

The joy of holiness



Our theme of this year seems to tilt downwards, from the Heavens to the Earth. In fact, it is God who finds joy in those who enter into life with Him. This joy is first focused on Jesus who comes into our world to accomplish the Will of His Father.

This month of November brings us a new point of view. Together we will see how this joy is found both in a downward and upward direction. Will we not celebrate, on November 1st, the Solemnity of All Saints? Do we not say that they are blessed, that they live in an eternal joy?

It is their attachment to the Lord which is emphasized. In desiring to do His Will, they followed their Master and are thus with Him eternally. It is in Jesus that they found their joy. In seeking and imitating Him, they have – each in following their own personal path – found Jesus who gives them the gift of forever celebrating the eternal marriage in His Kingdom. In Him, they find their joy. In holiness, they find their joy, despite the trials and sufferings of their earthly life.

Thus, in return, it is God who finds in them His joy. He sees them arrive, these men and women from all backgrounds and time periods. They answered His call. And He welcomes them in this joy which indeed no person can give.

All Saints thus deserves to be celebrated as a Solemnity, the highest level of a feast day in the liturgy, because it is a feast of joy. The joy of men and women who fully live the love of God. The joy of God brings together all of humanity, the immense crowd of those who have sought Him.

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