



Crucis



The Magazine of St Salvador's Scottish Episcopal Church

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Far be it from me to glory except in the cross of Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world.

Galatians 6:14

November 2025

Editorial

Wikipedia says: *Hallowe'en is thought to have influences from Christian beliefs and practices. The English word 'Hallowe'en' comes from 'All Hallows' Eve', being the evening before the Christian holy days of All Hallows' Day (All Saints' Day) on 1 November and All Souls' Day on 2 November. Since the time of the early Church, major feasts in Christianity (such as Christmas, Easter and Pentecost) had vigils that began the night before, as did the feast of All Hallows. These three days are collectively called Allhallowtide, a time when Western Christians honour all saints and pray for recently departed souls who have yet to reach Heaven. After the persecution of Christians in the Roman Empire, "there were more martyrs than there were days in the year, and so one day was set apart in honour of them all, and called All Saints' Day."*

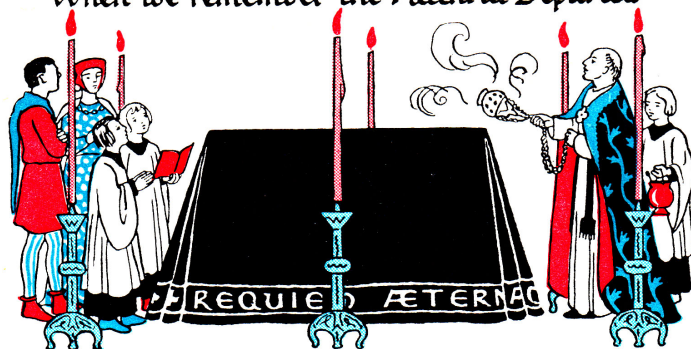
The common theme in each of these days is that of death, but death in the Christian context.

Hallowe'en is one time in Western society where the subject of death is not avoided but treated with celebration and merrymaking, with parties, dressing up, carving pumpkins, and so on. This societal affirmation of scary things is healthy and serves to strip them of their power over us.

In the following days, we join in prayer with the saints of the past (in the Church Triumphant) and pray for those who have died more recently and are on their way to heaven. All of these special days do one thing in common – they remind us that death is not, for us, something to be feared but, when properly prepared for, is simply a time of transition to a higher state of existence. We Christians can therefore remind ourselves that our understandable sadness on losing a loved one is mitigated by the absolute confidence that they are entering a place of true joy and contentment.

Martin Andrews (Churchwarden)

2nd ALL SOULS' DAY When we remember the Faithful Departed



Prayer for All Souls

Eternal Father, who art the God not of the dead but of the living: We give thee thanks and praise for all the generations of the faithful, who, having served thee here in godliness and love, are now with thee in glory; and, we beseech thee, enable us so to follow them in all godly living and faithful service, that hereafter we may with them behold thy face, and in the heavenly places be one with them for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Christian Year

Services in November (tr = transferred)

Sun 2	All Saints Sunday	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 5	All Souls (tr)	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
Sun 9	Remembrance Sunday Trinity XXI	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 12	St Machar	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
Sun 16	St Margaret of Scotland	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 19	Feria	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
Sun 23	Trinity XXIII	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.
Wed 26	Feria	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
Sun 30	Advent Sunday	Sung Mass 11.00 a.m.

Service in December

Wed 3	St Andrew (tr)	Lay-led 10.00 a.m.
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A lay-led service may replace Mass if a priest is not available.

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Saints' and Special Days for November



All Saints (1st November)

Celebrating the feast of All Saints began in the 4th century. At first, it was observed on the day after the feast of Pentecost, the foundation of the Church, commemorating many – unnumbered and unknown – who had given their lives as witnesses to the Faith. In the 8th century, a chapel was dedicated to All Saints in Rome on this day, and, within a century, 1st November had become when this festival was generally celebrated.

All Souls (2nd November)

The Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission explains the thinking underlying today's commemoration as: 'The believer's pilgrimage of faith is lived out with the mutual support of all the people of God. In Christ all the faithful, both living and departed, are bound together in a communion of prayer.'

St Machar, Bishop (12th November)

St Machar was born in Ireland of princely parentage, and was baptised by St Colman. He accompanied St Columba to Iona, from where he moved to Mull – allegedly because his sanctity aroused the jealousy of some of the other monks. Later he established a mission in the north-east of Scotland, on the site that came to be occupied by the cathedral in Old Aberdeen which is dedicated to him. St Machar's Well beside it traditionally provided water for local baptisms.

St Margaret of Scotland, Queen (16th November)

Born in the year 1046, St Margaret was the daughter of the Anglo-Saxon royal house of England but educated in Hungary, where her family lived in exile during the reign of the Danish kings in England. After the Norman invasion in 1066, when her royal person was still a threat to the new regime, she was welcomed in the royal court of Malcolm III of Scotland and soon afterwards married him in 1069. Theirs was a happy and fruitful union and Margaret proved to be both a civilising and a holy presence. She instituted many church reforms and founded

many monasteries, churches and pilgrim hostels. She was a woman of prayer as well as good works who seemed to influence for good all with whom she came into contact. She died on this day in the year 1093.



Advent Sunday (30th November)

Advent Sunday, also called the First Sunday of Advent or First Advent Sunday, is the first day of the liturgical year in the Western Christian Churches and the start of the Christian season of Advent; a time of preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming. Advent Sunday is the fourth Sunday before Christmas.

St Andrew, Ap., Patron of Scotland (30th Nov.)

Though St Andrew is named among the apostles in the synoptic gospels, it is in St John's gospel that most is learned about him. St Andrew was a Galilean fisherman, a follower



of John the Baptist when Jesus called him to follow Him. He then went to find his brother Simon Peter and brought him to Jesus. St Andrew became one of the inner circle of disciples that included his brother and the other pair of brothers, James and John. Together they witnessed all the major events of our Lord's ministry. After Pentecost, tradition has St Andrew travelling on several missionary journeys and eventually being martyred by being crucified on an X-shaped cross. He became patron saint of Scotland because of a legend that his relics had been miraculously brought here in the eighth century.