.

Now we have a moment to offer our thanks to God for those people special to us who have died.

These may be family, friends or people from our community who have touched our lives. They may have been old, they may have been young. We remember today that death does not release us from being in community with them. Together we treasure all they have given us.

Who do you want to remember in thankfulness today? Who stirs your memories this season?

You may like to write or draw their name or a prayer or a special memory on a streamer and tie it to the chopstick and we will place them as a memory garden on each side of the path outside.

**Slide 12 - Track I Giorni played by Lavinia Meijer**

For all the saints who went before us

who have spoken to our hearts and touched us with your fire,

we praise you, O God.

For all the saints who live beside us

whose weaknesses and strengths are woven with our own,

we praise you, O God.

For all the saints who live beyond us

who challenge us to change the world with them,

we praise you, O God.

*~ Janet Morley. Posted on the RevGalBlogPal’s A Place for Prayer.*[*http://revgalprayerpals.blogspot.ca/2012/04/thursday-prayer\_26.html*](http://revgalprayerpals.blogspot.ca/2012/04/thursday-prayer_26.html)

**Communion Meal**

We now share in a meal that all Christians have shared in over time. Through this meal we join with saints alive and those who cheer us on.

**Let us take some bread**

As we eat this bread we remember our brother Jesus, the first of us to have woken from death, here with us and with all we love.

**Let us drink from the cup**

Before Jesus entered heaven he promised to drink with us all in heaven.

This drink reminds us of his suffering and also his joy.

We look forward to drinking with you Jesus and all our family again.

**LITURGICAL BLESSING**

**FOR ALL SAINTS DAY**

God is the glory and joy of all His saints, whose memory we celebrate today. May His blessing be with you always.

May their life and light turn your thoughts not only to the past but towards the future, to the light we are to be to others.

God's holy Church rejoices that Her saints are in lasting peace. May you come to share all the joys of our Father's house.

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  Amen.

**Brunch**