**SATURDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

# VIRGO CLEMENTISSIMA

Once we wrote: We are sinners. We betray the Lord, we deny Him, we blaspheme his holy name, we ignore his Law, we do not want to live according to his Commandments, we dissociate ourselves from his will. We even deny his existence, making ourselves gods, deciding for ourselves what is good and what is evil. We rebel against our truth of being his creatures, made by Him in his image and likeness. We have destroyed the Lord, abolished Him as our God. By supreme justice He should destroy us, abolish us from the face of the earth, plunge us alive into eternal damnation, so great is our sin, so immense our wickedness and evil. However, God is not only supreme justice, He is also mercy, mercy, compassion, eternal charity. He has always revealed Himself to be a merciful Father, who always forgives those who convert and return to Him, in repentance and in the desire to acknowledge Him as their God, Lord, Creator. If He were not also supreme mercy, none of us would exist more than half a day, so great is our wickedness and malice towards his holy name. His supreme mercy creates hope in hearts. The sinner can return to Him, because he knows that His God forgives widely. This was the hope of the prodigal son: *“Comingto his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began.”* (Lk 15,17-24).

By an arcane design or mystery of perfect salvation, redemption, and sanctification, God has disposed that the Virgin Mary, the most sweet Mother of His Beloved Son, be the ‘treasurer and giver’ of His divine clemency. The Mother of the Redemption exercises her holy office or ministry in various ways. First, She exercises it by anticipating our every need, both spiritual and material. She does not want us to deny our God and Lord and for this She obtains for us every grace so that we persevere in our journey of faith, hope and charity. Secondly, She exercises it by going in search of the lost sheep to lead them back to the fold of her Son Jesus. History attests to the fact that the Virgin Mary has always descended from heaven, has come among us, has shown Herself, revealed Herself, appeared, spoken, invited, asked to work for the conversion of all sinners. This is a tireless work. She never ceases to come to our aid. She is always among her children, because She does not want any to be lost, to perish in eternal darkness. Thirdly, She softens and softens the blows of God's justice, covering sinners with the mantle of her mercy, waiting for them to convert, to return to the full love of their Saviour and Lord. If the Virgin Mary did not perpetually stand between us and the Divine Father, we could hardly subsist. Our sins are so many and so great that they instantly deserve punishment. Instead, through the clemency of such a great Mother, the Lord delays the day of his wrath, delays it until the moment of conversion. Mary hides us from the Lord's wrath, according to the same command He gave to the children of Israel: *“Get behind the rocks, hide in the dust, From the terror of the LORD and the splendor of his majesty!” (Is 2,10) “Go, my people, enter your chambers, and close your doors behind you; Hide yourselves for a brief moment, until the wrath is past. See, the LORD goes forth from his place, to punish the wickedness of the earth's inhabitants; The earth will reveal the blood upon her, and no longer conceal her slain.”.* (Is 26,20-21). Our heavenly Mother is our safest hiding place. Whoever takes refuge in Her, whoever confides in Her, whoever entrusts himself to Her, whoever invokes Her with the will of true conversion, is always helped by Her to complete the path of his true return to the Lord.

Now we add: Today the Virgin is called upon to be a thousand times more forgiving, a thousand times more merciful, a thousand times more patient with us, because of our refusal to believe in her Word that was of salvation and redemption. She had come among us and had shown us the way of life, However, we denied Her, despised Her, mocked Her, outraged Her. We did not believe in her message of love. We have persisted and are persisting in our denial. We have declared Her coming untrue. If She does not return among us, the gates of truth and light will forever be closed to us. Darkness will overwhelm us. They are already overwhelming us more than the waters of the universal flood. Sun She is our ark of salvation. That is why we invoke Her every day to return among us and let us enter her ark of light and eternal truth. Virgin of Light, return among us.

**30 March 2025**