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Agnes Grazi (152)

Presentation

June 25

J.M.J.

My Beloved Daughter in Christ,
At this moment I received your letter, and I thank God for the charity you continue toward me, but you are too worried about my health. I am very well, so do not be concerned over my illness, rather weep over my grave sins.
With regard to that vision of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, I tell you that when such things occur, both for now and for the future, cut them off, reject them, and humble yourself much so that the devil will not play his tricks. Raise yourself to God in pure faith, for if such visions are from God, even if you reject them, they will have their effect. The devil is a great deceiver and is always watching to drag us into his net. Seek God in pure faith and upright intention, and, if visions of saints come to your imagination, reject them and say: "I seek only my God and his greater glory. I love the saints in God, and I hope to see them in paradise, but down here I have too cloudy a sight to see the great friends of my God, etc."
Humble yourself more and more, annihilate yourself, considering yourself unworthy of any good and worthy of a thousand hells. The things of God bring on more love, great virtue, detachment and death to all that is not God.
The union you experience with your neighbor, if based on the love of God, is excellent. But that union of spirit you experience with my soul, cut it off as much as you can. Spiritualize it completely. I mean, purify it of all that is dross and immerse it completely in the abyss of the love of God. Then do not think of it any further. Fulfill the duty of praying for me, and despoiled and purified of this dross, lose yourself completely in that abyss of goodness that alone merits to be loved. Let me be despised, abhorred, and abandoned by all. God is giving you certain words that come with a dart of love. But do not tell me that God is passionately in love with me because I am far from that. I speak the truth. You do not know me; my life is always worse. I adore the Will of God, who arranges in this way. The signs I have from God are not such that would show that I am especially loved by God, but quite the contrary. Continue to pray for me, and then forget this mire and lose yourself in God, losing all sight of creatures.
Do as I say and obey. It is necessary always, always and as long as life lasts to go in search of the purest love of God. Oh, how difficult that is! We are of earth, and earth always tends toward earth.
The prayer in faith you write about is going well. Guide yourself as I have said and written to you so often. When a soul remains totally lost in God, loving and rejoicing, and comes to prayer full of ardent desires for the glory of God, the salvation of souls, and doing great things for the Beloved Good, here there can never be deceit. Trust in God, distrust yourself, and always be fearful of yourself. Be simpler than a baby in diapers, subject to all, and do not worry about being deceived.
I hope in God that your uncle will not be carried away into imprudent actions, as he would be in giving himself to excess with Father Charles. Tell him to be clear of everything when he sees it is doing no good, and tell him now is the time to let his prudence be known to God, to angels, and to the world.
I end by praying the Lord to give you all fullness of blessings. Amen.
Your true servant in Christ,
Paul of the Holy †