

"I'm No Saint, But Then Again..."

I recently read of a controversy involving Pope Pius XII, who was pope of the Roman Catholic Church during WWII. The controversy is centered on a declaration made by Pope Benedict XVI, the current pope, concerning Pius XII and his perceived lack of opposition to the Holocaust. An Israeli cabinet member was disturbed by the remark and took it as a sign that Benedict XVI is renewing the long process through which Pius XII could be recognized as a saint by the Catholic church.

What caught my attention was not so much the controversy itself as much as the various beliefs about sainthood. Who is a saint? is a question that would be answered differently by Christians of various denominations or affiliations. As I (and most Protestants) understand it, the New Testament's use of the word "saint" is radically different than that of the Catholic church.

The Greek word *hagioi* from which we get the English word "saint" means "holy ones." But it doesn't mean holy in reference to character as much as consecration and divine ownership. In other words a person is a saint not because she is good, but because God has selected her to be set apart, or special, in His eyes. Or said another way, what makes a person a saint is not his behavior, but his status before God. For this reason every Christian believer is a saint. I'm a saint, and if you're a Christian, then you are a saint as well.

The apostle Paul writes, "Immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints" (Ephesians 5:3). Paul is saying that because we have been made saints by God, we should then live different kinds of lives. That is different than saying if we live different kinds of lives then we will become saints.

What does all of this matter? Consider the often heard statement, "Now I'm no saint but," or, "She is such a saint." These suggest that sainthood is reserved for exceptionally good people, which few of us believe we can ever attain or should waste the effort striving for. But if we use the biblical teaching of sainthood as something God does to us through Christ, then I believe we are more likely to pursue a "saintly" life.

Saint Curtis Williams

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

Date	New Testament	Old Testament
Monday, 11/17	1 Thess. 3	Daniel 9-12
Tuesday, 11/18	1 Thess. 4	Hosea 1-4
Wednesday, 11/19	1 Thess. 5	Hosea 5-8
Thursday, 11/20	2 Thess. 1	Hosea 9-12
Friday, 11/21	2 Thess. 2	Hosea 13-14
Saturday, 11/22	Reflection*	Reflection
Sunday, 11/23	Reflection	Reflection

*Saturdays and Sundays are reserved as days to re-read and reflect upon previous readings, or catch up on readings missed during the week.

OPERATION SERVANTHOOD: A MORNING OF FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FAITHFULNESS TO GOD Sunday, November 23

Schedule

9:10 am	Period of fellowship and eating, donuts and breakfast foods will be served*
9:40 am	Kids dismissed to their regular classes to help package groceries
9:45 am	Ministry presentation for adults
10:20 am	Kids dismissed from classes
10:30 am	Worship begins

Please bring canned goods, sugar, flour, canned fruits, or pie mixes, which will be donated to Boles Children's Home.

***Donuts and coffee will not be served between Bible class and worship but only during the 9:10 to 9:40 fellowship period.**

North Pointe Ministry Staff

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North Pointe Support Staff

Tammi Omer, Administrative Assistant
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Sunday morning schedule

Bible classes.....9:30 am
Worship service.....10:30 am

North Pointe Shepherds

Mike Campbell
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Church Office Information

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North Pointe Web Page

www.northpointecofc.org



November 16, 2008

Order of Worship

Opening Songs

Welcome

Baby Blessing

Call to Worship

Song: *Shout Hallelujah*

Song: *Shout to the North*

Song: *You Are the Song That I Sing*

Song: *He Gave Me a Song*

Offering

(Children's Offering* and kids dismissed to Children's Worship**)

Song: *Jesus Loves Me*

Communion

Song: *Mighty Is the Power of the Cross*

Song: *Boundless Love*

Message

Song: *Nobody Fills My Heart Like Jesus*

Family News

Song: *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

Prayer

New to North Pointe and have children?

Children are an important part of the North Pointe church. For this reason we offer the following opportunities for children during our worship service:

Nursery: A staffed nursery with pagers for parents, is provided during the worship service. The nursery for babies, toddlers and two year olds is located in E Hall past the restrooms. A separate, non-staffed nursery is also available for parents to use as needed.

***Children's Offering:** To teach our children the discipline of giving we provide them an opportunity to contribute in a visible way. This money is used for various ministries.

****Children's Worship:** Because children have their own unique level of learning and expression we offer a special worship period for children 3 years of age through 2nd grade. Children are dismissed to Children's Worship following the Children's offering.

***What is "Face-to-Face with God"?

This time during our worship service allows three opportunities for personal prayer. Your may: 1) remain in your seat and spend time privately praying to God, 2) go to the back of the cafeteria where a member of our prayer team will pray for you or with you, privately and confidentially, or 3) come to the front row of seats with your public prayer request where the prayer leader will include your request in his prayer concluding this period.

North Pointe News

Today

Collection for Donut Fund

This Week

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 19

10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Home of **Deanna Priebe**

316 Love Bird Lane, Murphy

Mustin Pointe Group

Wednesday, November 19

Meets each Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m.

Home of **Bill** and **Patty Mustin**

2714 Briarbrook Lane, Garland

Study: Renewing Your Spiritual Life

Future Events

Collection for Donut Fund

Sunday, November 23

Holiday Open House

Sunday, December 7

3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Home of **John** and **Stephan Cathey**

3265 Heatherbrook Lane, Richardson

Everyone is invited.

"... so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation in which you shine like stars in the universe ..."
Philippians 2:15



Today

Leadership Training for Christ

Bible Bowl Practice

4:15 to 5:15 p.m. at the church office

Bring your notebooks, accountability sheets and make sure you have read your chapters!

This Week

Children's Chorus

Wednesday, November 19

6:45 p.m. at the church office

Future Events

Christmas Cookie Party

Saturday, December 6

For kindergarten through fifth grade

1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at the church office

Christmas Musical "Visions of Christmas"

Sunday, December 14

9:30 a.m. Performance

Followed by a time of fellowship and breakfast food.
We will be asking you to sign up to bring breakfast foods.

Put These On Your 2009 Calendar

Leadership Training for Christ

Friday, April 10 – Saturday, April 11, 2009

Camp Impact

June 28 – July 2

For those entering fourth through sixth grades

Beverly Ritz

North Pointe Youth Ministry

Today

No Bible Bowl Practice

This Week

No Teen Pointe Group

Future Events

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13

6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Home of **Keith** and **Gerri Wyatt**

5606 Lena Judd, Sachse

Put These On Your 2009 Calendar

Camp Zenith for High School

June 21 – 26, 2009

Camp Cornerstone for Middle School

July 12 – 17, 2009

Matt Lee

Record for Sunday, November 9

Worship Attendance:

General Offering: \$

Children's Offering: \$

Future Facilities fund:\$

Lifeline of Hope Donation:\$