

Are You A Saint?

Archbishop Michael J. Sheehan, *People of God*, January 2015

We are all called to be Saints by our very baptism. It is a challenge to live our lives according to God's will. But as Catholics we can turn to the Saints of our Church to help us to do just that. I want to share some quick quotes of some Saints that may help us to delve deeper into our own call to sainthood:

Our Blessed Virgin Mother - "Do as he tells you". Let us all listen to how Jesus Christ calls us to live our vocation. Have you responded correctly?

St. Pope Pius X - "The soul of youth is... a most holy sanctuary". We have a responsibility to care, guide and protect all youth. Are you setting a good example for the young?

St. Jerome - "Men invariably worship what they like best". We are called to worship only God -not things of this world. What or who do you worship - God or football games? Fine meals or the Eucharistic Meal?

St. Ambrose of Milan - "We are born into this world naked, we leave it without a cent, we are buried without our inheritance". If you are blessed with healthy finances, do you share these with the less fortunate? If you are blessed with talents and skills, do you use them to spread the Good News? If you are blessed with an abundance of time, do you visit the sick or the imprisoned?

St. Anthony the Great - "When you lie down on your bed, remember with thanksgiving the blessings and providence of God". When was the last time you thanked God for a place to live, food to eat, clothes to wear, water to drink, freedom to worship, good health, your spouse, your children, or even his love?

St. Bernadette Soubirous - "I entreat you, keep Sundays holy. Working on Sunday will not make you rich; on the contrary, you will bring down misfortunes on yourselves and your children". Do you role model to your children, nieces, nephews, godchildren that the most important thing to do on Sundays is to worship God by participating in Mass?

St. Isidore of Seville - "Confession heals, confession justifies, confession grants pardon for sin, all hope consists in confession; in confession there is a chance for mercy". When was the last time you went to Confession? Don't put it off, receive the mercy and forgiveness of Jesus Christ so that your soul can be filled with his graces!

St. John Vianney - "The Cross is the ladder to heaven". Do you pick up your cross daily? Do you embrace your current struggle - of poor health, financial challenges, envy...? Do you accept it as God's will at this point in time so that you can join him in his resurrection later?

St. Pope Clement I - "It is His breath that is in us, and when He wants to, He will take it away". Do you fear death? Natural death, when God deems it his will, should be embraced and welcomed to start your eternal life. But you need to constantly prepare to reach that destination and what better way to prepare than to strive to be a Saint?