**Preparation for Holy**

**November 2023**

**We celebrate the Saints**

 **Communion at Sunday Mass**

***Gathering Rite***

**Reader**

Welcome everyone. We welcome the children who are preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion, and their families.

Today, as a faith community we celebrate the communion of saints. These have been people who have lived an imperfect life but remained faithful to the call God has given us, to live a life of love and follow in the footsteps of Jesus. The saints are inspiration for us, as we experience the high and low points of our lives and how we respond to them.

***Liturgy of the Word***

*Readings of Sunday liturgy are proclaimed by Ministers of the Word*

***Prayers of the Faithful***

**Priest:** Jesus, light of the world, we trust in your unconditional love for us and as we

follow in your footsteps, hear the prayers of our hearts and minds as we journey to the life you have called us to live.

**Reader:** We pray for Pope Francis, Bishop Ray and all leaders in our community,

that they may continue to be a source of hope for us. **Lord, hear us**.

**All: Lord, graciously hear us.**

**Reader:** We pray for all those who are finding life hard at the moment, that our words and actions might be a source of hope and healing. Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** For those who are mourning the death of a loved one at this time –

may they know your closeness through the kindness of friends and the prayers of our community. Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** We pray for all families in our community. Especially parents and children who are preparing for sacraments at this time. Lord, hear us.

**Reader:** We remember all of those who have died. With gratitude, we pray for those

who have touched our hearts and shaped our lives in a loving way.

We remember especially this week…. Lord, hear us.

**Priest:** Ever living God, you call us daily

to be a radiant reflection of your love.

Open our hearts to listen to your voice.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All**: **Amen.**

***Liturgy of the Eucharist***

***Communion Reflection***

**Reader:** Lord, thank you for each moment,

for the twilight moment,

the pause,

the good tired,

for the quiet reflection,

the slowing down,

the mysterious sunset,

for my contented heart

and the wisdom growing inside me.

Gentle me to feel whatever comes as a gift

and to praise you in it.

* Ted Loder.

**Closing Song:** Circle of Friends (Grow in Love pg. 44)