

**A LETTER TO THE BLESSEDS
POPE JOHN PAUL II**

Full of deeply felt joy we thank God who bestows bountifully the gift of holiness, and we bow reverently to venerate the new Blessed...

Let us listen docilely to the message they address to us by the power of their witness... On this day of glory they remind us that we are all invited and bound to pursue the holiness and perfection of our own state... and that the Church, which lives in time, is missionary by her very nature and must follow the same path followed by Christ-that is, the way of poverty, obedience, service, and self-sacrifice until death.

O Blessed, whom the pilgrim Church glorifies; and exalts today, give us the strength to imitate your limpid faith when we find ourselves in moments of darkness; your serene hope when we are disheartened by difficulties; your ardent love of God, when we are tempted to idolize creatures; your delicate love of brothers, when we would like to shut ourselves up in our selfish individualism!

O Blessed, bless your countries, those of your origin and those given to you by God, like the "Promised Land" to Abraham, and which you loved, evangelized, and sanctified!

O Blessed, bless the whole Church, a pilgrim that is awaiting her lasting country!

O Blessed, bless the world, which is hungry and thirsty for holiness!...

Pray for us!

From "The Prayers of John-Paul II"

