Indulgences Granted for the Faithful Departed

1. Beginning at **noon on Sunday, November 1, and continuing until midnight at the end of Monday, November 2**, the Catholic faithful, as often as they visit a church to pray for the dead, reciting six times during the visit the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of Holy Mother the Church, may gain:
   - **A plenary indulgence** applicable only to the souls in purgatory. This indulgence may also be gained from noon of the following Saturday until Sunday midnight, but only by those who did not gain the indulgence on All Souls' Day.[1]

   Raccolta #590

2. The faithful who, during the period of eight days from the Commemoration of All Souls inclusive, visit a cemetery in a spirit of piety and devotion and pray, even mentally, for the dead may gain:
   - **A plenary indulgence** on the usual conditions on each day of the octave, applicable only to the faithful departed.[2]

3. Those who make such a visit and pray for the holy souls on any day of the year may gain:
   - **An indulgence of seven years**, applicable only to the faithful departed.

   Raccolta #592

4. The faithful who recite prayers or perform other devout exercises in supplication for the faithful departed during the month of November may gain:
   - **An indulgence of three years**, once each day; **a plenary indulgence** on the usual conditions at the end of their seven or nine days of prayer.

   Raccolta #589

5. Those who, during the aforesaid month, take part in public services held in a church or public oratory in intercession for the faithful departed may gain:
   - **An indulgence of seven years** on each day of the month; **a plenary indulgence** if they attend these exercises on at least fifteen days and, in addition, go to confession, receive Holy Communion, and pray for the intentions of Holy Mother the Church.

   Raccolta #589

6. The faithful who devoutly offer prayers at any season of the year in intercession for the souls of the faithful departed, with the intention of continuing for seven or nine successive days, may obtain:
   - **An indulgence of three years**, once each day; **a plenary indulgence** on the usual conditions at the end of their seven or nine days of prayer.

   Raccolta #588

7. All Masses celebrated at any altar by any priest within the period of eight days from the Commemoration of All Souls inclusive enjoy the same privilege as if they were offered at a privileged altar, but only in favor of the soul for whom they are applied.

   Raccolta #591

The intentions of the Pope (or of the Church during the vacancy) are:

1. The exaltation of the Church.
2. The extirpation of heresy.
3. The propagation of the Faith.
4. The conversion of sinners.
5. Peace and concord among Christian rulers.

It is sufficient to have the general intention stated above, even if one does not know the specific intentions.

Conditions for Gaining an Indulgence

1. Be in the state of grace.
2. Have the intention to gain the indulgence.
3. Perform the work required. (If vocal prayer is required, one must at least move one's lips.)

For a plenary indulgence, one must also:

1. Have true sorrow for all of one's sins.
2. Go to confession and receive Holy Communion.
3. Pray one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of Holy Mother the Church. (Unless more is specifically required.)
4. Make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament.

[1] Confession can be made on the day in question or anytime during the week before or after. Holy Communion can be received on the day in question, within the following week, or one day before the day in question.

[2] The usual conditions are listed above. For this particular indulgence, it is necessary also to visit a church and pray at least one Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be for the intentions of the Church, with one visit for each time one wishes to gain the plenary indulgence. (Reply from the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences, February 29, 1864.)