

The Presentation of Our Lady: A Feast of Preparation *November 21*



Written by Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira

On the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lady, we celebrate the fact that Our Lady's parents brought her to the Temple at the age of three and handed Her over to live there for a long period as a consecrated Virgin where She might exclusively contemplate God.

There is a special Beauty to this Feast since it highlights the fact that Our Lady was chosen even before time began. She is called the root of Jesse (Isaiah, 11:1) from which Our Lord Jesus Christ would be born. She is introduced to the synagogue, the institution in charge of keeping this promise. Thus, the synagogue receives Our Lady as a first step. In this act, the hopes of ages would soon be fulfilled.

Our Lady, a Supremely Holy Soul, is received in the Temple and entered into the service of God. Despite the corruption of the nation of Israel and the transformation of the Temple into a den of the Pharisees, an incomparable Light appeared: the Sanctity of Our Lady.

Unknowingly, Our Lady began to prepare Herself to become the Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In an atmosphere of Graces at the Temple, She was set apart from everyone in order to serve God. She increased Her Love of God until She formed the ardent desire for the imminent coming of the Messiah and asked God if She might have the honor to be the servant of His Mother. She did not know that She was the One chosen for this honor. That is why She was perplexed when the Archangel Gabriel greeted Her to ask Her permission for the Incarnation.

Our Lady's magnificent preparation to be the Mother of Jesus Christ began with her Presentation at the Temple, [a Feast the Church celebrates on November 21](#). It is fitting that we ask Our Lady to prepare us with the best of Catholic Doctrine to serve God by serving Her. We should present ourselves before Our Lady, asking Her to assist us in taking up the task of our sanctification, as the Holy Ghost did with Her at the Temple of Jerusalem.

The preceding article is taken from an informal lecture Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira gave on the feast of The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary — November 21, 1965. It has been translated and adapted for publication without his revision. —Ed.

THE VIRGIN MARY IN THE KINGDOM OF THE DIVINE WILL



Day Thirteen

The Queen of Heaven in the Kingdom of the Divine Will departs for the Temple and gives example of total Triumph in the Sacrifice.

The soul to the Triumphant Queen:

Celestial Mama, today I come to prostrate myself before You, to ask for your invincible strength in all of my pains; and You know how my heart is filled with them, to the point of feeling drowned with pains. O please, if You Love so much being my Mother, take my heart in Your hands and pour into it the Love, the Grace and the Strength to Triumph in my pains, and to convert them all into Divine Will.

Lesson of the Triumphant Queen:

My child, courage, do not fear; your Mama is all for you, and today I was waiting for you so that My Heroism and My Triumph in the sacrifice might infuse in you Strength and Courage, and I might see My child triumphant in her pains, with the Heroism of bearing them with Love and in order to do the Divine Will.

Now, My child, listen to Me. I had just turned three years old when My parents let Me know that they wanted to consecrate Me to the Lord in the temple. My heart rejoiced in hearing this – about consecrating Myself and spending My years in the House of God. But beneath My joy there was a sorrow: the privation of the dearest persons one can have on earth – My dear parents. I was little, I needed their paternal cares; I was depriving Myself of the presence of two great saints. Moreover, I saw that as the day approached on which they were to deprive themselves of

Me, who rendered their lives full of joy and of happiness, they felt such bitterness as to feel they were dying. But though suffering, they were disposed to make the heroic act of taking Me to the Lord.

My parents loved Me in the order of God, and considered Me a great Gift, given to them by the Lord. This gave them the Strength to make the painful sacrifice. Therefore, My child, if you want to have an invincible Strength to suffer the hardest pains, let all of your things be in the order of God, and hold them as precious Gifts given to you by God.



Now, you must know that I prepared Myself with Courage for My departure for the temple, because, as I delivered My will to the Divine Being and the Supreme Fiat took possession of My whole being, I acquired all Virtues as nature. I was dominator over Myself; all Virtues were in Me like many Noble Princesses, and according to the circumstances of My Life, they promptly showed themselves, to fulfill their office without any resistance. In vain would they have called Me Queen, had I not possessed the Virtue of being Queen over Myself. I had in My dominion perfect Charity, invincible Patience, enrapturing Sweetness, profound Humility, and the whole Endowment of the other Virtues. The Divine Will rendered the little earth of My humanity fortunate, always flowery, and without thorns of vices.

Do you see then, dear child, what it means to Live of Divine Will? Its Light, Its Sanctity and Power convert all Virtues into nature; nor does It lower Itself to Reign in a soul where there is a rebellious nature - no, no! It is Sanctity, and It wants nature to be Ordered and Holy where It must reign.

Therefore, by My sacrifice of going to the temple, it was conquests that I made; and over this sacrifice, the Triumph of a Divine Will was formed within Me. These Triumphs brought New Seas of Grace, of Sanctity and of Light into Me - to the extent of feeling happy in My very pains, in order to be able to conquer New Triumphs.

Now, My child, place your hand upon your heart, and tell your Mama: do you feel your nature changed into Virtue? Or, do you feel the thorns of impatience, the noxious herbs of agitation, the bad humors of affections which are not holy? Listen – let your Mama do it; place your will into My hands, determined in not wanting it any more, and I will let you be possessed by the Divine Will. It will banish everything from you, and all that you have not done in many

years, you will do in one day, which will be the beginning of True Life, of Happiness and of Sanctity.

The soul:

Holy Mama, help your child; make a visit to my soul, and with your Maternal hands, snatch from me everything You find which is not Will of God. Burn away thorns and noxious herbs, and You Yourself, call the Divine Will to Reign in my soul.

Little Sacrifice:

Today, to honor Me, you will call Me three times to visit your soul, and will give Me all the freedom to do with you whatever I want.

Ejaculatory Prayer:

Sovereign Queen, take my soul in Your hands, and transform it completely into Will of God.

Prayer: O God, You willed that on this day the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, the Habitation of the Holy Spirit, should be presented in the temple; grant, we beseech You, that by Her intercession we may deserve to be presented in the Temple of Your Glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who Lives and Reigns with You in the Unity of the same Holy Spirit, God, world without end. S. Amen.

FROM THE BOOK OF HEAVEN



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Jesus wants to delight in Reflecting Himself in Luisa, who is helped by the Most Holy Virgin.

This morning, as soon as He came, my most beloved Jesus told me: “My daughter (Luisa), all your pleasure must be in reflecting yourself in Me. If you do this always, you will portray all

of My Qualities, My Physiognomy and My very Features within yourself; and I (Jesus), in return, will find all My Taste and highest Contentment in delighting in Reflecting Myself in you (Luisa).” Having said this, He disappeared, and I was meditating in my mind on the words He had just spoken to me. All of a sudden He came back, placing His Holy Hand on my head; and turning my face toward Him, He added: “Today I (Jesus) want to delight a little bit by Reflecting Myself in you (Luisa).”

A shiver ran about my whole waist – such a fright as to feel I was dying, because I saw that He was staring at me, wanting to delight in my thoughts, gazes, words, and in all the rest, by reflecting Himself in me. I kept repeating in my interior: ‘Oh! God, am I an object fit for letting You take delight, or for embittering You?’ In the meantime, our dear Queen Mama (Mary) came to my help, carrying a pure white Garment in Her hands, and all Loving, She told me: “Daughter (Luisa), do not fear; I Myself want to make up for you by clothing you with My Innocence, so that, in Reflecting Himself in you (Luisa), My Son may find the greatest delight that can be found in a human creature.”

So She clothed me with that Garment and She offered me to my Dear Good, Jesus, telling Him: “Accept her out of regard for Me, O Dear Son, and delight in her.” So every fear went away from me, and Jesus delighted in me, and I in Him.

FIAT!