

November Indulgences for “*The Holy Souls in Purgatory*”

Please pray for the faithful departed throughout the **month of November**, and especially on, November 2nd. The Church gives us ample opportunities today to help those suffering in Purgatory. All the baptized faithful in the state of grace can seek to obtain a plenary indulgence *for a soul in Purgatory*. We would certainly want people to help us through their prayers if we go to Purgatory. And if we help get someone to Heaven, you can be sure that they will help us and pray for us before the Throne of God.

What is an indulgence: “Indulgences are a part of the Church’s teaching on the forgiveness of sins. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we receive forgiveness for our sins, and all punishment is remitted. Through the Sacrament of Penance, sins are also forgiven, and the eternal penalty that is due to sin—namely, damnation, the eternal loss of the presence of God—is taken away. However, consequences still remain that the sinner must bear. This is what is traditionally called the temporal punishment for sin. This consequence of sin disrupts our relationship with God, with the Church and with others. Those who have received forgiveness for their sins may still have an obligation to undergo a process of purification to *restore these disrupted relationships*. The necessary and painful process that brings this reconciliation and purification can take place in this life or in Purgatory, because whatever part of the process remains unfinished at death must be completed in Purgatory” (*Indulgences and our Spiritual Life*). An indulgence (full or partial) is what we receive when the Church lessens the temporal (lasting only for a short time) penalties to which we may be subject even though our sins have been forgiven.

Plenary (full) Indulgence available on All Souls Day (Nov. 2nd)

- Piously visit a church to pray for the faithful departed
- Say one “**Our Father**” and the “**Creed**” in the visit to the church
- Say one “**Our Father**” and one “**Hail Mary**” for the intentions of the Pope and **worthily receive Holy Communion** (ideally both on the same day but may precede or follow by several days)
- Make a **Sacramental Confession** within 20 days of (before or after) All Souls Day

Plenary Indulgence available from Nov. 1st to Nov. 8th (partial any other time during year)

- **Devoutly visit** a cemetery and **pray for the dead**, even if the prayer is only mental
- Say one “**Our Father**” and one “**Hail Mary**” for the intentions of the Pope and **worthily receive Holy Communion** (ideally both on the same day but may precede or follow by several days)
- Make a **Sacramental Confession** within 20 days of (before or after) All Souls Day

A partial indulgence, applicable only to the **Souls in Purgatory**, can be obtained when the “*Eternal Rest...*” is prayed especially during the month of November:

“Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.”

THE GENERAL CONDITIONS REQUIRED FOR GAINING A PLENARY INDULGENCE:

- All **attachment to sin** (i.e. any sin which the soul is *not willing to renounce, a refusal to amend the situation*), even venial sin, must be absent. This does not mean we do not sin through human weakness or repeat sins before overcoming them. If one's disposition is less than perfect or if some of the above conditions are not fulfilled, the indulgence becomes partial.
- You must remember that you can acquire **only one plenary indulgence a day**, but many partial indulgences can be acquired each day.
- **The above indulgences** are applicable **only** to the **Souls in Purgatory**.
- Several Plenary Indulgences may be gained on the basis of a single Sacramental Confession; only one may be gained, however, on the basis of a single Eucharistic Communion and prayer for the Pope’s intentions.