

Apart from me, you can do nothing

The Vine and the Branches

I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. **JOHN, CHAPTER 15:5 (NABRE)**

In the midst of the present trial, John Paul II's Apostolic Letter entitled On Human Suffering contains a timely message to the Church and world today:

The Redeemer suffered in place of man and for man. Every man has *his own share in the Redemption*. Each one is also *called to share in that suffering* through which the Redemption was accomplished. He is called to share in that suffering through which all human suffering has also been redeemed. In bringing about the Redemption through suffering, Christ *has also raised human suffering to the level of the Redemption*. Thus each man, in his suffering, can also become a sharer in the redemptive suffering of Christ.

This Easter is quite different without the sacraments! We need to keep our hearts focused on the Resurrection because "we know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love him." (Romans 8:28) That includes even this current pandemic.

John Paul II's, first Encyclical, the Redeemer of Man gives us a roadmap for the future:

We feel all the more our need for a profound link with Christ. We hear within us, as a resounding echo, the words that he spoke, "Apart from me, you can do nothing." We feel not only the need, but even a categorical imperative for great, intense, and growing prayer by all the Church. Only prayer can prevent all these great succeeding tasks and difficulties from becoming a source of crisis and make them instead the occasion and, as it were, the foundation for more mature achievements on the People of God's march towards the Promised Land in this stage of history approaching the end of the second millennium.

An end to the pandemic will only come about from God's providence. Whether the end comes through God's blessing of the work of medical researchers or some other means, it will only be accelerated by prayer. Please entrust your prayers of Adoration, Contrition, Petition, and Thanksgiving to God on your behalf and of those who do not pray.

Knowing that the challenge ahead in funding Catholic education will only be heightened by the pandemic, we want you to know that we cannot thank you enough for your prayers and financial support. We are not discouraged as this endeavor is placed in God's hands. **Christ is Risen, Indeed!** Thank you!

Please pray for the ongoing success of Catholic schools. If you are in a position to support us financially or know anyone who would be interested in providing support, direct them to teachthetruthfoundation.org. Your support is allowing children to attend Catholic schools who otherwise would not be able to do so. Please note that those you help are extremely grateful! Thank you for what you have done to

teach the truth

Saint Teresa of Avila

Teach the Truth

Teach the Truth Foundation provides tuition aid and financial support to Catholic Schools so that all who seek to attend a Catholic school can do so regardless of financial need.

Established in 2014, we invite all those who feel called to aid in the mission to support Catholic Education in Western Pennsylvania to partner with us. Our goal is to ensure that the Catholic Schools continue to be an option to all parents of school age children.

Catholic Schools have a wonderful legacy of providing an educational experience of outstanding quality with the foundational focus being Christ, the source of all true knowledge. The mission of Catholic Schools has been critical to the development of the United States and is even more critical today.

“Anyone who truly loves God travels securely”

St. Teresa’s words above reveal her trust in God. Trust is a common trait of the saints! We should try and imitate her trust.

In the midst of the present struggle to sustain Catholic education, in the Church, and the world itself, we have to remember that God has a plan! Isaiah tells us (Ch. 55:11) [My word] shall not return to me empty, but shall do what pleases me, achieving the end for which I sent it.”

We may doubt because of the crosses we are enduring—including the pandemic. Christ did not shrink from the cross, and he did not offer us a different way: “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.” Luke 9:23

Our cross should not be burdened with worry. In the Sermon on the Mount our Lord tells us that worry is useless, what is needed is trust. Proceed forward as best you can along the way of Calvary. Do not dwell on your personal stumbles and falls. Christ endured Good Friday to cancel out our sins. There would be no Easter Sunday without Good Friday.

Hope in the Resurrection shatters the worry and the despair that Our Blessed Mother’s (and our) adversary, the devil, uses to tempt us. Hope in the glory of the Resurrection; it shatters every concern we may have.

Finally, let’s edit the common rallying statement, we hear about the pandemic, “**Through God’s grace**, we’ll get through this together”

As always, thank you for your support of Catholic education.

I support the mission of Teach the Truth Foundation and would like to donate to your efforts to make a Catholic education a reality for even more parents in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Please find enclosed a gift of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Children are obtaining a Catholic education who otherwise would not receive one!

Mail to: P.O. Box 766, Bethel Park, PA 15102

www.teachthetruthfoundation.org