



# All Saints – Solemnity

## Matthew 5: 1-12a

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

## Some things to think about...

The Beatitudes are guidelines to help people to lead a good life and it is usually the Gospel reading on the feast of All Saints. They can be difficult to understand but Pope Francis explains them well in a homily he gave on the Feast of All Saints in 2013 (see Teacher's notes overleaf). Pope Francis also gave a good explanation of what it means to be a saint.

*'The Saints are not supermen, nor were they born perfect. They are like us, like each one of us. They are people who, before reaching the glory of heaven, lived normal lives with joys and sorrows, struggles and hopes. What changed their lives? When they recognized God's love, they followed it with all their heart without reserve or hypocrisy. They spent their lives serving others, they endured suffering and adversity without hatred and responded to evil with good, spreading joy and peace.'*

Who are the 'saints' in your life?

Who are 'ordinary people' that you know who show great love for God and for others?

## Activity

In groups or altogether, choose a Vincentian saint or Patron to find out more about. You could choose: St Vincent de Paul, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, St Louise de Marillac, Blessed Rosalie Rendu.

Find the fact sheets on our [website](#)!

Make a bookmark for your chosen Saint. On the bookmark include a picture of your saint, basic facts about their life and then a reason why they inspire you to be a Mini Vinnie. Could you make these for gifts at Christmas?

## Materials needed for the activity:

Access to a computer or printed fact sheets

Pens/pencils + paper to make notes

For bookmarks: paper/card cut into bookmarks, coloured pencils/pens.

## Notes:




The Beatitudes are part of the Sermon on the Mount. Jesus was speaking about what it means to lead a blessed or happy life. Pope Francis said in his homily on the feast of All Saints 2013:

(Homily at the Angelus All Saints 2013)

In the Beatitudes we are given qualities and attitudes that will help to lead a good life such as humility, mercy and righteousness and that will help to bring about the Kingdom of God, where God is in charge! The Beatitudes can be difficult to understand but this translation includes some ideas that would link to the work of Mini Vinnies eg standing up for what is right, caring for those who are sad and trying to be good, kind, and peaceful, all of which will bring us closer to God.

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