

## IMITATE JESUS IN POVERTY

*Matthew 5:3 – “Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”*



### Paragraph 2544 - III. Poverty of Heart 2443-2449

**2544** Jesus enjoins his disciples to prefer him to everything and everyone, and bids them “renounce all that [they have]” for his sake and that of the Gospel.<sup>335</sup> Shortly before his passion he gave them the example of the poor widow of Jerusalem who, out of her poverty, gave all that she had to live on.<sup>336</sup> The precept of detachment from riches is obligatory for entrance into the Kingdom of heaven. (544) CCC

### Paragraph 520 - I. Christ’s Whole Life Is Mystery

**520** In all of his life Jesus presents himself as *our model*. He is “the perfect man,”<sup>191</sup> who invites us to become his disciples and follow him. In humbling himself, he has given us an example to imitate, through his prayer he draws us to pray, and by his poverty he calls us to accept freely the privation and persecutions that may come our way.<sup>192</sup> (459, 359, 2607) CCC

**2 Corinthians 8:2** - That in much experience of tribulation, they have had abundance of joy; and their very deep poverty hath abounded unto the riches of their simplicity.

**2 Corinthians 8:9** - For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that being rich he became poor, for your sakes; that through his poverty you might be rich.

**Volume 1** - "From you, Luisa, I Want Perfect Conformity to My Will, in such a way that your will May be Undone within Mine; and Absolute Detachment from everything - so much so, that I Want All that is earth to be considered by you as dung and rot, which one is horrified by just looking at. And this because, even though one were not attached to earthly things, just by having them around and looking at them they cast shadow on the Celestial Things and prevent the Fulfillment of that Mystical Marriage which I Promised you, Luisa. Even more, I Want that, just as I was Poor, you also Imitate Me in Poverty. You Must consider yourself in this bed as a little poor one; the poor are content with anything they have, and they first thank Me, and then their benefactors. The same for you: go along with everything that is given to you without asking for this or that, which might be a hindrance in your mind; but with Holy Indifference, without thinking of whether it may do good or bad, comply with the will of others."

This cost me very much at the beginning, especially because of the Obediences that the confessor would give me. I don't know why, he wanted me to take quinine, and I was given the Obedience that as many times as I would throw up, so many times was I to take food again. Now, quinine would whet my appetite, and sometimes I would feel quite a bit hungry. I would take food, and immediately after taking it, and at times in the very act of taking it, I would be forced to bring it up because of the continuous retching; and so I would remain with the same hunger as before. The word "poor" which Jesus had Spoken to me, would not allow me to dare to ask for anything; and I myself would feel ashamed to ask, thinking to myself: 'What will the family say: she has just vomited, and now she wants to eat?' So I would remain content with being able to offer something to my Dear Jesus.