

**Sunday 1 November 2026**  
*Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Fourth Sunday before Advent*  
*All Saints Sunday (Year A)*

**First Reading - *Revelation 7.9-13a, 14b-17***

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I looked,  
and saw a great multitude,  
that no one could count,  
from every nation,  
tribe, people, and language,  
standing before the throne,  
and before the Lamb,  
robed in white,  
waving palm branches,  
and declaring, with one voice,  
'Salvation belongs to our God,  
and to the Lamb!'

The angels  
around the throne  
bowed down  
and worshipped God,  
singing, 'All blessing and honour,  
all glory and power,  
all majesty, virtue, wisdom and praise,  
belong to our God for ever!'

One of the elders said, 'These, in white robes,  
are the ones who have come out  
of the great ordeal.'

They have purified their robes  
in the life-blood of the Lamb.

Now they are before  
the throne of God,  
serving continually in God's temple.

And God will protect them:  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;  
and they will hunger and thirst no more.

The Lamb, on the throne, will be their shepherd,  
and will guide them  
to the spring  
of the water of life.

And God will wipe away  
every tear from their eyes.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Second Reading - *1 Thessalonians 4.14-18***

A reading from the first letter of Paul  
to the Thessalonians.

My brothers and sisters,  
we know  
that Jesus died,  
and rose again.

And we can trust  
that God will also raise up  
those who have  
died in Christ.

Indeed the Lord has revealed to us  
that they will go to meet the Lord  
ahead of us  
when the Lord returns.

The Lord will come down from heaven,  
and at the Lord's command -  
with a trumpet blast  
and the call of an archangel -  
those who have died in Christ  
will be raised up first.

Only then  
will we who are  
left alive  
be caught up  
in the clouds  
with them,  
to meet the Lord,  
and to be with the Lord for ever.

So encourage one another  
with these words.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Gospel - *Matthew 23.2-12***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the crowds,  
and to his disciples,  
'The scribes and the Pharisees  
teach the law of Moses,  
but they do not live  
by the law  
they teach.'

So follow what they teach,  
but do not follow  
what they do.

They place burdens on others  
that they are not willing  
to carry themselves.

Everything they do,  
they do to be seen by others.

They love to take  
the places of honour  
at banquets,  
and the best seats  
in the synagogues.

They love to be greeted in the market-place,  
and to have people call them Teacher.

But you are not to be called Teacher,  
for the Messiah  
is your only teacher,  
and you are all  
learning together.

And you should call  
no one on earth  
your father,  
for you have one Father -  
your Father in heaven.

And amongst you,  
the servant  
will be the greatest.

For those who place themselves above others  
will be brought down.

But those who choose  
to be humble  
will be lifted up.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.