

"Our hearts should not be limited to a small number, but encompass the whole world"

Saint Raphaela Mary



CONGRATULATIONS ON THE DAY OF SAINT RAPHAELA MARY!

With Pope Francis, we pray the invitation that Jesus extends to us -- to be saints in our everyday lives:

"all Christians, insofar as they have been baptized, are equal in dignity before the Lord and share in the same vocation, that is, to sainthood"

"First of all, we must bear clearly in mind that sanctity is not something we can procure for ourselves, that we can obtain by our own qualities and abilities. Sanctity is a gift, it is a gift granted to us by the Lord Jesus, when He takes us to Himself and clothes us in Himself, He makes us like Him. In his Letter to the Ephesians, the Apostle Paul states that 'Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her'".

"Sanctity is understood, then, not as a prerogative of the few: sanctity is a gift offered to all, no one excluded, by which the distinctive character of every Christian is constituted."

"Some think that sanctity is to close your eyes and to look like a holy icon. No! This is not sanctity! Sanctity is something greater, deeper, which God gives us. Indeed, it is precisely in living with love and offering one's own Christian witness in everyday affairs that we are called to become saints. And each in the conditions and the state of life in which he or she finds him- or herself".

General Audience, 19 November 2014 (adapted)



May we look to the Lord, and anchoring our lives in Him, may our love be universal. Let us pray for each other, and may the life of Saint Raphaela Mary inspire us to be saints in our everyday lives!

May God be with us and always guide us.

With affection,

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF THE ACI FAMILY
18th May 2015