

To Be Holy

“To be holy is to be a reflection of God, to possess the characteristics of the divine, especially love. In holiness, love illuminates the whole person; it becomes a living dynamism or energy within us.” Fr. Richard J. Beyer

Holiness is not a state of being, a characteristic that only belongs to certain people. Holiness is meant for everyone, because holiness is the fragrance of one's soul. Through Baptism we receive not just a call to be holy, but the graces that make it possible to become holy.

“Do not be afraid of holiness, of letting yourself be loved and purified by God. Let us allow God's holiness to be transmitted to us. Every Christian is called to holiness; and holiness does not consist, first and foremost, in doing extraordinary things, but rather in letting God act. It is the encounter between our weakness and the strength of His grace”. Pope Francis

Authentic Holiness is like that of a mighty waterfall that quiets all other sounds. Authentic Holiness captivates all people and brings quiet to all noise, drama, and worry. True holiness brings about peace in every situation. Holiness does not mean pious or arrogant, because the markings of true and authentic holiness is that of humbleness and service. Holiness is not for one's self, but are meant for the benefit of all.

How much we need, in the church and in society, witnesses of the beauty of holiness, witnesses of the splendor of truth, witnesses of the joy and freedom born of a living relationship with Christ! Pope Benedict XVI

The saints are called holy, because they lived their lives in an authentic imitation of Christ. They were not perfect or elite, they were human, they were sinners. They were devoted to Christ and to imitating Him the best that they could. They are examples to us that anyone can be holy.

**“Christian perfection has but one limit, that of having none”
St. Gregory of Nyssa [*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 2028]**

*Jesus,
teach me to be holy,
To live my life in unity with Your example.
May I be a witness of Your love through my authentic faith.
May I become holy, not for myself, but for the glory of Your love.
Create in me a sense of wonder at the limitless possibilities of holiness.
And may I remain ever true to the holiness that comes from the beauty of Your love.*

AMEN