

**Fr. Nick Dant's Homily, Saint Matthew Catholic Church, Indianapolis**  
**Solemnity of All Saints, Nov. 1, 2018**

This great Solemnity of All Saints reminds us that everyone is called to holiness – a message we all need to hear as we enter into this last month of our liturgical year – November.

We are in the season of the harvest – in which the fields yield up the bounty of all that has been planted. All crops have now come to fruition and are gathered into the barns. The church builds on this theme of the harvest, the ingathering, by celebrating this great Solemnity of All Saints. We remind ourselves – there will come that time for the great harvesting into the Kingdom of God – where all the Saints will rejoice in the bountiful harvest of what Jesus began with His planting of God's Word into the hearts of all men and women. There will come that day when God's Kingdom will come to full fruition. Will we be part of that great harvest in God's Kingdom or will we not?

All the Saints come from every where, time, and place! The Book of Revelation tells us that in God's Kingdom "A great multitude, which no one could count" will be found – "A great multitude from every nation, race, people, and tongue!" Will we be part of that great multitude??

The Gospel of Matthew, in the 8 Beatitudes, lays out the path that will lead to our full ripening into Saints, into holiness. Every All Saints Day, we read the Gospel passage of Mathew's 8 Beatitudes; reminding ourselves that Jesus calls His followers to live the Beatitude way of life.

The Beatitudes do not make impossible demands on us! They are goals that are a stretch, but are attainable! The Beatitudes basically call upon us to be honest with ourselves and to recognize that without God we are indeed poor in Spirit, to recognize our need to be meek and humble, for we do not have all the answers, to recognize our need to show mercy to ourselves and others, and our need to hunger and thirst for righteousness, for without righteousness or justice, we will never be satisfied, to recognize our need to work for peace, for we know how desperate we are to be sons and daughters of God.

Living the Beatitudes – the way of holiness – is simply seeking to live as a good Steward of what God has blessed us; the Saints simply are those people who have blossomed into full fruition as good Stewards. Jesus said in His parable of the Steward: "Who is that faithful, farsighted Steward whom the Master will set over his servants to dispense their ration of grain in due season?" Jesus said: "Blessed is the Steward whom the Master finds busy when he returns." Busy about what? Busy about trying to live out the Gospel Jesus gave us! Jesus is talking about us – we have been called to be Stewards of the Gospel, we have been called to holiness, we have been called to live the Beatitudes way of life. Blessed are we when the great harvest comes – and we are found busy living the Beatitudes, for the Kingdom of God will be ours with all the Saints.