

A weekly reflection by members of the Precious Blood Community

November 1, 2023 Fr. Ron Will, C.PP.S.

Today, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints, and at Mass, we read the Beatitudes as taught in the Gospel according to Matthew. Jesus challenges us to look through different lenses than the modern world does. As Precious Blood people, we are especially challenged to look at people and situations in our world through the eyes of Jesus. We are challenged to see blessedness, where the modern world sees situations to avoid. While this world values reputation and worldly honor, we value lowliness and humility.

Saints have seen and do see through the eyes of Jesus. Today we celebrate **all** saints, both those who are well-known and those known to only to some of us. People like my mom & dad who died some years ago, my brother; people like your own mom or dad, your grandparents, perhaps one of your children, one of your fellow parishioners.

We celebrate because we are still in a relationship with one another. We and they are part of what we call the Communion of Saints. We are one family. When I sing the "Holy, Holy, Holy" at Mass, I often close my eyes and visualize the saints gathered around the throne of God and singing his praises. They are singing along with us who are singing in church. And I see my parents mixed in that crowd, my brother, my brother-in-law... all singing their hearts out. Who do you see in that crowd?

As we celebrate this Feast, we remember our ancestors in faith upon whose shoulders we stand. When you sing at Mass and see the crowd standing around the throne of God in heaven, you should see Gaspar del Bufalo, Maria de Mattias, John Merlini, and Anna Brunner. Who else do you see?

Today, celebrate their impact on your life. Re-commit yourself to incorporate their good qualities into your own life. And thank them for their good example.

Throughout his career, Fr. Ron Will, C.PP.S.has dedicated his ministry to helping form intentional disciples of Jesus. He is a member of the leadership council for the Missionaries of the Precious Blood and currently serves as the Spiritual Director for the <u>Precious Blood Renewal Center.</u>

This weekly reflection is made available to all who are part of our Precious Blood family. Feel free to share it with others. Would you be willing to write a reflection? If so, please contact Vicky Otto at votto@pbspiritualityinstitute.org