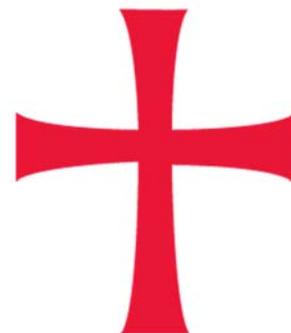




Scripture Theme 2018-2019

From the Gospel According to Matthew

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.” Matthew 5:14,16



Background

Our scripture theme this year is a perfect complement to last year's theme of humility. Jesus' call for us to be the light of the world follows the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel which encourages us through acts of humility and mercy (among others) to be a blessing for others. "Being a blessing" can translate to a call to action, an action of holiness. In his most recent apostolic exhortation, Gaudete et Exsultate, Pope Francis gives a universal call to holiness. This call to holiness is one of practicality. One in which we all can participate. In fact, Pope Francis mentions the "middle class of holiness": the everyday sanctity "present in the patience of God's people: in those parents who raise their children with immense love, in those men and women who work hard to support their families, in the sick, in elderly religious who never lose their smile. In their daily perseverance, I see the holiness of the Church militant. Very often it is a holiness found in our next-door neighbours, those who, living in our midst, reflect God's presence" (§7).

And let us add to that list the young people of our community who dedicate themselves to their studies, extracurricular activities and service to others. We have an amazing opportunity to let our light shine for others right here in our BSM community.

Our three founding charisms, each in their own way, promote proclamation of the Good News, and a commitment to serve others – all actions of leading a life of blessing and holiness. In our action, our service to others, we help those in need move out of despair and darkness and into the light and love of God and dear neighbor. Let us not forget that we have the ability to see God in others and be the hands and feet of Jesus for others.

Questions for Reflection

- 1. What does it mean to be 'holy'?**
- 2. Who has inspired you to live a life of holiness? What have they done to inspire you?**
- 3. Consider your role in your family, friendships, and profession. What are specific ways you can be holy or let your light shine?**

