

**Homily Outline for the Solemnity of All Saints
Mass for the Bishops' Plan Insurance Company**

**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
Burlington, Vermont
October 31, 2017**

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S.S.P.: We are all called to holiness, to dwell forever with Christ, Our Lord and Savior

- I. Mount of the Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount
 - A. *Makarios* – blessed, happy, holy
 - B. Beatitudes are a formula for holiness: God will save those who need Him.
 - C. All are called to this holiness.
 1. 1st reading: 144,000 = 12 x 12 x 1,000 = symbolic number of completeness
 2. Next sentence: vision of a great multitude of angels and people around the throne of God

- II. How does one become holy?
 - A. By following Jesus as the Lord of our lives
 - B. Confirmation candidate in answer to the question – how do you plan to live out your Confirmation commitment? – wrote, “I will give more of my attention to God than my phone.”
 - C. We all laugh, but this statement is profoundly true. As a realistic test of your love for God, ask: do you give more attention to God or to your smart phone?

- III. Pope Saint John Paul II, Apostolic Letter, *NOVO MILLENNIO INEUNTE*, “On entering the New Millennium” (nos. 30-31): “First of all, I have no hesitation in saying that all pastoral initiatives must be set in relation to *holiness*.”
 - A. This applies to all of us personally and individually, but also applies to our work in relation with the Church.
 - B. We should see our work with our dioceses and with BPIC in relation to provides the structures to help people to be holy, to become saints!

- IV. May God give us this grace. Amen.