

“They fell down and worshipped him”

We read in the Gospel that the Magi were filled with great joy, videntes stellam - when they saw the star. They rejoiced, my son, they were immensely glad, because they had done what they were supposed to do, and they rejoiced because they knew for certain they would reach the King who never abandons those who seek him. (The Forge, 239)

6 January

“When they saw the star again they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.” Why were they so happy? Because those who never doubted receive proof from the Lord that the star had not disappeared. They had ceased to contemplate it visibly, but they had kept it always in their soul. Such is the Christian’s vocation. If we do not lose faith, if we keep our hope in Jesus Christ who will be with us “until the consummation of the world,” then the star reappears. And with this fresh proof that our vocation is real, we are conscious of a greater joy which increases our faith, hope and love.

“Going into the house they saw the child with Mary, his Mother, and they fell down and worshipped him.” We also kneel down before Jesus, God hidden in humanity. We tell him once more that we do not want to turn our backs on his divine call, that we shall never separate ourselves

from him, that we shall remove from our path all that may be an obstacle to our fidelity and that we sincerely wish to be docile to his inspirations. You, in your own heart, and I in mine — because I am praying intimately with deep silent cries — are telling the child Jesus that we desire to fulfill our duties as well as the servants of the parable, so that we too may hear the response: “Well done, good and faithful servant.” (Christ is passing by, 35)

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