

School Leaders Academy



INSTITUTE FOR
CATHOLIC LIBERAL
EDUCATION

Leadership and Prayer

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School Leadership Academy

December 2023 Webinar

DECEMBER 5, 2023

OPENING PRAYER

Prayer for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, Divine Counselor, I adore You as my true God, with God the Father and God the Son. I adore You and unite myself to the adoration You receive from the angels and saints. I give You my heart and I offer my ardent thanksgiving for all the grace which You never cease to bestow on me.

O Giver of all supernatural gifts, who filled the soul of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with such immense favors, I beg You to visit me with Your grace and Your love and to grant me the gift of holy fear, so that it may act on me as a check to prevent me from falling back into my past sins, for which I beg pardon.

Grant me the gift of piety, so that I may serve You for the future with increased fervor, follow with more promptness Your holy inspirations, and observe your divine precepts with greater fidelity.

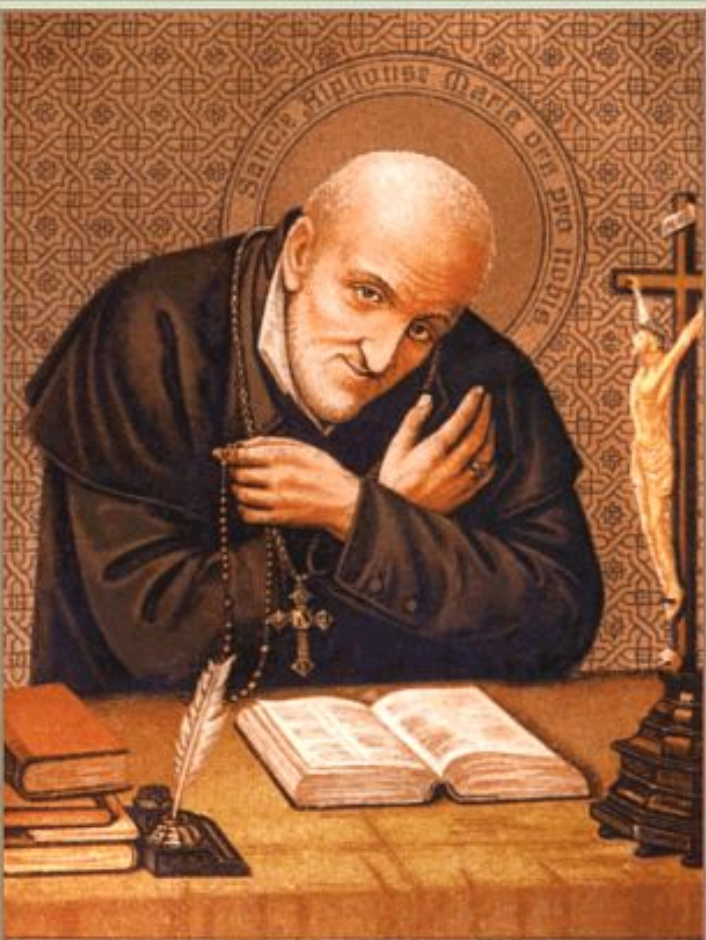
Grant me the gift of knowledge, so that I may know the things of God and, enlightened by Your holy teaching, may walk, without deviation, in the path of eternal salvation.

Grant me the gift of fortitude, so that I may overcome courageously all the assaults of the devil, and all the dangers of this world which threaten the salvation of my soul.

Grant me the gift of counsel, so that I may choose what is more conducive to my spiritual advancement and may discover the wiles and snares of the tempter.

Grant me the gift of understanding, so that I may apprehend the divine mysteries and by contemplation of heavenly things detach my thoughts and affections from the vain things of this miserable world.

Grant me the gift of wisdom, so that I may rightly direct all my actions, referring them to God as my last end; so that, having loved Him and served Him in this life, I may have the happiness of possessing Him eternally in the next. Amen.



Sanctus Alphonsus Maria de Siguoria
Episcopus, Ecclesiae Doctor et Congregationis
S.S. Redemptoris Fundator

Prayer is "the necessary and sure means of obtaining salvation, and [contains] all the graces we need to attain [salvation]...

To save one's soul without prayer is most difficult, and even impossible...

but by praying our salvation is made secure, and very easy...

If we do not pray, we have no excuse, for the grace of prayer is given to everyone...

if we are not saved, the whole fault will be ours, because we did not pray."

St. Alphonsus Liguori

Prayer: The Great Means of Salvation and of Perfection.

School Leaders call to Renewing Catholic Schools

Catholic Mission and Vision Alignment



Faculty and Teachers

Parents

Curriculum and Pedagogy

Environment and Culture

Prayer Life in Leadership

*Nemo dat
quod non habet-*
*No one gives what
they do not have*



Contemplative
vs.
Active

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Luke 10:38-42

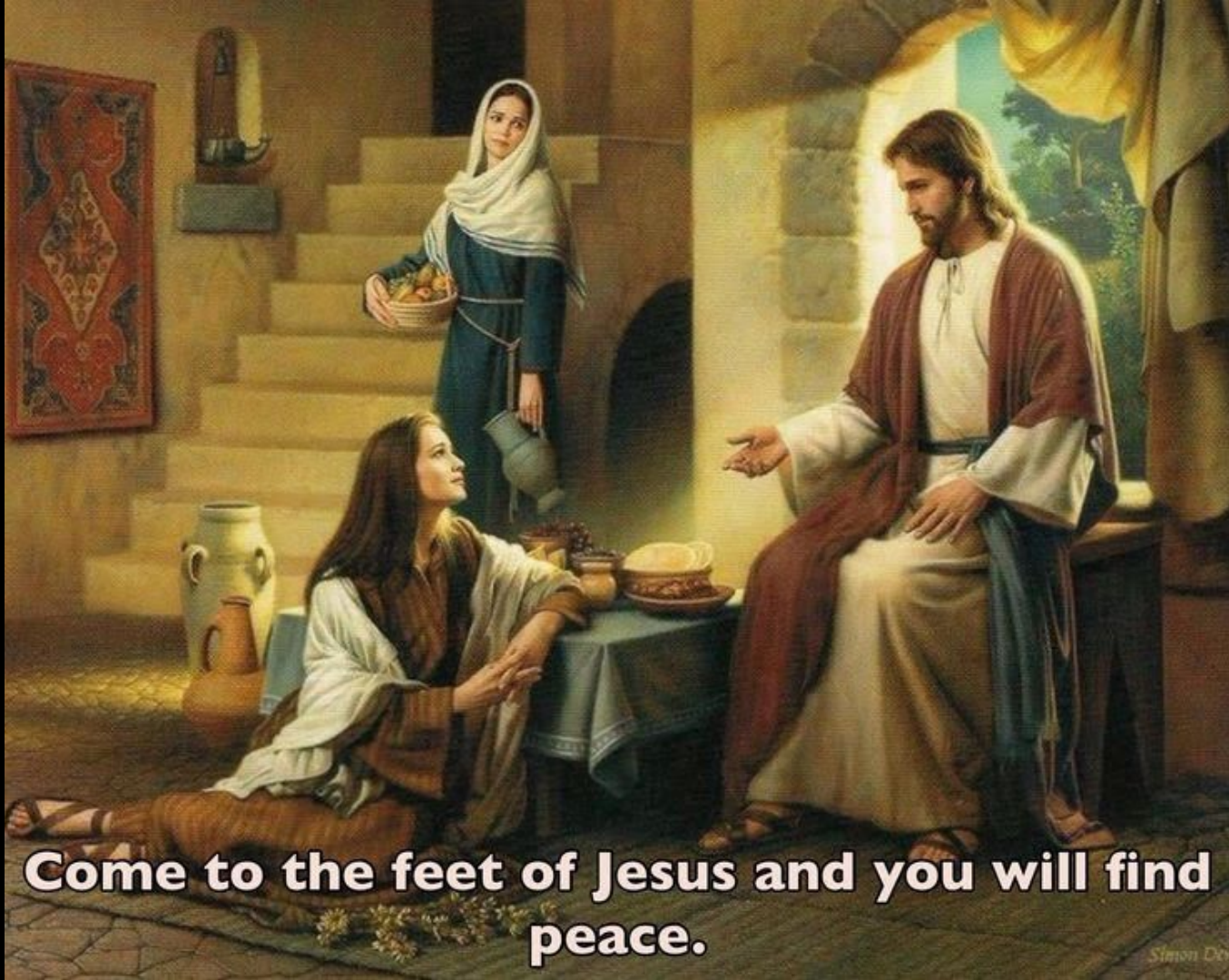
As they continued their journey he entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him.

She had a sister named Mary [who] sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak.

Martha, *distracted* with much serving, came to him and said, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me.”

But the Lord answered her,” Martha, Martha, you are *anxious and troubled* about many things; one thing is needful.

Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her.”



**Come to the feet of Jesus and you will find
peace.**



Stay at the feet of Jesus



Brings Contemplation:

1. Silence
2. Solitude
3. Saunter
4. Shalom
5. Self-denial
6. Sacraments

Causes of Perispato:

1. Noise
2. Crowds
3. Hurry
4. Anxiety
5. Sensuality
6. Screens



Habits in Catholic School Leaders...

Martha qualities

- Hard working (40+ hours per week)
- Motivated
- Have a hard time detaching
(solving problems in our sleep)
- No task too big for the mission
- Rarely un-occupied



Habits in Catholic School Leaders...

Mary qualities

- Humility
- Peace of mind in prayer (tuning out distractions)
- Trust in the Lord
- Unshakeable- eyes looking at Jesus at all times
- Ability to stay occupied- avoid being preoccupied
 - Delegation is critical!



Meditation:

Power of the intellect and will- human mode of prayer.



Contemplation:

Union of the wills, listening, receptive- divinely infused prayer.



“Learn to abide with attention in loving waiting upon God in a state of quiet. Contemplation is nothing else but a secret, peaceful, and loving infusion of God, which, if admitted, will set the soul on fire with the spirit of love.”

St. John of the Cross

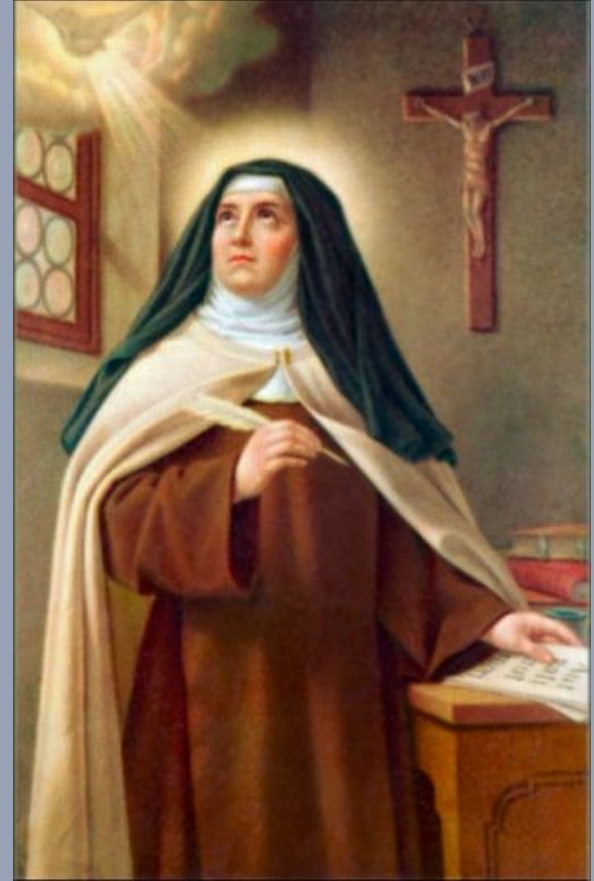
Actio Sequitur Esse- Action Follows Being

Give me the grace to recollect myself in the little heaven of my soul where You have established Your dwelling.

There You let me find You, there I feel that You are closer to me than anywhere else, and there You prepare my soul quickly to enter into intimacy with You...

Help me O Lord, to withdraw my senses from exterior things, make them docile to the commands of my will, so that when I want to converse with You, they will retire at once, like bees shutting themselves up in the hive in order to make honey.

St. Teresa of Avila, pray for us



Great Leaders are full of...

“**Joy** is a net of love in which you can catch souls.”

- True joy comes through *humility and surrender*.
- Avoid the temptation of being too busy to share the joy of the mission!

“Work without *love* is slavery.”

- If you lack joy, burnout happens quickly.

“Prayer is not asking. *Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God*, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.”

- This goes back to *humility and surrender...*the source of our strength and joy comes from reliance on Christ.



RESOURCES

DIVINE INTIMACY

MEDITATIONS ON THE INTERIOR LIFE
FOR EVERY DAY OF THE LITURGICAL YEAR

Father Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.

Divine Intimacy,

Father Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D

Come, Lord Jesus, Meditations on the Art of Waiting

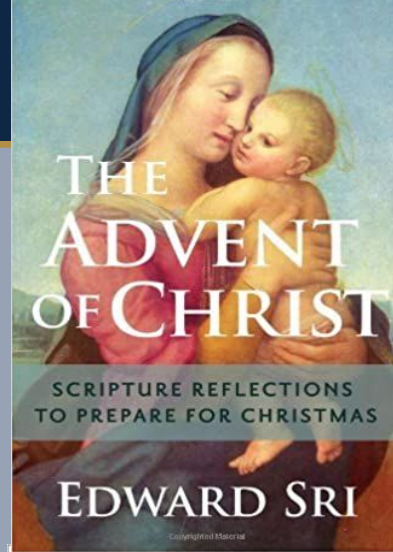
Mother Mary Francis, P.C.C.

The Advent of Christ: Scripture Reflections to Prepare for Christmas

Edward Sri

Meditations on Mary, Our Mother

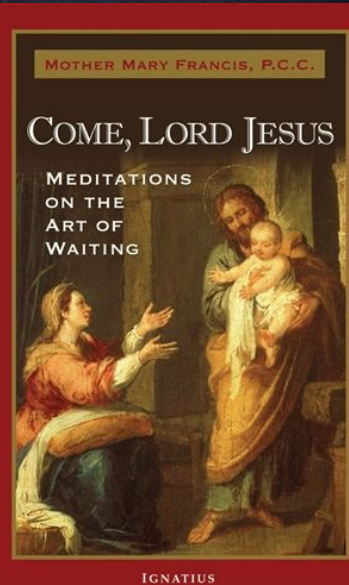
St. John Henry Cardinal Newman



MEDITATIONS ON MARY, OUR MOTHER



St. John Henry Cardinal Newman



ADDT'L. RESOURCE

HABIGER INSTITUTE for CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP



TRUE LEADERSHIP

Preface by
MICHAEL J. NAUGHTON

Introduction by
JONATHAN REYES

TRUE LEADERSHIP

Preface: Michael J. Naughton

Introduction: Jonathan Reyes

True Leadership outlines a leadership philosophy based upon the five building blocks of Catholic leadership. They are, in order of importance, **(1) faith; (2) character; (3) vocation; (4) gifts; and (5) skills.** Current leadership models usually begin with questions of skill; some include gifting; fewer attempt a limited engagement with character. *True Leadership* teaches a different model, namely that ***a leader is someone a person is, rather than simply something a person does.*** Faith and character are thus the foundations upon which gifting and skills find their right place.



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MID-PROGRAM SURVEY

Following today's presentation, we will send out a short survey just to see how things are going and if there are any items of interest that we can fold into second semester.

Please fill out promptly.