

“REJOICE AND BE GLAD” (Mt 5:12)

Living our lives with love and bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves, we are called by name to be holy:

But growth in holiness is a journey in community. Side by side with others, we create a “*God-enlightened space in which to experience the hidden presence of the risen Lord*”.

Let us be a holy and missionary community.

Let us be a community that cherishes the little details of love.

Let us be a community whose members care for another.

Let us be a community that creates an open and evangelizing environment.

Let us be a community where the risen Lord is present.

Let us be a community that is sanctified in accordance with the Father’s plan.



May our shared but not singular path to holiness make us identify all the more with Jesus’ prayer “*that all may be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you*” (Jn 17:21).

We are one in praying for our children to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre existence.

For the Lord has chosen each of our children “*to be holy and blameless before him in love*” (Eph 1:4).

They are invited to: “*Be holy, for I am holy*” (Lev 11:44; cf. 1 Pet 1:16).

But “*each in his or her own way*”, in a practical way for their own time, with all its risks, challenges and opportunities.

We will help our children and one another discern the paths that bring out the very best of themselves, the most personal gifts that God has placed in their hearts (cf. 1 Cor 12:7).

We are all called to be witnesses, give our all and embrace that unique plan that God willed for each of us from eternity:

“*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you*” (Jer 1:5).

Every child is a saint.

Every student is a message which the Holy Spirit takes from the riches of Jesus Christ and gives to His people.

Every student is a mission, planned by the Father to reflect and embody, at a specific moment in history, a certain aspect of the Gospel.

We are all called: to reflect the Master in their daily lives, to run counter to the way things are usually done in our world, to be holy, to evangelize and to leave a mark in this world.

We will not be afraid of holiness.

We will become what the Father had in mind when He created us.

We will not be afraid to set our sights higher, to allow ourselves to be loved and liberated by God.

We will not be afraid to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

We remember the words of Jesus from the Gospel: “Those who love Me will keep My word and My Father will love them, and We will come to them and make Our home with them...But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything.” (John 14.21-26)

Therefore, let us ask the Holy Spirit to pour out upon all of us a fervent longing to be saints for God’s greater glory,

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love only what is holy.
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
Guard me so, O Holy Spirit, that I may always be holy.
Amen.

Prayer created from excerpts taken from Gaudete et Exsultate given in Rome, at Saint Peter’s, on 19 March, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, in the year 2018, the sixth of Pope Francis’ pontificate

