



All Saints Day

Introduction

Today we do not concentrate on the spiritual heroes of the Church, the canonized saints. Instead we concentrate on those who became saints in little, ordinary, and hidden ways, and who will never be canonized. We are celebrating those who, inspired by the Gospel, made the interests of others more important than their own. That is what we are called to- holiness, which means being like Christ.

First Reading (Apocalypse 7: 2-4, 9-14)

Here we have a vision of the victorious followers of Christ rejoicing in his presence in the heavenly kingdom. They come from every nation, and race, and tribe, and language.

Second Reading (1John 3: 1-3)

St. John tells us that in heaven we shall see God as he is. However, if we want to attain to this vision we must try to live like Christ.

Gospel (Matthew 5: 1-12)

Here Jesus stresses the qualities he wishes to see in his disciples, qualities we see exemplified in the lives of the saints.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Let us pray that we may hear the call to holiness of life, and respond to it in faith, in hope, and in love.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For Christians: that they may seek to know the will of God and to do it with all their strength, thus imitating Christ and his saints. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For men and women of goodwill: that they may preserve in the path of goodness, truth, honesty, and integrity- for that is the path of holiness. We pray in faith.



R: Lord, hear us in your love.

For all those who are weighed down by troubles and disappointments:
that the example of the saints may inspire them. We pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

That we may be able to overcome our weakness, selfishness, and
cowardice, and imitate the generosity and courage of the saints. We
pray in faith.

R: Lord, hear us in your love.

Communion Reflection

Isn't it strange that princes and kings,
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings,
And ordinary folks like you and me,
Are builders of eternity.

To each is given a bags of tools,
And hourglass and a book of rules,
And each must build ere his time is flown,
A stumbling block or a stepping-stone.