

**Commentary on the Gospel for Sun, Feb 19th 2023**

*Read:* The message of Exodus is clear: we are called to live in holiness because we are the children of a God who is holiness itself. Paul reminds us that the Holy Spirit dwelling in us makes us the temple of God. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus makes it clear that holiness is grounded in reflecting God's unconditional, self-sacrificing love.

*Reflect:* Saint John Paul II spoke often about the universal call to holiness. Holiness is not reserved for clergy and religious or to those few special people who are widely recognized as living saints. Instead, each of us is called to holiness in our own state in life and in our own unique circumstances.

The pursuit of holiness will not be easy. It means conforming our will to God's will, to giving more than is requested, to meeting hatred with love, to meeting evil with goodness, and violence with peace.

Of course, we cannot do this on our own. We can only become holy ..... to become holy.

*Pray:* Dear Father in heaven, send us your Spirit so that I can be more like you, holy in everything I do.

*Act:* Look for an opportunity to forgive rather than escalate disagreements.

=====

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Victoria Sanchez - Madrid Teacher and Mary Elizabeth Sperry - Bible Diary 2023 - Claretian Communications Foundation, Inc.