

# CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT HOME

31st October

Feast of All Saints

## CALLED TO BE SAINTS

A reading from the good news told by St Matthew:

Seeing Jesus on a hillside, a crowd of people soon gathered and Jesus began to speak to them.

'Happy are the poor in spirit, who put God before things and riches, theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy are the gentle and kind, they shall inherit the earth.

Happy are those who are sad now, because God himself will comfort them.

Happy are those who hunger and thirst for what is right - it will happen!

Happy are those who forgive, they shall be forgiven.

Happy are those who simply love, they shall see God.

Happy are peacemakers, they are children of God.

Happy are you if you are teased or made fun of or suffer for following me, you belong to the Kingdom of heaven.'

Today we celebrate the Feast of All Saints, not just the famous ones like Peter or Andrew or Francis, but also crowds of others. You may be named after a saint.

Do you know their story? But saints are just ordinary people who tried to follow Jesus and to love God and other people as best they could. Saints are not just people who lived a long time ago. I'm sure most of us have met or known a saint - after all we were all called to be saints when we were baptised.

A teenage boy called Carlo Acutis died in Italy 15 years ago. He loved computers and gaming, he created websites and edited films. But he also helped children in an orphanage and elderly people. He loved to receive Jesus in Holy Communion and said it was his 'Highway to heaven'. His body rests in a shrine wearing jeans, sweatshirt and trainers. He is now called Blessed Carlo, but he was just an ordinary boy with an extraordinary love for God. Who says you can't be a saint too?

Some people are celebrating Halloween today - a festival of all things scary and the Kingdom of Evil. We are celebrating All Saints - a festival of all that is good in the Kingdom of God.

