

CALLED TO BE SAINTS

A catholic custom practiced in some countries many years ago, that perhaps has disappeared today, was to celebrate the "name day", rather than the birthday; that is the feast day of the saint whose name was given on the day of Baptism.

We could say then that on November 1st we celebrate yours and my feast day, "the Day of our Saints" whose life and virtues we hope to emulate.

What comes to your mind about the special feast day of ALL SAINTS that we celebrate every November 1st?

Which SAINTS? I bet that a good number of Catholics believe that every 1st of November we commemorate those canonized by the Pope. Not entirely correct.

Addressing the Christians, St. Paul in his letters calls them SAINTS, since in virtue of their Baptism the Holy Spirit dwells in them.

Therefore, in reality, a much greater number of SAINTS are those who were never canonized, but are nevertheless part of the "great multitude" spoken about by John in the Book of Revelation 7:9 "After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands..."

These are the Christians(or SAINTS), who remained faithful to their Baptism promises, and persevered in living united to Christ, in all circumstances however trying and difficult; thus they became "witnesses", which in Greek translates "martyrs".

YOU AND I ARE CALLED TO BE SUCH SAINTS, FAITHFUL WITNESSES (MARTYRS) OF JESUS.

Jesus calls everyone to be a SAINT no matter the background, the nationality, race or colour, because as St. Paul says, "in Christ there is no Jew or Greek, but in HIM all are reconciled."

Having become ONE, with this "great multitude" of SAINTS we gather every SUNDAY around the throne of the Lamb to worship and adore, and sing with one voice:

"SALVATION BELONGS TO OUR GOD WHO IS SEATED ON THE THRONE, AND TO THE LAMB!
BLESSING, GLORY AND HONOUR TO OUR GOD FOREVER! AMEN."

Be a Saint. Happy Feast Day!