

Blessed are the peacemakers...

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In her book, **"Saint-Watching,"** Phyllis McGinley says:

**"When I was seven years old, I wanted to be a tight-rope dancer
and broke my collarbone practicing on a child-size, high wire.**

At twelve, I planned to be an international spy.

At fifteen, my ambition was the stage.

Now, in my sensible, declining years, I would give anything ...to be a saint!"

Today is the feast of **ALL SAINTS DAY**. Do you realize that **every one of us**, without exception, is called to be a saint? No one in this church/within the sound of my voice in cyberspace is called to be anything less!

But...there's that proverbial **BUT** already, my friends, **how** does one go about becoming a saint, you ask. Well ...**I am glad you asked that question!** It gets right to the POINT.

Should we try and **COPY one of the saints**, like Francis, or Peter, or Paul or Eliz. Ann Seton? The answer is **NO**. The reason is obvious. One becomes a saint by doing what God created one to do. Each one of us was born to bring a certain message to the world; to sing a particular song to those around us. **No one else can deliver your message or sing your song!**

Practically speaking, this means that...

If you are a parent at this moment in your life ...**that's** exactly the way God intends you to become a saint...by being the best parent you can be!

If you are a student at this moment in your life ...**that's** exactly the way God expects you to become a saint ...by being the best student you can be!

If you are an elderly couple at this moment in your life ...**that's** exactly the way God intends you to become a saint...by being the best elderly couple you can be! (...goes for widows/widowers, too.)

The Beatitudes (& 10 Commandments, I might add) supply us with certain 'parameters' within which we can deliver our message and sing our song. **For example**, we may be a **parent**, who has to exercise **mercy**...in delivering our message. **For example**, we may be a **student**, who must learn to be **meek** in singing our song. **For example**, we may be an **elderly couple/person**, who must **make peace** with the kids in the neighborhood to get to sainthood.

To **become a saint** sounds like a **tall order**. Of course, it is. **BUT** we only need to work at it ...**one day at a time**. And He has given us the Mass, the Eucharist, and many other sources of grace to help us along each day...one day at a time! ...especially prayer.

The option to deliver that message, to sing that song --or **not** --is up to us. We do not **have** to do it. We can choose to say, "**NO**" and to be as selfish & self-indulgent as we care to be. Just remember...**all eternity hangs in the balance**. The choice is ours. And eternity is a heck of a long time!

I now close with a poem that sums up the options of which we are reminded on All Saints Day:

**"To everyone... there opens a way --a high way and a low.
The high soul takes the high way; the low soul takes the low.
And in between, on the misty flats, the rest drift... to and fro.
But, to everyone, there opens a way --a highway and a low.
And everyone decides...the way... his soul... shall go."**

If we accept the graces He places at our disposal, we **will** meet again, at His heavenly, banquet table, where every tear will be wiped away... and the only tears ...will be tears of joy!

May Almighty God, our Abba, bless you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.