

simply, mercifully, and lovingly asks that we strive to maintain unwavering fidelity to our reasonable religious obligations; that we perform our daily tasks to the best of our abilities; that we strive to be honest, patient, and charitable; that we keep constant guard against temptation; that we have genuine good will in our religious commitment; that with the free exercise of love, we love Him with our whole heart and mind and soul and being. Is He asking for too much? Is this demand of His beyond human strength?

However, besides the living out of such unspectacular requests, there is a bit more that should be done by those who claim to love God: there is the quiet but effective and greatly meritorious routine of patiently bearing the various unavoidable and inevitable crosses present in everyday life: pain, sickness, weariness, humiliation, disappointment, frustration, tension, anxiety, fear, disagreement, misunderstanding, and all the rest. Even the weather can be a source of worry, concern, and discomfort. All these and countless others can be turned into prayerful advantages, simply by offering them to God. It is all a matter of disposition and intention. An improper attitude - a grumbling disposition - can make of these a total waste, reducing them to the ashes of uselessness, whereas a simple turning around of our intention and disposition quickly makes of these moments works of the greatest value, which serve for the betterment of all mankind and at the same time increases our own sanctity.

EXCEPTIONAL TIMES DEMAND EXCEPTIONAL CONDUCT. The wave of evil today can only be turned back by a counter-wave of holiness. Everyone is called upon to participate in this counter-wave and in the work of expiation and reparation. The situation is so critical that no one has the right to be mediocre. □



But - for whom shall we pray?

When we pray we must pray for everyone - we must leave no man or woman or child out of our prayer. God made all men to be with Him in heaven for all eternity, and this includes every member of Humankind, regardless of station or condition of place. Weak human nature and erroneous persuasions will prevent some from achieving the purpose intended for them by God, but that matter remains entirely between all such and God. We must not, indeed we cannot, make judgments concerning any such matters. If there is any sifting to be done, it is to be done by God, Himself alone. We are not the ones to do the sifting!