

Meditation 2014-03-01
First Saturday Following Sexagesima Sunday
Meditation Theme: “Who Is My Mother?”

Place yourself in the presence of Jesus Christ. Make sure He knows that every thought, action, and experience of today is dedicated exclusively to Him.

The Scenario: From the Gospel of the Mass of the Immaculate Heart Of Mary

At that time, there stood by the cross of Jesus, His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalen. When Jesus therefore had seen His mother and the disciple standing whom he loved, He saith to His mother: Woman, behold thy son. After that, He saith to the disciple: Behold thy mother. And from that hour, the disciple took her to his own.

Point 1. – This is a very important moment in the Passion of Our Lord. He is not only making a gift, but he is assigning a duty.

Point 2. – Jesus is directing both His mother, who has always been at His absolute command, and St. John, for whom He had a special affection, to assume new roles, new responsibilities.

Point 3. – Saint John stands in the place of all of the people of the world. He accepts his new role of son to his mother on our behalf. Mary accepts Saint John, along with all of his brothers and sisters in whose place he stands, as her children.

Meditation: Consider that Mary was never anything less than the perfect mother. A perfect mother loves her children; she protects them from harm, comforts them when they are hurt, warns them of danger, feeds them, cares for them, holds them close and loves them. She defends her children against attack, leads them away from bad places and situations, and is always “there for them.”

I have a mother here in the world. She may be passed on, or she might still be with us. Did she do these things for me? Was she good at it? Was she perfect or did she have her own “baggage” that might have gotten in the way? Have I ever thought about the fact that she was, and maybe still is, a sinner? Did she ever sin against me? Could she ever sin against me, or is God the only one against Whom someone can sin? Do I now, have I ever, forgiven my mother for trespassing against me?

Do I ever think of Mary as my mother, my spiritual parent? Do I think about how Jesus not only gave her to me, but he also gave me to her? He gave her a job to do. How well does she do it? Do I act like a good child, do I listen, do I obey? Do I only come seeking comfort, or do I ever come to her just to say “I love you, Mother?” Do I look upon her as merely a devotional object as depicted in religious art, or do I look upon her as a real person who cares about and for me? Do I know what she does for me, what she has done for me? What have I ever asked of her? Have I thought of her as a source of help? A source of comfort and consolation? Do I approach her only when I have tears rolling down my face? Do I share my happiness and successes with her? Do I appreciate what she does for me? Have I ever thought of what she does for me? What

has she done for me? Do I owe her anything in return? Do I praise her in front of others? Do I encourage others to love and respect her?

Colloquy: Take a minute or two to converse with God, in any of His three Persons, or the Triune God complete in Himself. Tell Him what you have learned from your meditation, and thank Him for it.

Hold the Gain: Consider what you can do to keep the fruits of your meditation. Try to plan how you can think of them through the day, and through the days ahead. Come up with ways you can apply your conclusions to what you do in your everyday life, conversations you engage in, the choice of what movie to watch, what books you choose to read.