Monday of the Thirty-fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (*Lk* 21:1-4): When Jesus looked up he saw some wealthy people putting their offerings into the treasury and he noticed a poor widow putting in two small coins. He said, “I tell you truly, this poor widow put in more than all the rest... She, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood.”

Holiness in ordinary life

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)
(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, the discrete offering of the poor widow "stirs up" Jesus’ attention. Before His eyes, the saints are not a small cast of chosen souls, but an innumerable crowd: the officially recognized and also the baptized of every epoch who sought to carry out the divine will faithfully and lovingly. There are many faces and names we do not know but with the eyes of faith we see them shine like stars full of glory in the divine firmament.

The example of the Saints encourages us to follow in their same footsteps and to experience the joy of those who trust in God, in the great family of God’s friends. This is the vocation of all of us, vigorously reaffirmed by the Second Vatican Council. And to be saints it is not necessary to perform extraordinary deeds and works, nor is it necessary to possess exceptional charisms.

—O Lord, holiness demands a constant effort, but it is possible for all of us since it is not just the work of man but is, above all, a gift of God.