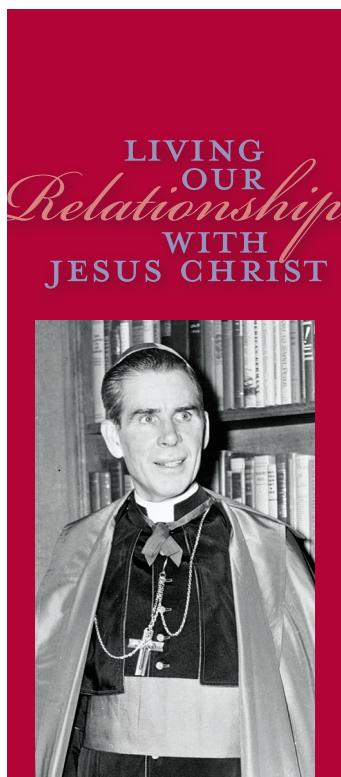




YEAR OF FAITH²⁰¹²₂₀₁₃



"Sometimes the only way the good Lord can get into some hearts is to break them."

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

From "Through the Year with Fulton Sheen"

Witnesses of Love

Living signs of Christ's presence in the world

Venerable Fulton J. Sheen (1875–1979)

Preacher, professor, and philosopher Fulton John Sheen, was born in El Paso, Illinois, and died in New York City. He was an auxiliary bishop of New York, then bishop of Rochester. An intense prayer life sustained him as he used his talents for the Church. A great communicator, Sheen began with the written word in 1925, moved to radio, and then television. His program "Life Is Worth Living" is still aired. Archbishop Sheen was dubbed "the greatest evangelizer in the history of the Catholic Church in the United States." Accepting an Emmy, he quipped, "I feel it is time I pay tribute to my four writers—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John." Sheen authored more than sixty books and donated his profits. He also was head of the Society of the Propagation of the Faith.

Pope John Paul II once said to Archbishop Sheen, "You have written and spoken well of the Lord Jesus. You are a loyal son of the Church."

In 2002, the cause for Archbishop Sheen's canonization began. Pope Benedict XVI recognized his life of "heroic virtue" and declared him Venerable in 2012. One required miracle being considered concerns an apparently stillborn infant who had no pulse for sixty-one minutes. After prayers to Sheen, the boy breathed and is healthy without any impairments.

When Venerable Fulton J. Sheen is officially declared a saint, he may well become the patron saint of media and evangelization. In this Year of Faith we thank God for the life of this great evangelizer.

Sister Juliemarie McDonald, SND

For Reflection

1. Recall a time when your own heart was broken. How was your wound healed? Was an intense prayer life part of the healing?
2. Notice people experiencing brokenness in your Church community. How and when can you specifically help them?
3. Many families hurt because a member has drifted away from the Church. How can you evangelize them and like a shepherd bring them back to the faith?
4. What message might the good Lord trying to get across to our wounded nation?

Read more...www.dioceseofcleveland.org/yearoffaith 

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