

(From Mo. Marguerite Guillot Conferences to the Novices)

WE MUST GIVE OURSELVES CONTINUALLY TO OUR LORD – FEB. 1885

My dear daughters, I am going to repeat to you today what our Venerated Father said to us so often and in various ways, by enjoining us to renew without ceasing the gift of ourselves to our Lord. Each time that we renew this gift, we strengthen the bonds of our union with our Divine Spouse, and the more intimate our union is, the more we advance in perfection.

Do not throw weary then of giving and re-giving yourselves to our Lord. When you will have unfortunately taken yourselves back by an act of infidelity, by consenting to an imperfection, or giving in to nature, quickly repair this fault by giving yourselves back again with greater ardor by a small sacrifice, a small act of self-denial, an act of humility or of charity. I add that the more you give yourselves to our Lord, the more you will share in His crucifying states. You must not be astonished for you know that in giving yourselves to Him, you would not be called to live on Thabor, but to follow Him to Calvary, because Jesus always accepts the gift with a soul makes of itself to Him and He immediately makes it share His Cross.

In the world, people abhor suffering and flee the Cross because they do not love our Lord, but the saints look upon suffering as a precious thing for it draws them nearer to their Master and they ask for it as a grace. That is why St. John of the Cross, for example, when, asked by our Lord what he wished as a reward for all that he had suffered for God, replied: *“Lord, to suffer and be despised for you.”* How beautiful that is, my daughters! I do not tell you to ask for the same thing, but I do urge you to accept suffering when it comes; to accept it with love, and not to lose the smallest portion of the crosses that our Lord sends you.

So, give yourselves and re-give yourselves continually to Jesus. Imitate the Blessed Virgin whose life was a perpetual gift; take her as your guide and support in the offering of yourselves, and confide yourselves to her so that she may keep you for Jesus; have toward her the trust and confidence of a loving child with its mother.

Let Mary be your support to come to the feet of Jesus; it is she who must teach you to love Him and to serve Him in His Sacrament. That is what our Father taught us for He desired that we go to Jesus led by Mary.

Do all your actions, then with Mary, with her help, under her guidance, in her spirit; yes, pray, adore, suffer, work with Mary and you will please Jesus. Is that not what you wish?
