



Volume 6

THE Voice

ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Issue 11

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YES! WE ALL CAN BECOME SAINTS!

Parish Priest Message

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

"Dare to be something more - Dare to be a saint, a challenge by the saints," was the theme of last year November when I wrote this message for Voice. I threw a challenge for each one of us. After a year when I am writing on a similar theme, I feel it is not difficult to be a saint but it is certainly a challenge. This month's message is based mainly on Vatican II document and Pope Francis' thought.

The universal call to holiness is a teaching of the Roman Catholic Church that all people are called to be holy, and is based on: *"Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect"* (Matt. 5:48).

The important question that comes to our mind, **How can one be holy?**

Saint means holy, holy means set aside for the purpose of glorifying God and at the service of God for His love.

Certainly, anyone can strive to live a saintly life on earth.

To be holy, it is necessary to freely and



humbly accept God's grace, cooperating with our effort to allow ourselves to be transformed by Him. It is not a matter of doing everything well, of being perfect, or of reaching certain goals or ideals but, rather, of **striving to live each day more and more united to God**. In this way, all our activity, our thoughts, our desires will become ordered to the charity that Jesus taught us: *"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind...You shall love your neighbour as yourself."* (Mt 22:37, 39)

The document **Lumen Gentium** from Vatican II explains that **"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. They must follow in His footsteps and conform themselves to His image seeking the will of the Father in all things. They must**

devote themselves with all their being to the glory of God and the service of their neighbour. In this way, the holiness of the People of God will grow into an abundant harvest of good, as is admirably shown by the life of so many saints in Church history." (cf. LG, 40)

Pope Francis said, **"Every state of life leads to holiness, always! At home, on the streets, at work, at church, in the moment and with the state of life that you have, a door is opened on the road to sainthood.** Do not be discouraged to travel this road. God gives you the grace to do so. And this is all that the Lord asks, is to be in communion with Him and serve others."

Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation: **"Gaudete et Exultate: On the Call to Holiness in Today's World"** gives some great advice: *"First, we must bear in mind that holiness is not something that we can procure for ourselves or obtain with our quality and our skills. Holiness is gifted to us by the Lord Jesus, when He takes us up with Him and clothes us in Himself, making us like Him."* Hence, holiness is a gift from God and if we aspire to become a saint, we need to ask God for His help and for this gift.

Second, Pope Francis says, *"it is by living with love and offering Christian witness in our daily tasks that we are called to become saints. And each one is called in the particular condition and state of life in which they find themselves. Are you consecrated? Be holy living your gift and your ministry with joy. Are you married? Be holy loving and taking care of your husband or your wife (& children), as Christ did with the Church. Are you a baptized person who is not married? Be holy performing your work with honesty and competence and giving time to the service of others."*

Still a doubt or a question that can burden us, *"But, I work in a factory ... I work as an accountant, always with the numbers, how can I be a saint there..."* – 'Yes, you can! There, where you work you can become a saint. God gives you the grace to become a saint. God communicates with you.' **Always and everywhere, you can become a saint, that is, by being receptive to the grace that is working in us and leads us to holiness."**

It doesn't matter if you work or are unemployed, retired, single, married or a teenager, we can all become saints!

Let us all implore God to grant us the grace to become a saint, to lead a holy lives in our circumstances of life and to be a beacon of God's love to humanity. If we devote ourselves to prayer each day, unite ourselves to Jesus' heart, and live a life of charity, we are well on our way to sanctity.

Wish you all a very happy Feast of All Saints.

Fr. Maxim Cardoza, OFM. Cap
Parish Priest-Musaffah





QUIZ

NOVEMBER-2023

From the book of 'Acts of the Apostles' - Chapters 21 to 24

- 1) What gift were the daughters of Philip, the evangelist endowed with?
- 2) At Damascus, what did the voice respond when Saul asked the question "Who are you"?
- 3) Pharisees believe in resurrection – is it True or False?
- 4) Who succeeded Felix as governor?
- 5) How did Paul acquire his roman citizenship?

Your answers along with your name, age and contact details shall be submitted at the parish office on or before 1st December 2023.

OR

Email: voiceofstpauls@gmail.com

Winners of Bible Quiz October-2023

- 1) S.Stefano
- 2) S. Stenaff

POPE FRANCIS



Argentine pontiff is known for making environmental care a hallmark priority of his papacy. Pope Francis will travel to Dubai for three days during the Cop28 climate conference, he has told Italian television. The pontiff said he would depart on December 1 and stay until December 3.

Nov 1: All Saints Day

Nov 2: All Souls Day

Nov 2: Baptism Seminar

Nov 6-9: Vicariate Priests Annual Retreat

Nov 9: Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Nov 15: Fr. Divakar, Birthday

Nov 23-25: Malayalam Marriage Preparation course

Nov 24: Wedding anniversary thanksgiving mass

Nov 26: Christ the King

Nov 30: St. Andrew, Apostle

Church Events



Photo Corner



CHARIS NATIONAL SERVICE OF COMMUNION-UAE

22nd October 2023

St. Paul's Church Musaffah - UAE

4TH CHARIS INTER-PARISH

BIBLE QUIZ 2023 (20TH AUIPBQ)

"I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you." (Ps 119:11)



Congratulations

OVERALL POSITION

Parish & Emirates	English						Malayalam				Tamil			Konkani			Tagalog		Over All	
	Children	Teen	Adult	Senior	Family	Tot	Adult	Senior	Family	Tot	Adult	Senior	Tot	Adult	Senior	Tot	Family	Tot	Total Score	Position
St. Joseph's Cathedral, Abu Dhabi			5	10	10	25	10		15	25	5	15	20	10	10	20	10	10	100	1
St. Mary's Catholic Church, Dubai	5	10	15		5	35	15	15	5	35	10	5	15			0	15	15	100	1
St. Paul's Church, Musaffah	15		10	15		40	10		10	20			0	15	15	30	5	5	95	2
St. Michael's Church, Sharjah	10	15				25	5	10		15	15	10	25	5	15	20			85	3
St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Jebel Ali		5		5	15	25		5		5			0		5	5	15	15	50	4
St. Mary's Catholic Church, Al Ain						0				0		5	5			0		0	5	5
St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, RAK						0				0			0			0		0	0	6

We invite your Spiritual Messages, Testimonies, Articles & Special Activity Photos of Prayer Groups & Communities.
Please Contact Editorial Team, Parish Office
OR
Email: voiceofstpauls@gmail.com

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi Held on 04-Oct-2023



Legion of Mary - Rosary Month Closing Ceremony 31-Oct-2023



Wedding Anniversary Mass during the month of October-2023