Remembrance of Catherine McAuley's Death Day
November 11, 2026

Each day is a step we take towards eternity,
and we shall continue to step from day to day
until we take the last step,
which will bring us into the Presence of God;

Catherine McAuley

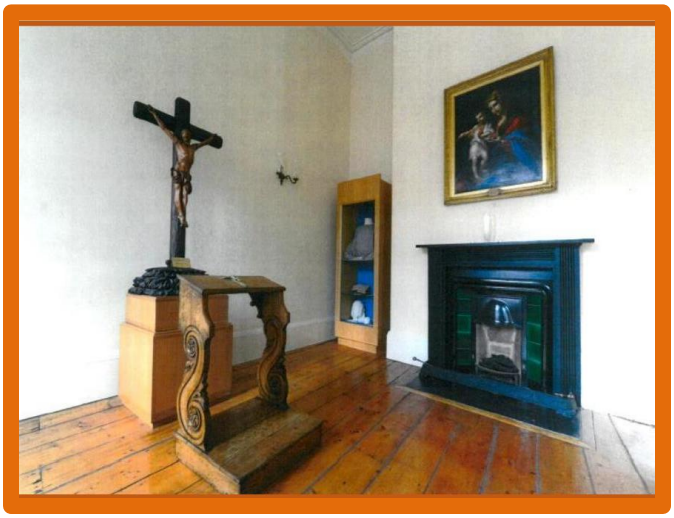
In the evening of Thursday, November 11, 1841, Catherine McAuley, the founder of the Sisters of Mercy, died at the Convent of Mercy on Baggot Street, Dublin. She was surrounded by members of the Baggot Street, Booterstown, and Limerick communities.



She died the Death of the Just. Cautious as she was from bringing herself into notice unnecessarily in health, she was still more so in sickness, waiting on herself
even in her last agony, preserving to the last moment the same peace and serenity of mind which so eminently distinguished her through Life . . . her first and last injunction to all was to preserve union and peace amongst each other.

About five in the evening, she asked for the candle to be placed in her hand. We commenced the last prayers . . .

When we thought the senses must be going and that it might be well to rouse attention by praying a little louder, she said: No occasion, my darling, to speak so loud, I hear distinctly. In this way she continued till 10 minutes before 8 when she calmly breathed her last sigh.



Reading:

I did not think it possible for Human Nature
to have such self-possession at the awful moment of Death,
but she had an extraordinary mind in Life and Death.

Letter to Mary Ann Doyle21 November 1841

Remembrance of Catherine
https://vimeo.com/239023519 (Ctrl + Click)

Key Themes for Reflection:

- **Gratitude:** Think about the veterans and active service members who put their lives on the line.
- **The Cost of Peace:** Remember that the security and democracy we enjoy every day came at a very high price.
- **Looking forward:** Let the memory of past conflicts guide our actions toward a peaceful future.



We honour the young men and women who gave their lives in the service of their country in order that we who followed them would have freedom and peace.

We stand in solidarity with our family ancestors and carry in our hearts the memory of their legacy of justice, peace and integrity and whose inspiration and commitment move us to live in hope.

We remember with generosity and thanksgiving all those who courageously gave their lives in service so that we may have the freedom we are blessed with today.

Let us take some time to listen to the Last Post played by Katie Sullivan at The Rooms - Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra (3:55 Minutes)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEkevPdiGCo (Ctrl + Click)