

Pierre Goursat

Community weekend

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Mary is compassion

Teaching given by Pierre Goursat, during a training day, for people participating in the Emmanuel prayer assemblies.

Mary is compassion. It's really her, because, the Son was suffering and we say that the mother was next to him and suffered. So, it was compassion; truly she was suffering "with". Yet, only she can teach us that. When we see all these unhappy drug addicts, I'm not even talking about heroine addicts who are right at the last level, but simply the quantities of people who take acid! [In order to have] this spirit of compassion, we must have a pierced heart. We won't come to have it by ourselves, we must truly ask Mary in order to have a pierced heart, because it's atrocious. Imagine we save fifteen drug addicts. We'll sing "Alleluia", it's magnificent! Then you think about the hundreds of thousands of others. Well, the others, they are also our brothers! So, we must truly have this [pierced] heart, constantly saying to the Lord: "Save the world!" And if we really have this compassionate soul, with a pierced heart that the Lord will give us, well at that moment we start being efficient. The Curé d'Ars said: "It's not because we've spoken to people that we've comforted them, that it means something, as long as we haven't yet suffered for them". He knew himself, he converted people, but he knew what it cost [...].

It's truly essential. Only, as we were saying earlier too, it's joyous, this makes all the difference with Jansenism. When you see people making "a face like that", and who tell you: "I'm in a dry patch", I say to myself: "My friend, your dry patch, is because you have a dry heart, but it's not at all the dryness of the Lord, because otherwise you'd be all smiles". Like Therese of the Child Jesus when she [was] in the night. We are there, then, to be joyful. And to be joyful, we must be together, three or four of us, to carry each other's burdens, like that "my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Mt. 11:30). So, like St. John, I'll repeat always the same thing: "Love each other!" And then all will be well [...].

There is really a grace of the Emmanuel. It's truly this grace of the Emmanuel, of him who is born in this stable, small, so humble; he asks us to get rid of everything, to be really in this poverty. That's what he asks of us. And [...] once we're poor in everything, we'll be rich uniquely in him, and so we'll have everything. All the great mystics said this, but the Lord, through the grace he gives to Emmanuel, to our community, helps us today, to be able to realise it together, if we are faithful. Only, it's impossible in this world. This world is so hard that we're taken up in a current. Here, we have truly a little island in the middle of this torrent, where we are able to gather together [...]. No words can make it understood. Only the Lord can make it understood. And if we have really understood this, everything is given back to us, because [Emmanuel] is not a movement, it's not an organisation, it's purely something deeply spiritual. It truly comes with the Spirit and the Spirit then confirms us in the vocation of going to this brother, or of going to this organisation... up until now, we wanted to do things for Jesus, now he is asking us to simply obey and to do what he tells us, to listen. And this grace of listening, we can have it in this grace of Emmanuel, together [...].

The Lord is working, in the whole world, the Holy Spirit comes. It is the wind of Pentecost, blowing. Yet Paris is a town which is particularly exposed; you know very well that if Paris falls, becomes more and more rotten, a whole part of the world will go in the same way. If Paris wakes up, it'll wake up a whole part of the world. So, the Devil is relentlessly against Paris and that's why large numbers of groups from outside Paris, and especially from amongst the more contemplatives of the Renewal, pray for us without us knowing, they pray every day for Emmanuel. Because we are in a combat [...]. That's why we have to meet together, even in small numbers, even ten people, but ten who truly believe it, you see. So, don't worry about it, simply pray to the Lord: if he enlightens you in this area, well that's very good; if he doesn't enlighten you, it doesn't matter, he will take others. He has the whole world to transform [...].

You see the hospitals too, it's atrocious, all these people who are dying alone in hospital. [In France] there is a law which practically forbids priests to come and visit the sick. For a sick person to receive the sacraments, he has to write saying he wants to receive the sacraments. You can well think that when he's dying, in general he doesn't realise it and more than that, often he is scared! So, it's down to us lay people to go and see them in the hospitals [...].

Pierre Goursat
and his brothers and sisters

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