

Your Holiness

Very often it is a holiness found in our next-door neighbours, those who, living in our midst, reflect God's presence. We might call them "the middle class of holiness".

Certainly the most decisive turning points in world history are substantially co-determined by souls whom no history book ever mentions.

But I think too of all those unknown or forgotten women who, each in her own way, sustained and transformed families and communities by the power of their witness.

We are called to be contemplatives even in the midst of action, and to grow in holiness by responsibly and generously carrying out our proper mission.

Needless to say, anything done out of anxiety, pride or the need to impress others will not lead to holiness.

The same distractions that are omnipresent in today's world also make us tend to absolutize our free time ...as a result, we come to resent our mission, our commitment grows slack, and our generous and ready spirit of service begins to flag.

The bishops of West Africa have observed that "we are being called in the spirit of the New Evangelization to be evangelized and to evangelize through the empowering of all you, the baptized, to take up your roles as salt of the earth and light of the world wherever you find yourselves".