LOVE to the MAX LIVE to the MAX HOLY to the MAX

Are you ready to go? Let's begin a the journey to holiness together. Yes, our goal is to be holy, holy to the maximum! What's this journey like? Well, first of all we must ride the train on the railroad to holiness. It's a train running on the rails of contemplation and action. Both are necessary for the train to not only run smoothly, but to go forward at all. We wouldn't go far running on only one of them, and would risk going off track completely.

Contemplation is the constant awareness of God's presence in all creation. It's talking to Him in prayer, and seeking Him by exploring our interior world. It is listening to His words and trying to apply them to our life, while looking forward to staying in His presence. Practically, it's falling in love, and when we are in love everything is special and makes sense! Contemplation is the unique way to say to God, "You're important to me" and hear His voice responding, "You're precious to Me and I love you." The fire of love ignited in contemplation does not die contained within the heart, but bursts forth, invading every heart and every place. How? Action.

Our actions must show to others our love for God, by loving others as we love God. We do this by putting into practice what we experience in contemplation. Action is being God's hands to help others in need, God's eyes to see and understand, God's mouth for words of compassion and mercy, God's feet to spread the Good News and work for peace, and God's heart to sacrifice our time, will and passion for the sake of those we love.

Practicing contemplation and action, two dimensions of love, we reach our final destination - our own happiness, and the happiness of all men. Let's begin our journey on this railway to holiness!

Words Of Wisdom

Contemplation is not merely conversation with an invisible God, it is a relationship with the God alive in you, and visible in all the beauty of the world.

YOUTH IN ACTION

Hi, my name is Clare. I graduated from highschool in 2005, and then completed one and a half years at a community college. But, I realized that I didn't know what I was doing with my life, or should I say, what God was doing with my life. I knew that God needed to be in the picture.

So, In October I moved in with the Fr. Kolbe Missionaries to volunteer as a lay missionary for six months. Looking back to before I committed myself to this experience, I can clearly see that God was not really in the picture. My daily routine consisted of going to school, doing homework and spending time with friends and family. Aside from a daily rosary and Mass on Sunday, I made no other time for God. Now, I participate in the missionaries' daily life of prayer, work, and recreation.

Everyone gets wrapped up in their daily routines, but it is good to ask yourself if you are leaving enough time for God. He makes it clear to me that I need Him in my life. In these moments, I try to increase my prayer life and build a good relationship with Him. The important thing to remember, however, is that I need Him all the time!

CHALLENGE: LOVE

Listen to the word of God. Meditate upon a little excerpt of the Gospel every day, for at least fifteen minutes.

Obey his word that is manifest through your parents, teachers,etc...

Verify yoru actions, always be charitable in what you do and say.

Evangelize by enthusiastically testifying to God's love for you!