

One day a gentleman came to him in great distress. The thought of death, and of the judgments of God, had thrown him into the lowest depths of sadness and despondency, and he went to him for consolation.

"Alas ! my friend," replied the Saint, "there is no torment so great as this one; I know it well, for I myself had to endure it for the space of six weeks, and I am well able from experience to speak on this matter.

Let me tell you, then, that if anyone has the earnest desire to serve Our Lord, he should no ways be tormented by the thought of death and judgment; or if we must need have some fear of them, let it be a fear mingled with confidence.

God is Our Father, and His love for us is boundless; and has He not told us that those who hope in Him shall never be confounded? So, my child, keep before your mind what St. Paul says of those who love God: "*There is no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus.*"

St. Alphonsus Love For Mary's Name

That great servant of Our Lady, St. Alphonsus, had for the name of Mary an unbounded love.

He bowed his head reverently whenever he heard it pronounced, and devoutly kissed the pages of a book on which he saw it written. He always wrote it at the head of his letters and the beginning of all his writings.

"O my incomparable Queen!" he would cry out in rapture. "O my sweetest Mother, I love thee, and because I love thee I also

love thy name. O name of the Mother of my God, thou art most lovely to me!"

"For You Are All Children Of God"

St. Paul the Apostle, in his letter to the Galatians, wrote: "For you are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus; for as many of you as have been baptized in Christ have put on Christ. You are all one in Christ Jesus.

"When the fullness of time was come, God sent His Son, made of a woman, made under the law; that He might redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because you are sons, God hath sent the Spirit of His Son into your heart, crying: Abba, Father. Therefore, now he is not a servant, but a son, and if a son, an heir through God."

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.

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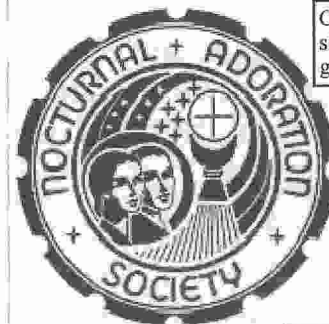
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My Dear Friend in Christ, Could you please help with the printing and mailing of these letters with a donation? Thank you, God bless you and Mary keep you.

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

**NAS Letter
December
2024**

... in His Presence

***Motives of Confidence given to us
by the Incarnation of the Word***

Christ Given to Us:

Consider, my soul, that the eternal Father, in giving us His beloved Son for our Redeemer, could have given us no stronger motives for confiding in His mercy and loving His infinite bounty; for He could have given us no more certain token of the desire He has for our good, and of the immense love which He bears us, inasmuch as in giving us His Son, He has nothing left to give us. Let all men, therefore, O eternal God, praise Thy infinite charity.

II. All For Us

Pardon, Grace, Paradise:

How hath He not also, with Him, given us all things? Since God has given us His Son, whom He loved as Himself, how can we fear that He will deny us any other good that we ask of Him? If, therefore, He has given us His Son,

1. He will not refuse us pardon for the offences which we have committed against Him, provided we detest them;

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.

2. He will not refuse us the *grace* to resist temptations, if we implore it of Him; He will not refuse us His holy love, if we desire it;

3. He will not, finally, refuse us *Paradise*, if we do not render ourselves unworthy of it by falling into sin.

Behold how Jesus Himself assures us of this: If you ask the Father anything in My name, He will give it to you? (John, xvi. 23.)

Blessings From God Through Christ:

Encouraged, therefore, O my God, by this promise, I beg of Thee, for the love of Jesus Thy Son,

to **pardon** me all the injuries that I have done Thee;

give me holy perseverance in Thy **grace** until death;

give me Thy **holy love**;

may I **detach myself** from everything to love Thee alone, O infinite Goodness;

give me **Paradise** in order that I may come and love Thee there with all my strength, and forever, without fear of ever ceasing to love Thee.

Enriched with Every Good:

In a word, the Apostle says that, having obtained Jesus Christ, we have been **enriched with every good**, so that there is no grace wanting to us: In all things you are made rich in Him . . . , so that nothing is wanting to you in any grace? (I Cor. i. 5)

All In Jesus and Through Mary:

Yes, my Jesus, Thou art every good; Thou alone sufficest me; for Thee alone do I sigh; if once I drove Thee away from me by my sins, I repent of it now with my whole heart. Forgive me, and return to me, O Lord; and if Thou art already with me, as I hope, leave me not again, or, rather, suffer me not to drive Thee away from my soul again.

My Jesus, my Jesus, my treasure, my love, my All, I love Thee, I love Thee, I love Thee, and will love Thee forever.

O Mary, my hope, make me always to love Jesus.

The Incarnation, . . . of Jesus Christ by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

The Son Also Gives Himself

And so, likewise, the Son, through His love towards us, has given Himself wholly to us: *Who loved me, and delivered Himself for me.* (Gal. ii. 20) In order to redeem us from everlasting death, and to recover for us the divine grace and heaven which we had forfeited, He became man, and put on flesh like our own: *And the Word was made flesh.* (John, i. 14) Behold, then, a God reduced to nothingness: *But emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, . . . and in habit found as a man.* (Phil. ii. 7) Behold the sovereign of the world humbling himself so low as to assume the form of a servant, and to subject Himself to all the miseries which the rest of men endure.

But what is more astonishing still is, that He could very well have saved us without dying and without suffering at all; but no: He chose a life of sorrow and contempt, and a death of bitterness and ignominy even to the expiring on a cross, the gibbet of infamy, the award of vilest criminals: *He humbled Himself, becoming obedient unto death, even to the death of the cross.* (Phil. ii. 8) But why, if He could have ransomed us without suffering, why should He choose to die, and to die on a cross? To show us how He loved us. *He loved us, and delivered Himself for us.* (Eph. v. 2) He loved us, and because He loved us, He delivered Himself up to sorrows, and ignominies, and to a death more cruel than ever any man endured in this world.

The Holy Eucharist by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

GRACE

You cannot do any good for Heaven without the grace of God. You are like a little child that cannot walk. If his mother does not keep him up, he cannot take one step, but will stagger and fall; so, unless you are strengthened by the actual grace of God, you cannot persevere in the state of grace.

St. Catherine of Genoa Bewails Her Frailty

St. Catherine, as well as all the other great Saints of God, saw clearly how weak and frail human nature is in itself, and that it cannot do any good without the help of God's grace.

"O my God," she was frequently heard to say, "how very weak I am! If left to myself, I cannot do any good in such a manner as to please Thee. Left to myself, I can only do what is wrong. Alas! what would become of me if Thou didst leave me without Thy grace?"

When she fell into any venial fault for even the just man "falls seven times a day" she would raise up her eyes to Heaven and exclaim, "This is another of the fruits that my garden produces," meaning that faults and sins are the natural productions of human nature if not supported by the grace of God.

St. Francis of Sales -- Confidence in God

The great St. Francis of Sales tried to inspire those around him with that confidence in God that burned in his own breast.