

But the foolish Emperor did not know that God had promised to speak by the mouths of His servants when called upon to give testimony for Him.

Vitus answered: "Jesus Christ is my Master and my Savior; He died for me upon the cross. I will never say one word that may offend Him, and with my whole heart I will always love Him."

"Very well, then," said the Emperor, suddenly changing the tone of his voice; "if you will not obey my orders, I will cast you into a cauldron of boiling oil. Make your choice, then, at once, between the pleasures I offer you, and the torments I threaten."

But the child was not dismayed. With a courage which came from Heaven, he calmly answered: "I will cheerfully suffer not only that torment, but I am willing to die the most cruel death rather than deny the Faith of Jesus Christ."

The Emperor was filled with rage at the answer of the child, and gave orders that the cauldron should be immediately prepared.

When the oil began to boil, he said to the executioners: "Take off his clothes now and throw him in."

They did as they were told, and the holy martyr suffered this awful torture without a murmur. As he stood in the cauldron, he raised his hands and eyes to Heaven, and said: "Lord Jesus, receive my soul."

When he had said these words, angels were seen coming down from Heaven, and they placed a beautiful crown upon his head, and into his hands they put a green palm-branch the sign of victory and carried his soul to the judgment-seat of Jesus Christ.

The Great Judge looked lovingly upon the boy, and with a sweet smile on His lips, thus spoke to him: "My own beloved child,

you have suffered a most cruel death for the love of Me; come now, and I will give you eternal joy in Heaven."

You, my child, may not have to suffer death for your holy Faith as St. Vitus had, but you may have to suffer much persecution because you are a Catholic. Be faithful, then, and when God's time comes, angels will carry your soul also to God's judgment-seat, where you will be received by your Divine Master in the same loving manner as St. Vitus was, and obtain the same reward"

The Catechism in Examples by Rev. D. Chisholm

Please Pray for Our Deceased Members

Madeline Grimo

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church -- Bristol, RI

Laszlo Lantos

St Rose of Lima -- Portland, OR

Barbara O'Dwyer

St. Mary's -- Washingtonville, NY

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

Teresa Burkard

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

**NAS Letter
November
2025**

... in His Presence

The Heart of Jesus Christ Panting to be Loved

Love of God - Beyond Amazing:

Jesus has no need of us; he is equally happy, equally rich, equally powerful with or without our love; and yet, as St. Thomas says, *"He loves us so much, that He desires our love as much as if man was his God, and His felicity depended on that of man."* This filled holy Job with astonishment: *What is man that Thou shouldst magnify him? or why dost Thou set Thy heart upon him?* (Job. vii. 17)

Love the Lord With All Our Heart:

What! can God desire or ask with such eagerness for the love of a worm? It would have been a great favor if God had only permitted us to love him. If a vassal were to say to his king, *"Sire, I love you,"* he would be considered impertinent. But what would one say if the king were to tell his vassal, *"I desire you to love me"*? The princes of the earth do not humble themselves to this; but Jesus, Who is the King of Heaven, is He Who with so much earnestness demands our love: *Love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart.* (Matt. xxii. 37)

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.

God Persistent for Our Love:

So pressingly does He ask for our heart: *My son, give Me thy heart.* (Prov. xxiii. 26) And if He is driven from a soul, **He does not depart, but He stands outside of the door of the heart, and He calls and knocks to be let in: I stand at the gate and knock.** (Apoc. iii. 20)

. . . Persistence:

And He beseeches her to open to Him, calling her sister and spouse: ***Open to Me, My sister, My love.*** (Cant. v. 2) In short, He takes a delight in being loved by us, and is quite consoled when a soul says to Him, and repeats often, "*My God, my God, I love Thee.*"

Love Seeks Love:

All this is the effect of the great love He bears us. **He who loves necessarily desires to be loved.** The heart requires the heart; **love seeks love:** "*Why does God love, but that he might be loved Himself,*" (In Cant. s. 83) said **St. Bernard**; and God Himself first said, *What doth the Lord Thy God require of thee, but that thou fear the Lord Thy God, . . . and love Him?* (Deut. x. 12)

Lost Sheep:

Therefore He tells us that He is that Shepherd Who, having found the lost sheep, calls all the others to rejoice with Him: ***Rejoice with Me, because I have found My sheep that was lost.*** (Luke, xv. 6)

Father Embraces the Prodigal:

He tells us that He is that Father Who, when his lost son returns and throws himself at His feet, not only forgives him, but embraces him tenderly.

Charity Unites With God:

He tells us that he that loves Him not is condemned to death: *He that loveth not abideth in death.* (1 John, iii. 14) And, on the contrary, that He takes him that loves Him and keeps possession of him: *He that abideth in charity, abideth in God, and God in him.* (1 John, iv. 16)

Prompts of Love:

Oh, will not such invitations, such entreaties, such threats, and such promises move us to love God, Who so much desires to be loved by us?

Affections and Prayers

Greatest Misfortune:

My dearest Redeemer, I will say to Thee, with **St. Augustine**, Thou dost command me to love Thee, and dost threaten me with hell if I do not love Thee; but what more dreadful hell, **what greater misfortune, can happen to me than to be deprived of Thy love!**

If, therefore, Thou desirest to frighten me, Thou shouldst threaten me only **that I should live without loving Thee**; for this threat alone will frighten me more than a thousand hells.

Gift of Grace:

If, in the midst of the flames of hell, the damned could burn with Thy love, O my God, hell itself would become a paradise; and if, on the contrary, the blessed in heaven could not love Thee, paradise would become hell. Thus **St. Augustine** expresses himself.

I see, indeed, my dearest Lord, that I, on account of my sins, did deserve to be forsaken by Thy grace, and at the same time condemned to be incapable of loving Thee; but still I understand that Thou dost continue to command me to love Thee, and I also feel within me a great desire to love Thee. **This my desire is a gift of Thy grace**, and it comes from Thee.

Act of Love:

Oh, please give me also the strength necessary to put it in execution, and make me, from this day forth, say to Thee earnestly, and from the bottom of my heart, and to repeat to Thee always, **My God, I love Thee, I love Thee, I love Thee.**

Help from Mary, My Mother:

O Mary, Immaculate Virgin, do thou help me, do thou beseech Jesus for me.

The Holy Eucharist by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

Saint's Testimonies

Grief of St. Francis of Assisi:

St. Francis appeared to be unable to think of anything but the passion of Jesus Christ; and, in thinking of it, he continually shed tears, so that by his constant weeping he became nearly blind.

Being found one day weeping and groaning at the foot of the crucifix, he was asked the cause of his tears and lamentations. He replied: "What makes me weep is that men for whom He has suffered so much, live in forgetfulness of Him".

St. Andrew the Apostle:

"Oh! if you knew the mystery of the cross!" said **St. Andrew the Apostle** to the tyrant by whom he was tempted to deny Jesus Christ. O tyrant, if you knew the love which your Savior has shown you by dying on the cross for your salvation, instead of tempting me, you would abandon all the goods of this Earth to give yourself to the love of Jesus Christ.

St. Alphonsus de Liguori

St. Vitus dies for Jesus Christ

There lived in the early days of the Church a little boy whose name was Vitus. He loved God from the first moment that he was capable of doing so, and many times a day did his infant lips tell Him that he loved Him with his whole heart.

When the Emperor heard about him and of his great fervor, he was angry; but he thought he would easily make him renounce his faith, because he was so young, so one day he sent for him.

"My dear child," he said to him in his gentlest voice, "I am going to give you gold, and jewels, and splendid clothes, and everything else you would like to ask for, if only you will change your religion, renounce your faith, and blaspheme Jesus Christ."