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THE HOLY FAMILY HOUSE OF PRAYER

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St. Thérèse and her Little Way

What is the meaning of “the little way” of St Therese? It is an image that tries to capture her understanding of being a disciple of Jesus Christ, of seeking holiness of life in the ordinary and the everyday. St Therese based “her little way” on two fundamental convictions: (1) God shows love by mercy and forgiveness, and (2) she could not be “perfect” in following the Lord. St Therese believed that the people of her time lived in too great a fear of God's judgment. The fear was stifling and did not allow people to experience the freedom of the children of God. St Therese knew from her life that God is merciful love; many scripture passages in the Old and New Testaments bore out that truth. She loved the maternal images for God in the Old Testament and the love of God for us in Jesus Christ. In fact, St Therese once wrote that she could not understand how anyone could be afraid of a God who became a child. She also knew that she would never be perfect. Therefore, she went to God as a child approaches a parent . . . with open arms and a profound trust.

St Therese translated “the little way” in terms of a commitment to the tasks and to the people we meet in our everyday lives. She took her assignments in the convent of Lisieux as ways of manifesting her love for God and for others. She worked as a sacristan by taking care of the altar and the chapel; she served in the refectory and in the laundry room; she wrote plays for the entertainment of the community. Above all, she tried to show a love for all the nuns in the community. She played no favorites; she gave of herself even to the difficult members. Her life sounds so routine and ordinary, but it was steeped in a loving commitment that knew no breakdown. It is called a “little way” precisely by being simple, direct, yet calling for amazing fortitude and commitment.

In living out her life of faith she sensed that everything that she was able to accomplish came from the generous love of God in her life. She was convinced that at the end of her life she would go to God with empty hands. Why? Because all was accomplished in union with God.

Catholics and other Christians have been attracted to St Therese's style. Her “little way” seems to put holiness of life within the reach of ordinary people. Live out your days with confidence in God's love for you. Recognize that each day is a gift in which your life can make a difference by the way you choose to live it. Put hope in a future in which God will be all and love will consume your spirit. Choose life, not the darkness of pettiness and

The logo on the front cover of this booklet is an image of the United Hearts. It is the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary united as one. The prayers of the Servants of the Little Way are now recorded onto a CD. Prayer groups can either pray along with the CD or use it until they have learned the prayers. Patty and Eileen encourage people to copy the CD and give it out to people and they are hoping to translate the prayers into as many languages as possible and record in that language. So far the prayers have been translated and recorded in French and a start has been made in Polish. Perhaps you might have a gift in this area and are able to translate it into your native language. If so please contact Patty or Eileen at the House of Prayer (the address and phone number is on the back).

The length of prayers for the Servant's of the Little Way” take approx 50 minutes. While Patty and Eileen visited the groups in Sydney to promote the Prayer Groups Eileen was given the words several times from Jesus

“Won't you but spend one hour with me”.

As you will read in the Rosary of Tears Our Lady told Sr. Amalia that this Rosary would defeat the rule of satan. Will you help us to do the missionary work of God's Love in spreading these prayer groups around the world?



From religious, we understand, that the praying of this rosary is a very dear habit to which they attribute extraordinary graces. They pray it daily to ask graces for themselves and others, the conversion of sinners, heretics, and atheists, to obtain graces for priests and missionaries, to help the dying, and to free them from Purgatory.

A believing, pious soul, for whom the good of the holy Church, and the honour of God is close at heart, knows what it can and will obtain from our Redeemer through the tears of His most holy Mother. When sorrow and suffering fill our heart, we turn to God. Through the tears of Mary, His Mother, we soften the heart of God, even though it is ever ready to grant us kindness, graces and blessings. It seems to us, the blessed tears of the Mother of Jesus are especially powerful to win the heart of God."

Franciscus von Campos Barreto, Bishop of Campina

<http://domania.us/TheMissionary/TEARS/Sr.Amelia.html> of His most holy Mother.'



Picture of Our Lady of Lourdes statue weeping at The Holy Family House of Prayer in Rockingham Western Australia

greed. St Therese knew the difference love makes by allowing love to be the statement she made each day of her life.

Rev. John F. Russell, O.Carm.

Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J. 07079

Another priest has also written the following article:-

When St. Therese died in 1897 a member of her convent asked what they could write about her to other Carmelite convents. Yet in 1925 Therese was canonised and made Patroness of the Missions two years later by the Pope. In 1944 she became co-patroness of France after St. Joan of Arc. In 1997 Pope John Paul II proclaimed Therese a Universal Doctor of the Church.



What has St. Therese to teach us?

At the age of 21 Therese discovered her "little way", a way that is profound.

For Therese everything came down to Divine Will. Yet in the spiritual life we often wonder what the Divine Will is for us. Jesus taught us to pray that the Father's Will be done on earth as in heaven. Jesus himself prayed "...not mine but Your Will be done." Therese solved this with her spiritual desires. If her desire was truly spiritual and if it persisted, Therese discerned this to be of the Divine Will. In spite of obstacles she maintained certainty, as an expression of faith.

Therese changed her focus from what she could do for Jesus to what Jesus could do for her. Therese had the image of Jesus reaching down and giving her a lift with his arms. Her faith together with the "image" supplied the "lift" in her spiritual life. She trusted in Jesus' "lift". Jesus lowers Himself to our nothingness and transforms us if we are willing, out of mercy. God's nature is to lower himself (see St. Paul "He emptied himself.." Phil 2:6-8) He

became a baby. How can we fear him? The merciful love of God with our response to it is an intimate sharing in the living pulse of Divine Love. This is Divine Will for us.

To know God as Mercy and not just a God of raw justice is to know the God of love. And further, our love for Jesus is transformed in our love for us. We of ourselves are nothingness. We have nothing of ourselves to offer except the nature God has given us. Jesus comes to our nothingness. He transforms it. So God is our holiness. Merciful love is our sanctity. We can experience it.

That God is our holiness is the "little way" – the true way of St. Therese.

For Therese, when we acknowledge the weakness of our nature, Jesus by His nature is willing to lower himself, so He is obliged to take us in His arms and "lift" us. So we do not fear imperfection. It is our passport to relationship with the incarnate Jesus.

Therese knew Jesus humbled Himself for us but some of us are cold and indifferent. So Therese offered herself as a victim for Jesus, identifying herself with Jesus. We are weak, we are imperfect. Because Jesus can lower Himself to us, our nature becomes our holiness. And our holiness is in suffering. Jesus suffered. We unite ours with Him.

Therese believed that our sacrifices win souls for Jesus and console Him. We can quench the thirst of Jesus by giving Him souls. We are called to a martyrdom of love. So from her enclosed convent Therese became a great missionary.

We identify with the All, we are united with the Divine and we live the Divine Will.

The "little way" empties self by faith for Jesus to fill it. The "little way" trusts that Jesus will reach down and "lift" us in our spiritual life, a life of grace through the Holy Spirit. Then our spiritual life becomes the life of Father, Jesus and Holy Spirit and nothing of ourself. Therese felt God possess her.

St. Therese is referred to as the Isaiah of the Second Vatican Council. St. Therese grasped through contemplation, gift and shocking suffering an incredible insight into the gospels and St. Paul. Unity with Jesus moves us out of ourselves to imitate Him, to live His words, His parables, His healings, His actions. Therese reached out to the whole world with Jesus. Therese inspires us to feed the hungry, to shelter the homeless, to lift up the downtrodden, to bind up hearts that are broken because this is what Jesus did and does. For Therese in union with Jesus love has no bounds.

kneeling on the steps to the altar, when I suddenly felt myself being lifted up. Then I saw a woman of unspeakable beauty approaching me. She wore a violet robe, blue mantle, and a white veil covering her shoulders. Smiling, she floated in the air towards me, holding a rosary in her hands, which she herself called "corona" [i.e. circle and means rosary]. Its beads shone like the sun and were as white as snow. Handing me this rosary she said to me,

"This is the rosary of my tears, which is being entrusted by my Son to this Institute. The invocations have already been given by my Son. My Son wants to honour me in a special way through these invocations, and so, He will grant all graces that are begged for the sake of my tears. This rosary will provide for the conversion of many sinners, especially those possessed by the devil. Through this rosary the devil will be conquered and the power of hell will be destroyed. Prepare yourselves for this great battle."

When our Blessed Mother Mary finished speaking, she disappeared.

Documentation

In 1934 -- just a few years after the apparitions -- The Bishop of Campinas travelled from Rome to Germany to visit Theresa Neumann in Konnersreuth.

Through documentation secured from a contemplative order in Germany and recorded in a pamphlet entitled "Our Blessed Lady of Tears," we recall the apparitions in Campinas and about Sister Amalia -- as given by the Bishop.

The Bishop stated that not only in Brazil, but also in other countries, through wearing the medal of our Lady of Tears -- revealed to Sister Amalia in another apparition by the Mother of God -- innumerable conversions had taken place.

"Innumerable graces have been received through the praying of the rosary to honour the tears of our Blessed Lady. The reason lies in the promise of our holy Saviour, 'no favour will be refused, when asked of Him for the sake of the tears'. It is well known, that Our Lord rewards in a special way reverence for the sorrows of His most holy Mother, which are a cause of her tears. From Germany, Holland, and Belgium many report extraordinary favours and graces. Having prayed the rosary of our Lady of Tears for nine days, receiving the sacraments and performing works of mercy.

On December 8 -- the Feast of the Immaculate Conception -- 1927, Sister Amalia made her temporary vows and received her habit. On the same date 1931, she professed perpetual vows as a nun dedicated to the Church and God.

Sister's Tearful Relation

In Autumn of 1929, one of Sister Amalia's male relatives called on her at the convent. He was in great need. His wife was seriously ill, and he was greatly distressed. He told sister, the diagnosis was incurable, and he did not know what to do or what God expected of him. She was his last hope. Teary-eyed, her relation asked, "What will happen with the children?" Sister Amalia was deeply touched to help. While her relative spoke she turned interiorly towards our Divine Saviour in deep reflection and prayer, seeking intently what she could offer or do. Simultaneously listening and soul-searching, Sister Amalia felt an inner impulse to visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. When their meeting ended, quickly responded to this prompting.

Seeking Help: To Jesus in Chapel

Entering the church, Sister Amalia reverently genuflected and knelt at the altar.

In devout posture -- humbly submissive to our Eucharistic King -- she said to Jesus, "If there is no hope for the wife of T. . . , then I am ready to offer my life for the mother of this family. What do you want me to do?" Jesus answered, "If you want to receive these favours, ask me for the sake of My Mother's tears." Sister Amalia asked further, "How must I pray?" In answering, Jesus gave her the following invocations: "Oh Jesus, listen to our prayers for the sake of the tears of Your most holy Mother! Oh Jesus, look upon the tears of the one who loved You most on earth and loves You most ardently in heaven!" Finally, Jesus added, "My daughter, whatever people will beg Me for the sake of the tears of My Mother, I shall lovingly grant them. Later, My Mother will hand over this treasure to Our beloved Institute as a magnet of mercy."

The Prophecy Fulfilled

This took place on November 8, 1929. The promise was fulfilled to Sister Amalia four months later, in the following Spring. The Blessed Virgin Mary gave this treasure to the Institute. The following are Sister Amalia's own recollections of what took place. "It was March 8, 1930. I was in the chapel

The beginning of formation of the Prayer Groups "Servants of the Little Way" began from two messages given by Our Lady and then Our Lord to follow the little way of St Therese. Eileen Giles from Rockingham Western Australia had been given these messages via a locution. Eileen and her twin sister Patty Powell run the Holy Family House of Prayer in Rockingham. Through the messages Jesus asked that people spend more time alone in prayer and in this way God's plan would be revealed to them and they would be united in Divine love with the Holy Trinity as one. Patty and Eileen began discerning God's Will from these messages. Over the past 18 months they have been to Sydney and have spoken to many different groups. Through prayer and discernment with The Holy Spirit they formed more prayer groups. A prayer group has been established at the Holy Family House of Prayer since 2002. After discernment, the prayer to St. Therese, prayer for healing of families and healing of past hurts and additional prayers were added to the original prayers.

Below are the messages received by Eileen:-

9th July 2007 (Night Prayer)

My children

Listen and learn from me, your Heavenly Mother. Just as a mother teaches her children what is right and what is wrong I too, want to show you the way to lead a righteous life. You are called to be childlike in your faith; trusting and accepting of God's Divine Will. There is a big difference between being childlike and acting childish. When you act in a childlike manner you are completely trusting of your Heavenly family regardless of the trials and difficulties you may face; to act in a childish manner means that you are putting your own selfish agendas first. Learn the lessons of selflessness and generosity of spirit. Learn to be a servant of Divine love reaching out and serving those you meet with no hidden agendas of self. Step out in faith and follow the path of my Son Christ Jesus. He was selfless and giving of himself unto death upon a cross. He did this out of obedience to His Heavenly Father for the redemption of mankind. He did not question the Father's Will but was totally accepting of all that was asked of Him. I ask you to surrender your Will to your Heavenly Father. Be obedient to His commandments and step out in faith and follow Jesus in all you do. You too, can help in the redemptive work of mankind. I ask you to love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength and your neighbour as yourself and you will inherit the keys to the Kingdom of God. Be an instrument of peace and love and an example of Christ's love and selflessness to all in need. In your own little way you can help in the redemptive work of mankind by the endless acts of love you perform. I ask you to lead a life of simple faith and imitate St. Therese the little flower and

imitate her "little way" of service and love.

21st July 2007 (Bush Chapel – God's Farm - Jesus)

My little one,

Be still in the presence of your Lord and God. Embrace this time we have to commune as one. Do not fear the aloneness you feel. Remember in Scripture there were so many times that I spent time alone praying to My Heavenly Father. You too, must make time to be alone so that we can be as one – one in Divine love, one in the Spirit of God. I want to reveal more to you of God's infinite plan. Take this time to stay with Me in quiet contemplation. Be filled with Heavenly grace to continue this important work you have been asked to do. Let go of any controls you may still cling to and allow God to work through you by coming close to Me your Lord and Saviour in your quietness and prayer and you will be given many graces and blessings to sustain you in your difficult moments. I want to give you encouragement to continue on the narrow path knowing that it leads you to life eternal. Do not be concerned with the cross you carry. You are not alone. I am with you. Let us be united as one in the cross you carry with the knowledge that this redemptive suffering does much to help in the salvation of souls. Be filled with joy and with strong determination to continue walking this path of salvation no matter how difficult the path may seem. Play joyful hymns of praise to help you when you feel burdened by the crosses you bear. These songs will lift your spirit and will help you to have courage to continue doing the Will of God. Follow the little way of My Little Flower in all you do. Let your life be one of simplicity of faith and of living this simple life through the Divine Will of the Father by staying close to Me, His Son and you will be open to receive the gifts and graces given through the Holy Spirit. I want you to read again Matthew 6: 25-34 and understand that all that is required of you is complete trust in God's Divine providence. Be prepared to step out in blind faith. Happy are those who do not see yet still believe.

The Message below was given by Jesus on 1st January 2008 . He was asking us to take the prayer groups to the four corners of the earth.

1st January, 2008 (Divine Mercy - Jesus)

My little ones,

Be careful as Satan will try any way possible to disturb your peace and tranquillity. Stay close to Me and let Me give you the protection you need. The work of holy love you do is important as it will bring many to conversion of their hearts to once more know, love and serve their Lord and God with humble hearts. Satan will be defeated through your constant prayer and faithfulness and by your loving and humble service to those in need. Be watchful to see the many times he will try and put a wedge between those in families and especially with those who step out to

do the missionary work of God's love. He will stop at nothing if he thinks he can find a weakness to use to make you return to the old bad patterns. You must pray prayers of protection so that you walk the narrow path of salvation. Be strong and courageous in your decision to follow this difficult path of littleness. Do not let pride creep in so that you think of your own selfish needs and you forget the path you have been asked to take. Remember always the words I gave in Scripture "I come to serve and not to be served". Let My Servants of the Little Way flourish and bloom to the four corners of the earth to defeat the rule of Satan and win the war against sin. Let the new Heaven and new earth blossom to full glory by your humble service of holy love.

In 2002 the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes in Patty's house began weeping tears of rose scented oil and received world wide attention. In the post Patty received information about the prayers of the Rosary of Tears. After discernment and the arrival of two sets of the Rosary of Tears beads and after research, the Chaplet was adopted. .

OUR LADY OF TEARS

The Story Of Sister Amalia

After World War I and around the time of the Great Depression in America, there lived a pious religious named Sister Amalia of the Scourged Jesus. Her convent, called the Institute of the Missionaries of the Scourged Jesus, was located in South America in Campinas, Brazil.

The Bishop of the Diocese of Campinas established the Institute with Sister Amalia's as cofoundress. Sister was one of the first eight women to dedicate their lives to the service of God in the Institute.

Like Saint Francis, Padre Pio and Theresa Neumann, Sister Amalia was privileged to bear the stigmata of Christ. Through this her vocation was to be a victim soul for the needy. This fitted her generous and sacrificial nature.

