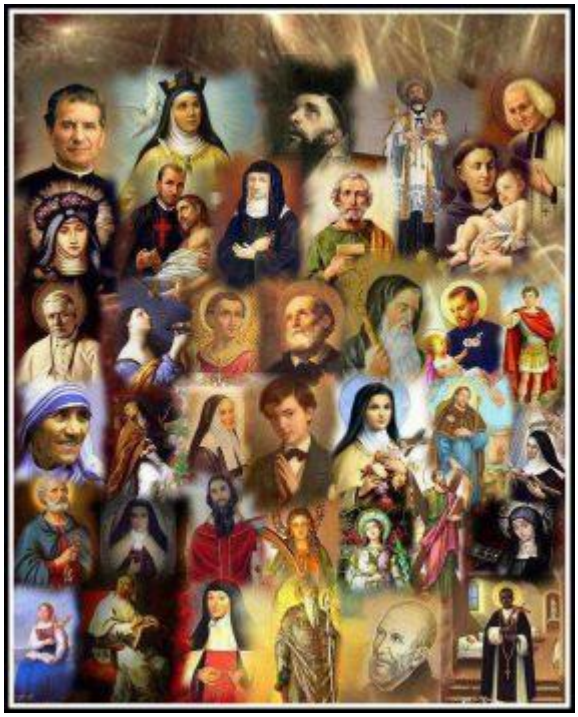
Vox Populi

28 October 2026



The Church's celebration of the Solemnities of All Saints and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (more commonly known as All Souls), forms a powerful bond between the three states of the Church.

Through these celebrations, the Church Militant, the Church Penitent and the Church Triumphant become united in prayer, as one Church.

On the Solemnity of All Saints, the Church on earth honours all those who have attained heaven, whether they are known to us as saints or not. On the Solemnity of the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, the Church prays for the faithful departed, particularly those who are being purified in purgatory.

Although all three states of the Church are separate, they are united under God, a message preached by Pope Leo XIV during the celebration of Mass on All Souls Day in 2025.

"Love conquers death. In love, God will gather us together with our loved ones," he said.

"Although they left us on the day when they died, we continue to carry them with us in our hearts, and their memory remains always alive within us amid our daily lives.

These days are not simply days of remembrance, they are a moment to deepen Christian faith, particularly focused on Jesus' incarnation and resurrection, which has given us the gift of eternal life, and allowed us to be united, even beyond death.

“If we journey together in charity our very lives become a prayer rising up to God, uniting us with the departed, drawing us closer to them as we await to meet them again in the joy of eternal life,” Pope Leo XIV said.

“It is not so much about looking back, but instead looking forward towards the goal of our journey, towards the safe harbor that God has promised us, towards the unending feast that awaits us.”