

Heart all surrounded with flames, and told her the great extent to which the excess of His love for man had carried Him.

"Behold," He said, "behold this Heart which has loved men so much, and made every effort to testify that love. In return I receive from the greater number only contempt and ingratitude.

"It is this," He continued, "which I feel more deeply than all that I suffered in My Passion; for if they would only return My love, I would consider all that I have done for them as nothing, and, if possible, I would even wish to do more; instead of which I meet with coldness and repulses from men in My anxiety to do them good.

"At least, then," He added, "do thou give Me satisfaction by atoning for their ingratitude as far as thou art able."

Life of B. Margaret Mary.

The Child In The Wood

A certain holy monk of Brabant was going through a forest one Christmas night. He was thinking about the love of the good God, in sending His beloved Son Jesus to be born on that night for us. As he was passing along, he thought he heard the cries of a newly born child not far from him. He turned towards the place from where the sound came, and behold, he saw lying on the snow a beautiful child, crying and trembling in the cold.

Filled with compassion for the poor infant, he said, as if speaking to the child, "My little child, how is it that you are thus left alone, lying on the cold snow? Who has had the cruelty to leave you there?"

Then the little child for it was a vision of Jesus Himself that the monk saw answered him: "Alas! how can I help crying, when I see Myself abandoned by everyone, when I see that nobody receives Me or has pity for Me" Having said this, He disappeared.

The monk then understood that this vision was given him to show him that men whom Jesus came from Heaven to save, instead of loving Him and receiving Him with joy, do not make room in their hearts for Him, but cast Him out, as the Jews did, to a poor stable, and leave Him there to cry, without giving Him even one word of pity. Catechism in Examples by Rev. D. Chisholm

Please Pray for Our Deceased Members

Jane Mance

Christ the King -- Rochester, NY

Mary Murphy

Christ the King -- Rochester, NY

Maria Valdez

St. Leander -- Pueblo, CO

Mario Valdez

Holy Family -- Pueblo, CO

Joe Villanueva

St. Mary's Help of Christians -- Pueblo, CO

Angela Vigil

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

Paul H. Monette (605) 342-2294

(Please send donations to: NAS, 414 Westberry Dr., Rapid City, SD 57702)



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

NAS Letter December 2022

... in His Presence

Discourse for Christmas Night

The Birth of Jesus:

No sooner had Mary entered into the cavern than she began immediately to pray; and the hour of her delivery being come, she loosened her hair, out of reverence, spreading it over her shoulders; and behold she sees a great light, she feels in her heart a heavenly joy! She casts down her eyes; and, O God! what does she see? She sees on the ground an Infant, so tender and beautiful that He fills her with love; but He trembles, He cries, and stretches out His arms to show that He desires she should take Him into her bosom: "I stretched forth my arms to seek the caresses of my mother," according to the revelation of St. Bridget.

Joseph, Come and See:

Mary calls Joseph. "Come, Joseph," she said, "come and see; for the Son of God is now born." Joseph comes; and when he sees Jesus already born, he adores him in the midst of a torrent of sweet tears: "The old man entered, and, prostrating himself, wept for joy."

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.

Mother's Affections and Devotion:

Then the Blessed Virgin reverently took her beloved Son "Pressing him to her cheeks and bosom, she warmed him with all the joy and tenderness of a mother's love."

Consider the devotion, the tenderness, the love which Mary felt at seeing in her arms and near her heart the Lord of the world, the Son of the Eternal Father, who had deigned even to become her Son, choosing her from amongst all women to be His Mother. Mary, now holding Him to her bosom, **adores Him as God, kissing His feet as her king, and then His face as her Son.**

Then she hastily seeks to cover Him, and wraps Him up in swaddling-clothes. But, O God! how hard and rough are those clothes; for they are clothes of the poor, and they are cold and damp, and in that cave there is no fire to warm them by!

Come! Come to Meet the Lord:

Come, ye monarchs and emperors, come, all ye princes of the world, come and adore your highest King, who for your love is now born; and born in such poverty in a cave. But who appears? No one. **He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.** (John, i. 10) Ah! the Son of God has indeed come into the world; but the world will not know Him.

Glories of Our Newborn King

But if men do not come, the angels draw near to adore their Lord. Thus did the Eternal Father ordain for the honor of His Son: *And let all the angels of God adore Him.* (Heb. i. 6) They come in great numbers and praise their God, singing with great joy, *Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good-will.* (Luke, ii. 14.)

Glory to the Divine Mercy, which, instead of chastising rebellious men, causes this same God to take upon Himself their punishment,

and so to save them.

Glory to the Divine Wisdom, which has devised a means of satisfying His justice, and at the same time of delivering man from the death he had deserved.

Glory to the Divine Power, destroying in so signal a manner the powers of hell, by the divine Word coming in poverty to suffer pains, contempt, and death; and thus to draw the hearts of men to Himself, and to leave everything for His sake, honors, riches, and life; as so many virgins and young men have done, and even nobles and princes, to show their gratitude for the love of this God.

Finally, **Glory to the Divine Love**, which induced God to become a little child, poor and lowly, to live a hard life, and to die a cruel death, in order to show man the love which He bears him, to gain his love in return. "In the stable we see power reduced to impotence (weakness), and wisdom become mad through excess of love."

We see, in this stable, says **St. Laurence Justinian**, the power of God, as it were, annihilated; we see God, who is wisdom Itself, become as it were a fool through the excess of love which He bears to men.

Kissing of the Feet of the Holy Infant

O all ye devout souls, does Jesus invite you to come and kiss His feet this night. The shepherds who came to visit Him in the stable of Bethlehem brought their gifts; you must also bring your gifts. What will you bring Him? Listen to me; the most acceptable present you can bring Him is that of a **contrite and loving heart**. Let each one then say to Him before He comes:

Holy Desire to Love Jesus:

On this night Thou dost grant great spiritual graces; I also desire that Thou shouldst bestow a great grace on me, it is, the grace to love Thee. Now that I am about to approach Thy feet, inflame me wholly with Thy holy love, and bind me to Thee; but bind me so effectually that

I may nevermore be separated from Thee. I love Thee, O my God, who didst become a little child for my sake; but I love Thee very little; I desire to love Thee very much, and thou hast to enable me to do it. I come, then, to kiss Thy feet, and I offer Thee my heart; I leave it in Thy hands; I will have it no longer; do Thou change it, and keep it forever; do not give it back to me again; for if Thou do, I fear lest it should betray Thee afresh.

Mary, My Mother:

Most holy Mary, thou who art the Mother of this great Son, but who art also my Mother, it is to thee that I consecrate my poor heart; present it to Jesus; and he will not refuse to receive it, when presented by thee. Do thou, then, present it, and beg him to accept it.

Incarnation, Birth and Infancy
of Jesus Christ by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

On The Love of Jesus Christ For Us

My child, if I were to ask you where Our Savior was born, you would answer me at once, "In a stable at Bethlehem"; and if I asked you why he was born in a stable, you would tell me, "He was born in a stable because He loved us"

Why is it, then, that people who know this will not love God? It is because they have no gratitude, because their hearts are hard like stones. No wonder that our good God should complain so often of men's ingratitude. He Who is our only joy and consolation never complained of all the sufferings He endured for us, but He did complain very much of the hard-heartedness of those whom He loved and who would not love Him in return.

Vision of Blessed Margaret Mary

One day, as Blessed Margaret Mary was kneeling before the altar, Jesus appeared to her in a visible manner in all the splendor of His glory, His five wounds shining like five bright suns. He showed her His adorable