Thought for the week 31st Sunday of the Year (B) 4th November 2018

On Thursday we celebrated All Saints Feast Day and I was lucky enough to be down at St Martin's school celebrating the Feast Day with the whole school. What a lovely service it was.

According to a priest very close to home, we are **all** called to be saints. What an awesome ambition to try and attain!

We all think of saints as very holy, good-living people; however, great saints have also been great sinners.

Look at St Paul, St Matthew (tax collector for the Romans), St Augustine and St Teresa of Avila to for instance. They all started their lives in non-Christian ways, until the Holy Spirit inspired their hearts towards Jesus.

Saints are people who TRY to live as Jesus asked – not always succeeding, but never giving up the attempt. That is all that is asked of us: be gentle, compassionate, merciful honest, good living and faithful. Believe Jesus when He said:

"Happy are you when people abuse and persecute you on my account. Your reward will be great in heaven" Jesus told us that this is our basis for all our belief.

A Lutheran archbishop put it very well:

"Saints are persons who make it easier for others to believe"

Let's be those people.

A Parishioner