

Homily for the Feast of All Saints November 1, 2009
Gospel of Matthew 5:1-12, "The Beatitudes"

Maybe you didn't recognize them, but Christ was mentioning the Beatitudes in today's Gospel. I would like to share with you my own contemporary list of Beatitudes.

My Modern Beatitudes:

Blessed are the husbands and wives who continue to be affectionate and considerate of one another, even after the wedding bells have ceased ringing.

Blessed are they who have a beautiful sense of humor; we need you in our lives.

Blessed are they who thank God daily for the food and home that they have.

Blessed are they who spend time daily in prayer and reading the sacred scriptures.

Blessed are they that live in a home rather than just a house.

Blessed are parents, for they are God's co-creators, and God's caretakers.

Blessed are children, for they give us much to learn and to imitate, and become.

Blessed are the teachers and principals, for they do so much for our children.

Blessed are the parents who say "No," for they are thinking only the best for their children.

Blest are the parents who pray for their children, regardless of their ages.

Blessed are they who have only soft and kind words for one another.

Blessed are parents who bestow both love and discipline upon their children.

Blessed are the children and teenagers who can say, "I'm sorry; forgive me, my fault."

Blessed are they who ask for forgiveness, because they humble us.

Blest are those who have suffered a loss due to health, separation, divorce or death who now rely more than ever before on their Catholic faith, their families and friends.

Blessed are those men, who accept the intuition of a wife, mother and other women, for they are wise and prudent.

Blessed are they who do more listening than talking.

Blessed are they who give one another the benefit of the doubt and avoid rash judgment.

Blessed are they who have more “yes” in their vocabulary than the word “no.”

Blessed are they who try to be fair and honest with one another – those who model integrity.

Blessed are those who enjoy good music, a good bike, nature, delightful conversation, family celebrations, animals, and the joy, tears, laughter and voices of little children.

Blessed are they who appreciate persons in their lives, and not take them for granted, for into their lives, these friends are “God granted.”

Blessed are they who delight in their secularity and enjoy their masculinity or femininity.

Blessed are the teenagers who say “God is awesome!”

Blessed are those who still come to church regularly, receive the sacraments, regardless of what is happening in their church.

Blessed are they who can forgive others and most important oneself.

Blessed are those converts to our church, for they make wonderful Catholics.

Blessed are those persons who know the difference between new life and abortion.

Blessed are all those men and women serving in the armed forces protecting us our country.

Blessed are our parents living or deceased, who sacrificed and loved us and were so patient with us.

Blessed are those children and teen agers who show love, respect, and honor to their parents because of their parents’ love, patience and sacrifices!

Blessed are you who are sensitive to the poor, needy and unemployed.

Blessed are they who subscribe to the Catholic Times and take home a bulletin for they shall be informed.

Blessed are they who utter the prayer, “Lord give me the grace to be what I think I am, rather than what I am.”

Blessed are they who can humbly accept help graciously.

And yes.....Blessed are those priests.....

Blessed are those priests who give short homilies.....

for they are wonderful!