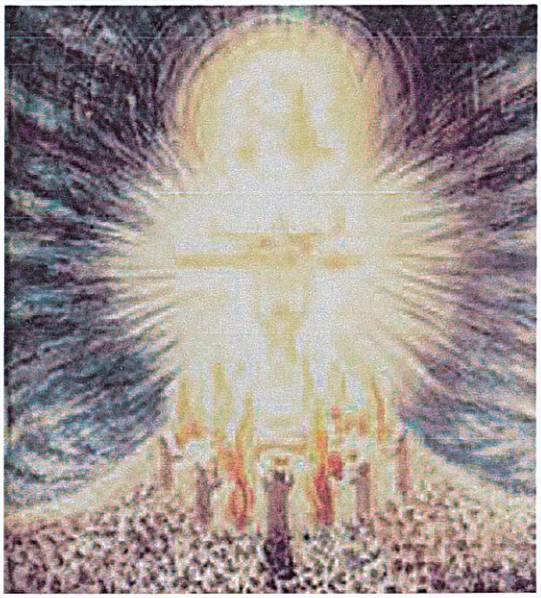
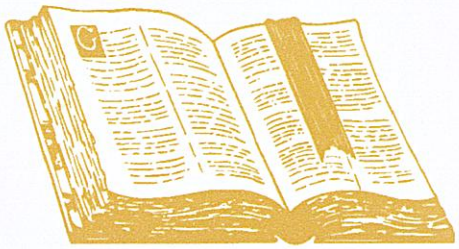
Our Faith on Sunday

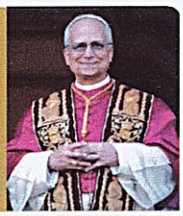
GOSPEL REFLECTION



When the Church presents to us through the liturgy of the solemnity of All Saints it is not just so that we can bring to mind great figures such as St. Francis of Assisi or St. Catherine of Siena. The solemnity is also addressed to me personally in the form of a question that I can ask myself: Do I realise that I too am being called to be a saint? Chapter Five of the Vatican II document Lumen Gentium spoke about the universal call to holiness of all those who have been baptised saying "all the faithful of Christ of whatever rank or status, are called to the fullness of the Christian life and to the perfection of charity" (n.40). The same document also identifies that path to be followed for reaching sanctity: "In order that the faithful may reach this perfection, they must use their strength accordingly as they have received it, as a gift from Christ. They must follow in His footsteps and conform themselves to His image seeking the will of the Father in all things". The Church in its tradition has always interpreted the Beatitudes as essential practices for conforming ourselves to the image of Christ. It would be enough for us to take seriously the beatitude "Blessed are the peacemakers" to make visible on earth the kingdom of God preached by Christ. The Vatican II document Gaudium es Spes says: "That earthly peace which arises from love of neighbor symbolizes and results from the peace of Christ which radiates from God the Father" (n.78). Does the peace of Christ radiate from your heart?



POPE LEO XIV
THE HOLY SEE
APOSTOLIC EXHORTATIONS



JESUS, THE POOR MESSIAH

18. The Old Testament history of God's preferential love for the poor and his readiness to hear their cry — to which I have briefly alluded — comes to fulfillment in Jesus of Nazareth.[14] By his Incarnation, he "emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness" (Phil 2:7), and in that form he brought us salvation. His was a radical poverty, grounded in his mission to reveal fully God's love for us (cf. Jn 1:18; 1 Jn 4:9). As Saint Paul puts it in his customarily brief but striking manner: "You know well the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich" (2 Cor 8:9).

14. Cf. Francis, Message for the 5th World Day of the Poor (13 June 2021), 3: AAS 113 (2021), 691: "Jesus not only sides with the poor; he also shares their lot. This is a powerful lesson for his disciples in every age."

Solemnity of All Saints
Lumen Gentium (n.40)

The Lord Jesus, the divine Teacher and Model of all perfection, preached holiness of life to each and everyone of His disciples of every condition. He Himself stands as the author and consumator of this holiness of life: "Be you therefore perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect". Indeed He sent the Holy Spirit upon all men [and women] that He might move them inwardly to love God with their whole heart and their whole soul, with all their mind and all their strength and that they might love each other as Christ loves them. The followers of Christ are called by God, not because of their works, but according to His own purpose and grace. They are justified in the Lord Jesus, because in the baptism of faith they truly become sons [and daughters] of God and sharers in the divine nature. In this way they are really made holy. Then too, by God's gift, they must hold on to and complete in their lives this holiness they have received.

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints,
at whose festival the Angels rejoice
and praise the Son of God.**

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
by whose gift we venerate in one celebration
the merits of all the Saints,
bestow on us, we pray,
through the prayers of so many intercessors,
an abundance of the reconciliation with you
for which we earnestly long.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Revelation. Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14

I, John, saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, saying, 'Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.' And I heard the number of the sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel.

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels were standing round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?' I said to him, 'Sir, you know.' And he said to me, 'These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. R. cf. 6

R. Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

The LORD's is the earth and its fullness,
the world, and those who dwell in it.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the rivers he made it firm. **R.**

Who shall climb the mountain of the LORD?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The clean of hands and pure of heart,
whose soul is not set on vain things. **R.**

Blessings from the LORD shall he receive,
and right reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the people who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of Saint John. 1 John 3:1-3

Beloved: See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia. Matthew 11:28
Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, says the Lord, and I will give you rest.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12a

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May these offerings we bring in honour of all the Saints
be pleasing to you, O Lord,
and grant that, just as we believe the Saints
to be already assured of immortality,
so we may experience their concern for our salvation.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 5:8-10

**Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called children of God.
Blessed are they who are persecuted for
the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we adore you, O God, who alone are holy
and wonderful in all your Saints,
we implore your grace,
so that, coming to perfect holiness in the fullness of your love,
we may pass from this pilgrim table
to the banquet of our heavenly homeland.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.