

MONTH OF PRAYER FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

REQUIEM AETERNAM DONA EIS, DOMINE
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

Our Beloved Deceased Nuns

November, 2024

Dear Friend of Carmel,
Praised be Jesus Christ!

The Divine Bridegroom, “the Thief of souls,” visited our Monastery twice last year, taking to the Eternal Homeland our beloved Sister Mary Immaculate of the Holy Spirit, and our last founding sister, Sister Angela of the Cross. Their deaths were unexpected for us and for their dear families in the winter last year. Both entered Carmel just after high school, and spent their lives in the service of the Church, the world, and for souls. Their consecration, the Profession of their Holy Vows, was a lifelong commitment from which they never wavered. Their entire lives, a self-emptying to God within the Community, were a preparation for this final self-giving, when the good Lord called to them, “Come!” There was no fear, no struggle in this culmination of their consecration - it was instead a continuation of what they had been doing for many, many years.

We know that many of you have also lost dear ones in recent times. Although we have a lifetime to prepare, whether we are young or old, our souls are not always sufficiently prepared and purified to meet Christ Our Savior. Hence the great practice of praying for the souls of all the faithful departed, especially during November.

The practice of offering prayers for the souls of our dear ones who have died goes back to the Hebrew Scriptures (2 Macc. 12:46) and is found as well in the New Testament (1 Cor. 3:15; 1 Pt. 1:7), and has been recommended by the Church many times.

“...so that they may be released from punishments of this kind, the suffrages of the living faithful are of advantage to them, namely, the sacrifices of Masses, prayers, and almsgiving, and other works of piety, which are customarily performed by the faithful for other faithful according to the institutions of the Church.” Council of Florence, 1439

Please join with us during the month of November, when we will be offering special prayers and Masses for the souls of all the faithful departed. The names of your dear ones who have died that you send to us will be placed in a basket upon the steps of our Choir altar, where the Nuns will remember them in prayer each day. Our daily Mass at 7:30 a.m. is open to the public.

United in Christ our Savior,

Mother Jerusa Agnes and the Nuns

