



SACRO MILITARE ORDINE COSTANTINIANO DI SAN GIORGIO

IL GRAN PRIORE

Dear all,

the Third Sunday of Advent, that has just passed, invited us, through the Apostle Paul's words, to be happy as God's birth is approaching.

Christian faith has a unique characteristic: the fact of believing in an incarnate God forces our spirituality to be concrete, pushes our prayers to become real actions and also pushes us to verify the concreteness of our words.

A faith that remains abstract would be much more comfortable! A religion that is only synonym of prayers, rituals, devotion and fear would be much more convenient.

Dear Knights and Dames, Jesus asks us to imitate him in his words and deeds, without getting tired and looking for a pagan coherence, but being aware that following the Gospel pushes us to change our lives.

Jesus did not die in the name of coherence, but in the name of love.

We often seek an aseptic and inhuman coherence in our Christian life and in the Church. On the other hand, the Church is made up of forgiven sinners who can be merciful.

The Christian faith stands in the middle between the snooty search for an upstanding moralism (according to which the Church becomes an elite full of conformist and sometimes even benevolent people), or a gang where only the frivolous aspects of life count and people do not behave properly.

Jesus praises the prostitutes and publicans' attitude because they accept the Gospel that judges them but they do not justify themselves, because they accept the challenge.

It is not said whether this provocation has led to a change in life. It happened that for some prostitutes who became disciples and for Matthew the publican.

Lots of times in the Gospel Jesus focuses on a basic attitude: being authentic with God. We have to be ourselves and do not have to flatter him. We have to show up in front of him just the way we are.

We run the risk of praying God just five minutes per day or one hour a week and once the mass is over, we keep on living forgetting God...

The faith we declare to have must be practiced, otherwise we are hypocrite!

Our Lord wants us to be genuine and appreciates more the son who says: "I can not do it, I do not want to do it" and then forces himself to, compared to the other son who says "yes, I can do it" and then does not do anything.

Let's convert ourselves to God's choices, let's convert to Jesus' wisdom: this is the wish we make and the prayer we bring to God, who chose to come and live among us.

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