"Magnificat anima mea Dominum!"

What must the cheerful way that Jesus looked upon people have been like? It must have been the same which shone from the eyes of his Mother who could not contain her joy -- Magnificat anima mea Dominum! -- and her soul glorified the Lord while she carried Him within her and by her side. Oh, Mother! May we, like you, rejoice to be with Him and to hold Him. (Furrow, 95)

Our faith is not in any way a burden or a limitation. What a poor idea of Christianity one would have if one thought that way! When we decide for God we lose nothing, and we gain everything. He who at the expense of his soul 'secures his own life, will lose it; it is the man who loses his life for my sake that will secure it'.

We have drawn the winning card, the first prize. If anything prevents us from seeing this clearly, let us look inside our own soul. We may find that our faith is weak, that we have little personal contact with God, that our life of prayer is impoverished. We must beg Our Lord, through his Mother who is our Mother too, to increase his love in us, to grant us a taste of the sweetness of his presence. Only when we love do we

attain the fullest freedom: the freedom of not wanting ever to abandon, for all eternity, the object of our love. (Friends of God, 38)

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