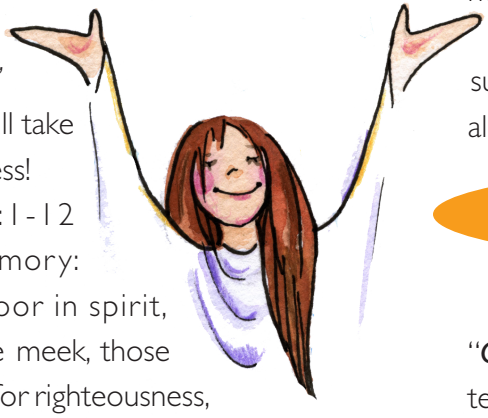
# The Catholic Tugboat

A Children's Guide to God

November 1, 2020 Cycle A, All Saints' Day Volume V, Issue 49


## Buried Treasures

In today's Gospel, Jesus Himself tells us what the characteristics of saints are in the Sermon on the Mount. These ***Beatitudes***, or *supreme 'happinesses,'* are the things which will take us into eternal happiness!



Read Matthew 5:1-12 to refresh your memory: Blessed are… the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those persecuted for righteousness sake.

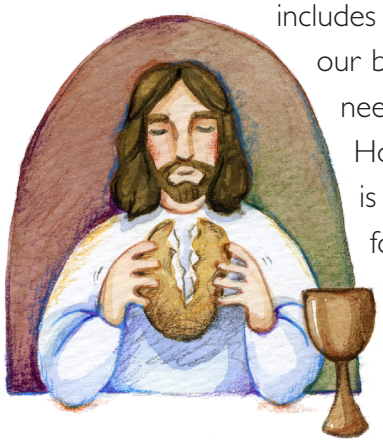
When we become the kind of person who is these things, we will experience a kind of happiness that is deep and lasting. It is the kind of happiness that nothing and no one can take from us. This is the kind of happiness that gets us through any suffering and any fear. This is the happiness of saints, of all who live in God.

**Revelation 7:2-4,9-14**
**Psalms 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6**
**1 John 3:1-3**
**Matthew 5:1-12a**

## From Your Lips to God's Ear



When we ask our heavenly Father, "***Give us this day our daily bread,***" we are telling Him how much we trust Him and depend on Him to fill our needs. This includes the 'bread' we need for our bodies and the 'bread' we need for our souls, the Most Holy Eucharist. This bread is *essential* and *necessary* for our eternal life. *(CCC 2837)*



We wholly trust and depend on our Father in heaven because He is beyond any greatness and goodness we can imagine. *(CCC 2828)* When we pray this fourth petition, we are practicing and exercising our trust. The more we exercise our trust, the stronger our faith becomes.






## Catholic I.D.

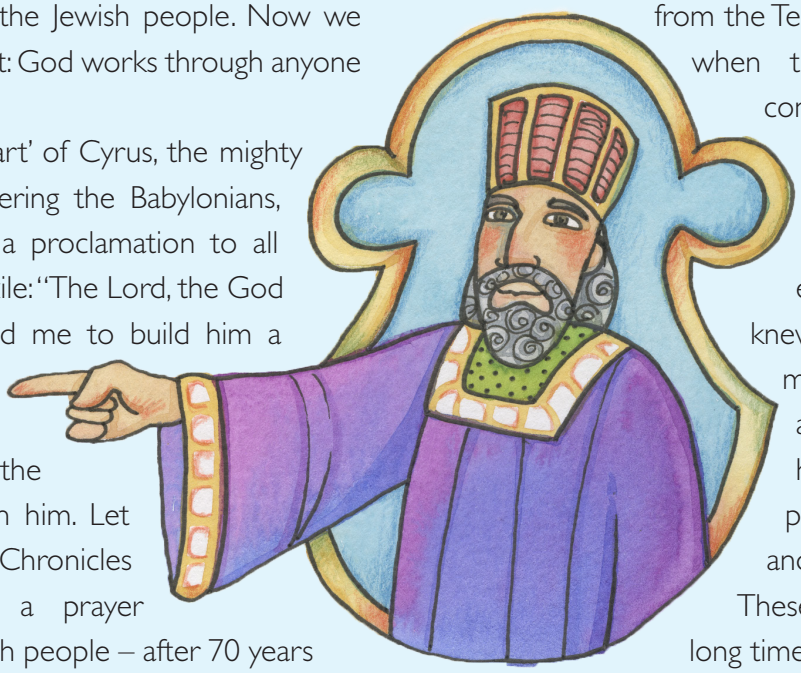
The last nine months have been challenging and hard. We had new schedules and new fears. We spent our time in fewer places and saw fewer faces. We've learned more about our faith and grew stronger in it because the more we walk with Christ, the more we look like Him.

Walking with Jesus, we learn how to live. His life and death give our life its meaning and purpose. *(CCC 1681)* No matter what happens, when we hold Jesus' hand, the Church, in the Holy Spirit, shields us in the Truth, nourishes us in the sacraments, and prepares us for new life in God. Here's to our rebirth! *(CCC 1683)*

# Our Salvation History: The Return – King Cyrus

After the Northern Kingdom fell to the Assyrians (722 B.C.), and the Southern Kingdom was conquered by the Babylonians (587 B.C.), things looked very dark for the Jewish people. Now we see something different: God works through anyone He chooses.

God 'moved the heart' of Cyrus, the mighty king of Persia. Conquering the Babylonians, Cyrus then sent out a proclamation to all those from Judah in exile: "The Lord, the God of heaven has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem… Whoever is among you of his people, may the Lord his God be with him. Let him go up." (Read 2 Chronicles 36:22-23) This was a prayer answered for the Jewish people – after 70 years in exile, they were all, wherever they lived, invited to return home.



Cyrus even returned some of the sacred vessels from the Temple that were stolen when the Babylonians had conquered the South. This motivated the exiles. While it took many years for all exiles to return, they knew that there was much to do when they arrived: They would have to rebuild the city, put up a wall around it, and restore the Temple. These tasks would take a long time.

# Tugboat Challenge



**Mark the following True or False:**

_____ **1.** Becoming someone who is *poor in spirit,* or *persecuted for righteousness sake,* or *merciful* will make us forever unhappy.

_____ **2.** When we become what the Beatitudes describe, we, like the saints, will live with God forever.

_____ **3.** Jesus' life and death give purpose to our lives, showing us how to live and face death.

_____ **4.** When we ask God to 'give us our daily bread,' we are saying that we totally trust Him.

_____ **5.** God only blesses and works through His Chosen, the Jewish people.

_____ **6.** After about 70 years in exile, the Jewish people were set free by a Persian king to return home, and were helped by the Persians to rebuild it!

Answers: 1. False 2. True 3. True 4. True 5. False 6. True

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