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“We have to hunger and thirst for him and for his doctrine”

Without interior life, and without formation, there is no true apostolate and no work that is fruitful. Whatever work is done will be fragile, fictitious even. How great, then, is our responsibility as children of God! We have to hunger and thirst for him and for his doctrine. (The Forge, 892)

12 November

At times some Christians do not give the commandment of charity its full scope and value in their actions. In that last wonderful discourse of his, we find Christ surrounded by his chosen ones and leaving them these words as a form of testament: *Mandatum novum do vobis, ut diligatis invicem* -- a new commandment I give to you, that you love one another. Then he went further: *In hoc cognoscent omnes quia discipuli mei estis* -- by this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. If only we would make up our minds to live as he wants! (The Forge, 889)

Piety is the bond which ties us close to God and, for his sake, to others too since we see Christ in them. Without it, disunity comes inevitably, and with disunity the loss of all Christian spirit. (The Forge, 890)

Be grateful to God from the bottom of your heart for those wonderful and awesome faculties he chose to give you when he made you -- your intellect and your will. They are wonderful, because they make you like him; and awesome because there are human beings who turn their faculties against their Creator. It seems to me we could sum up the thankfulness that we owe as children of God by saying to this Father of ours, now and always, *serviam!*: I will serve you. (The Forge, 891)

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