

Some Words on 'Everyday Faithfulness'

By Reformist Hierophant Andelo Kopač

No matter where I go, I can never escape '*The Tone*.'

Let me explain.

People expect me, as a member of The High Church, to be forever holed up in some alcove, lit only by the light of my datapad as I scroll through pages and pages of scripture until the battery runs out.

They *don't* expect to see me, for example, attending a psiball game.

It is at *these* times when '*The Tone*' emerges.

A distinct shift in being that encompasses voice, mind and body.

Symptoms include:

- An expanded yet entirely more wholesome vocabulary
- Excessive nodding in agreement
- Dramatically improved posture

And the all-too-often used:

- 'hands behind backs' *thrust* manoeuvre designed to both signal that they have nothing to hide yet also conceal whatever is currently in their grasp (just because we don't single it out in public does not mean that it hasn't been noticed...)

Often, it also includes the detailed retelling of each and every pious act that individual has diligently crammed into that particular day.

This '*switch*' from normal, everyday, life to 'Church Mode,' sadly occurs all too often.

We all switch modes each and every day, depending on what time it is or what task is at hand, but if you have to switch into Church Mode, you're doing it wrong.

Faith is the soil in which the roots of your Soul grow, not the sun that beats down insistently upon it from above at certain times of the day.

Like all good soil, it takes care, attention, and cultivation, and the way that this is done is through ensuring that your actions are anchored in the Ten Virtues. They don't *always* have to be huge, public displays of piety; instead, look at the little things you could do or *are already doing* on a regular basis, and anchor them in your Faith.

Here are some ideas for starters:

- Diligently check in on an elderly neighbour
- Stay strong when a loved one is ill
- Speak up when someone is less than truthful
- Give your employees the afternoon off
- Congratulate the other psiball team when they beat yours (even if it is for the eighteenth season in a row...)

If you use faith as a filter for your actions, you will probably realise that you are doing a lot better at all this than you thought.

Of course, it would be incorrect to suggest that this is all it takes to be a faithful follower of The High Church - indeed, if I suggested otherwise, my Orthodox fellows would have something to say about it.

When you feel you are ready for some next steps, however, my thoughts are these: seek out your local High Church place of worship, and *speak to us about it*.

It is our duty to foster faith. You will not be the first (nor will you be the last) who enters a Church for the first time and is unsure what to do.

Speak to us. Tell us about your life - your wants, your needs, your passions -and then we can advise accordingly. Every person will be different; the ways in which an ACRE Director demonstrates their faith will most likely be different to an Aquilan Decanus on the frontlines.

And of course, if you have an idea as to how the High Church can benefit you, your local area or the sector at large, consider applying to *The Ninth Virtue Charitable Trust* and explore our partnership options.

Ten Blessings, readers,

Your servant in faith,

