

So Heaven is our home."

The Prefect was very angry at the tone of confidence in which they said these words, and commanded them to suffer the most inhuman tortures.

But the holy martyrs were not frightened. They kept their eyes constantly fixed on Heaven, and encouraged each other with these words: "In Heaven is our God and our Savior: Heaven is our country, Heaven is our home; let us take courage, we will soon be there." And thus they persevered to the end.

Life of St. Pamphilius

In The Name Of Mary

Alphonsus Rodriguez at the age of four years fixed his eyes lovingly on an image of Mary, and with childlike simplicity said to her: "O my Mother, if thou didst only know how much I love thee! No, thou couldst never love me as much as I love thee."

He had scarcely uttered these words when the Blessed Virgin appeared to him, and said: "What do you say, my child? The love which I have for you is so great that nothing could ever equal it."

Afterwards, when he became a religious, he could not do enough to testify to Mary the great love that he had for her. **He was accustomed to ask everything from God in the name of Mary**, and he always recommended this practice to those who were living with him. "If you desire to obtain anything from God," he used to say to them, "ask it with confidence in the name of the Blessed Virgin and you will be certain to obtain it."

The Catechism in Examples by Rev. D. Chisholm

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

Please Pray for Our Deceased Members

Robert Grillo

St. Joseph – Herndon, VA

Mark Moran

St. Joseph – Herndon, VA

Sam N. Antonacci

Our Lady of Sorrows – St. Louis, MO

Ricardo "Pat" Reo

Holy Trinity – Cohoes, NY

Mr. Stephen T. Dombroski, Sr.

Holy Trinity – Cohoes, NY

Kim Petitpren

St. Andrew the Apostle – Drexel Hill, PA

Angie Duran

Sacred Heart Cathedral -- Pueblo, CO

Eliria "Lil" Lucero

St. Pius X -- Pueblo, CO

Ann Bennett

Christ the King – Rochester, NY

Antoinette Berezcki

Holy Rosary Church – Reading, PA

Arthur Zaleski

Holy Trinity – Perth Amboy, NJ

Jim Cruise

St. Anthony of Padua – East Northport, NY

Clifford Walter Jenkins

St. Matthias – Crown Point, IN

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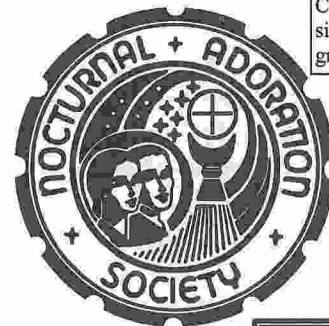
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My Dear Friend in Christ, Could you please help with the printing and mailing of these letters with a donation? Thank you. God bless you and Mary keep you.

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
April
2024

... in His Presence

Jesus Insulted on the Cross

"He saved Others, Himself He cannot save."

St. Matthew goes on to relate another insult which the Jews offered to Jesus Christ: *He saved others, Himself He cannot save.* (Matt. xxvii. 42.)

Thus they treated Him as an impostor, by referring to the miracles which had been wrought by Him in the restoration of the dead to life, and by treating Him as one who was unable to save His own life.

Our Redemption Willed by God:

St. Leo replies to them, that this was not the proper hour for Jesus to display His divine power; and that He would not hinder the redemption of man in order to confound their blasphemies.

Teacher From The Cross:

St. Gregory suggests another motive why Jesus would not descend from the cross: "If He had then come down, He would not have shown to us the virtue of **patience.**" Truly could Jesus Christ deliver Himself from the cross and from these insults; yet this was not the time for making a display of His power, but to **teach us**

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.

patience in our toils, in order that we may fulfil the divine pleasure; and therefore Jesus would not deliver Himself from death before He had fulfilled His Father's will, and in order that He might not deprive us of this great example of patience.

Following Christ:

The patience which Jesus Christ exercised in enduring the shame of all the insults which were offered Him by the Jews obtained for us grace to endure with patience and peace of mind all the humiliations and persecutions of the world.

Imitate Christ in Sufferings:

The saints, when they received injuries, did not think of revenging themselves, nor were they disturbed; they were even comforted at seeing themselves despised, as Jesus Christ was despised.

Affections & Resolution:

O my Redeemer, for the future I desire to suffer everything for love of Thee: give me strength to put my desires into execution.

Passion and Death of Jesus Christ by St. Alphonsus

Suffering: A Blessed Grace

He that loves God in suffering earns a double reward in paradise. St. Vincent of Paul said that it was a great misfortune to be free from suffering in this life. And he added, that a congregation or an individual that does not suffer, and is applauded by all the world, is not far from a fall.

It was on this account that St. Francis of Assisi, on the day that he had suffered nothing for God, became afraid lest God had forgotten him.

St. John Chrysostom says that when God endows a man with the grace of suffering, He gives him a greater grace than that of raising the dead to life; because in performing miracles man remains God's debtor; whereas in suffering, God makes Himself the debtor of man. And he adds that whoever

endures something for God even had he no other gift than the strength to suffer for the God whom he loves, this would procure for him an immense reward.

Martyrs of Patience:

But patience has a perfect work. (James, i. 4) The meaning of this is that nothing is more pleasing to God than to see a soul suffering with patience all the crosses sent her by Him. The effect of love is to liken the lover to the person loved.

St. Francis de Sales said, "All the wounds of Christ are so many mouths, which preach to us that we must suffer for Him. The science of the saints is to suffer constantly for Jesus; and in this way we shall soon become saints." A person that loves Jesus Christ is anxious to be treated like Jesus Christ, poor, persecuted, and despised.

St. John beheld all the saints clothed in white, and with palms in their hands: *Clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands.* (Apoc. vii. 9) The palm is the symbol of martyrs, and yet all the saints did not suffer martyrdom; why, then, do all the saints bear palms in their hands?

St. Gregory replies, that all the saints have been martyrs either of the sword or of patience; so that, he adds, "we can be martyrs without the sword, if we keep patience."

Practice of the Love of Jesus Christ by St. Alphonsus

Path of Eternal Life: Patience and Tribulations

The good ground brings forth fruit in patience; because the good we do is without value, unless at the same time we bear in patience the evil-doing of our neighbor. And the higher anyone ascends in virtue, the harder will this world bear down on him; for the more the love of the heart turns from the present life, the more the opposition of this same world mounts up.

Hence it is that we see so many strive after, and do, that which is good; yet they

sweat under the burden of afflictions. For though they have turned away from earthly things, they are yet harassed with increasing tribulations. But, according to the word of the Lord, they shall bring forth fruit in patience, and after their time of tribulation they shall be received into rest above; because they have borne their cross in patience.

Sanctified thru Tribulations:

Whosoever is desirous of wholly overcoming his defects, must bear with pleasure the pain of being made clean; and the more he is now purified in the fire of tribulation, the more worthy shall he be to appear at the judgement seat of God.

St. Gregory 1 :- *from Sermons of The Great Fathers*

Heaven Our True Country

In the life of the holy martyr Pamphilius, we read that many pagans, who saw the great joy that filled the Christians when they were condemned to die for Jesus Christ, wondered how they could be so happy. And when they were told that it was because they were so soon to see God in Heaven, and to enjoy the happiness God had prepared for them, they also wished to become Christians, that they might share in that happiness. It was in this way that God brought them into His holy Church.

They had not long to wait for the martyr's crown. For the Prefect of Cesarea, hearing of what had taken place, sent soldiers to bring them before him.

One of the first questions he put to them was: "What country do you belong to?"

"Our country is Heaven," was the answer; "it is there where our God and our Savior dwells. When He had suffered and died for us, and rose again from the dead, He went up to Heaven to prepare a place for us.