

Hallowe'en

Hallowe'en – what does it mean?



The word hallow means holy....we even say it in the Our Father...‘hallowed be thy name’. We celebrate All Saints’ Day on November 1st, the day after Hallowe'en. This day used to be called ‘All Hallows Day’ because it’s the day about all the holy people, the saints. The day before All Saints’ Day was called ‘All Hallows Eve’, just like

the day before Christmas is called ‘Christmas Eve’. Over time, people just started saying ‘Halloween’ instead of ‘All Hallows Eve’.

All Saints’ Day – 1st November

Why do we celebrate the saints? Who are they?

I once heard a little girl describe saints as being like a stained glass window in a church, like the one in the picture. This type of window lets the light shine through in a very beautiful way. She thought that saints let God’s love shine through in a beautiful way!

We remember & celebrate the saints because they are people the church has picked out as worth copying. Saints come in all shapes and sizes & from all parts of the world! Some lived long lives, others died young, some were rich, others poor, some were clever & well educated, others were neither! What they all have in common is that they were good at talking to God, they didn’t just think about themselves, and they loved God & put a big effort in to doing what they felt he wanted them to do.



Can you the name the saint in this stained glass window? That’s probably easy enough to do! Can you try to be even a little bit like a saint?! That’s definitely more difficult! The great thing about the saints is that they can be good friends in heaven for us to turn to. They are very good at listening, they know what living here on earth is like AND they like to help us. Do you know the names of any saints? Is there any saint with your name that you could find out about and ask for help?