



Priestly People

SERVANTS OF THE PARACLETE

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70
Years

SERVING CHRIST'S PRIESTS

1947-2017

New England Lent

Purple shadows in the alders,
Ashes on the willow tips,
Silence hushing every hillside,
Frost upon the field's parched lips:
Thus her season penitential,
Old New England bravely keeps,
Till an April sun shall waken
Life that in her bosom sleeps.

*Fr. Gerald sP "Streets In Nazareth"
published by Kennedy & Sons, 1940*

The Chaplet of the Precious Blood

The beads are but colored glass, but on each bead we say the Our Father, the most beautiful prayer – like the Precious Blood falling from the Wounds of Jesus, the Our Father fell from His Lips.

THE CIRCUMCISION

I believe in the Circumcision. In the first blood-shedding, Christ had in mind the sins of our childhood. There is a special sadness for those sins, for God loves the innocence of children. How beautiful is the innocence of a child! Something of our lost Paradise lives in a child. But when a little human will disobey for the first time, he comes down from his Father's arms. It is not a grievous sin, but it is the first turning away from God.

O Jesus, how beautiful is Your Blood in this mystery of Your first blood-shedding! Eliminate our first sins.

“We beseech Thee, therefore, help Thy servants whom Thou has redeemed with Thy Precious Blood.”

THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

Between the first and second blood shedding there were happy years. Happy years that were one continual act of love for His Mother and His fellow men. In those hidden years we had our share. The little Christ Child saw what human eyes could not see. He saw all and loved us all. The little Heart throbbed mightily in His Heart. He had come for a mighty conquest and the Chalice of Gethsemane was in His Heart. The Agony in the Garden was an anticipation of the Passion, but the anticipation came as of itself to sacrifice.

O Jesus, make us generous to anticipate sacrifice and suffering for love of God Your Father and our Father. May the love of You be in our hearts to hasten us and strength us for the beautiful moment of joy, by union with You in sacrifice and suffering. It is the jewel of the Precious Blood which we are saved by, that will strengthen us and cleanse us in the sight of God.

“We beseech Thee, therefore, help Thy servants whom Thou has redeemed with Thy Precious Blood.”

THE SCOURGING AT THE PILLAR

Since man would offend Jesus with his entire humanity, so with the entire Humanity of Jesus would He suffer. His suffering in the scourging wove a beautiful cloak, a mantle for us which is a symbol of Divine Mercy. Man strikes, but God returns love for hatred. By the blood-shedding of His Precious Blood He absorbs, consumes and dissolves our sins. It is a beautiful mantle for our souls.

O Jesus, how beautiful is the Red Robe. It is cast around each one of us and warms us with Your life Blood. It is never cold or lacking in charity to any fellow creature. Beloved Jesus, cover us completely with Your Precious Blood to purify our hearts and inflame us with love for You.

“We beseech Thee, therefore, help Thy servants whom Thou has redeemed with Thy Precious Blood.”

THE CROWNING WITH THORNS

O Jesus, as if Your sacred Brow as well as Your whole Being wished to share in our bodily pain, You received the foolish crown of thorns that pierced through Your whole Body. Jesus, You are dedicated and consecrated to mankind. Dear Jesus, if I be a thorn to You, let it be softened so I will not hurt You more. Let my supreme ambition be to soften nature. Let there be no harshness in my makeup. Anything that might be like thorns, may it be softened for You.

“We beseech Thee, therefore, help Thy servants whom Thou has redeemed with Thy Precious Blood.”

THE CARRYING OF THE CROSS

O Jesus, as Your poor, unprotected feet felt the coldness, the grime and stone of earth, do give us the courage to move forward to our own Calvary. And in Your Love for us, and our love for You (and for nothing more or less), may we forget our own pain in remembrance of You.

“We beseech Thee, therefore, help Thy servants whom Thou has redeemed with Thy Precious Blood.”

THE CRUCIFIXION

O Jesus, at the foot of the Cross, in Mary, Mary Magdalene, John, the disciples and the entire mob, there is a symbol for everyone. They are souls as conquests of Your Precious Blood.

Your Mother had her Immaculate Conception. It was a gift of the Precious Blood. Holy Mother the Church tells us by prevision that Mary was saved by the Precious Blood. Mary, the stainless one, owes her stainlessness to the Precious Blood.

“We beseech Thee, therefore, help Thy servants whom Thou has redeemed with Thy Precious Blood.”

THE PIERCING OF THE HEART

There is a slogan used as a commercial for a well-known product: “good to the last drop.” This phrase is capable of sublime consecration. The Precious Blood is “good to the last drop.” Christ drained Himself out of His last drop in the piercing to cleanse souls for Heaven who would be otherwise lost.

Dear Jesus, may our last drop, whether conscious or unconscious, be for love of You. May our last heartbeat only be heard by God. Now at this moment, we give to You our last drop of blood, and we greet You by saying: “Blood of my God, I love You.”

“We beseech Thee, therefore, help Thy servants whom Thou has redeemed with Thy Precious Blood.”

— Father Gerald sP Conference Volume F – August 27, 1947



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