



2.11.2017

## SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS

### 7 Choices

Ever wonder about our saints? Especially ones who have many miracles associated with them or are incorrupt? Well, now is your chance as a Christian Catholic Man to participate in an examination of one Saint who not only has powerful Miracles attributed to her Words and Actions but had her body exhumed at least three times because the church hierarchy could not believe she was Incorrupt. Yep. That's right. NO Decomposition, Decay, Rottenness, Breakdown, Corrosion, or Disintegration of the body. And unlike Vladimir Lenin's body in Red Square, was NOT touched chemically, waxed or otherwise embalmed.



The Saint in question is Bernadette. Her feast-day was initially fixed for 18 February—the day her Lady promised to make her happy, not in this life, but in the next—but is now observed in most places on the date of her death, 16 April.



We continue our discussion surrounding Life Choices and Leadership. These choices will leave a legacy that is defined by one's encounters and experiences and the choices he makes in his personal and professional journey.

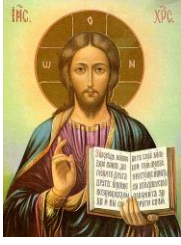
This is a perfect follow-up to last month's Christian Values Tournament Discussion. David Eich will guide us through this discussion of 7 Key Choices that one should focus on if indeed Heaven is to be our goal. There are some surprises that will provide the necessary guidance for We Men of Christ.

If we long to make a difference – and deep down, we all do – the example set by Jesus can guide our way. Let us consider the quote from Ben Franklin that provides vernacular grounding: "Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning."

This is a good time to get off on the right foot for the New Year. The Bard said it right, "What's Past is Prologue." It is time to grow and move on.

Let us pay close attention to the Scriptures, Catechism and our presentation. May God bless us with His Wisdom, His Work and the wherewithal to complete the specific mission given to each one of us. Amen

**You are God's representative on the earth and  
when you bless and encourage the people in  
your life, you are displaying God's love for them.**



## Mathew 25:34-40 Christ in Everyone

Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'

Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?'

And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

The Word of the Lord.

## Catechism *The Desire for Happiness* 1718

The Beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness. This desire is of divine origin: God has placed it in the human heart in order to draw man to the One who alone can fulfill it: We all want to live happily; in the whole human race there is no one who does not assent to this proposition, even before it is fully articulated.



How is it, then, that I seek you, Lord? Since in seeking you, my God, I seek a happy life, let me seek you so that my soul may live, for my body draws life from my soul and my soul draws life from you. God alone satisfies.



It is NOT about us that counts.  
It is the Spirit of God that speaks through us  
that makes a positive difference in the world.

May God Bless You.  
St. Hilary Men's Group

## Modern Comment

### The Search for Happiness - 7 Choices for Christian Men

David Eich

Happiness Choice #1 **Wealth or Poverty**

Question: Which is the greater gift? When you change others or when others change you? Do you have an example that justifies your position?

Happiness Choice #2 **Self or Others**

Question: Can you recall a time when you received the gift of servant leadership?

Happiness Choice #3 **Quality or Quantity**

Question: Can you provide an example when someone whose "presence" meant more than the "time" they gave you?

Happiness Choice #4 **Fidelity or Betrayal**

Question: Please share the most powerful example of fidelity you ever experienced/witnessed.

Happiness Choice #5 **Conviction or Complacency**

Question: Which is the greater risk? Being complacent to avoid an uncomfortable/embarrassing situation; or standing firm in one's convictions knowing such action will likely lose the respect of others?

Happiness Choice #6 **Pride or Proper Pride**

Question: Can you recall an experience when the sharing of your talents gave you a greater sense of worth than the adulation you received from the person benefitting from your kindness?

Happiness Choice #7 **Forgiveness or Condemnation**

Question: Which is more rewarding, to be forgiven or forgive? Please share an experience where you received the gift of forgiveness.

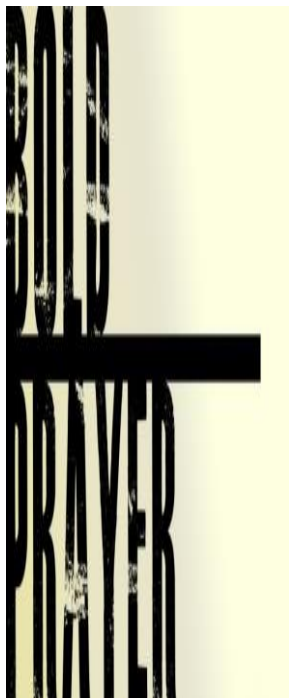
Jesus wants us to make these kinds of choices. Life constantly presents us with opportunities to choose to love and serve one another. It is not about us. It is about reaching out in love.

### Men's Group Calendar

<b>2/25/2017</b>	Leadership Meeting	CANCELLED
<b>3/11/2017</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>
<b>3/18/2017</b>	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
<b>3/25/2017</b>	<b>Annual Conference</b>	<b>Holiday Inn Rockside</b>
<b>4/8/2017</b>	<b>Men's Group</b>	<b>7 AM Mass</b>

A Man who never quits is Never Defeated.  
We are ordinary men who labor for Christ





Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself. Forgive me – the sinner that I am, and fill me with every good thing, not withholding even the gift of your most beloved son. Come dwell in my heart.

Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide me in your path. Make me worthy of your love, and teach me how to forgive as you forgave.

Thank you for your tender mercies. I ask you to bless my family, friends and those who I meet in my comings and goings. Where there is joy, give them continued joy. Where there is pain or sorrow, give them your peace and mercy. Where there is self-doubt, release in them a renewed confidence. Fill their every need with your Holy Grace.

You are indeed my Lord, God and Savior.  
Amen. And AMEN.



Prayer is simply talking to God like a friend and should be the easiest thing we do each day.

#### **ACTION PLAN**

This week I will do my best to listen to God's will in my life by:

- Creating a daily prayer practice.
- Seeking God in prayer and being quiet in His presence.
- Paying more attention to God's Blessings in my life.
- Asking Jesus for help in becoming a better servant.
- Use Every Moment to see Jesus in all things.





***The Blessed Virgin did not promise Bernadette happiness in this world but in the next. During her final years on earth, her many physical ailments proved this to be true. Bernadette herself wryly commented.***

***"The first part of these words is coming true; that I'm holding onto, I'm sure of getting it."***



***"I shall do everything for Heaven, my true home. There I shall find my Mother in all the splendor of her glory. I shall delight with her in the joy of Jesus himself in perfect safety."***

**St. Bernadette**

**"Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them."**

**Mark 11:24**

*Litany of Saints*

Lord, have mercy: Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy: Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy: Lord, have mercy.  
Holy Mary: Pray for us.  
Michael, Gabriel, Raphael: Pray for us.  
Angels of God: Pray for us.  
Abraham, Moses, and Elijah: Pray for us.  
Saint Joseph: Pray for us.  
Saint John the Baptist: Pray for us.  
Holy prophets: Pray for us.  
Saint Peter and Saint Paul: Pray for us.  
All Holy Apostles: Pray for us.  
Saint Mary Magdalene: Pray for us.  
All disciples of the Lord: Pray for us.  
Saint Stephen: Pray for us.  
Saint Perpetua and Saint Felicity: Pray for us.  
Saint Agnes: Pray for us.  
Saint Boniface: Pray for us.  
Saint Thomas More: Pray for us.  
Saint Hilary: Pray for us.  
All Holy Martyrs: Pray for us.  
Saint Augustine: Pray for us.  
Saint Basil and Saint Gregory: Pray for us.  
Saint John Chrysostom: Pray for us.  
Saint Catherine: Pray for us.  
Saint Teresa d'Avila: Pray for us.  
Saint Patrick and Saint Barbara: Pray for us.  
Saint Benedict: Pray for us.  
Saint Ignatius: Pray for us.  
Saint Clare and Saint Ann: Pray for us.  
Saint Francis Xavier: Pray for us.

Saint Vincent de Paul: Pray for us.  
Saint Elizabeth: Pray for us.  
Saint Therese & Saint Joan of Arc: Pray for us.  
Saint John Vianney: Pray for us.  
All holy men and women: Pray for us.  
Lord, be merciful: Lord, save your people.  
From all harm: Lord, save your people.  
From every sin: Lord, save your people.  
From all temptations: Lord, save your people.  
From everlasting death: Lord, save your people.  
By your coming among us: Lord, save your people.  
By your death and rising to new life:  
Lord, save your people.  
By the gift of the Holy Spirit:  
Lord, save your people.  
Be merciful to us sinners: Lord, hear our prayer.  
Guide and protect your holy church:  
Lord, hear our prayer.  
Bring all peoples together in trust and peace:  
Lord, hear our prayer.  
Strengthen us in service: Lord, hear our prayer.  
Jesus, Son of the living God: Lord, hear our prayer.  
Christ, hear us: Christ, hear us.  
Praise the Lord, who is so good: God's love endures forever.  
Praise the God of gods: God's love endures forever.  
Praise the Lord of lords: God's love endures forever.  
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer:  
Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.  
Amen. And AMEN.

