

When we give an alms to one in need we should not think of the person to whom we give it, nor take into account our liking or disliking him, but only of God, Whom we assist in His person, for are we not all the children of God, and has not Jesus Christ died for the redemption of all? **St. Paul**, in his Epistle to the Romans, says: "There is no respect of persons with God."

The Lame Man and the Princess

The Princess Galitzin was one day passing over a bridge in St. Petersburg, when she saw an old man sitting there, asking alms from those who were going by.

She gave him some money in value about six pence, and then continued on her way. The poor old man, who was also lame, no sooner received the money than he ran as fast as his feeble limbs would carry him to a blind man who sat a short distance off, and gave him the half of what she had given him.

The Princess, who saw this act of charity, was very much moved. She sent for the lame man to whom she had given the alms, and said to him: "Who is that poor old man with whom you have shared the alms? Is he your father or your brother?"

"He is not related to me by blood," the old man replied, "but he is my brother in Jesus Christ. In our younger days we served together in the army, and now in our old age we are brothers in misfortune. He is, indeed, more to be pitied than I am, because he cannot see; is it not therefore just that I should help him, and beg for him as well as for myself?"

The Princess was moved to tears at the poor man's generous conduct, and gave him a gold piece, promising at the same time not to forget him. She afterwards told one of her friends that she had never in all her life experienced so much pleasure as when she gave that alms.

Catechism in Examples by Rev. D. Chisholm

Please Pray for Our Deceased Members

Anna Fajardo
St. Matthew – San Mateo, CA

Grace Schneider
St. Charles Borromeo – Rochester, NY

Jack Lynch
St. Jude the Apostle -- Rochester, NY

Mary Capatetia
St. Mathias – Crown Point, IN

James DeStefano
St. Mathias – Crown Point, IN

Kathleen Maher (long time member)
St. Patricks Parish -- Yorktown Heights, NY

Joe A. Alarid
Holy Family – Pueblo, CO

Juanita Cisneros
St. Joseph – Pueblo, CO

Mary Rose Arellano
St. Francis Xavier – Pueblo, CO

Each month, a Mass is offered for deceased members listed in the monthly letter as above; and another Mass is offered for all past deceased members.

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My Dear Friend in Christ, Could you please help with the printing and mailing of these letters with a donation? Thank you. God bless you and Mary keep you.

Paul H. Monette

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Communion Thanksgiving: Jesus sits in our soul as on a throne of grace. St. Alphonsus di Liguori

NAS Letter October 2022

... in His Presence

Desire of Jesus to Remain With Us

Loving Jesus -- Our Repose: Most amiable Jesus, I hear Thee say from this tabernacle, in which Thou art present, *This is my resting-place forever, here will I dwell, for I have desired it.* (Ps. 131, 14.) Since, then, Thou hast chosen Thy dwelling on our altars in the midst of us, remaining there in the Most Holy Sacrament, and since Thy love for us makes Thee there find Thy repose, it is but just that our hearts also should ever dwell with Thee in affection, and should find all pleasure and repose in Thee.

Stay near to Jesus: Blessed are you, O loving souls, who can find no sweeter repose in the world than in remaining near to your Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament!

My Greatest Delight: And blessed should I be, my Lord, did I from this time forward find no greater delight than in remaining always in Thy presence, or in always thinking of Thee, who in the Most Holy Sacrament art always thinking of me and of my welfare.

Please take and keep this letter and reflect on its contents during the month in your visits to the Blessed Sacrament and see that your heart and mind will open to His grace into knowledge and love of God, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

----- **Affections** -----

Patience of God: Ah, my Lord! and why have I lost so many years, in which I have not loved Thee? I bless Thee, O infinite patience of my God, for having for so many years borne with me, though so ungrateful to Thy love. And still, notwithstanding this ingratitude, Thou wait for me: and why, my God, why? It is, that one day, overcome by Thy mercies and by Thy love, I may yield wholly to Thee.

O Lord, I will no longer resist, I will no longer be ungrateful. It is but just that I should consecrate to Thee the time, be it long or short, which I have still to live.

Please give me the grace to love Thee, O God, worthy of infinite love. I love Thee with my whole heart; I love Thee above all things: I love Thee more than myself, more than my life.

My Jesus, I thank Thee for having waited for me until now!

Visits #14 by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

Mary's Love For Her Neighbor

Love of God and love of neighbor are commanded by God in the same precept: *And this commandment we have from him, that he who loves God should love his brother also* (1 Jn. 4:21). One day **St. Catherine of Genoa** said: "Lord, You say that I should love my neighbor, but I can love no one but You." God replied to her in these words: "Everybody who loves Me loves what I love."

Mary could not display her overflowing charity more fully than she did when she offered the death of her Son for our salvation. With regard to this **St. Bonaventure** says: "Mary so loved the world as to give her only-begotten Son." This also inspired **St. Anselm** to exclaim: "O blessed among women, your purity surpasses that of the angels, and your charity that of the saints!"

The Glories of Mary by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

Fruits of Almsgiving are Most Abundant

1. It frees the soul from eternal death, whether this is in the way of satisfaction, or a disposition to receive grace, or in any other way. The sacred Scriptures plainly teach this doctrine. In the book of Tobias, we thus read, "For alms deliver from all sin and from death, and will not suffer the soul to go into darkness"; (Tob. 4:11)

2. If alms be given by a just man, and with true charity, they are **meritorious of eternal life**. To this the Judge of the living and the dead bears witness: "Come, ye blessed of my Father, possess the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me to eat.... Amen, I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these, my least brethren, you did it to me (Matt. 25:34-35, 40)

3. Almsgiving is, as it were, **like Baptism**, because it **does away with both the sin and the punishment** thereof, according to the words of Ecclesiasticus: "Water quenqueth a flaming fire, and alms resisteth sins." (Eccles. 3:33) Water entirely extinguishes fire, so that not even any smoke remains.

Such, then, is one great advantage, which ought to inflame all men with a love of almsgiving. This must not be understood of every kind, but **only of that which proceeds from great contrition and ardent charity**. Such was that of **St. Mary Magdalene**, who, with tears of true contrition, washed the feet of our Lord; and having purchased most precious ointment, she anointed His feet with it. (Luke 7:38)

Method Of Giving Alms

1. Give our alms with the **pure intention of pleasing God**, and not of obtaining human praise.
2. Alms should be given **promptly and willingly**, so that they may not seem to be extorted

through entreaties nor deferred from day to day, if possible

3. We should give our alms **with joy**, not with sadness. Ecclesiasticus says, "In every gift, show a cheerful countenance"

How to be a Saint, Now and Forever by St. Robert Bellarmine

"Charity Covereth a Multitude of Sins"

There was once a young man who had passed his youth in sin, but who afterwards sincerely wished to change his life. At first he thought that this would be impossible for him, for he feared that whatever he might do would be of no avail to excite contrition in his heart.

One day as he was plunged in deep melancholy he left his house in order to seek some relief in the society of his companions. On leaving his house he met at the door a poor beggar. As soon as he saw him, he remembered the words of Jesus Christ: "Whatsoever you have done to the least of My brethren you have done it to Me." He then went back, and, taking a loaf of bread, he cast himself on his knees before the beggar, and gave it to him, praying at the same time in these words: "My Lord Jesus Christ, I adore Thee in the person of this poor man. Most gladly would I give Thee my whole heart, but I cannot, because it is too hardened; for the present, at least, take this loaf of bread which I am still able to give, and do with my heart whatsoever Thou wilt."

Oh, the wonderful power of prayer when accompanied with works of charity! No sooner had he prayed thus than he felt in his heart so bitter a sorrow for all his sins that he shed a torrent of tears

He made a good Confession, and ever afterwards lived a pious life, receiving from God many extra ordinary graces.