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For Consecrated Souls

**Communications of Our Lord
regarding priests and religious
to Blessed Dina Bélanger**



Taken (with permission) from:
**The Autobiography of
Blessed Dina Bélanger**

Blessed Dina Bélanger, was born the same year that St. Thérèse of Lisieux died (1897). Like Thérèse, she was given the obedience to write an autobiography. This booklet is a compilation of numerous communications of Dina with Our Lord on the subject of consecrated souls taken from that autobiography. In them we learn how much Our Lord loves consecrated souls, what and how much He expects of them, how He is often disappointed and hurt by them, and how He wishes to be intimate with them and raise them to a high level of sanctity. In one such communication Jesus declared to her:

I am familiar with human weakness, I always forgive; when souls turn back to Me, I overlook their thoughtlessness, but that does not mean that My Heart has not felt wounded. I love consecrated souls so much! As soon as they come back to Me, I smile on them because I love them with an infinite love, and My gaze is fixed on them continually.

My wish would be to grant them untold graces; but lack of self-denial, of perfection, of love in quite small things, in the least significant actions, holds Me back. They say to themselves: that is not worth troubling about and all the while they take no account of My good pleasure. Everything that is done for Me with great love and attention to My desires, gives joy to My Heart.

Then again, they say: great graces are reserved for a few privileged souls. They are mistaken. All those I have chosen as My Brides, whom I call to consecrate themselves to Me, are privileged souls. Their vocation is to be concerned constantly with Me. What they call a privilege, or a number of privileges, in certain souls, is simply a reward for their constant attention to My presence and My action in them (Autobiography, April 28, 1927).

For Consecrated Souls

Booklet compiled and typeset by Robert T. Hart

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FOR CONSECRATED SOULS was compiled from various entries in *The Autobiography of Blessed Dina Bélanger*. The entries chosen were those in which Dina treats of her exchanges with Our Lord on the topic of consecrated souls (*i.e.* religious & priests). In them we learn how much Our Lord loves consecrated souls, what and how much He expects of them, how He is often disappointed and hurt by them, and how He wishes to raise them to a high level of sanctity. Considering these entries important reading for virtually all religious and priests, I thought it good to lift them from the pages of the *Autobiography* and put them together in a booklet easily accessible to all. It is also my hope that perhaps some who read this small booklet will have their appetite whetted for more, and go on to read the whole *Autobiography* (which Dina entitled: *Canticle of Thanksgiving or Song of Love*) — so full of wisdom for all those seeking perfection, whether consecrated souls or simple laity. For those interested, the *Autobiography of Blessed Dina Bélanger* can be obtained from:

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desire to reign in souls through love, and the desire to communicate to souls the immensity of Its graces. Spouse of My Heart, alleviating one or other of these desires means renewing each time the joy that My Eucharistic Heart experienced when instituting the Adorable Sacrament.

July 1929: *No invocation responds better to the immense desire of My Eucharistic Heart to reign in souls than: Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, may Your Kingdom come through the Immaculate Heart of Mary; and to My no less infinite desire to communicate My graces to souls than: Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, burning with love for us, inflame our hearts with love for You. When you say ‘our hearts,’ have in mind all souls, of the present and of the future.*

July 1929: “What is the secret of touching the heart of Our Lord through prayer?”

Love. *The more sincerely a soul loves Me during lifetime, the deeper the love in prayer, the greater the influence exerted over My Heart. When a soul loves Me to folly, I can refuse it scarcely anything. Yet, I have wishes that must of necessity be carried out; in this case, the soul that loves Me always receives, for itself and other souls, in response to its prayer, an immense amount of grace for its own sanctification and for the good of souls.*



For Consecrated Souls

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Dina at 14

About Blessed Dina Bélanger

Blessed Dina — known as Soeur Marie Ste-Cécile de Rome in religion — was born of Octave and Séraphia Bélanger on April 30, 1897 in Quebec, Canada. She received her education in schools directed by the Notre Dame Sisters: first attending their schools at the Convents of St-Roch and Jacques-Cartier, then finishing her final two years away from home at their Bellevue Boarding School. Later, she would go off to study music at the Conservatory in New York. In 1921, at the age of 24, she entered the Congregation of the Religious of Jesus and Mary in Quebec.

Like St. Thérèse of Lisieux, she was asked by her superiors to write the story of her life. She obeyed quite simply, but it was a heroic effort of which she would later say: *“That act cost me more than any other in my life.”* It is in this manuscript that we find three important practices that formed her spiritual life: The *True Devotion to Mary* of St. Louis De Montfort, the *Little Way of Spiritual Childhood* of St. Thérèse, and her great devotion to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

During her novitiate, she formulated her ideal: *“The most perfect union with God.”* To achieve this ideal, she cultivated interior silence and recollection, as well as the practice of constant little acts of mortification (in order to subdue her nature). She also strove to practice perfect abandonment, recognizing the Holy Will of God in all the events of life. She relied on the Virgin Mary to unite her to Jesus because she saw in Her the *“quickest way to be immersed in Jesus.”*¹ Her motto came to be: *“Love and let Jesus and Mary have their way!”*² Furthermore, in her efforts to achieve her ideal of perfect union, she considered it necessary to stay not only aware of Jesus’ presence with her, but to allow Him to act in and through her. For this she found it necessary strive after purity of intention: *“to act out of love for Jesus alone; not seeking myself or any created thing.”*³ She also saw the need of doing all her acts

¹ Bl. Dina Bélanger, *The Autobiography of Blessed Dina Bélanger*, 3rd ed., p. 149 (Ch. 16). Sillery (Québec) Canada: Les Religieuses de Jésus-Marie, 1997.

² Ibid., p. 171.

³ Ibid., p. 126.

My priests! My priests...! Offer Me to My Father for My priests.

I offered Him and I offered the perfect union of His Heart with His Father. When I had made this dual offering three times, He continued:

My priests! I love them so much and, in return, there are so many who seek their own enjoyment apart from Me! There are so many who do not know how to love Me!

A little later, He said:

The wickedness of the world incites My Divine Justice less than the sins and deliberate failings of consecrated souls. Oh! My little Spouse, I have given you all the love of My Heart. Offer My infinite love to My Father to mitigate His wrath and restrain the arm of His anger.

Since hearing these words, I feel that the arm of Divine Justice is raised, and to prevent it from striking, Jesus is urging me to offer Him, to beg for grace and mercy.

The same day. ...

My priests...!

This grievance of Our Lord haunts me. I have just asked Him: “My Jesus, what do You want for Your priests?” He has replied:

Love! Love! I am thirsting for souls! A great number of souls are lost because My priests do not love Me enough. They do not touch hearts because they are not sufficiently united with Me. They rely too much on human means and on their own activity, and not enough on My Divine action.

May 30, 1929: The Holy Eucharist brings heaven to earth, and very few souls offer the Sacrificial Eucharistic Heart a heaven of joy and consolation.

June 11, 1929: *My Eucharistic Heart has two great desires whose ardour would cause it sudden death if it could still die: the*

our Congregation. When I offered Him three times my good Master continued:

Offer Me to My Father, too, to atone for the lack of thoughtfulness shown Me by certain souls in your Congregation. If I am pleased, that does not mean that all my Spouses of 'Jesus and Mary' refuse Me nothing. Offer Me on behalf of those who are still too attached to themselves, and in whom I desire to act freely.

I corresponded at once to His desire. Then He added:

Continue to make Me known and to establish My reign. I am so pleased that at this moment I am showering down on you a superabundance of My graces.

September 14, 1928: How God would love to see all souls happy! Here is what Our Lord said on that subject, this morning:

Suffering is the indispensable ransom for sin. But God's love for souls is so great that His happiness consists in changing all their sufferings into joys. He wants souls to be happy while still on earth, through Divine Love, even when they are suffering. That is why souls that really love God find so much happiness in the Cross, in spite of their natural repugnance. It is because they find and love God in everything that goes against their nature.

September 15, 1928: Our Lord continued this morning:

Souls are only unhappy in so far as they distance themselves from God. May Father's great desire, and Mine, would be to see all souls happy, even on earth. When Our Divine Justice inflicts distress or punishment, it is always out of love, and always to bring souls nearer to God, to their sovereign happiness. Oh! My little Spouse, work with Me to make souls happy!

October 11, 1928: This morning, the Heart of Jesus seemed very weary and tired. He wanted to rest. Then, He grew sad, very sad...! I tried to console Him with and through the Most Blessed Virgin. In a tone of profound sorrow, He said to me:

in union with Jesus and thus began, at her particular examinations of conscience, to ask herself questions such as these: "*Have I allowed Our Lord to act through me?*" And: "*Have I striven to act with the gentleness, kindness and love of Jesus?*" "*In this way,*" she declared, "*I made my small contribution to the work at hand.*"⁴

Her efforts were greatly rewarded by her Divine Master. As she attested: "*At first it seemed He was at my side, that He was walking close by me. Then I found He was within me. I loved to speak to Him interiorly when I was out alone in the street. Then He gave me His spirit in place of my own; His judgment so that I might appreciate things, happenings, people in the way He wished. After that, He replaced my will with His own; then I felt a great strength which urged me on towards good and compelled me to refuse Him nothing.*"⁵

This mystical gift of the exchange of wills in her, Jesus called *DIVINE SUBSTITUTION*. This gift consisted of Jesus substituting Himself for her in such a way, that she lived the life of Heaven while He lived in her place on earth. Her will had become so united to His that He was able to freely act in and through her as though she was another humanity for Him to operate in on earth. Thus her acts took on the value of His. The *Divine Substitution* seems to be a similar, or the selfsame, gift as seen in other modern mystics such as Venerable Concepción Cabrera de Armida of Mexico, who received the gift of *Mystical Incarnation*, and the Servant of God, Luisa Piccarreta of Italy, who received the gift of *Living in the Divine Will*.

Bl. Dina came to understand that Our Lord is seeking to bestow such gifts on other generous souls: "*The Trinity of Love is seeking souls on whom It can bestow Its Divine Treasures. Infinite Goodness needs to give, to give Itself. Few are those souls who abandon themselves totally to the Sovereign Will. If God is to pour a profusion of graces on a human soul, He must find Jesus living there. A soul is too finite to contain the ocean of infinite favors;*

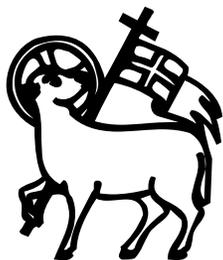
⁴ Ibid., p. 155.

⁵ Ibid., p. 104-5.

*but Jesus, the Illimitable, taking the place of what is limited, can satisfy in some way the immense desire of the Heavenly Father.”*⁶

Our Lord also revealed: “*Apart from the eternal and perfect happiness that I enjoy in my Father and in Myself, my happiness is to reproduce Myself in the souls that I created out of love. The more a soul allows Me to reproduce Myself faithfully in her, the more joy and contentment I find. The greatest joy a soul can give Me is to allow Me to raise her up to my Divinity. Yes, my little Bride, I take immense pleasure in transforming a soul into Myself, in deifying it, in absorbing it wholly into the Divinity.*”⁷

On September 4, 1929, in the thirty-third year of her life, consumed not only with tuberculosis, but also with intense desire to be united eternally to her Divine Spouse, she was freed from the shackles of this earthly dwelling and that desire was forever fulfilled.



I am far more sensitive to the lukewarm love of souls consecrated to Me than I am to the sinful sacrileges and desecrations committed against Me by My enemies. I give so many graces and lights to the souls consecrated to Me!

I asked Him, “What do You want, Jesus, by way of consolation?”

Offer Me to My Father, He answered. Offer the love and patience of My Eucharistic Heart. Through the offering of My Heart, you atone infinitely for every outrage committed against My Father and Me; you atone for the lack of love in consecrated souls.

August 24, 1928: Last evening, Thursday, at the end of my hour of vigil, the Heart of Jesus seemed to be experiencing joy. In the last few moments, He said to me:

If only you knew how pleasing you are to Me when you desire to console Me!

I answered, “My Jesus, You know very well that it is my constant desire.”

Offer Me to My Father, He continued. While you are offering Me, I am pouring out the graces of My Heart upon souls, through My Most Holy Mother.

This morning, from the earliest hours, Our Lord was pleased. His Heart seemed at peace and full of joy. He communicated His joy to me by such an outpouring of indescribable tenderness and love, that I asked Him: “Why are You allowing me to enjoy Your love in this way?”

Because I am pleased, He said. I am pleased with My ‘Jesus and Mary.’ Beautiful sacrifices are being made in your Congregation, sacrifices that are purely for My sake, consoling Me and making up for the neglect of so many souls. Offer Me to My Father in thanksgiving.

Just as He asked me to do, I offered Him to the Eternal Father, in thanksgiving for all the Divine Blessings He has bestowed on

⁶ Ibid., p. 212.

⁷ Ibid., p. 335.

each of us as He desires. Yesterday morning, the feast of the Most Blessed Trinity, my good Master replied as follows:

Lack of union with Me. A great number of my Spouses too often act independently, forgetting to take care to be united with Me. I can not bless their prayers or their work as I wish, because their attachment to their human desires places an obstacle in the way of the plenitude of My graces.

Following this reply, I put another question to Him in the afternoon: “My Jesus, what does one need in order to obtain the grace of close union with You, the grace of complete detachment from self, in a word, the grace of Your perfect dominion over her?” Our Lord said to me:

You must ask for it. I give My grace to every soul who asks Me for it, and above all to every religious soul who is or wants to be My Spouse.

“How are we to ask You for it?” I added.

Let each soul simply ask that I may reign in her as I wish.

“Then, Jesus, when You have given Your grace, what are we to do?”

Correspond with it very lovingly.

“Yes, My good Jesus, but You know how great our human weakness is, we often fall, we fail many times to correspond with Your grace. What then?”

Rise up again with much love, always come back to Me, count on Me. A great number of religious do not count on Me enough: that is what is lacking in you. You must count on Me in everything: in your difficulties, in your troubles, in your struggles, even when you fall and fail. Count on Me and never be afraid of counting on Me too much.

August 23, 1928: Last Sunday, the Heart of Jesus was sad. I was trying to console Him for the offenses committed against Him in the Holy Eucharist when He said to me:

For Consecrated Souls

August 15, 1922 (during her novitiate): (...)

One morning, at meditation, having listened attentively to the reading, I found it literally impossible to concentrate on the subject proposed. Recognizing the intervention of Jesus, I allowed Him to lead me where He willed. He wanted to be consoled. He showed me His Heart, quite disfigured, on which from every side violent blows from an infinite number of heavy hammers rained down; then He showed it to me again, being attacked from every direction by a host of daggers that plunged in deep and tore it apart. Each blow, whether from a hammer or daggers, was an outrage caused by sin. Then I saw Him pierced by incalculable needles, most of them small, even minute:

Those, He said, are the infidelities of religious; Oh! How much suffering they cause Me, these needles, because they belong to souls that I love most of all.

The immense sorrow of my good Master filled me with compassion and inflamed me with love. What a touching scene this was! Only in eternity will we have some realization of the pain that our Savior suffers because of our sins, our carelessness, our lack of love. And to think that we can console Him! “Why, Jesus, do You give us poor creatures the honour of wiping away some of Your tears? Your Holy Mother, the pure Virgin, is always there, beside You; millions of angelic spirits belong to Your court, praising You without ceasing, yet You stoop down to us, begging us to pour a few drops of balm on the wounds of Your Heart! O mystery of Divine Love! Infinite love of the Shepherd for His sheep!”

July 30, 1926: During my private retreat with Our Lord, at Saint-Michel, His Eucharistic Heart often spoke to me about consecrated souls. He had me pray for them and asked for acts of interior mortification to console Him and to obtain for those He has chosen a greater appreciation of the Gift of God. The Gift of God to consecrated souls is the Heart of the Bridegroom! Oh! If only they understood the Gift of God! Not only could they refuse

Him nothing, but they would contrive to multiply their acts of kindness and thoughtfulness towards Him.

November 11, 1926: ...my Jesus is complaining! During Holy Mass, distinctly yet intimately, He allowed me to hear two complaints and a promise. The first complaint:

Very few souls want to sympathize with Me in my agony!

Second complaint:

Very few souls, even consecrated souls, know how to sympathize with the agony of my Heart!

The promise:

I confide great secrets to those souls who want to console Me in my agony.

And these are the insights that my divine Master gave me about these two complaints: Very few souls, that is among all souls in the world in general, *want* to sympathize with Him in His agony; and among consecrated souls, very few *know* how to sympathize with the agony endured by His Heart, that is, to console Him through the most intimate union. Then, abandoning myself to His good pleasure, I asked Jesus whether He wished to answer my question or not: “Why do so many consecrated souls not know how to sympathize with the agony of Your Heart?”

“*Because,*” He said, “*they do not show Me enough consideration, and because they are not sufficiently intent on achieving great perfection in all the little things. The agony of My Heart was due to loneliness, neglect and ingratitude!*”

November 12, 1926: ...I can hear...the same complaints, and my dear Master has added:

If religious souls only knew! But alas! They do not know! Some do not know because they are afraid to know! They are afraid of having to give up some of their attachments... I do not call all consecrated souls to enter sensibly and a special way into My agony; that is a favor that I grant to certain souls that I Myself

June 1, 1928: This morning, Our Lord was sad, very sad. After I had said to Him with compassion: “O my Jesus, how sad you are!” I addressed myself to the Blessed Virgin: “O my good Mother, how sad the Heart of Jesus is!” My Divine Master answered:

I am not loved sufficiently for My own sake. Too often, people love Me for their sake. There are so few souls who, while giving Me love, love Me for My own sake.

I replied: “O my Jesus, forgive these poor souls who love themselves too much, forgive them. It is because they do not know You; if they knew You, they would love You for Yourself.”

The Heart of Jesus continued: *If I am so sad, it is because there are so many consecrated souls who love Me just for their own sake; it is because there are so many priests who put their personal interests before Mine.*

Then I said to the Blessed Virgin: “My good Mother, console Jesus! He must be consoled!”

Turning to Our Lord, I interceded in these words: “My Jesus, let my Mother, the Most Blessed Virgin, draw from Your Heart and shed on souls, especially consecrated souls and those of priests, graces of enlightenment and pure love, graces so powerful that no one will be able to resist them.”

A little later, Our Lord pursued His complaints, saying again with still more ineffable tenderness:

Ah, My little Own Self! Most souls are fearful of loving Me for My own sake. Even a great number of consecrated souls, a great number of priests, dread My Divine overtures. Too many religious and priestly souls fail to understand that the sacrifices I ask of them are flames of love, escaping from My Divine Heart so as to draw and sanctify their human heart.

June 4, 1928: The day before yesterday, Saturday afternoon, I asked Our Lord to kindly tell me what is lacking in our religious family of Jesus and Mary, if He is to hold complete dominion over

the grace to understand it because they are not sufficiently detached from themselves. There are very few consecrated souls to whom My Heart can communicate itself as it desires!

At the end of my meditation, when it came to making a resolution for the day, I asked my good Master: “What do you want, Jesus?”

Perfect renunciation, He answered.

I find this perfect renunciation in Him; only the renunciation of His Heart is divinely perfect. While giving Him, then, my poor efforts, united to His love and His merits I should, in response to His request, offer the perfect renunciation of His Heart.

March 24, 1928: Our Lord told me this morning:

Offer to My Father, for My priests, the spirit of prayer of My Heart, My spirit of prayer, the perfect union of My Heart with Him. This is what most of my priests lack, the spirit of prayer of intense interior life.

May 2, 1928: Our Lord spoke to me this morning about the happiness He finds in reproducing Himself in souls.

Apart from the eternal and perfect happiness that I enjoy in my Father and in Myself, my happiness is to reproduce Myself in the souls that I have created out of love. The more a soul allows Me to reproduce Myself faithfully in her, the more joy and contentment I find. The greatest joy a soul can give Me is to allow Me to raise her up to My Divinity. Yes, My little Bride, I take immense pleasure in transforming a soul into Myself, in deifying it, in absorbing it wholly into the Divinity.

May 31, 1928: ... Yesterday morning, Our Lord said to me:

The satisfaction of My Infinite Attributes in a soul involves My being perfectly reproduced in that soul. Only I can accomplish this perfect reproduction; in order to accomplish it, souls must let Me have My way in everything. Since you want to satisfy Me to the full, My little Bride, let Me have My way constantly and perfectly.

choose. But I call all consecrated souls to console My Heart by obedience, regularity, perfect observance of the Rule, and care to perform every action perfectly out of pure love for Me.

April 7, 1927: During my thanksgiving, He let me see in spirit millions of souls rushing after Satan towards their eternal ruin. And He, the Savior was there, surrounded by a small number of faithful souls, suffering for these millions of sinners, but to no purpose. His Heart saw souls falling in countless numbers into hell. Seeing this, I said: “My Jesus, You accomplished the act of redemption to the full; what is wanting, then, given that so many souls are being lost?” He answered:

*It is because devout souls do not unite themselves sufficiently to my sufferings. (...) If you only knew how consoled my Heart is when I find a soul **totally**⁸ abandoned to Me! I find so few! Even among consecrated souls, there are few that abandon themselves totally to Me!*

Our Lord then enlightened me regarding this **total gift** of self which, in the case of many souls, is not really total, because it is not in fact unlimited or unconditional. (...)

April 8, 1927: Our Lord continues to show me in spirit the millions of souls that, during His agony, He saw falling into hell. And He is there, praying and suffering, surrounded by only a small number of souls. What a moving sight!

This morning, during my thanksgiving after Communion, He said to me:

My Apostles, Peter, James and John, to whom I had just given Myself in Holy Communion and just ordained priests, were consecrated souls, and they slept during My agony! How many consecrated souls are still sleeping while My Church is persecuted and suffering!

I asked Him: “What do you want, Jesus?” He answered:

⁸ All emphases in the original.

Love and sacrifice. People say to Me, in words: All for You, my God! But, in practice, they very often act: all for self...

Then He repeated His earlier promise:

I entrust great secrets to souls who are willing to sympathize with Me in My sufferings and console Me in My agony.

April 13, 1927: I am filled with His infinite tenderness, with His immense desire to give Himself to souls as their food. His Eucharistic Heart communicates to me something of His unimaginable love. All the time, I can hear the divinity saying with a sigh: *“I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer!”*

He was eager on Holy Thursday, yes, He was eager at the Last Supper to conceal Himself whole and entire under the appearance of a fragile piece of bread and to take up His abode in human hearts. Since that moment, to each soul He invites to His table, at each Communion, the Eucharistic Heart says again with the same effusive love He had for his Apostles: *“I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer!”* He is always eager to give Himself...

April 14, 1927 (Holy Thursday): Last night for this morning’s meditation, Our Lord gave me as my subject: “the love and tenderness of His Eucharistic Heart.” Shortly afterwards He said to me:

*My Eucharistic Heart loves to confide in souls, it is like a great need. But I find few pure souls who understand this. To be confidante of my intimate secrets, a soul must be **very pure**, constantly intent on **thinking of and acting for Me alone**. I wish I could find many pure souls.*

April 22, 1927: ... During my thanksgiving, He said to me, or rather His Sacred Heart said to me, for when Jesus speaks, it is always the voice of His Heart that I hear:

Let Me inundate you once again with my tenderness. Today and tomorrow, I am giving you my thought of God. I want you to console Me in particular in the name of consecrated souls. I

Although that meant a great number, it was still too few to satisfy my love. Thinking only of the infinite mercy of God and the need to console the Heart of Jesus, and with the boldness inspired by boundless trust, I asked this good Master for the grace to set Him free in the same number of consecrated souls as each of the tears that I was holding back could be divided into for His sake. It was a fierce struggle, but Our Lord granted me the grace to conquer my weakness. And, O joy! what is more, He let me know of the efficacy of my prayer (an efficacy due to His merits because of my union with Him) and the joy it gave Him. His bonds had been severed in many consecrated souls, now He was free in them, and His Heart was consoled on that account.

I did not rest content with the joy of this consideration. I received this grace from Jesus with deep gratitude, but I was so haunted by the desire for Him to be freed in the greatest possible number of souls that it scarcely eased the grief caused by His complaint this morning.

March 16, 1928: Yesterday morning, Thursday, intimately unite with the Heart of Jesus, I could not help being sad. I said to Him: “My Jesus, I do not know why but I feel sad when I think of our Community.” He answered:

In all religious communities, there are many consecrated souls who do not understand what perfect renunciation means.

I asked Him: “My Jesus, will You grant me the grace to understand perfect resignation, and help me to practice it, for the sake of all consecrated souls, especially those who do not understand it?”

Offer to My Father, He said, the perfect renunciation of My Heart. There in My Heart, you have always all you need to make abundant amends for every failing and every negligence.

Then with unspeakable tenderness and profound sorrow, He added:

Oh! My little Bride, even among consecrated souls, there are very few who understand the love of My Heart. I cannot give them

pleasure for You to pour out on my Congregation Your abundant graces. If it should be Your Will, I would wish not only an abundance but the plentitude of Your graces.” Our Lord answered:

If only one religious in a Congregation refuses Me some small thing, that prevents Me from pouring out on the entire Congregation the plentitude of My graces.

March 7, 1928: I could not think of Jesus without feeling sad. I said to Him: “My Jesus, You are sad! Your heart in particular seems to me to be sad!” He answered:

I am kept imprisoned in many consecrated souls. Sever My bonds.

“How?” I asked Him.

With love and by offering My Heart, He said. In these consecrated souls, who are too attached to their own will, My Divine Will is bound, and so I can not act freely. Love Me on their behalf; and, by offering to My Father the infinite love of My Heart, you can obtain for many of these consecrated souls the grace to be detached from themselves and allow Me to act freely in them.

March 8, 1928: Jesus said only one thing this morning, but in these few words, His Divine Heart traced out for me the whole program for today:

Come with Me, He said, to win for Me perfect freedom in consecrated souls.

Yesterday, His Divine complaint and His request: “Sever My bonds,” were for me a powerful grace of compassionate love. My duty, as well as my whole ambition, was to respond to His desire and console Him, at the cost of every form of self-renunciation. So yesterday, at the midday examen, I felt physically crushed by fatigue and sickness. And, as a result, my eyes quickly filled with tears. But were I to hold them back, would this not be one way of freeing my Divine Master in some souls? I took on the challenge. It was very painful for me. I asked Our Lord for the grace to sever His bonds in as many souls as the number of tears I held back.

always want you to console Me without ceasing in the name of all humanity; but, more particularly today, I want you to do so in the name of consecrated souls.

I asked Him: “In what way, my Jesus?” He answered:

*Always in the same way: **love and sacrifice**; by constant attention to My good pleasure. I have given you My loving thought of My Father, guard it well. I want you to have some appreciation of the infinite tenderness My Heart feels for consecrated souls.*

Then He enlightened me concerning His infinite tenderness... the inexpressible tenderness He feels for the souls He has chosen.

This morning, Friday, He told me about the “sorrow of His agonizing Heart” at the sight of the insensitiveness of consecrated souls, then He added:

My agonizing Heart, suffered much more from the insensitiveness of consecrated souls than from the sins of the worldly, because I enlighten consecrated souls to such an extent and lavish so much love on them!

April 23, 1927: Last night, the Heart of Jesus opened up its intimate depths to me, like a person who has suffered much and finds comfort in confiding his hidden sorrow to another. He was sad; it was a sadness that, once again, I do not know how to explain. For half an hour He spoke to me of priestly souls, and of His priests. Among other confidences, He said:

My priests should be replicas of Myself. During the agony, my Heart shed tears of blood over a certain number of priests. Several of them are eloquent and learned, humanly speaking, but they lack the most basic knowledge; that of holiness. They are united to Me through sanctifying grace, but they do not live in sufficient intimacy with Me through self-denial and unalloyed love.

And in a pleading tone He added:

O my little Bride, comfort Me! I know you love Me.

This morning, during my thanksgiving after Communion as well as during my mediation, He continued along the same lines:

“My priests,” He said, “My priests, oh! how I love them! And there are many who love Me so little...! If, during the agony, My Heart shed tears of blood for them, it is not simply because they were separated from Me through the loss of sanctifying grace, but because they did not live sufficiently in intimate union with Me. I call them to be other Christs. **To be replicas of Me:** that is their vocation. Many of them are My consolation, My glory, a credit to Me. But several, alas! are a cause of sadness... Will you, My little Bride, through My Most Blessed Mother, offer Me this day for priests? Will you in the same way offer Me every Saturday? That is to say, through My Divine Mother, love Me, pray, deny yourself, sacrifice yourself for priests?”

(...)

The Heart of Jesus continued:

My priests govern the entire religious society. If they were truly holy, the mere sight of them, anywhere at all, in church, in the street or elsewhere, would remind people of Me; they would draw souls to Me; meeting them, people would think: there is another Christ passing by. The Evil One is more afraid of a single soul in whom I can act freely than of a whole army of tepid, indifferent souls in whom my action is paralyzed, because in the former I act with power, while I have no choice but to abandon the latter to their weakness.

April 28, 1927: From yesterday morning until this morning, the Heart of Jesus absorbed me, in deep retreat, in preparation for the confidences of today and tomorrow.

This morning, He gave me His precious chalice at the moment of my Communion. After a few moments of darkness and aridity, His Heart communicated to me His “feelings in the garden of the agony, at the sight of consecrated souls.”

He showed me thousands of consecrated souls assembled in His presence. Very many of them were heedless of their Divine

Our Lord said to me this morning during my meditation:

My little Bride, if only you knew how few consecrated souls take time to think of Me! They are taken up with their own interests, with all kinds of trivialities, but they do not bother thinking of Me...

October 4, 1927: At the end of my meditation this morning, Our Lord said to me:

There are very few souls, even religious, who are willing to subsist on infinity during their earthly pilgrimage! Yet, only infinity can satisfy their heart!

November 8, 1927: This morning Jesus said to me:

Let Me immerse you in humiliation while you concern yourself only with Me. If you only knew how many consecrated souls refuse to submit to authority, because of their pride! Let Me immerse you in humiliation and, during this time, I will give many consecrated souls the grace to leave their pride behind.

November 24, 1927: ...my Divine Master made a request:

Will you give Me Wednesday for vocations to the priestly and religious life? Many vocations are being lost in the world: people are afraid of renunciation and sacrifice, they want to be free to enjoy (life) and are afraid of abandoning themselves to My love.

(...)

“My Jesus,” I said, “do you want Wednesday to be only for the souls You call to the religious life and who are still in the world, or is it also for the souls who are already in the novitiates?” He answered:

I want your Wednesday to be for all who are called to religious life, those still in the world and those already in novitiates, those called both now and in the future.

November 29, 1927: ... During my meditation, I asked my good Master: “My Jesus, You told me last week that it was a

Consider the others. You will note that I am bound hand and foot with cords and that My Heart is wounded, or else you can see that the devil has taken my place.

I saw very many souls in whom the demon reigned supreme, and this sight was so repulsive that I scarcely looked.

Do not be afraid, My Divine Master said, simply look. Pray and intercede with My Heavenly Father. Love Me and suffer in silence.

May 19, 1927: ...He again showed me the earlier tableaux, repeated some of the remarks that I have already written down and added:

I am giving you My uninterrupted thought. I want your life now to be completely otherworldly, as regards your thought and your affections. Let Me remain in you, in a state of perpetual oblation and immolation. Let Me remain in you, in a state of continual sacrifice. Beg My Heavenly Father to let My Most Holy Mother bestow upon souls the treasures of My Heart. My Heart is so overflowing with love for each one of these souls that it can no longer contain the streams of grace that I would wish to bestow on them; but the majority of souls will have nothing to do with My love...

After a fervent prayer that I offered just as the Heart of Jesus inspired me, He then said to me:

In you, I want to restrain the avenging arm of My Father's justice and allow My Most Holy Mother to pour out on souls the treasures of love contained in My Heart. I want to be sure that My mercy triumphs. I want to give to souls graces of repentance, to forgive them and to restore them to friendship with God.

August 15, 1927: My longing for God is becoming more intense. The torment of the Infinite overwhelms and strengthens me; it overwhelms me through the burning desire for perfect union with my God; it strengthens me by the ever more determined will to please my sovereign Master in everything.

Bridegroom; a small number, just a few, easy to count, kept their gaze fixed continually on Him. He said to me:

Look at all these souls. You see how very few of them remain totally abandoned to Me! On the day of their profession, they give themselves without reserve, but then they take back fragments of themselves. When important things are concerned, in the principle points of the Rule, they do My Will, but in little things, they have no concern for My good pleasure.

Do you see these souls (showing me all those who paid no heed to Him): some are looking to the world, to see what is going on there; others have their ears wide open to hear all kinds of news; others speak at times of silence so as to make useless remarks or to criticize; still others occupy their minds with vain thoughts of the past; in their imagination, others make all sorts of plans for their own personal advantage; others maintain countless, futile desires or keep part of their own will for themselves, etc.

And I pass by... My Heart is begging for consolation, and all these souls taken up with themselves or with the world, do not afford Me any consolation. Can you understand now why My Heart uttered, with good reason, this complaint: "I looked for some to comfort Me and I found none!" (He led me to the left, into the crowd in front of Him.) I am going to walk among them asking for consolation... You see, not one of them is thinking of Me... I have come back without finding a single one to comfort Me.

Certainly, there are some here (pointing to the small number of souls who constantly pay attention to Him) who never leave Me; Oh! They are a comfort to Me; but there, on the left, not one...!

I am familiar with human weakness, I always forgive; when souls turn back to Me, I overlook their thoughtlessness, but that does not mean that My Heart has not felt wounded. I love consecrated souls so much! As soon as they come back to Me, I smile on them because I love them with an infinite love, and My gaze is fixed on them continually.

My wish would be to grant them untold graces; but lack of self-denial, of perfection, of love in quite small things, in the least significant actions, holds Me back. They say to themselves: that is not worth troubling about and all the while they take no account of My good pleasure. Everything that is done for Me with great love and attention to My desires, gives joy to My Heart.

Then again, they say: great graces are reserved for a few privileged souls. They are mistaken. All those I have chosen as My Brides, whom I call to consecrate themselves to Me, are privileged souls. Their vocation is to be concerned constantly with Me. What they call a privilege, or a number of privileges, in certain souls, is simply a reward for their constant attention to My presence and My action in them.

“My little Bride,” He said, “comfort Me. Will you, always through My Most Holy Mother, give Me Thursday for consecrated souls?”

“Yes, Jesus, as You wish,” I answered.

“Pray, suffer, love Me,” He continued, “paying attention only to Me. Consecrated souls: this includes priestly souls, My priests as well. Saturday will be very specially dedicated to My priests. And I am giving you My thought until Sunday. Soon I will give it to you permanently.”

May 5, 1927: Yesterday evening, Our Lord gave me for the subject of this morning’s meditation “the agonizing Heart of Jesus and His vision of consecrated souls.” First point: *I looked for someone to comfort Me and found no one!* Second point: *In the Garden of Agony, My Heart shed tears of blood over many consecrated souls.*

This morning, He gave me His chalice at the moment of Communion. Then plunging me into the very depths of His agonizing Heart, He showed me the multitude of consecrated souls, just as He saw it Himself in Gethsemane. With His divine eyes, I saw all these chosen souls; I could see into a limitless, distant future, to the end of time. The Heart of Jesus said to me:

This morning, during my thanksgiving after Communion, He pursued the same subject:

“In Gethsemane,” He said, “my agonizing Heart saw the multitude of other souls, in addition to consecrated souls. Look at them, stretching far out into the distance, to the end of time, look as far as the last soul to be created. Now, consider the influence of consecrated souls through whom I can shine out on all the souls of the world.

In consecrated souls in whom My hands are bound by threads, in whom consequently My Heart is wounded, My rays reach only some souls living in the world at the same time. In consecrated souls who refuse Me only small things, you can see that My rays reach many other souls in the world and extend further. In consecrated souls that have abandoned themselves totally to Me, in whom I can act freely, see how My rays reach all souls, even to the end of time.

Because of the graces and enlightenment that I am giving to you, you have a great share in the sanctification of all souls, present and future.

Until this time, I had seen all created souls, without any distinction between the past, the present and the future, just as the Heart of Jesus saw them, since everything is present to Him. Now, He made a distinction, giving me a general view of souls who, in relation to me, lived in the past, are now living or will live in the future. Then He went on:

You can see all these souls belonging to the present and the future. They all expect great graces from your faithfulness in letting Me act freely in you. You have a great part to play in the salvation and sanctification of each one. I have given you all the treasures of My Heart; through My Most Holy Mother, give them to all these souls. Consider how I am treated in them. There are certainly some very devout souls through whom I radiate, but you can see that there are only a few.

Most Holy Mother's prayer, with still more reason can My Heavenly Father refuse nothing in response to My pleading.

My little Bride, if I see so many souls falling into hell, it is without doubt because they want it, but it is also because consecrated souls abuse of My graces. Pray and intercede, through My Most Holy Mother and through My Divine Heart, pray and intercede with My Heavenly Father to save and sanctify all souls. Pray to Him and beg Him to sanctify all consecrated souls. My Heart loves each soul infinitely. During My human life on earth, I could do no more for the salvation and sanctification of souls; and since that time, I have wished to continue the work of redemption through My life in souls. Pray and intercede with My Divine Father. Intercede, that means praying earnestly, praying untiringly, praying with certainty of being given what you are asking. Pray and intercede!

My little Own Self, will you, each Friday, through My Most Holy Mother and through My Divine Heart, pray and intercede with My Heavenly Father for the salvation and sanctification of all souls in accordance with His Holy Will?

“O, yes, my Jesus!” I answered, “just as You wish.” He went on:

Make Friday a day of intercession. Pray and intercede!

I cannot describe the passion, the astonishment, the suffering that these words produced in me. And since then, every morning, I continually hear My Divine Substitute pleading: “*Pray and intercede!*”

May 13, 1927: Last night...Our Lord gave me as subject of contemplation “His agonizing Heart and His vision of all souls.” He showed me the influence of consecrated souls have when He Himself radiates through them, and said:

Through my Divine Heart, your power is infinite; you have a great part to play in the salvation and sanctification of all souls both now and in the future.

Look closely at all these consecrated souls. Most of them are living in union with Me; the others, alas, are no longer in the state of grace and have wandered away from Me. I am going to let you see My life in them, or my separation from them. When I am united with a soul, I more or less reproduce Myself in it. Look at this soul.

He pointed to one among them.

You can recognize Me there; but, you see, My hands are tied by threads. This soul loves Me, but remains attached to material goods which bind My hands and prevent Me from giving great graces.

Look at this other one. Here I am more luminous and loved more. But, look at My Heart, it is pierced by tiny thorns: there are the small things that it refuses and which prevent Me from giving it all the treasures of My Heart.

Consider this one. You can barely see Me. My feet and hands are bound with cords; thorns penetrate My Heart, pressing in upon It and making It bleed. This is a lukewarm soul. Here, My action is paralyzed and the soul is very close to leaving Me.

And then look here. Do not be afraid, you are with Me. This is a soul that has wandered away from Me, having lost the state of grace. This is the soul of a priest. I am no longer living there but My image remains imprinted on it; it is a baptized soul, a consecrated soul. Look at the evil one who is taking possession of My image, encompassing it with iron chains; he is making a great din, dancing around, sneering; he is playing with My image and tyrannizing this soul, making it miserable, dragging it right and left; he is turning it into his prey. You can win it over for Me, snatch it from the demon, in union with My Most Holy Mother, through love and sacrifice. Alas! There are several consecrated souls who fall under the control of the demon! Look there, over there, in the distance... And finally, look at this one.

From the left where He had taken me last of all, He drew me over to the right. Seeing this soul, I said to my Divine Master: “O

my Jesus, how beautiful You are!” To the extent that I had been terrified by the soul delivered into the hands of the demon, now I was seized with admiration. Jesus was radiant, full of grace and light. After the initial outburst of admiration, I became speechless under the charm of His beauty. He went on:

You see I am totally radiant: this is a soul who refuses Me nothing. You can no longer see anything of this soul in itself, it is annihilated in Me and I have substituted Myself for it. I can freely bestow on it all the treasures of My Heart. I make it happy and it consoles Me.

After several moments, He added:

I have let you see five major groups of consecrated souls. This does not prevent each soul from having its own special character, but according to their union with Me or their separation from Me, they belong to one or the other of these major groupings.

Look once more at those in whom my hands are bound. I shone out to some extent around them; through them, I do a little good to the souls that surround them. Look at those in whom My Heart is pierced with quite tiny thorns. My hands are free; they love Me more, refusing Me only quite small things. I shine out more clearly in them, and I do more good, at a greater distance.

Finally, look at the souls that are completely abandoned to Me and who refuse Me nothing. My rays reach out to all the other souls, far away, far away; they reach out even to souls in the grip of the devil. Look, I am going to let My rays fall on the soul of the priest you considered a moment ago. This priest is going to let himself be touched by My grace, he will fall on his knees and I will forgive him.

Our Lord left me with these reflections. ... At every moment of this day, there has recurred to me the appeal of my tender Master: “*For consecrated souls!*”

May 6, 1927: Since yesterday, while thinking over the first category of souls that my Divine Master showed me, the souls in whom His hands were tied, I found it strange that He had not

spoken of His Heart while, in the second category comprising souls who loved Him more, His Heart was wounded by thorns. This morning, I asked Him to explain, if He would. He answered:

When one’s hands are bound like those of a prisoner, do you think one’s heart can be at ease?

I realized that this was clearly impossible. He added:

When My hands are bound in a soul because it is attached to something other than Me, you can understand that My Heart is wounded.

This morning He continued to enlighten me about yesterday’s subject and said to me:

I am letting you see the whole multitude of consecrated souls, to the end of time, so that you will understand how even one soul completely given over to Me can radiate on all the other souls. You can see that, through it, My rays reach out into the distance, far into the distance, to the furthest end, meaning that I am doing good until the end of time.

I call upon all consecrated souls to abandon themselves totally to Me, to let themselves be filled with Me, to let Me act freely in them and to shine through them as I will. I call upon all of them. And you see how few there are who do not refuse Me anything. In all this multitude, in each soul, nothing human should be visible, only Me, Me alone. When My Heavenly Father looks upon consecrated souls, He should recognize and see only Me in each one of them. Alas! This is far from being the case!

*My little Bride, listen... listen well... **If all consecrated souls refused Me nothing**, if they allowed Me to act freely in them all the time, **all other souls would be saved**. Yes, all other souls would be saved. Seeing only Me, His well-beloved Son, in consecrated souls, hearing only My Divine voice, My Heavenly Father could not refuse them anything. Through the voice of consecrated souls, I would pray and implore My Heavenly Father to save and sanctify all other souls according to His Holy Will, and He could not refuse Me. If I can refuse nothing in response to My*