

TRINITY 21



THE COLLECT

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace: that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

1. For what two things do we beseech God?
A. _____ & _____
2. When pardon is granted, from what are we cleansed?
A. from all _____
3. When we enjoy the peace which follows pardon, how do we serve God?
A. with a _____ mind
4. Write Isaiah 26:3
5. Through whom do we accomplish anything?

INTRODUCTION:

The 21st Sunday after Trinity often falls near All Saints' Day. What are the Saints called in the Collect? They are called "thy _____ people".

I. HOW WE RECOGNIZE SAINTS.

1. **The Communion of Saints includes** all faithful members of the Mystical Body of Christ (every Christian soul incorporated with Christ by Baptism*, and having within himself the Holy Spirit).

**Baptism is the sacrament (ordained by Jesus) by which a person is reborn as a child of God and welcomed into the Church, which is the Mystical Body of Christ.*

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2. **The Church Militant** includes the faithful on earth. It is called “militant” because it is still fighting against sin. It is also called the Pilgrim Church, since its ultimate goal is Heaven, rather than earth.
- Read Ephesians 6:10-17
 - What are the saints to put on? the _____ of God
 - What are the saints to stand against? the _____ of the devil
 - Against who are the saints contending?
not against _____ & blood, but
against the _____, against the _____,
against the _____ over this present darkness,
against the _____ forces of _____ in the
_____ places.
3. **The Church Victorious** consists of the souls of the blessed who are in Heaven. Although they enjoy the Beatific Vision (all that is Good, Beautiful, Just, etc. *namely God*) their blessedness is not yet totally fulfilled, for they still await the final resurrection at which time they will be united with their bodies and be wholly human.
- Read: Mark 12:26-27, God is God of the _____, not the dead.
 - Read: Luke 23:43 “this day, you will be _____ in Paradise”
 - Hebrews 12:1 We are surrounded by a cloud of _____
 - Revelation 6:9-11 I saw under the altar the _____
 - Revelation 20:4 I saw the _____ of those who had been beheaded
4. **Canonized Saints** are those whom the church recognizes as certainly being with the Lord in Heaven. (The Church does not attempt in any way to recognize every soul in heaven, but only a special few.)

II. WHAT SAINTS RECEIVE FROM GOD.

- Pardon.** We are like the prodigal son in the father’s house. He was pardoned when he first came home, but after that he lived in the sphere of forgiveness. He must often have needed his father’s forgiveness after he came home, but it was the daily forgiveness of the already pardoned one. The sacrifice and atonement of Christ pardons. The precious blood of Christ cleanses.
- Peace.** The saint’s mind can be at rest because he is at peace with God. This is the kind of peace Christ gives us. The saint has peace with God, but not with the world. A saint cannot have peace with both God and the world, because good cannot have peace with evil. A peacemaker brings those around him to peace with God.



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