

What is "Communion of the Saints"?

In the nine articles of the "**Apostles' Creed**" (a prayer offered during Mass and recited by the church community as a profession of faith which contains twelve articles or doctrines, established its roots in the early church prior to being Baptized, please refer to Acts 8:36-37), we stated the following: *"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, **the Communion of Saints....**"*. The Communion of Saints represents the union between the three Spiritual Churches: the **Church Triumphant** (the Saints in Heaven), the **Church Suffering** (the Souls detained in Purgatory), and the **Church Militant** (we humans living on the earth). All Communion of Saints is therefore, the Church, which is the Body of Christ! All faithful form one body, but Jesus is always the Head of the Church! *You can read more on this Doctrine of Faith in the Catholic Catechism, see Para 946-948, 953 and 960.*

The Church Militant, the Christian faithful on earth, offer our prayers for the Church Suffering because the holy souls in Purgatory are detained there until the expiation of their Temporal Punishments. The holy souls in Purgatory are not permitted to pray for themselves and depend solely on us to help them obtain "perfection" of soul so they are released from purging and enter into the gates of Heaven, thus being transformed and received as part of the Church Triumphant! The Church Militant also request intercession from the Church Triumphant, because of their holy union and friendship with Jesus Christ, they petition our Lord for special favors in answer to prayer petitions, resulting in miracles.

In addition, the **Church Militant call upon the help from the souls detained in Purgatory!** Thousands of, if not millions of miracles have taken place when the souls detained in Purgatory are called to assist in the lives of earthly humans. Yet, most do not think about asking Jesus for their assistance. Many miraculous stories have been published in books such as: **Read Me or Rue It, How to Avoid Purgatory** (by Fr. Paul O'Sullivan O.P.) and other books on this topic. We are including three incredible true stories that took place in the history of the Church, as you will read in the first story, you must know that if you do not pray for the holy Souls in Purgatory while you are living (Church Militant praying for the Church Suffering), then when you die (possibly finding yourself purging for any remaining Temporal Punishment not atoned for sins committed on earth) the Justice of God **will not** permit YOU to receive the prayers of the Church Militant. Additionally, the Holy Souls will help lessen our stays in Purgatory as well, due to our act of Charity for them!