



“All Souls Day” is a solemn celebration in the Catholic Church commemorating all of those who have died and are now in Purgatory.

Praying for the dead is something that too many of us have stopped doing. We tend, in fact, to downplay the reality of “Purgatory,” and even seem to be a little embarrassed by it. Purgatory is an often misunderstood doctrine of our Church.

What is Purgatory? Is it the place we have to go to be punished for our sins? Is it God’s way of getting us back for the wrong we’ve done? Is it the result of God’s anger? “The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned. (CCC 1030-1032).”

Is it painful? Yes, in the sense that letting go of any disordered attachment is painful. It’s hard to break a bad habit. But the end result of true freedom is worth any pain we may have experienced.

In this month of November, Catholics devote some time every day to prayer for the dead, starting with those closest to us. We intensify our prayers for the “Poor Souls,” especially by offering the Eucharistic Sacrifice of the Mass, so that the Blood of Jesus may make them worthy to enter Paradise. In their time in Purgatory, Holy Souls can pray for us, as we pray for them we are called to pray for those in Purgatory. God allows us and invites us to participate in their final purification by our prayers and sacrifices. This forges a bond of union with them.

For this reason the Xaverians invite you to join us during our NOVENA OF MASSES from November 2nd to the 10th. Kindly write their names on a piece of paper and mail it to us together with your mission gift which will allow our brothers missionaries in

the far away parts of the world to continue the mission of Christ.

With our greetings we send you the promise of our prayers, asking you to do the same for all of us missionaries.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
AMEN!

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Michael Davitti, sx and the Xaverian Missionaries

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