



The Children's Hour.

ALL SAINTS' DAY

NOVEMBER 1st.

E. MCAULIFFE.

WHEN looking over the calendar of saints for a subject for the children's page, I was really overwhelmed, dear children, at the number of great saints whose feasts the Church celebrates during this month.

We begin with the Feast of All Saints, on the first day of the month. It is a great holiday ; one of the greatest : every child knows the Feast of All Saints, or " All Hallows," as it is called in some countries.

Every day in the year is dedicated to some particular saint, but this day is dedicated to all the saints. Perhaps you would like to know something about its origin, and that is just what I am going to tell you.

Many hundred years ago, in the early ages of the Church, as far back as the seventh century, a holy Pope, (Boniface IV) considering how many saints there were whose names are known only to God, and how many whose names, although recorded in the Martyrologies of the Church, have no day appointed to honor them, on account of their immense number, conceived the idea of having one day every year devoted to the cult of all the saints.

It was commenced in Rome, in a church which had been a temple for the worship of all the false gods of the pagans, and called the *Pantheon*. The evil spirits were