



*The Spirit
intercedes for
the saints.*
— Romans 8:27

Remembering the Saints Milestone Moment

Christians around the world recognize “All Saints Day” on November 1 each year. It is also known as All Hallow’ Day, or Hallowmas. Hallow, in Old English, means “holy” or “sacred.” It is a time to honor all of the saints from Christian history, as well as remember those closest to us who have died but whose faith stories still live on in our lives.

“All Saints Day” annually reminds us of our connectedness as Christians. All followers of Jesus are considered saints. The New Testament calls a “saint” anyone who trusts in Christ alone for salvation. It is also a time to remember and honor those friends and family members in the past who have influenced and shaped our faith and lives.

This Remembering the Saints Milestone Moment brings family and friends together to remember and honor the saints who have influenced our faith and acknowledge and affirm God’s presence in our lives. It is important to appreciate and understand a saint’s influence and contributions to shaping our Christian faith roots.

Telling loving and faith-filled stories about the saints will generate warm thoughts, personal reflections, and important memories about our rich and meaningful Christian heritage and history.

The opportunity for families and friends to gather in the home to remember and have meaningful conversations about the saints who have influenced our lives is a special time. This Remembering the Saints Milestone Moment has a simple five stage structure that includes naming, equipping, blessing, gifting, and reinforcing so that the Milestone Moment has a greater chance to take deeper root in lifelong faith formation.

Naming – Observing and remembering the saints in our lives allows us to have meaningful conversations and pass on our faith stories to all the generations.

Equipping – Remembering the saints through conversations, scripture readings, and prayer nurtures the Christian faith and builds an ongoing sense of history and belonging.

Blessing – Offering a blessing to honor the memory of saints builds a tradition of respect and appreciation that enriches our faith lives.

Gifting – Giving a visual gift serves as a reminder of the Milestone Moment and emphasizes the importance of honoring the saints as a significant part of the Christian life.

Reinforcing – Place pictures of those you are honoring and remembering in a visible place in your home. As you pass by them during daily activities, pause for a brief moment of silence to look at the picture and thank God for these people in your life.





Remembering the Saints Milestone Moment

For a Small Group or Family Gathering



Growing People in Faith when at Home and Away

“and talk about them when you are at home and when away, when you lie down and when you rise.”

– Deuteronomy 6:7b

A follow-up for the Remembering the Saints Milestone Moment can be done with caring conversations and prayers as you talk about the individuals who have influenced your faith lives. It gives family and friends the opportunity to share about their own memories and experiences and its importance to their life of faith.

An important step after experiencing the Four Key Faith Practices in a small group or home setting is to bless and equip friends and families by using faith practices daily as an intentional step to encourage faith traditions in the home.

A suggested resource for continued caring conversations:

*[Taking Faith Home](#)
[Taking Faith Home Cards](#)
[For Everything A Season Book](#)*

*Additional Milestone Modules and Moments can be found at:
www.milestonesministry.org*



At the heart of equipping people for their lifelong faith formation are the Four Key Faith Practices: Caring Conversations, Devotions, Service, and Rituals and Traditions. They provide an opportunity for people to learn, experience, and grow in their faith together. The next page is a discussion guide handout to assist with the conversations.



As you gather together, begin by sharing a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your lives and then use the outline below to provide “faith talk” related to remembering and honoring the saints in your lives.



Caring Conversations

Discuss these thoughts and questions:

- Do you share a name with any of your family ancestors?
- What is a memory you have of the saint/s you are remembering and honoring?
- How would you describe your parent’s and grandparent’s life of faith? How are your beliefs similar or different?



Devotions

Read the following: *To those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Corinthians 1:2b-3 (NRSV)

- What stands out for you in this passage?
- What does “called to be saints” mean to you?



Service

Picture in your mind the people you have named as saints in your life. In what ways can you best honor the saints you have named through your actions and words?



Rituals and Traditions

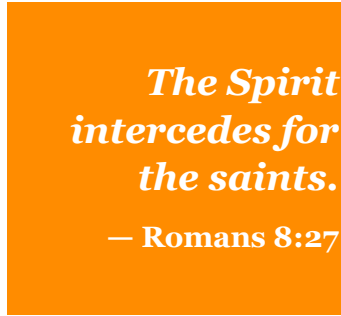
Host an All Saints dinner. After eating, light a candle in front of a picture for each of the honored saints. Take time to tell a story or share a memory about each one. Continue the stories while having dessert.

Pray together:

Almighty and Everlasting God, who has passed on the flame of your love in the hearts of the saints, grant us the same faith and power of love; that, as we rejoice in their memories and triumphs, we may benefit and learn by their examples, through Jesus Christ our Lord, amen.

Conclude by blessing one another:

May God’s care and love through the saints in your life give you comfort, peace, and hope.



Remembering the Saints Discussion Guide



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