

Allocutio 16.10.22 The Rosary

In the Rosary we deepen our commitment to Christ. As we contemplate the mysteries we let them become so much a part of us that we would respond in the same way as Jesus or Mary.

We need these things to become a part of us, so that we are as familiar with them as our own name.

We acknowledge Mary as the supreme example of giving God first place, and all that follows from that. She was certainly ready to die or live, or whatever was needed. A sword pierced her soul. When a sword is piercing your soul it is almost irrelevant if the sword is also piercing your body!

Mary travelled through all the mysteries of the Rosary, and now helps us to follow her path. She was present at the Crib, at the Cross, and now at the Throne of Heaven. We want to be with her in all these places, and responding accordingly.

We have the promise of salvation (Joyful); we will have the reality (Glorious). Most of our present lot is tied up with the struggle (Sorrowful).

It is that in-between state which is so difficult. Consoled and inspired by the promises, we have to negotiate temptations, trials, disappointments, all sorts of difficulties, until we finally cross into the safety and joy of eternal life.

There are professions that are 'on call' at all times eg ambulance drivers, police, soldiers. Christians can be included in that category. We are on call at any time to do whatever is required. And much of that can be very demanding and unpleasant.

If we are disciples of Jesus we must answer to Him. We are not here at our own convenience.

Absolute commitment should be associated with every disciple of Christ. We live for Him, or we die for Him. We belong to Him entirely.

It need not be as hard as we might fear. We can reach a point of love for God, so strong that it overrides any other feeling, thought, or desire. Fear of martyrdom can be overcome in this way. We learn from the death of martyrs how cheerfully they embraced their fate. They were not thinking about the pain, but about the joy of union with Christ.

We may not be ready yet for such heroism. We are not sure what we are capable of, but we will be ready when required if we do all the right things in the meantime. Then, if a crisis does happen, we are more equipped to make a correct response.

All the while we become better disciples; our understanding is deepened; and our hearts are enflamed.

Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.