



# Savior of the World *family*

## *With Love and Prayer*

My Dearest Ones,

How is life doing with you? as for us here we Thank the almighty for his goodness. lately we intake a pregnant lady into the home but she had a miscarriage and she is under medical care because she had wasted lots and lots of blood by the time we reach the hospital from Waterloo. But yes still we give God the glory for saving her live.

One of our little ones, Irene, is in the hospital. she is ill from typhoid and a high fever. We are praying to the Lord God for her improving health. I am staying with her as the hospital does not provide care

We are in the mid of the dry season were crops get dried because of the hot burning sun. Our temperature here is over 100 degrees and we are getting darker and darker as a result of the sun. We have started lent season, a season with preparation, purification we are praying that God see us through. The older children and i and the

workers are experiencing lent by fasting 2 or 5 hours a day depending on our ability to do so.

Very soon we are going to start the raining season and we have to mend our fence if not it will collapse during the raining season. the reason is the house is located at the foot of the hills in Waterloo and because we are having a lot of rains during the raining season all the pressure of the water comes to the foot of the hills so we want to make an abutment around the fence so that when the water dash on the walls it will slip off and we will have no casualty. The cost of this work is \$2500 we are please pleading for you help and support.

For the raining season we need cloths for the little children because the older one already have and we



**Fr. Paul, pastor of Immaculate Conception parish, where the children attend Mass every Sunday, blessing palms - The parishioners climb the palm trees and cut down the palms for the service right before Mass begins**

only need few rain coats. Please we are lacking mattress please if you can help us with only 3 we will appreciate it a lot. because sleeping on the bear floor will give us cold. then we need a few rain boots.

Easter is 24th the children are asking me what we will do because from the past three years we have not been able to celebrate it very much. in the past we celebrate with new clothings and some chicken to eat. I do understand that their is no money because already i have told them that we have lot to do with money and we did not have enough for celebrating Easter.

we want to assure you of our love and prayers for you always. May the Lord God guide and protect you in all your undertaken.

with much love

*Louisa*

*and Children*

## Living the Beatitudes—Part Two

***The Second Beatitude, "Blessed are the meek..." , reminds us that we need interior silence if we wish to cultivate Christian virtues, especially that of charity.***

Mother Teresa of Calcutta has left us a priceless heritage in giving us five rules for silence.



Marketplace in Freetown

The first kind of silence that we must nurture within our lives is *silence of the eyes*. We must stay alert and keep our eyes open in order to explore every day of our lives the beauty and the goodness of God that at times is very visible, awe-inspiring, and uplifting. One ponders the ocean in its vastness, in the ebb and flow of tides, in the rising, peaking, and crashing of waves, the play of dolphins. One throws one's gaze towards mountain peaks, waterfalls, snow-caps, and rainbows. But silence of the eyes also means staying alert for God's presence in the not so visible "beauty" of an overcrowded prison cell, a concealed snake pit, an overly cluttered attic, or an overcrowded basement. We are to look for divine beauty and goodness everywhere, bathed in sunlight, but also lurking in shadows.

But silence of the eyes demands of us the firm will to close our

eyes to others' faults and to everything that would incite us to sin or that would trouble our souls.

St Thomas Aquinas explains the immorality of the style of eye behavior that one ordinarily labels "curiosity". According to Thomas, curiosity of the eyes is a form of that species of sin that we call "laziness". Why laziness? ... because the one who is curious refrains from making the necessary effort to control the activities of his eyes.

The second form of silence that we are required to observe is the *silence of the ears*. We should be listening every day of our lives to the voice of God and to the cry of the poor and needy. But in order to keep ourselves attuned to what God wishes to say and to what the poor are begging to tell us we must at the same time close our ears to all other voices that originate with the evil spirit or with our perverse human nature, for example, the voice of calumny, of detraction, of exaggeration, the voice of one who likes to spread false histories, and the voice of one who would speak in a way that wounds the sensitivities, reputation, or good intentions of another.

The third kind of silence, *the silence of the*

*tongue*, helps us preserve our voices for praying and for praising God, for speaking the Word of God, that Word that gives life, the Word of the Truth that enlightens and inspires, that brings peace, hope and joy. When I make the effort to silence my tongue, I refrain from speaking out of love for self. I cease to look for ways to justify my faults; I do everything possible to avoid any word that would provoke anguish, pain, or interior desolation in another person.

St. Thomas Aquinas tells us that "curiosity" of the ears, that is, the tendency to listen to conversations that do not concern us, as well as "verbosity", the tendency to talk too much, are both species of laziness. Why laziness? ... because the curious person or the verbose person fail to make the effort necessary to control the activities of the ears and the tongue.

The fourth type of silence is *the silence of the mind*. When I guard silence in my mind, I am beginning to be thoughtful. I am open to the truth and I seek to know God by way of prayer and contemplation, like the Blessed Virgin Mary who kept her mind faithfully occupied with what the Lord God was doing so marvelously in her life. I close my mind to

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## Living the Beatitudes—Part Two

(Continued from page 2)

anything that might be contrary to the truth, to distractions, negative or destructive thoughts, rash judgments, false suspicions, any suspicion that calls into question the conduct or motives of another human being, thoughts or desires for revenge.

The fifth kind of silence practiced by the person who aspires to be meek, patient, and habitually in control of his or her temper, is the silence of the heart. I cultivate silence of the heart when I strive to love God with my whole being, with all my heart, with all my soul, with my entire mind, and with all my strength. My heart dwells in silence when I do everything possible to love others as God loves them; when I desire to love God alone. The person of the silent heart avoids every form of self-centeredness, hatred, envy, jealousy and avarice.

On occasion Mother Teresa added a sixth form of silence, the silence of the feet. She noticed that there can be men or women who try to get attention for themselves by the clicks their shoes make on the ground when they walk. Hence she proposed that it is worthwhile to try to walk without making too much noise with one's shoes.

Perhaps you are

aware of the efforts Mother Teresa of Calcutta exerted during her life to bring all those who suffer leprosy to a deep and abiding awareness of their dignity and worth as the very dearly beloved sisters and brothers of Jesus. Mother Teresa's meek and humble love for each child, woman and man that suffered leprosy helped to heal and efface from their psyche the wounds they were sustaining because of the disdain, contempt and indifference of those who were looking upon them as creatures to be cursed.

A "brother in the Holy Spirit" who practiced at every moment Mother Teresa's rules for silence was a teenager who worked every day in the fields with his dad. He was a prayerful young man. Indeed he cultivated interior silence with a true awareness of what is important in life: his friendship with Jesus. Because three of his eight brothers and sisters had already entered religious life, he was not willing to consider the possibility that he had a religious vocation. At the same time he was growing in his awareness that the first rule for friendship with Jesus is to do the will of the heavenly Father. Finally he took the necessary step of saying something to his parents about seeking entrance into a religious community. His

parents surprised him by saying that they had the same intuitions as he.

He was weak in his studies. His only school had been the fields on the farm. Hence the religious community accepted him to be a lay brother without the permission to seek ordination to the priesthood. Nevertheless he spent his free time studying Latin, Greek, and philosophy with an interior, secret hope that one day he could be a priest. He took the religious name of Damian.

Damian's brother was already a member of the same community. Their superior selected him to go to a new mission called Hawaii in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, thousands of kilometers away from the nearest continent. Damian's brother, however, took ill. His illness was grave enough to prohibit him from going to his new mission. Damian himself took his place; and it was there in Hawaii that Damian was ordained a priest.

Damian was happy with his new mission. It was just then that an epidemic of leprosy began to afflict the islands.

*To be continued...*

Fr. John Gibson OCD



Typical "store" in Freetown

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## Updates

From time to time, people ask me how Savior of the World is doing financially. I am always amazed that the answer remains positive. This work of charity, started by a few unimportant, inexperienced people, should have—by the world's standards—failed long ago.

Yet, the good Lord continues to provide, not exces-



**There can be no shortage of material for generosity where it is Christ who feeds and Christ who is fed. In all this activity there is present the hand of him who multiplies the bread by breaking it, and increasing it by giving it away.**

sively, but adequately for our needs from day to day. The Lord, indeed, gives the children their daily bread, one day at a time. At the end of each day, we sit satisfied, yet empty-handed, much like the Israelites in the desert, filled with hope that our Father, who knows exactly what we need, will take care of us. While the world makes plans and frets and worries, those who look first to God for their daily bread learn a gentle trust that fills the soul with peace—a peace the world cannot give or know.

***From a sermon by Saint Leo the Great, pope***

Any time is the right time for works of charity, but these days of Lent provide a special encouragement. Those who want to be present at the Lord's Passover in holiness of mind and body should seek above all to win this grace, for chari-

ty contains all other virtues and covers a multitude of sins.

As we prepare to celebrate that greatest of all mysteries, by which the blood of Jesus Christ did away with our sins, let us first of all make ready the sacrificial offerings of works of mercy. In this way we shall give to those who have sinned against us what God in his goodness has already given us.

Let us now extend to the poor and those afflicted in different ways a more open-handed generosity, so that God may be thanked through many voices and the relief of the needy supported by our fasting. No act of devotion on the part of the faithful gives God more pleasure than that which is lavished on his poor. Where he finds charity with its loving concern, there he recognizes the reflection of his own fatherly

care.

In these acts of giving do not fear a lack of means. A generous spirit is itself great wealth. There can be no shortage of material for generosity where it is Christ who feeds and Christ who is fed. In all this activity there is present the hand of him who multiplies the bread by breaking it, and increasing it by giving it away.

The giver of alms should be free from anxiety and full of joy. His gain will be greatest when he keeps back least for himself. The holy apostle Paul tells us: He who provides seed for the sower will also provide bread for eating; he will provide you with more seed, and will increase the harvest of your goodness, in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen



## Prayer Intentions:

Loretha Haryzewski

Family of John & Mary Reimbold

Family of Martha Mendoza

Family of Barb Lail

Andrew Jancopale

Barbara & Arthur Weiss Family

Helen Koch

Clare Family

Crowe Family

Witter Family

