

Subject: RE: Reflection for Sunday

Sent to all Church Secretaries in the Missional Partnership

Hi All,

Hope you are all keeping well and warm.

Please find attached my reflection for Sunday - I can't believe we will be in November on Sunday - where has the time gone?

Looking forward to receiving your ideas on our Preaching Proposal - apologies for the error in dates from September - no weeks were missed though.

Keep safe

Ruth

Reflection for Sunday 1 November 2020

Did you all enjoy your extra hour in bed last Sunday when the clocks went back? It's amazing the difference that just an hour can make.

Did you all hollow out your pumpkins yesterday? With restrictions on "Trick or Treat" it was probably a quieter night than usual, but Halloween (or All Hallows Eve) still came and went.

Today is All Hallows Day also known as All Saints Day, when we remember the saints who have gone before. It is not something as non-conformists that we traditionally celebrate, but the date appears in the calendar none-the-less.

So what do you know about the saints? Here's a quick quiz to test your knowledge.....

Who is the Patron saint of England? When is his day celebrated?

Who is the Patron Saint of laughter?

When is St Patrick's Day?

Who do people pray to when they have lost something?

Who is the Patron Saint of Wales? When is his day celebrated?

Who had a hit with "Never Ever"?

(Answers below – no cheating!!)

So what does it mean to be a saint? According to Wikipedia (!) a saint is.... "a person who is recognized as having an exceptional degree of holiness or likeness or closeness to God. ... Depending on the religion, saints are recognized either by official ecclesiastical declaration, as in the Catholic faith, or by popular acclamation."

So now you know! Biblically, saints are considered to be “Those who were dedicated to the teachings of Christ”. This seems much more attainable. Indeed, Paul addresses many of his letters “to the saints”

We don’t need a halo to be saint-like, but we do need to be dedicated in our following of the teachings of Jesus and living his message every day. May we strive to be holy in the sense of being “set apart” to serve God in whatever way we are called.

Keep safe

RevRuth

(Answers: St George; 23 April; Sarah; 17 March; St Anthony; St David; 1 March; All Saints)