

St. John Bosco's Educational Society

*Non-Profit Organization for Human Development
Infant Child Adolescent & Adult*



Community
School(s)



Southwest Support
Programs



Our Lady
of Victory's
Desert Solitaire

October 26, 2011

This is my humble attempt in summarizing my summer in Italy. Spiritual experiences are difficult to describe using the common vernacular, so forgive my inadequacies in trying. So in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, please proceed forward. Love, Holly/Mom

I have returned from the top of the mountain where I witnessed the TRANSFIGURATION and now I am coming back down into the ordinary-daily life.

It is taking every ounce of my faith by the GRACE of God to hold on as I experience the tension of my re-entering into the ordinary-daily life back in the Four Corners of the American West. Not sure how to re-enter daily life, I am trying to behave as normal as possible when my life has been everything but normal during these past four months. Little did I know that these past months were preparing me by siphoning out what has been left of "mySelf" so as to become totally empty and dependent upon God as I wait in this dark, unknown. If it is God's will, I will remain camouflaged as no one recognizable within this culture of my choosing in hopes that I may live out my remaining days in an ordinary-daily life in ascetic simplicity and GRACE as a lowly handmaid of God. Alleluia!

Even now, I continue to still empty out "mySelf" of all that is familiar in hopes of balancing the tension between "the cloud of unknowing above me and the cloud of forgetting below me". Knowing that nothing stays the same, and that our world is constantly changing, I hope I can behave as though everything is familiar. I pray that I be allowed to embrace God's eternal, infiniteness in the humbleness of this dark, unknown as I unconditionally trust in His Goodness in that His Will be done (not mine).

If anything from these months of wondering through the streets of Rome, in the Vatican and on Italy's highways stretching up north and down south, I feel reassured that:

- I am to be obedient to Our Father's gift of JOY in Holy Grace and Patience while I consciously wait for My Lord, Our God to come in Glory as I dedicate my life to poverty and chastity.
- I am to live my life for God no less than when I had lived my life for man.
- I am to live by the fruits produced from my participation in Holy Faith and Prayers.

From where I left off in June, I am now picking up the pieces of **sjbes'** mission, mail box, phone, substitute teaching, computer, Mary-mo-bile, while becoming re-acquainted with my community of family and friends who are scattered all around the Colorado Plateau and over the Eastern Slope of the Rocky Mountains; as well as for all those who are living in the Eastern Sierras and on the Pacific Coast of California. Putting into words a comprehensive overview of my past months in Italy has not been easy...I want to speak the truth, but at the same time not freak people out...so I have to choose my words very carefully and to whom I speak them. Approximately \$3100 in the red... I find myself with the responsibility of balancing my already tight budget, in hopes that I may pay all my debts in full by the end of 2012. So I ask for your prayers that God may grant me this petition.

Yet how do I share my incredible journey into the mysteries of Our Holy Faith and into the mission of Divine Mercy which started back in June? I am not sure...except to let it all reign out from within my heart. As the popular quote from St. Francis of Assisi goes "Preach the Gospel and when necessary use words." Besides, God's Plan will manifest no matter what I choose to do.

I am grateful for finding my spiritual advisor, Fr. Samuel from the Basilica of San Paulo in Rome, for he is helping me with the unraveling of this journey....yet it is still not easy and it will take months if not years to personally and spiritually recall what I had experienced or gained from being on top of His Holy Mountain while in Italy.

What can I say are the outcomes from this journey/pilgrimage? Like I said...it will take time to discern all of them but for the present moment:

- I recognize that I am truly a daughter of Our Mother of God's Holy Church and sister to Christ;
- I will use idioms and cultural expressions in giving a personal testimony to My Lord, Our God;
- I am committed to be **sjbes'** Director in manifesting its vision/mission until my death;
- I will immerse myself into parish living as a Servant of Holy Love - as a consecrated, single, lay minister for the Diocese of Rome as well as for the Dioceses of Pueblo, Colorado and Salt Lake, Utah; and
- I am to rely upon the Communion of Saints and all the Holy Creatures of God's Heavenly Court to intercede on my behalf and on behalf of all the people and intentions for which I pray.

I am substitute teaching, staying in contact with my children, participating in social activities, spending time at Our Lady's sanctuary and consulting/advocating for a special needs case - a high school student with cerebral palsy in Dolores, Colorado. I pray constantly and try to attend Holy Mass whenever God allows (mostly at 7 am Tuesday and 4:30 pm on Saturdays in Dolores and 5 pm on Sundays in Cortez). Our Lady's weapon, Her Holy Rosary, is with me at all times. I try saying it twice a day, one parked outside a locked Catholic Church around 5 p.m. in my Mary-mo-bile ('92 chevy van) and one around 3 a.m. in the comfort of my bed. Definitely, I miss attending daily Mass at St. Peter's Basilica and at the other Catholic basilicas, churches and shrines that were provided for my three month stay in Italy.

I find "time commitments" very humbling and restrictive after living without them ...but necessary to re-enter daily life here in the Four Corners of the USA. Presently this stage of re-entry is not as "bittersweet" as it first was when leaving Rome on September 14th. The indescribable experience of bonding with my team – Edmond, Michael, Juilen as well as with our support members (our Franciscan Fr Paul, Daniela and Marco, and the Russo Family – Gererado, Teresa and Sabrina) will always be remembered as the "Loving Arms of God".

I need to give thanks to God for all the holy priests who brought to me and to my team the fruits of the Holy Spirit filling our – hearts, minds and souls with His Divine Grace, Love and Mercy in the celebration of the Eucharist – in the Blessed Sacrament of the Holy Alter - as well as in their selfless sacrifice in hearing our confessions in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Healing).

Special thanks and blessings to all **sjbes'** supporters, but especially to you:

Betty Lou Greenemeier for your constant prayers so that my journey would be rich in fruits and that my travels were safe to and from Italy.

Fern Wilkerson for your trust in me and **sjbes'** mission.

Eddie Rollman for reaching out to secure my return trip home.

Danny and Joani Hall for transporting and housing me during that last leg of the trip from Denver to Cortez.

Janis Cella (Guchi) for coming to the Hall's house to celebrate my return with hugs.

Edmond Power for providing the connection with AOE and World Wide Charities.

Alleluia! "For His Mercy lasts forever."

I'll see you in prayer at the foot of His Holy Cross...

Always in the Light of Christ and through the prayers of intercession by Our Lady of Victory,

Your Friend in Christ,
Holly

sjbes'

"God is love" (1 John 4:7). The Holy Trinity knows each one of us better than we know ourselves (Psalm 139:6), and loves us anyway with a love that is beyond understanding. The Father showed the depth of his love and mercy to sinful humanity by sending his only Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so that all might be saved and return to their heavenly homeland in the embrace of the Holy Trinity (cf. John 3:16). It is from this love that each one of us is capable of loving another and each one of us is capable of mercy (1 John 3:16; 4:7).

What I often heard and prayed while in Italy during these three months:

"All will manifest through/by/with/in God's Will not yours, so remain obedient to Our Father's gift of JOY. Wait in Holy Grace and Patience and trust in His Mercy."

"I have not brought you here to abandon you. I am Your Holy, Omnipotent, and Immortal God. All will be given to you for what you will need. Do not be afraid."

"All what is Holy in Heaven and on earth has been opened up to you through/by/with/in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, My only begotten Son; and through/by/with/in the Holy prayers of intercession by Our Mother of God and all Her Sons and Daughters. Not through/by/with/in... your intellect, your physical fitness, or your financial wealth but through/by/with/in... your heart made pure and holy will you be able to enter My Holy Temple.

"All Holiness is found within –

Open up your heart, mind and soul and let the Holy Spirit ignite the Fire of Divinity through the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts of Divine and Holy Love of Jesus and Mary. Offer up your heart to My Lady of Victory, your refuge of Holy Love, in this present moment so that it may be made pure and holy and ready to be embraced by the Sacred Heart of Her Son, Jesus."

My Lord, My Savior, My King, My Most Holy Chaste Spouse, My Brother, My Friend and My Teacher – Jesus Christ - through the Immaculate Heart of Holy Love embrace me with Your Sacred Heart of Divine Love. Come Holy Spirit, Father of the Poor, ignite our hearts on FIRE.

With Holy Grace face your brokenness and seek the healing to become whole. Do not accept or rationalize your brokenness as right and good, but see it as being unholy, not complete, damaged, ill, out of balance. By the Grace of God you will have the courage to face the "snake that bit you". Seek His Forgiveness and Mercy.

The only control you have is over the "two feet in which you stand" , if you change or heal your own heart, mind and soul by blindly practicing Holy Faith, then not only you, but the universe will be healed by two feet to the 3rd power. Be merciful so that mercy will be given to you. (Holly's statement to those seeking healing from physical, sexual, emotional, and social abuse.)

You can not serve both mammon and God. Choose! No more duplicity.

When two or more are gathered in My name, there I will be.

Every knee will bend at the name of Jesus. Holy is His name.

The absence of LOVE is fear. LOVE is God, and God is greater than LOVE.

"Begotten, not made." Pope Benedict XVI talks about "eschatology as the process of (our) becoming". We come here for LOVE, and our pilgrimage in this life is for our becoming the children of God, not men.

As the future polemics grow more and more powerfully dark, we are to hold onto our Holy Faith and Prayers with all our strength.

God's plan will manifest no matter what I choose for I am given "free will". Either I will be on His Left or His Right Hand for all is for the Glory of God. "Do not let the left hand know what the right is doing." So pray my family and friends that we are all on His Right Hand when He comes in Glory on the Last Day.

In Faustina's DIARY, Our Lord revealed to her that the mysteries of God are given to some and not to others. Even the holy people of God's Heavenly Court and on earth do not have the privilege of knowing all the Holy Mysteries. Man is a rational being made in the image and likeness of God, yet God is not a rational being. If you were God, would you give your knowledge to a rational being? God's Plan is not linear and does not depend upon time and space. His Will does not depend upon the means of quantification though it definitely has infinite and eternal quality which man cannot measure with his/her rational mind...no matter how great his/her IQ, biological or environmental factors, worldly wealth, technology or institution.

Christ promised that God's "GRACE" is sufficient for sharing in His Father's Divinity something which we are unable to grasp, only to marvel upon. Man's nature is limited, God's divinity is unlimited. So which will you choose?

Be vigilant and remain in a state of GRACE. *(A source of Holy Grace: Saying Holy Prayers, Participating in the Holy Sacraments, Keeping the Holy Commandments, Fasting, Doing works of Charity, Love and Mercy, Studying Holy Scriptures, Making Pilgrimages or Visiting Holy Sites, and Completing Novenas.)*

Remember the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit – Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, Counsel, Piety, Fortitude, and Fear of the Lord. The greatest is the Fear of the Lord. In a state of GRACE by the Holy Hands of Our Priests...the power of the Holy Spirit overshadows me and the "word is made Incarnate" within me...

Worry is Satan's fodder, "Do not be afraid". There is nothing to fear when Our God is a Holy, Omnipotent and Immortal God!

God does not desire my sacrifices, He desires all my love.

God rejoices at the deaths of His Holy Ones.