placed before every man is not the holiness of saints and angels; it is <u>divine</u> holiness that must always be our ideal - and must always be before us. And we are bound by the very fact that we are Christians to seek after this kind of holiness and perfection. God wants my holiness, and my holiness must reflect God back to Himself. If I reflect back to God the holiness that I find in the saint or the angel, surely, the reflection would be most wondrous, but the reflection would present to God no more than some sort of a carbon copy of the original saint or angel I have in mind. God seeks of me only that reflection of Himself that I not somebody else - have been called upon by Him to reflect back to Him.

The other point I must remember is that becoming holy is not like graduating from one level to another - graduating on the merits gained by the performance of a well outlined list of performances and external observances of a religious nature. For those who think thusly - from the outside - it may appear as though there are passing grades, given for the required work well done. Graduation with the various degrees of honor here means reward for work well done. NOT SO! The reality of the whole thing depends on MY DEGREE OF LOVE - - - NOT - - - the catalogue of my life's prayer accomplishments. With God, the only test that I am required to pass is the test of Charity - Charity that I have given as generously and honestly as I can. How so? Because it means that I have got Charity and Charity is God - - - AND THAT IS SANCTITY.



Feast of the Assumption of Our Most Blessed Mother August 15