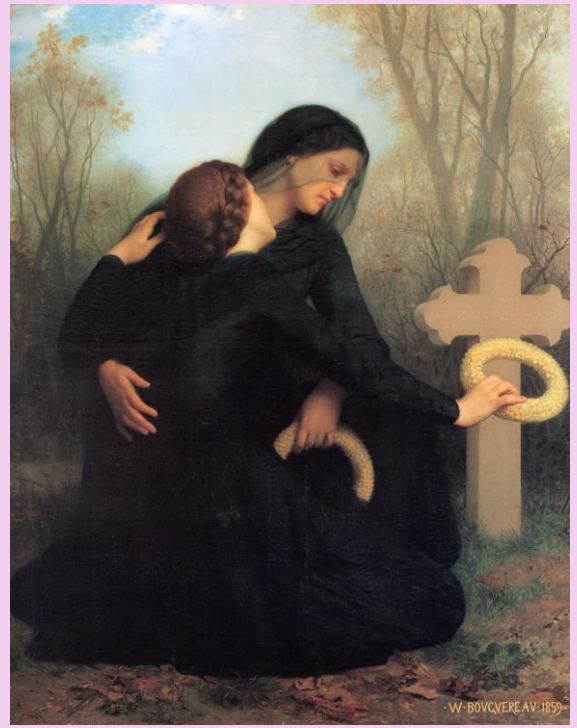
Monday 2nd November – All Souls

On 2 November, the day after All Saints, the Church remembers everyone who has died, and prays especially for the people we have loved and lost. The custom goes back to the year 998, when Abbot Odilo of Cluny asked his monasteries to pray for the dead on this day, and it gradually spread across the Western Church. Catholics pray for the dead because we believe that death is not the end, and that the bond of love between us and those who have died is not broken. This is sometimes called the communion of saints. Many parishes keep a Book of Remembrance in November where people can write the names of those they want to be remembered. We have a book in the chapel you can fill in if you want.



Monday 2nd November – All Souls

Loving God, today we remember all who have died, especially the people we have loved and lost: family, friends and neighbours. In the quiet of our hearts, we name them now.

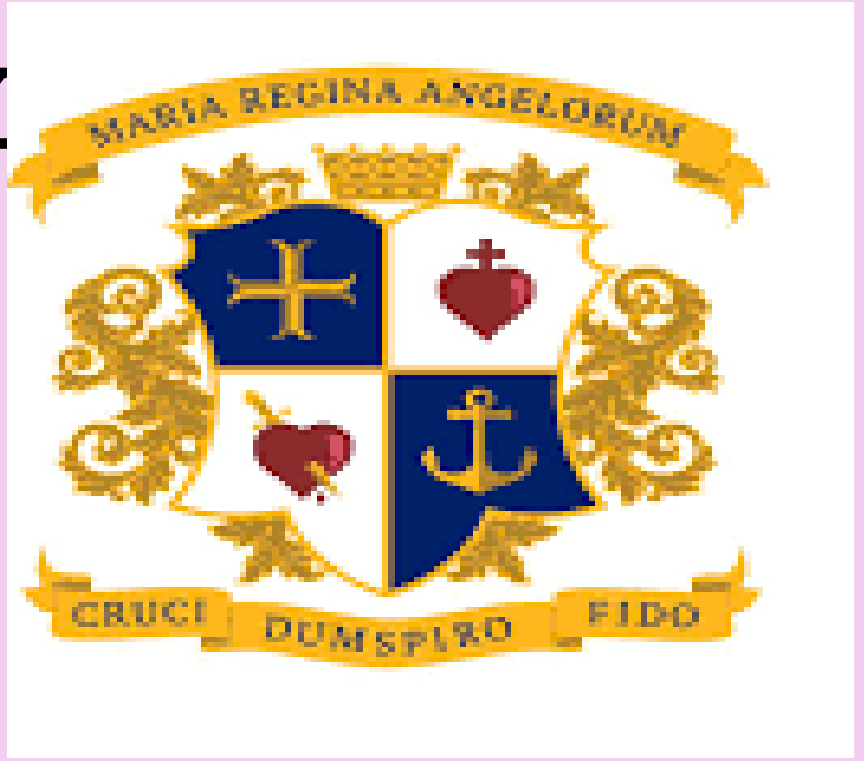
Thank you for the gift of their lives, for everything they taught us and for the times we shared. Welcome them into your peace. Be close to anyone in our school who is missing someone today. Help us to be honest about how we feel, whether we are sad, angry or just numb, and to be gentle with one another. Remind us that love is stronger than death.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Amen.

School Inspired Pray

Mary, Queen of Angels.
We give you thanks for your dedication and love to Jesus Christ.
May we, too, have that love and purity in both heart and mind:
'In the Cross, while I breathe, I trust'.
Amen.





Tuesday 3rd November – St Martin de Porres

Martin was born in Lima, Peru, in 1579, the son of a Spanish nobleman and a freed woman of African descent. His father did not at first acknowledge him, and because he was of mixed race he faced prejudice throughout his life. He trained as a barber-surgeon, which then included the work of a nurse, and was later accepted by the Dominicans, eventually as a lay brother. He spent his life caring for the sick, whatever their background, and begging for food for the poor. He is said to have helped to start a home for orphans and abandoned children, and he was known for his gentleness towards animals. He died in 1639 and was canonised in 1962. He is the patron of social justice and of racial harmony. In England and Wales you may instead remember St Winefride, a Welsh saint of the seventh century, whose holy well at Holywell in Flintshire has been a place of pilgrimage for centuries.



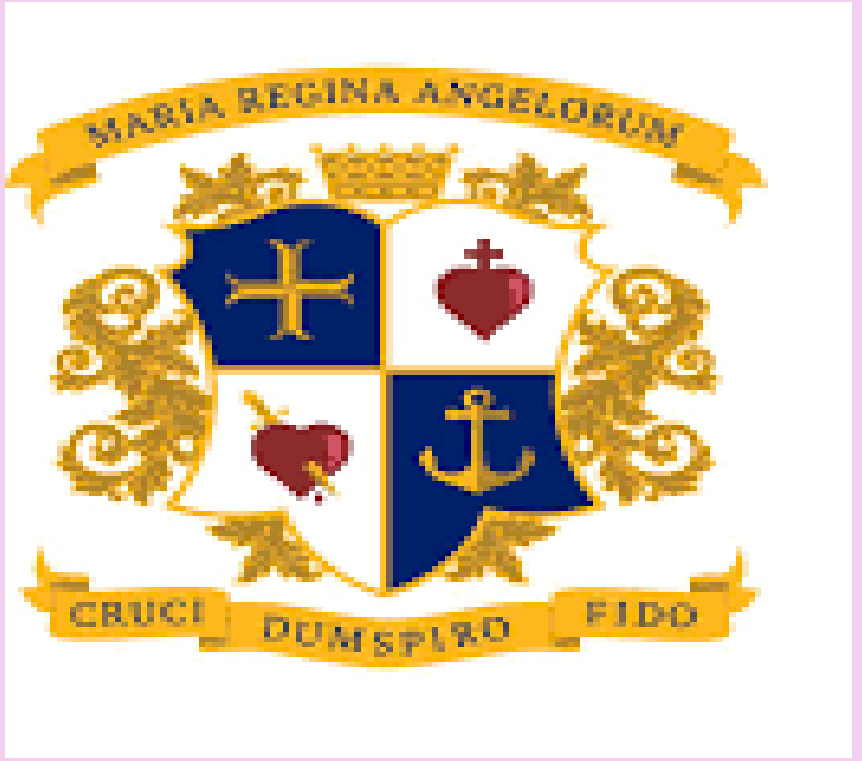
Tuesday 3rd November
St Martin de Porres

God of justice, you made every person in your image, and you love us all equally. We thank you for St Martin de Porres, who cared for the sick and the poor of every background at a time when people were judged by the colour of their skin.

Help us to treat everyone with the same respect and kindness, whoever they are. Open our eyes to the people who are overlooked or left out. Like Martin, make us practical: help us to find one small thing we can do today to make someone else's life a little better. Amen

School Inspired Prayer

Mary, Queen of Angels.
We give you thanks for your dedication and love to Jesus Christ.
May we, too, have that love and purity in both heart and mind:
'In the Cross, while I breathe, I trust'.
Amen.





Wednesday 4th November - St Charles Borromeo

Charles was born in 1538 into a wealthy Italian family and was made a cardinal and Archbishop of Milan at a very young age. He could have lived comfortably, but he took his responsibilities seriously. He played an important part in the final stages of the Council of Trent, the great reforming council of the Church, and then returned to Milan to put its ideas into practice. He set up seminaries to train priests, visited the parishes of his diocese and founded Sunday schools so that children could learn about their faith and be taught to read. When plague struck Milan in 1576, he spent his own money on food and care for the sick and visited them himself. He died in 1584, aged only 46, and was canonised in 1610. He is the patron of catechists and teachers of the faith.



Wednesday 4th November - St Charles Borromeo

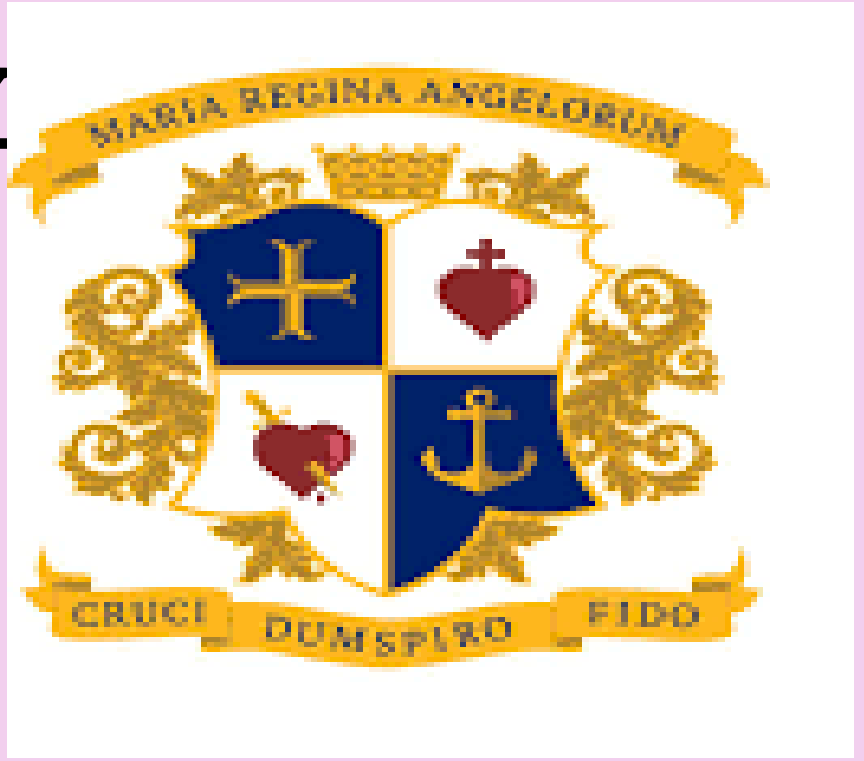
Lord God, we thank you for St Charles Borromeo, who believed that everyone, especially children, deserves the chance to learn. When plague came to his city, he did not hide away but went to look after those who were suffering.

Help us to love learning and to seek the truth in everything we study. Give us the courage to do what is right when it is difficult, and not to look away when someone needs help. Bless our teachers and everyone who helps us to learn.

Amen

School Inspired Pray

Mary, Queen of Angels.
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'In the Cross, while I breathe, I trust'.
Amen.





Thursday 5th November - Remembrance

Remembrance Sunday falls on 8 November this year, and Armistice Day on Wednesday 11 November, the anniversary of the fighting stopping on the Western Front at 11 am in 1918. The poppy appeal began in 1921 and remains a very visible sign of remembrance across the UK. It is a time to remember those who died in the two world wars and in later conflicts, those who serve in the armed forces today, and the civilians whose lives are shattered by war. The Church has always prayed for peace. During the First World War, Pope Benedict XV pleaded with the leaders of the warring nations to end what he called a senseless slaughter.



Thursday 5th November – Remembrance

God of peace, this week we remember all who have died in war: soldiers and civilians, children and families. We remember those who gave their lives so that others might live in freedom, and those who serve today.

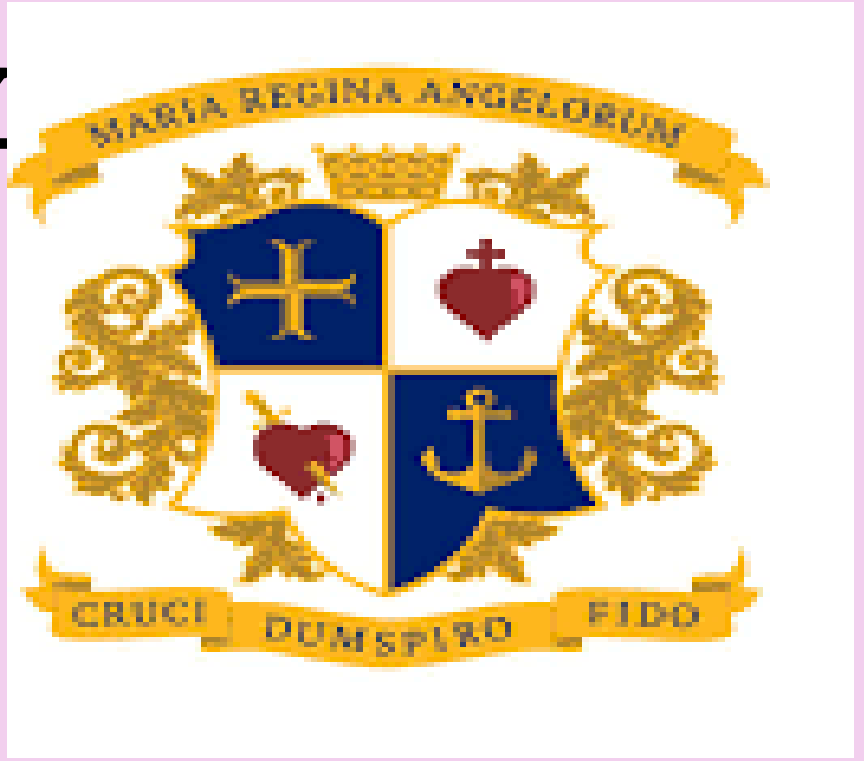
We pray for the places in our world where people are living with conflict and fear this week. Comfort those who mourn, and protect all who are in danger.

Help us to be peacemakers in our own lives: slow to anger, quick to forgive and ready to say sorry. Give us the freedom that comes from letting go of grudges, and help us to build peace in our friendships, our families and our world. Grant eternal rest to those who have died, and peace to those who grieve.

Amen

School Inspired Pray

Mary, Queen of Angels.
We give you thanks for your dedication and love to Jesus Christ.
May we, too, have that love and purity in both heart and mind:
'In the Cross, while I breathe, I trust'.
Amen.





Friday 6th November - Remembrance

The Examen is a simple way of looking back at our day with God.

Listen to the Gospel:

As you listen, allow yourself to be still and notice what stands out to you.

Then, take a moment to reflect:

What is God saying to me through this Gospel?

What has gone well for me this week?

Where have I shown kindness, courage or love?

Is there anything I wish I had done differently?

Who might need my kindness or support today?

What is one thing I want to ask God for?



School Inspired Pray

Mary, Queen of Angels.
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May we, too, have that love and purity in both heart and mind:
'In the Cross, while I breathe, I trust'.
Amen.

