

The National Queen of Light Center

Saturday, September 5, 2015

## THE DIVINE WILL: A FORMATION IN SUFFERING

### PART 1 OF 2

*“If you want to learn how to live in the Divine Will, contemplate My Passion.”*

#### FROM THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

**164** Now, however, “we walk by faith, not by sight”; we perceive God as “in a mirror, dimly” and only “in part.” Even though enlightened by him in whom It believes, faith is often lived in darkness and can be put to the test. The world we live in often seems very far from the one promised us by faith. Our experiences of evil and suffering, injustice, and death, seem to contradict the Good News; they can shake our faith and become a temptation against it.

**1508** The Holy Spirit gives to some a special charism of healing so as to make manifest the power of the grace of the risen Lord. But even the most intense prayers do not always obtain the healing of all illnesses. Thus St. Paul must learn from the Lord that “my grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness,” and that the sufferings to be endured can mean that “in my flesh I complete what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his Body, that is, the Church.”

**1521** *Union with the passion of Christ.* By the grace of this sacrament the sick person receives the strength and the gift of uniting himself more closely to Christ’s Passion: in a certain way he is consecrated to bear fruit by configuration to the Savior’s redemptive Passion. Suffering, a consequence of original sin, acquires a new meaning; it becomes a participation in the saving work of Jesus.

#### *ALL THE FOLLOWING EXCERPTS ARE FROM THE UNDATED CORPUS OF VOLUME 1*

... Other times, He would say to me: “I also want that, if people mortify you, insult you, contradict you, you keep your gaze fixed in Me, thinking that from my own lips I am saying to you: ‘Daughter, I Myself am the one who wants you to suffer this - not the creatures. Remove your gaze from them; but you and I, always – all others you must destroy. See, I want to render you beautiful by means of these sufferings; I want to enrich you with merits, work your soul, render you similar to Me. You will give it to Me as a

gift, you will thank Me affectionately, and will be grateful to those people who give you the occasion to suffer, repaying them with some benefit. By doing this, you will walk as upright before Me; nothing will ever again give you restlessness, and you will always enjoy peace.”

... While I felt Him inside of me in this way, through an interior voice, He said to me: “My beloved, the things past have been nothing but a preparation. Now I want to come to facts, and in order to dispose your heart to do what I want from you – that is, the imitation of my Life - I want you to sink into the immense sea of my Passion; and when you have understood well the bitterness of my pains, the love with which I suffered them, Who I am who suffered so much, and who you are, a most wretched creature – ah! your heart will not dare to oppose the blows, the cross, which, only for your good, I have prepared. On the contrary, by just thinking that I, your Master, have suffered so much, your pains will seem shadows to you compared to mine. Suffering will be sweet for you, and you will reach the point of not being able to be without sufferings.”

... I remember that many times, after Communion, He said to me: “You will not be able to truly resemble Me other than by means of sufferings.

... And He, compassionating me, continued to tell me: “Do not fear, I will be your strength – it is not you who will suffer, but I Myself will suffer and fight within you.

... A large field of sufferings opens before you, yes - but also of graces; I will never leave you again, I will come within you to suffer all that men do to Me, making you share in my pains. For help and comfort, I give you my Mother.” Do not be affected any more by the insults you receive from your family, after you have seen Me suffer so much; but take to heart only my honor, the offenses that they give Me continuously, the loss of so many souls. O please! Do not leave Me alone in the midst of so many pains that torture my Heart. All that you are suffering now is little compared to the pains you will suffer. Have I not always told you that what I want from you is the imitation of my Life? Take a look at how dissimilar you are from Me. Therefore, pluck up courage and do not fear.” And He seemed to deliver me to Her - and She accepted me”

... So I spent several years suffering on the part of creatures, from demons, and directly from God. At times I reached such bitterness from creatures and from the way they thought, that I was ashamed of being seen by anyone; so much so, that my greatest sacrifice was to appear in the midst of people – the blushing and the confusion were such, that I felt dazed. There were more visits from other doctors, but

they came up with nothing. Sometimes, shedding bitter tears, I would say to Him with all my heart: ‘Lord, how public my sufferings have become – not only to my family, but also to strangers. I see myself all covered with confusion; it seems to me that everyone is pointing his finger at me, as if these sufferings were the most wicked actions. I myself am unable to say what has happened to me. O please! You alone can free me from such publicity, and let me suffer hiddenly. I pray You, I implore you – answer me.’ Sometimes the Lord too showed He would not listen to me, and my pains would increase. Other times, then, He would compassionate me, telling me: “Poor daughter, come to Me for I want to console you. You are right that you suffer, but don’t you remember that I too – oh! how much more I suffered.

... I would say to Him: ‘Father, accept my confusions and opprobrium in reparation for many who have the insolence to offend You so freely, without the slightest sorrow. Forgive them, give them light, that they may see the ugliness of sin, and convert.’ I want to make you too share in these kinds of sufferings. Don’t you know that the most beautiful presents I can give to the souls I love are crosses and pains? You are still a little girl in the way of the cross; this is why you feel too weak. Once you have grown up and have known how precious suffering is, then you will feel stronger. Therefore, lean on Me – rest, for in this way you will acquire strength”. . . After I spent some time in this state mentioned above – about six or seven months – the sufferings increased more, to the point that I was forced to stay in bed. Often that state of losing consciousness multiplied, to the point that I would almost not have one hour free.

... Have you forgotten that what I want from you is the imitation of my Life, and that I will make you share in everything I suffered? Don’t you know that the most beautiful act, the most heroic and most pleasing to Me, and which you must offer to Me, is that of offering yourself for the very ones who are against you?”

... I tried to compassionate Him as much as I could, and with all my heart I said to Him: ‘Oh! Holy Spouse, hold back the scourges which your Justice keeps prepared. If the multiplicity of the iniquities of men is great, there is the immense sea of your Blood in which You can bury them; and so your Justice will be satisfied. If You have nowhere to go to delight Yourself, come into me – I give You all my heart, that You may somehow rest and delight with it. It is true that I too am a bilge of vices, but You can purify me and make of me what You want. But, O please! placate Yourself. If the sacrifice of my life is necessary – oh! how gladly I would make it for You, as long as I may see your own images spared.’ And the Lord, interrupting my speaking, continued telling me: “Here is exactly where I wanted you – if you

offer yourself to suffer, no longer every now and then as up until now, but continuously, every day, for a certain given time, I will spare men. See how I will do it: I will put you between my Justice and the iniquities of the creatures, and when my Justice sees Itself filled with iniquities to the point of not being able to contain them, and is forced to send the thunderbolts of the scourges in order to chastise the creatures, in finding you in the middle, instead of striking them, you are the one who will remain struck. Only in this way will I be able to content you in sparing men – not otherwise.”

... Free me from this cross – that the confessor be needed in order to free me – and then everything will be arranged between me and You.’ Then the Lord said to me: “Go to the confessor and ask him for the obedience. If he wants, you will tell him everything I told you, and you will stick to whatever he says. See, it will not be only for the good of creatures that I want these continuous sufferings, but also for your good. In this state of sufferings I will purify your soul thoroughly, in such a way as to dispose you to form a mystical marriage with Me; and after this, I will make the final transformation, in such a way that the two of us will become like two candles placed on the fire – one is transformed into the other, and they become one. In this way I will transform Myself into you, and you will remain crucified with Me. Ah! would you not be happy if you could say: ‘The Bridegroom is crucified, but the bride also is crucified’? ‘Ah! yes, there is nothing that renders me dissimilar from Him.’ So, when I was able to speak with the confessor, I told him everything that the Lord had told me; and since the Lord had said to me those words, “*for a certain given time*”, without notifying me of the exact time during which I was to suffer continuously, I took it as about forty days, more or less - and now it has been about twelve years that I continue to be in it. But, may God be always blessed; may His inscrutable judgments be always adored. I believe that if the blessed Lord had let me understand with clarity the length of time I was to be in bed, my nature would have been frightened very much, and would hardly have submitted itself to it. Although I remember that I have always been resigned, yet, I did not know then the preciousness of the cross, as the Lord has made me know during the course of these twelve years; nor would the confessor have adapted himself to give me the obedience.

... See, had I not drawn you into this bed, since you would have to carry out your family duties and submit yourself to other sacrifices, I could not come so often and let you share in the offenses, as I receive them; at most, I would have to wait for when you have fulfilled your duties. But now – no, we are free, there is no one left who may bother us and interrupt our conversation. From now on, my afflictions will be yours, and yours mine; my sufferings yours, and yours mine; my consolations yours,

and yours mine. We will unite all things together, and you will take interest in my things as if they were your own; and so I will do with yours. Between the two of us there will no longer be ‘this is mine, and this is yours’, but everything will be in common, on both sides.

... Then He told me: “Tell the confessor that it is my Will that you continue to stay in bed, and as a sign that it is I, tell him that there is a war between Italy and Africa, and if he gives you the obedience to continue to suffer, I will not let them do anything, on either side – they will reconcile.” ... One day, after about four months, the confessor came and told me that news had arrived about the war between Africa and Italy, and that without doing any harm to each other, on both sides, they had reconciled. So the confessor remained more persuaded, and he let me stay there in peace.

... Oh! my all and beautiful Jesus, if for the few moments You manifest Yourself in this life You communicate so much peace, in such a way that one can suffer the most painful martyrdoms, the most humiliating pains with the most perfect tranquility - it seems to me a mixture of peace and of sorrow - what will it be like in Paradise?

... Who can say what remained after this speaking of Jesus? I will only say that such yearning for suffering ignited within me – and not just yearning, but I feel as though an infusion in me, like something natural, so much so that, as for me, I believe that the greatest disgrace is to not suffer.

... I remember that He would say: “My spouse, the virtues become weak if they are not strengthened and fortified by the grafting of the cross. Before my coming upon earth, pains, confusions, disgraces, calumnies, sufferings, poverty, illnesses, and especially the cross, were all considered as opprobrium; but from the moment they were borne by Me, they were all sanctified and divinized by my contact. So, they all changed their appearance, becoming sweet, pleasant, and the soul who has the good of having some of them, receives honor - and this, because she has received the vestment of Me, Son of God. Only those who look and stop at the cortex of the cross experience the opposite; finding it bitter, they are disgusted by it, they complain, as if someone had done wrong to them. But those who penetrate inside of it, finding it enjoyable, form their happiness in it. My beloved daughter, I yearn for nothing else but to crucify you, body and soul.”

And while He would say this, I would feel such infusion of yearnings to be crucified with Jesus Christ, that I would often repeat: ‘My Jesus, my Love, hurry – crucify me with You.’ And when He would come back, the first petitions I would make to Him, which seemed to be the most important to me, were these:

sorrow for my sins, and the grace to be crucified with Him. It seemed to me that if I obtained this, I would obtain everything.

... I remember that, as I continued to ask for the crucifixion and Jesus would transport me outside of myself, He would take me to the holy sites of Jerusalem where our Lord suffered His sorrowful Passion, and there we encountered many crosses. My beloved Jesus would say to me: "If you knew what good the cross contains within itself, how precious it renders the soul, what a gem of inestimable value one acquires, who has the good of possessing sufferings.... It is enough to tell you only that, in coming upon earth, I did not choose riches or pleasures, but I cherished as dear and intimate sisters, the cross, poverty, sufferings, ignominies." While saying this, He would show such taste, such joy for suffering, that those words pierced my heart through like many burning arrows, to the point that I would feel life leaving me if the Lord would not concede me suffering. And with as much voice and strength as I had, I would do nothing but say: 'Holy Spouse, give me suffering, give me crosses. From this alone will I know that You love me – if You content me with crosses and with sufferings.' And so I would take one of the largest crosses that I saw, I would lay myself upon it, and I would pray Jesus to come and crucify me.