

Dear Padre,

Do those who have died really remember us?

There are many clear indications in the Bible that the saints in heaven are aware of us and that there is interaction between those in heaven and people on earth. The most obvious passage is found in Hebrews 12:1: “Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (those in heaven), let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us.” By their prayers, those in the “cloud of witnesses” help us finish the race.

Saint Paul wrote, “I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us” (Romans 8:18). We will “forget” the troubles we endured on earth, but we will be aware of the sufferings of those who are still on earth, and we will want to help them. Why? Because the greatest happiness, as Jesus said, is in giving (Acts 20:35).

The saints in heaven pray for us on earth; union with them brings us closer to Christ. We pray for those who are being purified after death, and they pray for us. We are one family. The closer our union with God, the closer our union with one another. We have a wonderful goal in life: the promise of union with God and with all those joined to God. ●



ICON OF APOSTLES ST. PAUL AND ST. PETER ON MAHOGANY / DMITRY KALINOVSKY / SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28	June 29	June 30
Nativity of St. John the Baptist	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr	Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 49:1–6	2 Kgs 19:9b–11, 14–21, 31–35a,	2 Kgs 22:8–13; 23:1–3	2 Kgs 24:8–17	2 Kgs 25:1–12	Acts 12:1–11	Wis 1:13–15;
Acts 13:22–26	36	Mt 7:15–20	Mt 7:21–29	Mt 8:1–4	2 Tm 4:6–8, 17–18	2:23–24
Lk 1:57–66, 80	Mt 7:6, 12–14				Mt 16:13–19	2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13–15
						Mk 5:21–43 or 5:21–24, 35b–43

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists’ *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

What are the winds that beat against my life? What are the waves that hinder my navigation, and put my spiritual life, my family life, even my psychological life in danger? Let us say all this to Jesus.... He wants this; he wants us to grab hold of him to find shelter from the unexpected waves in life.

ANGELUS, ROME, JUNE 20, 2021

MAGENPHOTOS / SHUTTERSTOCK