

What is it Like to be a Saint?

Throughout the year, we celebrate the feast of the canonized saints. However, there are countless other saints, men, women and children united with God in Heaven whose feasts we do not celebrate.

Who are the saints? Anyone who has completed their earthly life and who is now united with God in heaven is a saint.

You and I are on a journey to become a saint.

All Saints Day teaches us to honor the saints, both by imitating their lives and by seeking their intercession for us before Christ.

If God has called you to holiness, as I think He surely has, then He will give you all of the love and support you need to live that way.

St. Augustine accepted this challenge when he asked the question: "If others can become saints, why can't I?"

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta said: Do ordinary things with great love.

God so loves us and through His grace we became His Children to share an eternal life in relationship with Him. So intimate that we call Him Father or even Dad.

A Father wants his children to be with Him and have a relationship and an encounter with him. So it is with the Saints who encountered Christ in their lives.

And the good news is - we are not expected to make our journey alone. Jesus gives us the Saints, Sacraments and most especially the Eucharist.

At every Mass, heaven and earth are joined together.

Christ's sacrifice present on the altar makes it possible for all generations to be united with His offering, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints.

"When we receive Jesus in Holy Communion": We receive all the saints whom He divinely embraces in Heaven.

It would be very difficult to find one pattern of holiness, in the lives of the Saints.

However, the saints had 2 common qualities: They Encountered Christ in their daily lives, and through this encounter, they were Formed in their Faith.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus spoke to all the people not just the disciples, as He speaks to us today.

Being poor in spirit means we need to put our trust in God and follow His way.

The saints realized the Beatitudes perfectly describe Jesus and how to become more like Christ.

So we might ask ourselves, how are we Encountering Christ in our lives - how can our relationship with Christ and each other improve?

I would like to close with the following story for all you kids of heart who have ever carved out a pumpkin: All You Kids listen up:

A woman was asked by a coworker,

"What is it like to be a saint?"

"It is like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. Then he cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, fear, worry, tears, etc., and then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light of holiness inside of you to shine for the entire world to see."

So on this Feast of All Saints let each one of us rededicate ourselves to the life of holiness, let each one of us make it our personal ambition to become one of God's saints.

Praise Be Jesus Christ, Now and Forever, Amen!

