

**May 6, 2020**

**Dear Parishioners of Christ on the Mountain,**

As we continue to reflect on Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation on The Call to Holiness we look at pelagianism and ancient heresy still being proposed which asserts that personal effort and human will take the place of grace. When we trust in our own power to be faithful to a particular Catholic style and fail to realize that in this life human weakness is not healed once for all by grace we leave no room for God bringing about the potential good that is part of a sincere and genuine journey of growth. Grace, precisely because it builds on nature, does not make us superhuman all at once (50). Grace takes hold of us and transforms us progressively.

One way pelagianaism can be expressed is when we say that God Dwells in Us. This tends to give "Us" a lot of credit. It is better to say that we dwell in him and that he enables us to dwell in his light and love. (51) We are not justified by our own works or efforts but by the grace of the Lord who always takes initiative. Grace is a free gift from God and nothing we can do could earn it.

Remembering the gift and not taking credit for it or thinking we merit it is one way to stay away from pelaganism.

**Remembering the gift!**

**Fr. David**