

He who labors as he prays lifts his heart to God with his hands.

- St. Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153), Cistercian Priest

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**The devotion to the Eucharist is the most noble, because it has God as its object; it is the most profitable for salvation, because it gives us the Author of Grace; it is the sweetest, because the Lord is Sweetness Itself.**

- St. Pope Pius X (1835- 1914)

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**When Christ was dead but still hung on the cross, a soldier came and pierced his side with a lance, and immediately there poured out water and blood. Now the water was a symbol of baptism, and the blood of the holy Eucharist.**

- St. John Chrysostom (347-407), Bishop of Constantinople

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**We imitate Christ's death by being buried with him in baptism.**

- Saint Basil (329-379), Bishop

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**Christ is risen, and the demons are cast down. Christ is risen, and life is set free. Christ is risen, and the tomb is emptied of the dead. For Christ, having risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits for those who sleep. To Him be glory and power forever and ever!**

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**What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like.**

- Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

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**Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth her song begin. Let the round world keep triumph, and all that is therein, invisible and visible. Their notes let all things blend, for Christ the Lord is risen. Our joy that hath no end.**

- Saint John of Damascus (c. 676-749), Arab Monk and Priest.

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**The resurrection of Jesus Christ is glorious because by it he overcame death and destroyed sin. It is advantageous for us because it is an assurance of our own resurrection. The resurrection should also procure for you the benefit of making you rise spiritually by causing you to live according to grace.... To enter into these practices and to show that you are risen with Christ, seek the things that are above, love the things of heaven, not those that are on earth. Show by your conduct that the resurrection of Jesus Christ has produced these happy effects in you.**

- John Baptist de la Salle (1651-1719), Christian Brothers priest

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**The kingdom of God in the soul consists in the possession, to a certain degree, of perfection, of the beatitudes. These are purity of heart – the sight of God; the thirst for justice – its fullness; peacemaker – children of God; merciful – receiving mercy; meekness – inheriting the earth; suffering persecution – great reward; mourn – they shall be comforted; poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God. These beatitudes terminate as flowers do into the fruits of the Holy Spirit – to wit charity, joy, peace; patience, benignity; goodness; longanimity, meekness, faith, modesty, continence, chastity.**

- Servant of God Isaac Hecker (1819-1888), Founder of the Paulists

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**Our business is to love what God would have us do. He wills our vocation as it is: Let us love that and not trifle away our time in hankering after other people's vocations.**

- St Francis de Sales (1567-1622), Bishop

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**God's mercy is not tied to the sacraments, but ordinarily he operates through their instrumentality. The sacraments were not instituted to hedge in the action of God's mercy. On the contrary, the sacraments were instituted by Christ in order**

**that the precious gifts of God's mercy might be more freely distributed and more abundantly received.**

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**There seems to me two points of view from which most men start in life. One sees an object before him which he has the aspiration to sense, and to this end he sacrifices all that is in his way, that he may secure it. The other is the perfect submission to the Will of God and His purposes without the pursuit of an outward end. The first may be successful in the worldly sense, but the latter, if true, must receive the approbation of God.**

- Servant of God Isaac Hecker (1819-1888), Founder of the Paulists

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**The priest is called to make himself "bread broken for the life of the world", to serve all with the love of Christ who loved them "to the end".**

- Blessed John Paul II

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**The real effect of the theory of the Church is to isolate ourselves from the outward world, withdraw from its enjoyments and live a life of sacrifice of the passions. This is one statement. Another would be this: All these things can and**

**should be enjoyed but in a higher purer a more exalted state of being than is the present ordinary state of our minds.**

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**Those who were freed by Moses from slavery in Egypt sang a song of triumph to the Lord after they had crossed the Red Sea and Pharaoh's army had been overwhelmed; in the same way, now that our sins have been washed away in baptism, we too should express fitting gratitude for the gifts of heaven.**

- Saint Bede the Venerable (675-735), Priest

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**The source of man's love for God can only be found in the fact that God loved him first.**

- Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

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**Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you: you are gentle with us as a mother with her children; Often you weep over our sins and our pride: tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgment. You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds: in sickness you nurse us, and with pure milk you feed us. Jesus, by your dying we are born to new life: by your anguish and labor we come forth in**

**joy. Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness: through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.**

- St. Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109), Benedictine Monk, Bishop

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**[Christ] declared that the chalice, which comes from his creation, was his blood, and he makes it the nourishment of our blood. He affirmed that the bread, which comes from his creation, was his body, and he makes it the nourishment of our body. When the chalice we mix and the bread we bake receive the word of God, the eucharistic elements become the body and blood of Christ, by which our bodies live and grow.**

- Saint Irenaeus (120-200), Bishop

**The priest continues the work of redemption on earth.... If we really understood the priest on earth, we would die not of fright but of love.... The Priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus.**

- St. John Vianney (1786-1859), Priest

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**I ask you to remember all those whom the Lord continues to call by name, just as he once called the Apostles on the shores of the Sea of Galilee to become "fishers of men", that is, his closest collaborators in the proclamation of the Gospel and the service of the Kingdom of God in our time.**

- Pope Benedict XVI

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**Jesus Himself, the Good News of God, was the very first and the greatest evangelizer; He was so thorough and through: to perfection and to the point of the sacrifice of His earthly life.**

- Pope Paul VI

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**The sacrament of the Altar holds a decisive value for the birth of vocations and for their perseverance, because from Christ's redemptive sacrifice those called are able to draw strength to dedicate themselves entirely to the proclamation of the Gospel.**

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**Who am I, Lord, that I should presume to approach You? Behold, the heaven of heavens cannot contain You, and yet You say: "Come, all of you, to Me."**

- Thomas a Kempis (1380-1471), Priest

**O most blessed Light, Light of all loveliness, be Thou shed on me! O honied sweet of Paradise! O Fountain of most pure delights! Give Thyself to me, O my God, and enkindle in mine inmost breast the fire of Thy burning love.**

- Louis of Blois (1506-1566), Abbot of Liesse

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**When the bee has gathered the dew of heaven and the earth's sweetest nectar from the flowers, it turns it into honey, then hastens to its hive. In the same way, the priest, having taken from the altar the Son of God (who is as the dew from heaven, and true son of Mary, flower of our humanity), gives him to you as delicious food.**

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