# Imitating the saints

Madly in love with God



Topics are inter connected – A "continuation" of salvation history - Love manifested in the Bible, and "BB" ie beyond the Bible up until our age

### Who is a saint?

Someone set apart (sanctus) because a desire is **AWOKEN in him.** Hence he is (aspires to be) **madly in love with God**, and because of that, desires to **imitate Christ.** 

# From the *imitation of Christ*

 "He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, says Our Lord... In these words, Christ counsels us to follow His life and way if we desire true enlightenment and freedom from all blindness of heart... Let the life of Jesus Christ, then, be our first consideration... Whoever desires to understand and take delight in the words of Christ must strive to conform his whole life to Him [2]."

The imitation of Christ entails imitating his virtues



#### Human nature in the Western tradition

#### **Plato's Tripartite Soul**

Plato identified three distinct elements of the soul or psyche, that make up who we are and are responsible for our behaviour. The theory attempts to explain why we do what we do. We can use this awareness to make better life decisions and improve our behaviour.

The 3 Parts Of The Soul	Drive	Body	Loves	Virtue	Vice
Rational	Logic	₩ B	Truth & Wisdom	Wisdom	Pride/Sloth
Spirited	Emotion	$\heartsuit$	Honour & Victory	Courage	Anger/Envy
Appetitive	Desire	Belly/Genitals	Pleasure	Moderation	Greed