**FRAGMENTS OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY**

**(How to be good disciples of Jesus today)**

**Catanzaro 04 June 2018**

**THE SHEPHERD AND THE FLOCK**

**There is no true flock of Christ Jesus without a true Shepherd in Christ, with Christ and for Christ. The Shepherd is for the flock. The flock is from the Shepherd. If it is not from the Shepherd it might never be said to be a true flock of Jesus the Lord.**

**What is the obligation of the Shepherd and what is the obligation of the flock? The Pastor must nourish the flock that Jesus has entrusted to him with grace, truth, light and the eternal life that is Christ in his Word and in his sacraments.**

**The Pastor nourishing the flock of Christ, truth and grace, must also nourish himself of Christ truth and grace. If he omits his nourishment, never might he give the nourishment of Christ truth and grace to the flock.**

**The obligation to nurture himself is the essence of the true Shepherd. If the Pastor does not feed, he might never feed. If his heart is sterile and empty of Christ, he might never give Christ to his flock. Who does not feed himself, does not feed others.**

**If the Pastor feeds himself with thoughts according to man, he will nourish the flock of thoughts according to men. If he nurtures himself with thoughts of Christ Jesus, he will nourish the flock with thoughts of Christ Jesus. He feeds as he feeds himself.**

**The nourishment of Christ truth, light and Word must be the primary occupation of the Shepherd together with the nourishment of grace and eternal life. If he does not grow by nourishing himself with Christ, he might not help the flock entrusted to him.**

**The pastoral care that he lives must be extremely balanced. He must spend as much time on his spiritual care as he spends on the care of the sheep. He grows in grace and in wisdom and the flock also grows.**

**If he does not grow in grace and in wisdom, the flock will remain without any nourishment. The Shepherd is like an empty pitcher that does not contain water. He will give the flock ait to drink with it, but he might not quench its thirst.**

**The Pastor is obliged to be a true model in growth in every virtue. The theological and cardinal virtues must be the habit of his spiritual life. Only in this way will he become a true model and example for the flock.**

**What is the obligation of the flock? First of all, it is to know that if it separates from the Shepherd it might never be true flock of Christ Jesus. The flock is from the shepherd. Jesus gave him precisely for this: to guide his flock.**

**The flock must let itself be nourished by the Shepherd, but also ask for nourishment. Without assiduous spiritual nourishment, one grows neither in grace nor in wisdom. Christ is not known in his truth.**

**When the separation between Pastor and flock takes place either because of the responsibility of the Shepherd or the responsibility of the flock, from true Christ they pass to a false Christ and from true wisdom to a false science and false doctrine.**

**The evils that the separation generates are really great. This separation can destroy an entire community. For this everyone is obliged to build unity without ever destroying it.**

**The Pastor is obliged to nourish his flock of truth and grace, becoming a model of true growth. The flock is obliged to let itself be nourished by its Pastor asking for nourishment. asking and giving are true obligations.**

**HOLY SHEPHERD HOLY FLOCK**

**When is a Pastor Holy? When he lives as before God his responsibility to nurture his flock by illuminating with the most pure truth and light that are in Christ Jesus and when he satisfies it with his grace.**

**Holiness is necessary for the Pastor if he wants to be a true Pastor. A non-holy Shepherd attests that in him there are two separations: one invisible from Christ Jesus and one visible from the flock entrusted to him.**

**These two gaps must be abolished. He must be nourished by Christ daily. Christ is his Shepherd. Being nourished by Christ, he must nourish his flock of Christ Jesus. If he does not nourish himself with Christ, he does not nourish of Christ.**

**Another obligatory rule to live for the holiness of the pastor wants him to perform the nourishment of the flock according to the truth of his received sacrament. Every sacrament is linked to a particular nourishment.**

**This rule obliges the Pastor to give grace and truth according to the will of the Spirit, the mission that the Lord has bestowed upon him and the spiritual gifts received from him. Never can one be a saint out of this rule.**

**The Holy Shepherd makes the flock holy. What is the sanctity of the flock? In living each one, according to truth and grace, every obligation that comes from the sacrament received. Every sacrament involves a special and particular life.**

**Baptism wants us to live as true children of God, confirmation as true witnesses of Christ Jesus, the Eucharist as the true body of Christ, penance as truly renewed in the Holy Spirit and marriage as one true flesh.**

**Every person of the flock is called to live his every obligation, according to the gift received both by the sacrament and by the charisma of the Holy Spirit. He will have to live in Spirit and truth, according to the Spirit and truth.**

**This is why he always needs the guidance, the light and the wisdom that the Holy Spirit has placed in the Shepherd. If the Pastor wants to be light wisdom and guide he will always have to feed on Christ and the Holy Spirit.**

**In holiness the Pastor helps the flock to become holy. In holiness the flock helps the Shepherd to grow in holiness. Being as a single body in Christ a shepherd and a flock, the sanctity of one helps the holiness of others.**

**But also the sanctity of others, of every single person of the flock, helps the holiness of the pastor and of other people. Who wants to help others to grow saints must make every effort to grow in holiness himself.**

**NECESSARY PERSONAL MEDIATION**

**Every person in the body of Christ is the special vehicle of the word, grace, truth, justice and holiness of Jesus. As for Christ the Father has opened the treasures of his grace, so Christ opens them through his body.**

**The first mediation that urges to operate is that of the Word. If the Word of Jesus is not reminded, announced, explained, proclaimed, preached and taught, according to very pure truth, there is no conversion.**

**Since everything starts from the announcement and everything is accomplished in conversion to the Word, if the Word is missing, everything is missing. No gift of grace will be possible to be received. We are not converted, we do not believe in the Gospel.**

**Neither has one become the body of Christ to be enveloped by the Spirit of Christ. Everything is from the Word and everyone can give his Word both for baptismal ministry and for ministry coming from Confirmation.**

**The Word that is given must be that of Jesus, according to the truth and the light that are in Christ Jesus. To give it according to truth, communion with the Spirit alone is not enough. We need communion with the Shepherd.**

**Holy Spirit and Pastor, Pastor and Church, Church and Holy Spirit must be one. If this threefold unity is broken, there is no longer true transmission of the Word of Lord Jesus. You enter human words.**

**The Holy Spirit must always be confirmed by the Shepherd. The Holy Spirit always asks for the confirmation of the Pastor. Those who walk with the Holy Spirit without the Shepherd are at risk of walking or running in vain.**

**It is always easy to confuse one's thoughts with the thoughts of the Holy Spirit, the ways of God with the ways of men, the inspiration of the Spirit with the feelings of one's heart. The Pastor and the Holy Spirit liked it.**

**The Holy Spirit and the Shepherd are the way to walk in the truth. When we are separated from the Shepherd or the Holy Spirit, even if we say we are walking in the Gospel, it is not the very pure Gospel of Christ Jesus.**

**In order to walk in the Gospel of Christ the Lord we need the humility to submit to the Pastor every inspiration that is believed to come from the Spirit of the Lord. All obedience must be given to the Pastor. Obedience is life.**

**Obedience to the Pastor is the cross that must always be carried to walk in the truth of the Gospel. You carry the cross, praying to the Holy Spirit to enlighten the Shepherd with his most powerful light of truth.**

**When one rebels against the cross of obedience, one might no longer pray, because prayer to the Holy Spirit can only be raised from the cross of obedience to those whom Jesus has constituted as his Pastors.**

**If the Pastor wants to know the Spirit that acts outside of him, he must live an intense communion of light and truth with the Spirit. He grows in the Spirit and grow in his discernment according to the Spirit.**

**However, we can always appeal to conscience. But never must the conscience be lived out of the Gospel and from the flesh. It must always be lived in respect of the Gospel and from the Holy Spirit. Never the conscience from outside the Gospel.**

**It is the Gospel the field of Christ Jesus in which every conscience can live both the gifts of the Holy Spirit and his particular inspirations or motions. The Spirit is never against the Gospel. Never against his eternal truth.**

**It is not easy to live this rule because it sometimes requires our submission to the whole Gospel of Christ Jesus, while we often want to follow inspirations and motions without and against it the Gospel.**

**Personal mediation is always to give the Christ of the Gospel. Every inspiration of the Holy Spirit is to foster the gift of the Christ of the Gospel. We live the Gospel and we will always give the Christ of the Gospel.**

**Just as the Christ of God cannot exist outside of the Gospel, so never might there be a conscience moved and inspired by the Holy Spirit out of the Gospel. The Gospel is the field where every Christian conscience is cultivated.**

**If the Spirit inspires and moves it is because the Gospel is lived in order to be able to give the Christ of the Gospel. If the conscience is placed out of the Gospel, never might it give the Christ of the Gospel. The motion must be brought into the Gospel.**

**Then so that every true motion always aimed at mediation for the gift of Christ Jesus, bears fruit of salvation and redemption, it must be nourished with the sanctifying grace, which always governs the heart and mind.**

**Whoever lives in sin might never be a good mediator concerning the gift of Christ and his Word and his Gospel. With sin one is not in the Gospel. Yes, he is out. Neither Christ nor the Gospel is given.**

**When one lives in grace and grows in virtues, he lives in the Gospel, then every motion, inspiration and conduction of the Holy Spirit will be lived according to truth and Christ will also be given according to truth.**

**But when one lives in sin, he is placed outside of the Gospel, when the true Christ is not given by the truth of his Word, then our inspirations do not come from the Spirit, but from the flesh, from evil.**

**Whoever wants to be led by the Spirit will have to live according to the Spirit. We live according to the Spirit, if we remain in the Word of Jesus and obey the truth placed by the Holy Spirit in it.**

**Holiness, Gospel, obedience to the Word, motions of the Holy Spirit are one. A motion of the Holy Spirit that does not lead to obedience to the Gospel and to the truth of the Word, is certainly not true.**

**Without the personal, individual and specific mediation of every member of the body of Christ the Lord, neither the Word nor Christ Jesus is known. For the person Christ lives in the hearts, for the non-mediation he never enters them.**

**But even for a bad mediation the true Christ may die and in his place we let an idol take over. Today for much bad mediation, many say they know Christ. In truth their Christ is an idol.**

**LOVING THE YOUNG**

**Why must young people be loved? But even before how young people must be loved. Young people must be loved because love is the only safe food for them. Love for them is the real solid food that makes them grow and mature.**

**Without love, they might never grow up. A deficiency will created in them that will affect them for life. True, pure, holy love gives harmony to their whole existence both of the present and of the future.**

**But how must young people be loved? Helping them to acquire wisdom, knowledge, intelligence, understanding, strength, fear of God and piety, which are gifts of the Holy Spirit and that are received in fullness in Confirmation.**

**Loving is removing from vice and bringing into virtues. Who leaves them in vice he does not love young people. It is leading from sin to full obedience to the Word. Who justifies and ratifies their disobedience, does not love young people.**

**It is ensuring that they respect the duties and obligations inherent to their status. You love a young person when you take him to study, to learn a trade, to be instructed in order to live his work wisely tomorrow.**

**He does not like young people who leads them to sin, vice, transgression, disobedience, lack of respect and disinterest in the obligations they are bound to respect, otherwise they will not grow.**

**Today young people are not loved because we do not make them distinguish good from evil. They are often taught evil. They sometimes are also moved away from the true good. We also come to the point of defending their sins and vices.**

**They are not loved when they are not made to understand that in life everything is sweat of the forehead. Nothing is due to them. The bread they eat must be the result of their work, naturally the work of young people, but work.**

**One cannot think of loving young people by leaving them in every spiritual, moral, social, truth and wisdom disorder. But neither is a young man loved unless he is taught and trained about the fear of God.**

**But this can be done by who lives this. If adults do not know the fear of the Lord, do not live the obedience to the Gospel, do not love the truth and do not walk the path of justice, never might they love.**

**From vice, from sin, from falsehood, from injustice and from dishonesty never might one love. We love from grace, from truth, from justice and from honesty. We love by letting us be loved by God and filled by his Holy Spirit.**

**Of course, the methods must always be measured according to them. Education must always be gradual. But never must the evil done by them be justified. Who justifies and defends their evil, does not love them and hates them.**

**The young are branches of the adult tree. If the tree is sick, the young person is also ill. If the tree is healthy, the young person might also be healthy. Who wants to love young people, must love himself and bring himself into virtues.**

**If adults are sick, all their spiritual and social diseases will affect the young and overwhelm them. The evil of adults is like the air you breathe. If the adult's air is polluted, the young person is polluted.**

**Who is outside the Gospel, in sin, in vice, might never love. Loving is communicating one's holiness to the young person. You can love without saying a word. He hates saying endless false words and lies.**

**True love is only in Christ Jesus and for Him. Loving a young person is working so that he may be planted in the body of Christ, becoming the true body of Christ, in order to produce the fruits of Christ, according to the truth of the Gospel.**

**If our love does not lead to Christ, to become one with Christ, it is love full of gaps, or it is not a true love. If we want to love young people, we must commit ourselves so that ours may be the true love of Christ in us.**

**WITH THE VIRGIN MARY**

**The Virgin Mary is our true Mother. She was given to us by Christ Jesus so that she always leads us to the true Christ and Lord, to the true Saviour and Redeemer and to the true Gospel of salvation and eternal life.**

**A Christian that does not love the Virgin Mary does not honour her, forgets her, does not bear her in his heart, certifies that the Christ in whom he believes is not the true Christ of God. Without the true Mother the true Christ will never be in the heart.**

**Mary is the sign of the truth of our faith and of our love in Jesus Lord. If she is the true Mother in our heart Jesus is also the true Christ in us. If Mary is not our true Mother, even Jesus is not the true Christ.**

**Everyone can always know if Jesus is his true Christ. It is sufficient to examine one's relationship with the Virgin Mary. Non faith in Mary is non faith in Christ. Non-love for Mary is non-love for Christ Jesus.**

**Who does not have Mary as his true Mother, might never have Jesus as his true brother. Never God as his true Father. Never the Holy Spirit as his true Comforter and true light of wisdom that illuminates his life.**

**THE MYSTERY OF DEATH**

**We must live every moment of our life, from conception to death, in the purest and most holy faith. But if true faith is not in our heart, we can live nothing according to true and pure faith.**

**Death lived in faith has its own particular truth. Lived in non-faith acquires another meaning. In faith, death is leaving this world to enter eternity. The soul is immortal.**

**We enter into eternity, we present ourselves before the Lord, we see good and evil, we know what way to take. If our works have been bad, we take the road of perdition, if good that of Paradise.**

**We must prepare ourselves for death. How do we prepare? Preparing our judgment. How? Moving away from evil, doing good. Growing up in the virtues of faith, hope and charity. Freeing us from vices.**

**Death must be lived in faith, according to faith, it must also be accepted in faith and according to faith. Today life is not lived in faith and according to faith and never might one live life in faith and according to faith. Faith is all.**

**In faith everyone is obliged to live his whole life from faith so as to avoid all sin and vice which are an acceleration and almost an anticipation of death. Anticipating it is a serious sin against life.**

**Sins against life are innumerable today. There is an euthanasia and an immediate suicide. But there is also a slow, daily, day by day euthanasia and suicide. They are euthanasia and suicide caused by vices.**

**In faith we live the death of each of our brothers in the certainty of the resurrection. We know that it is not removed but transformed. We pray to the Lord to give eternal beatitude to the soul. Everything is from faith.**

**UNIVERSAL PRAYER**

**The Christian's prayer is from the body of Christ for the whole body of Christ and for humanity. Saving humanity is the mission and obligation of the body of Christ.**

**SHORT FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**Personal mediation is necessary with regard to the gift of the Word, of grace and of the Holy Spirit. God and Abraham, God and Isaac, God and Jacob, God and Joseph, God and Moses, God and Joshua, God and the Judges, God and Samuel, God and David, God and the Prophets, God and Christ Jesus in the very pure communion of the Holy Spirit. God works for man, for every man, nobody excluded. He wants everyone to become an instrument to bring his Salvation to every heart. For this to happen one must be the true body of Christ. Since true salvation is to form the body of Christ, today, on our earth, no one might form the body of Christ if he is not the body of Christ. To Christ's body one is attracted by the body of Christ, to the Gospel by the Gospel, to the Holy Spirit by the Holy Spirit, to the grace by grace, to holiness by holiness, to light by light and to the Church by the Church.**

**Whoever stands outside the body of Christ, the Gospel, the Holy Spirit, grace, holiness, light and the Church, might never be said he is an operator of the true salvation of God, which is accomplished in Christ, through Christ and with Christ. No one must ever think that true salvation can be done if one is outside the body of Christ. But also nobody might ever think that there can be true salvation if we exclude the body of Christ from true salvation. The body of Christ is the only place in which it is established that we can be saved, redeemed and justified. Unfortunately today this truth is no longer believed. We have all being turned into preachers of salvation without Christ, each with his own personal salvation. If we do not repent, by returning to the purity of salvation that is fulfilled in Christ, with the purest and most holy faith in his Word, no true salvation will be fulfilled for us and we will die in our sins.**

***Every person in the body of Christ is the special vehicle of the word, grace, truth, justice and holiness of Jesus. As for Christ the Father has opened the treasures of his grace, so Christ opens them through his body. The first mediation that urges to operate is that of the Word. If the Word of Jesus is not remembered, announced, explained, proclaimed, preached and taught, according to very pure truth, there is no conversion. Since everything starts from the announcement and everything is accomplished in conversion to the Word, if the Word is missing, everything is missing. It will be possible to receive no gift of grace. We are not converted, we do not believe in the Gospel. We have not even become the body of Christ to be enveloped by the Spirit of Christ. Everything is from the Word and everyone can give both his Word for baptismal ministry and for ministry coming from Confirmation.***

***The Word that is given must be that of Jesus, according to the truth and the light that are in Christ Jesus. To give it according to truth, communion with the Spirit alone is not enough. We need communion with the Shepherd. Holy Spirit and Pastor, Pastor and Church, Church and Holy Spirit must be one. If this threefold unity is broken, there is no longer true transmission of the Word of Lord Jesus. You enter human words. The Holy Spirit must always be confirmed by the Shepherd. The Holy Spirit always asks for the confirmation of the Pastor. Whoever walks with the Holy Spirit without the Shepherd is at risk of walking or running in vain. It is always easy to confuse one's thoughts with the thoughts of the Holy Spirit, the ways of God with the ways of men and the inspiration of the Spirit with the feelings of one's heart. It was pleasing to the Pastor and the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit and the Shepherd are the way to walk in the truth. When we are separated either from the Shepherd or the Holy Spirit, even if we say we are walking in the Gospel, it is not the very pure Gospel of Christ Jesus.***

***In order to walk in the Gospel of Christ the Lord we need the humility to submit to the Pastor every inspiration that is believed to come from the Spirit of the Lord. All obedience must be given to the Pastor. Obedience is life. Obedience to the Pastor is the cross that must always be carried to walk in the truth of the Gospel. You carry the cross, praying to the Holy Spirit to enlighten the Shepherd with his most powerful light of truth. When one rebels against the cross of obedience, one might no longer pray, because prayer to the Holy Spirit can only be raised from the cross of obedience to those whom Jesus has constituted as his Pastors. If the Pastor wants to know the Spirit that acts outside of him, he must live with the Spirit an intense communion of light and truth. He grows in the Spirit, growing in discernment according to the Spirit. However, we can always appeal to conscience. But never conscience must be lived out of the Gospel, from the flesh. It must always be lived in respect of the Gospel, by the Holy Spirit. Never the conscience from outside the Gospel.***

***The Gospel is the field of Christ Jesus in which every conscience can live both the gifts of the Holy Spirit and its particular inspirations or motions. The Spirit is never against the Gospel. Never against its eternal truth. It is not easy to live this rule because sometimes it requires our submission to the whole Gospel of Christ Jesus, while we often want to follow inspirations and motions without and against the Gospel. Personal mediation is always to give the Christ of the Gospel. Every inspiration of the Holy Spirit is to foster the gift of the Christ of the Gospel. We live the Gospel and we will always give the Christ of the Gospel. Just as the Christ of God cannot exist outside of the Gospel, so never might there be a conscience moved and inspired by the Holy Spirit out of the Gospel. The Gospel is the field where every Christian conscience is cultivated.***

***If the Spirit inspires and moves it is because the Gospel is lived in order to be able to give the Christ of the Gospel. If the conscience is placed out of the Gospel, never might it give the Christ of the Gospel. The motion must be brought to the Gospel. Then, in order for every true motion aimed always at mediation for the gift of Christ Jesus, to bear fruit of salvation and redemption, it must be nourished with the sanctifying grace, which always governs the heart and mind. Whoever lives in sin might never be a good mediator concerning the gift of Christ, his Word and his Gospel. With sin one is not in the Gospel, he is out. Neither Christ nor the Gospel is given. When one lives in grace and grows in virtues, he lives in the Gospel, then every motion, inspiration and conduction of the Holy Spirit will be lived according to truth and Christ will also be given according to truth.***

***But when one lives in sin, he places himself outside the Gospel, when the true Christ is not given by the truth of his Word, then our inspirations do not come from the Spirit, but from the flesh. from evil. Whoever wants to be led by the Spirit must live according to the Spirit. We live according to the Spirit, if we remain in the Word of Jesus and obey the truth placed by the Holy Spirit in it. Holiness, Gospel, obedience to the Word and motions of the Holy Spirit are one. A motion of the Holy Spirit that does not lead to obedience to the Gospel and to the truth of the Word, certainly is not true. Without the personal, individual and specific mediation of every member of the body of Christ the Lord, neither the Word is known nor Christ Jesus. For the person Christ lives in the heart, for the non-mediation he never enters them. But even for a bad mediation the true Christ of God may die and in his place we make an idol take over. Today for much bad mediation, many say they know Christ. In truth their Christ is an idol.***

**The only, universal Mediator, through whom God gives himself to man in his mystery of grace, truth, light and eternal life, is only one Christ the Lord. After his glorious ascension into heaven, Christ the Lord performs his only and universal mediation, through his body which is the Church. In his body, each according to the sacrament received, the gifts of the Holy Spirit given to him, the special or particular mission conferred on him, in every moment, circumstance and event of his life, he must be the bearer of Christ to every man, so that every man accepts Christ, lets himself be made the body of Christ, so that Christ may bring him to the Father. The body of Christ is removed from history, there is no longer any true mediation of salvation; the instrument of true salvation, true redemption, true grace and truth, true justice and holiness, true light and eternal life is missing.**

**May the Mother of God, Angels and Saints obtain us from the Spirit of Christ the Lord and of his body that is the Church, the grace to persevere to the end in this faith in Jesus the Nazarene, the only name given under the sky in which it is established that we are saved. May she also obtain another necessary grace: ​​that those who exclude Christ from the mystery of salvation, see the spiritual and material disasters, in time and in eternity, that their doctrines produce every day. If the damned of hell due to the exclusion of Christ, could scream, on earth, there would be such a deafening scream as to terrorize humanity on earth. May Heaven listen to the prayer of our Mother, of the Angels and of the Saints.**