



Day 30: Purity

Jesus, the Pure One

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” Matthew 5:8

When Jesus gives His apostles the Beatitudes on the mountain, it is like giving them the secrets of His heart, the blueprint for happiness and human flourishing. As the incarnate Son of the Father, He reveals Himself as the one who is pure and undefiled, radically open and receptive to all the Father wants to give Him. He is the one unstained by the world, never distracted or interrupted from rejoicing in the light of the Father’s eyes. There is a supernatural space in His heart, always ready and open to receive the spontaneous gifts that God wants to pour into His heart. Safe and secure in the Father’s gaze, Jesus has no need to grasp, manipulate, or control anything in his life. In the purity of His heart, He knows that the Father will give Him everything. This orientation allows Him to constantly live “seeing God,” enjoying Him, and following Him wherever he leads.

Mary, The Immaculate One

Mary was conceived without sin, a grace that allowed her to enjoy a never ceasing purity of heart and orientation to God. Her heart was always ordered to God, and thus ordered and given to her son, Jesus. Purity needs to be protected and given space to grow and flourish. In Nazareth, Mary and Joseph created the home for Jesus, perfectly pure of heart, to be secure in His identity, and also to blossom in love and fruitfulness. Protected from the spirit of the world that leads to distraction and defilement, Mary’s love for Jesus acted as a womb to nourish, strengthen, and protect His capacity to love, leading Him to always live in His Father’s gaze. The pure heart longs to “see God,” and Mary’s heart, already enjoying this gift from the moment of conception, emboldens Jesus to be most Himself as the pure Son of the Father.

St. Juan Diego and Us

Do not be afraid to let God order your life. Living in the world, there is a constant competition for our gaze. What are we looking at? What is grabbing our attention? If the pure of heart see God, the impure see the world and all of its bold seduction and distraction. Although they lacked the Gospel before the Franciscan missionaries arrived, native families taught virtue, including purity, to their children. Early missionaries recorded

traditional teachings of the time that formed young people in virtue: “Listen well...Look with serenity...Do not be vain...Do not be wandering, without a path...See that you are beautiful...Do not dishonor or disgrace yourself...” Juan Diego’s heart, formed in natural virtue, was able to embrace the Gospel despite the high standard that is demanded. In his simplicity of heart, St. Juan Diego responded to a grace of purity of heart that allowed him to be open to God’s pursuit of him through our Lady. Her sweet and gentle presence allowed him to be open and secure, able to respond to what God was asking of him. All of us feel this same tension: the desire we have to follow God and live in His gaze and also the constant lure of the world and all of its proposals. Brother, have you experienced over these days how Mary is pursuing you, fighting for you? In her gaze, you are learning to be a better friend, a better father, a more loving spouse. Enjoy the purity of heart that God wants to give you, so that you can turn to Him in all things and see Him clearly - becoming the man and the leader your family, your church, your office, your community need you to be.

Prayer

O Jesus, we adore You, we love You, and we thank You for the gift of Your presence. You are the “Pure One” constantly living in the gaze of Your Father. Constantly draw us close and help also to live in His healing gaze. We ask You now to hear this prayer.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of God and Mother of us, draw us close to your heart. In the abundance and gentleness of your Immaculate Heart, pour out the gift of purity into our minds and hearts, so we too can enjoy living freely and playfully in the gaze of the Father.

Amen.

After reading today’s reflection, pray the Litany of Restoration of Sonship.