

## BEACON LIGHTS

If we truly desire to become saints, we must learn how to love. Saints know how to love. That is why fidelity is such a prominent and constant trait of saints. Fidelity is the most delicate flower of love, to which nothing is little. It is here that we find the secret of the tremendous power and influence of saints.

As far back as the seventeenth century we find some very powerful words concerning our beloved saints. The following was written by Mother Jeanne Delaloe, a Benedictine nun:

*"The saints have, in fact, a way of speaking to others which stretches out arms to every misfortune, adopts all distress, restores dignity to the fallen; they have a way of not thinking of themselves, and of creating a void in their souls emptied of self which opens out abysses of disinterestedness where our miseries may be engulfed. They act less by what they do than by what they are; it is their radiating charity which urges us on even into the arms of Christ. They are irresistible, like Omnipotence, because they have become, in the image of God, pure love. ...*

*"He who has no fellowship with the saints lives solitary upon earth; he who is not attracted by them knows not the worth of friendship. He who wishes to know himself and learn more than ancient wisdom can teach him, should yield to their attraction. Far better than any analysis or study, their sympathy reveals to us our own soul. Whilst our restless heart longs to experience the mystic joys, the struggles and triumphs of fair love, let us remember that never was love sung, wept, and lived as by these heroes! ... It is not prudent to enter alone upon the rugged paths of perfection: lest we stumble we must put our hand in theirs; for fear of falling we must think of their holy enthusiasm and forget our weariness, and if we would not go astray we must follow in the track of those flaming torches which in the chaos of this vain and empty world throw their beacon light upon the highway of salvation and make order and security to reign." □*