

# THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

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## What does this mean: The Communion of Saints?

It is the communion born from faith which unites all those who belong to Christ through Baptism.

It is a spiritual union — we are all united! — that is not broken by death but continues in the next life.

Indeed, there is an unbreakable bond between us living in this world and those who have crossed the threshold of death.

We, here on earth, along with those who have entered into eternity, form one great family. This familiarity endures.

This wonderful communion, this wondrous union between heaven and earth takes place in the highest and most intense way in the Liturgy, and especially in the celebration of the Eucharist, which expresses and fulfils the most profound union between the members of the Church.

In the Eucharist, we in fact encounter the living Jesus and His strength, and through Him we enter into communion with our brothers and sisters in the faith: those who live with us here on earth and those who have gone before us into the next life, the unending life.

This reality fills us with joy: it is beautiful to have so many brothers and sisters in the faith who walk beside us, supporting us with their help, and together we travel the same road toward heaven.

And it is comforting to know that there are other brothers and sisters who have already reached heaven, who await us and pray for us, so that together in eternity we can contemplate the glorious and merciful face of the Father.

