

“Go with confidence to the Virgin Mary”

When you see yourself with a dry heart, without knowing what to say, go with confidence to the Virgin Mary. Say to her, "My Mother Immaculate, intercede for me." If you invoke her with faith, she will make you taste in the midst of your dryness the proximity of God. (Furrow, 695)

16 May

Let us also contemplate his blessed Mother, who is our Mother too. We

find her on Calvary, at the foot of the Cross, praying. This is nothing new for Mary. She has always acted like this, as she fulfilled her duties and looked after her home. As she went about the things of this earth she kept her attention on God. Christ, who is *perfectus Deus, perfectus homo*, wanted us also to have the example of his Mother, the most perfect of creatures, she who is full of grace, to strengthen our desire to lift our eyes up to the love of God at every moment. Remember the scene at the Annunciation? The Archangel comes down bearing a divine message — the announcement that Mary is to be the Mother of God — and he finds her withdrawn in prayer. When Gabriel greets her, she is totally absorbed in God. ‘Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.’ A few days later she breaks out into the joy of the *Magnificat*, a Marian hymn which the Holy Spirit has transmitted to us through the loving faithfulness

of St Luke. It reveals Mary's constant and intimate conversation with God.

Our Mother had meditated deep and long on the words of the holy men and women of the Old Testament who awaited the Saviour, and on the events that they had taken part in. She must have marveled at all the great things that God, in his boundless mercy, had done for his people, who were so often ungrateful. As she considers the tenderness shown time after time by God towards his people, Mary's immaculate Heart breaks out in loving words, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour, for he has looked graciously upon the lowliness of his handmaid.' The early Christians, children of this good Mother, learned from her; we can, and we ought to do likewise. (Friends of God, 241)

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