HOLINESS IS LIVING WITH OUR INADEQUACIES

<u>Church of Our Mother of Perpetual Help Ipoh on 10</u> <u>OCTOBER 2018</u>

The session started at 8pm with 15minutes praise and worship followed by a teaching by Rev Fr Joseph Stephen. About 140 people from OMPH and sister churches in Ipoh attended this session.

Fr Joe explained that Vatican II initiated a radical shift in the way we think where the Church is telling all the faithful that we are all called to be holy [not only the religious and clergy]. In this journey towards holiness, we find ourselves striving, grappling and struggling with various things depending on the context we are born into [where we came from].

In his sharing, Fr Joe cited the lives of St Augustine of Hippo, St Katherine of Drexel and St Theresa of Lisieux, explaining the inadequacies in their lives and how by the grace of God and their willingness to change led them to become saints. St Augustine and St Theresa became doctors of the Church. St Katherine started a congregation dedicated in educating natives and blacks in America. The struggles of these saints proved to us that we should not let our own inadequacies stop us from becoming holy. 2 Corinthians 12:9 says, "But he says to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness". The call to holiness is to be open and respond to the grace of God like the many saints whom we venerate and honour did.

Fr Joe also encouraged us to read the Apostolic Exhortation of the Holy Father Pope Francis on the Call to Holiness in Today's World.

