

**SAINTHOOD IS WITHIN OUR GRASP!**

**Would you like to be a saint? “I would love to,” we would say, “but it’s impossible.” All of us tend to view saints as being people with god-like characteristics and super-human spiritual qualities. In reality, EVERY ONE of God’s saints was EXACTLY like us! They were “mere mortals” dealing with the same doubts, fears and temptations that we all must face as we travel down life’s rugged road.**

**Throughout the centuries, countless individuals have distinguished themselves spiritually to such a degree that they will be forever remembered and eternally commemorated by the Church as “SAINTS.” The Church, however, wisely realizes that there are scores of others, whose names are known but to God, who are equally deserving of recognition and praise. For this reason, our Church annually sets aside the Sunday after Pentecost and designates it as the SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS.**

**The liturgical readings prescribed for this Sunday are a written testimony of what some of the prerequisites for sainthood are. St. Paul speaks to the Hebrews about the inner strength and resolve that the saints possessed, which enabled them to endure” . . . trials of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.” . . . Truly the suffering of Christians continue to be the foundation of the Church to this present day! In today’s Gospel lesson, our Lord reminds us that “ . . . everyone who has left houses or brother’s or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands for my Name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit life.”**

**There, then, are our guidelines for achieving sainthood! All we have to do is be willing to sacrifice all for the sake of Christ, and be willing to remain faithful and loyal to Him AT ALL COST! Certainly, this is no simple matter, but it is far from being Impossible.**