

countenance was always serene and joyful, as if he was enjoying perfect health. Never was there heard to come forth from his mouth a complaint of any kind, and he was always blessing and praising God for His goodness to him. He looked on his sufferings as so many special blessings from God; and when at any time the severity of the pain brought a sigh to his lips, he immediately turned towards the crucifix, where he always found new courage. "I am suffering very little indeed," he used then to say, "in comparison with the inconceivable pain which Jesus Christ suffered for love of me."

Jesus Christ In His Sacred Passion

My child, from your infancy you have been taught all that Jesus did and suffered for the love of you, and every year, when Holy Week comes round, the Church puts you in mind of it, that you may ever love Jesus more and more, and never willfully yield to sin, which caused Him all His sufferings; and also that you may be willing to suffer for love of Him all the trials and sufferings of this short life.

"I Am Thy Savior And Thy Brother"

When St. Thomas of Canterbury was preparing for martyrdom by prayer and great works of penance, Our Lord appeared to him one day as he was making his thanksgiving after Mass. Jesus said to him: "Thomas, thou shalt honor My Church by thy holy martyrdom."

The Saint in surprise said: "O my Lord. Who art Thou?"

"I am Jesus Christ, thy Savior and thy Brother."

Our Lord spoke to him in this way to give him courage to suffer and die for His sake. He says the same to each one of us: "My child, I am thy Savior and thy Brother. Take up thy cross and follow Me, and thou shalt have a great treasure in Heaven."

When a person keeps before his eyes all that Jesus said and did during His Sacred Passion, it will be easy for him to bear patiently the evils that come to him in this world.

The Catechism in Examples by Rev. D. Chisholm

Please Pray for Our Deceased Members

Erica Mikhail

St. Raphael – East Meadow, NY

David Cenedella (Chapter Pres.)

St. Pius X – Norfolk, VA

Frances Skinner

St. Joseph – Garden City, 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 (860) 877-0894

Please send donations to: NAS, P.O. 9451, Forestville, CT 06011



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

NAS Letter March 2025

... in His Presence

Jesus, Our Redeemer Suffered and Died for Each One of Us

They sought to Crucify Our Lord:

Behold Jesus, then, presented by the scribes and priests to Pilate as a malefactor, that he might judge Him and condemn Him to the death of the cross; and see how they follow Him, in order to see Him condemned and crucified.

Goodness Condemned!:

Oh, marvelous thing, cries St. Augustine, to see the Judge judged; to see Justice condemned; to see Life dying! And for what cause were these marvels accomplished, except through the love which Jesus Christ bore to men?

All Affections to Love of Christ Only:

"He loved us, and Gave Himself for us." (Eph. v, 2) Oh that these words of St. Paul were ever before our eyes! Truly then would every affection for earthly things depart from our heart, and we should think only of loving Our Redeemer, reflecting that it was love which brought Him to pour

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.

forth all His blood, to make for us a bath of salvation.

. . . from His Own Blood:

"He hath loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood." (Apoc. i. 5) St. Bernardino of Sienna says that Jesus Christ from the cross looked at every single sin of every one of us, and offered His blood for every one of them. In a word, love brought the Lord of all to appear the most vile and low of all things upon earth.

Love Triumphs Over Divinity:

"O power of love!" cries St. Bernard; "the Supreme God of all is made the lowest of all! Who hath done this? Love, forgetting its dignity, powerful in its affections. *Love triumphs over Divinity.*" Love hath done this, because, in order to make itself known to the beloved, it hath brought the loving one to lay aside his dignity, and to do that alone which aids and pleases the beloved. Therefore, St. Bernard says that God, who can be conquered by none, causes Himself to be conquered by the love which He bore for men.

Jesus Suffered for Me Individually:

We must further reflect that whatever Jesus Christ suffered in His Passion, He suffered for each one of us individually; on which account St. Paul says, "*I live in the faith of the Son of God, Who loved me, and delivered Himself for me.*" (Gal. ii. 2) And what the Apostle said, every one of us may say;

. . . as if Man were Equal to God!:

wherefore St. Augustine writes that man was redeemed at such a price that he seems to be of equal value with God. The saint also goes on to say, "Thou hast loved me, not as Thyself, but more than Thyself,

since, to deliver me from death, Thou hast been willing to die for me."

Excess in Suffering – Excess in Love:

But since Jesus could have saved us by a single drop of His blood, why did he pour it all forth in torrents, even so as to die of mere agony upon the cross? "Yes," says St. Bernard, "what a drop might have done, He chose to do with a stream, in order to show us the *excessive love He bore us.*" He calls it excessive, as Moses and Elias on Mount Tabor called the Passion of the Redeemer an excess, – an excess of mercy and love; "*They spoke of His excess, which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.*" (Luke, ix. 31)

Mercy Infinitely exceeded our Debt:

St. Augustine, speaking of the Passion of Our Lord, says "that His *mercy exceeded the debt of our sins.*" Thus, the value of the death of Jesus Christ being infinite, infinitely exceeded the satisfaction due by us for our sins to the Divine Justice. Truly had the Apostle cause to say, "*God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ.*" (Gal. vi. 14) And what St. Paul says, we may all say; what greater glory can we have, or hope for in the world, than to see a God dying for love of us?

Plentiful Redemption:

O Eternal God, I have dishonored Thee by my sins; but Jesus, by making satisfaction for me by His death, has more than abundantly restored the honor due to Thee; for the love of Jesus, then, have mercy upon me.

Embrace Every Suffering Sent:

And Thou, my Redeemer, Who hast died for me, in order to *oblige me to love Thee*, grant that I may love Thee. Cause me to love Thee, and then chastise me as Thou wilt.

Deprive me of everything, but not of Thyself. I accept every infirmity, every ignominy, every pain that Thou wilt me to suffer; it is enough that I love Thee.

O Mary – Please Help Me:

O holy Virgin Mary and Mother of God, help me with thy prayers; obtain for me, that I may never cease to love my Jesus, who died for me and thee, my Queen, who hast already obtained for me so many mercies..

The Passion and the 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.

Holy Eucharist by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

St. Vincent de Paul In His Sufferings

When St. Vincent of Paul was a young man, he was afflicted with so much pain that sometimes he could not get any rest night or day. But in the midst of all this pain, his