

**“I want to give myself to You without holding anything back”**

It is Peter who speaks: Lord, do You wash my feet? Jesus answers: You do not understand what I am doing now; you will understand it later.

February 26

Peter insists: You will never wash my feet. And Jesus explains: If I do not wash your feet, you will have no part

with me. Simon Peter surrenders: Lord, not only my feet, but also my hands and my head. Faced by the call to total self-giving, complete and without any hesitation, we often oppose it with false modesty like Peter's ... May we also be men with a heart like the Apostle's! Peter allows no one to love Jesus more than he does. That love leads us to reply thus: Here I am! Wash me, head, hands and feet! Purify me completely, for I want to give myself to You without holding anything back. (Furrow, 266)

*The kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel*  
(Mark 1:15).

*And all the crowd gathered about him, and he taught them* (Mark 2:13).

Jesus sees the boats on the shore and gets into one of them. How naturally Jesus steps into the boat of each and everyone of us! When you seek to draw close to our Lord, remember

that he is always very close to you, that he is in you: *regnum Dei intra vos est* (Luke 17:21). The kingdom of God is within you. You will find him in your heart.

Christ should reign first and foremost in our soul. But in order for him to reign in me, I need his abundant grace. Only in that way can my every heartbeat and breath, my least intense look, my most ordinary word, my most basic feeling be transformed into a hosanna to Christ my King.

*'Duc in altum.* Put out into deep water!' Throw aside the pessimism that makes a coward of you. And pay out your nets for a catch!

We have to place our trust in our Lord's words: get into the boat, take the oars, hoist the sails and launch out into this sea of the world which Christ gives us as an inheritance.

*Et regni ejus non erit finis.* His kingdom will have no end. Doesn't it fill you with joy to work for such a kingdom?

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