



KEEP ME COMPANY FOR 15 MINUTES

Our Lady to Sr. Lucia, 10th December 1925

First Saturday of the Month



X

The Second Luminous Mystery

The transformation of water into wine at the Wedding Feast at Cana

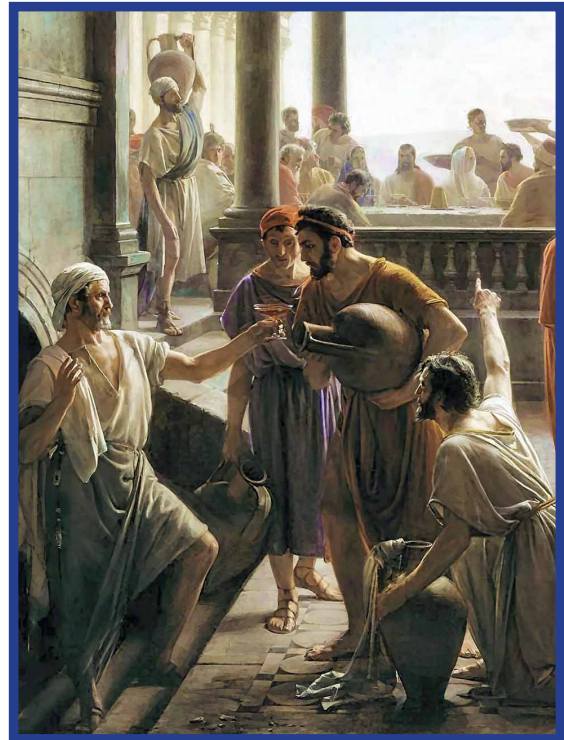
Living in happiness through union with Jesus and Mary

Introduction:

We will fulfil our First Saturday reparatory devotion by contemplating today the Second Luminous Mystery: The transformation of water into wine at the Wedding Feast at Cana. On this occasion, Jesus worked His first public miracle at the request of Our Lady, who also for the first time publicly manifested her powerful intercession with her Son on our behalf. Let us thus meditate on the merciful role of Mary Most Holy as our intercessor with God.

Meditation Setting

For our Meditation setting, let us imagine a beautiful wedding feast in Gospel times, in a spacious house with large halls and many guests. Amongst these are Our Lady and Jesus and his first disciples. Everyone at the banquet is happy, enjoying the good food and wine served by the hosts. Then we see Our Lady approaching Jesus and telling him that the wine for the feast had run out.



“Turning Water to Wine”
Bloch

Preparatory Prayer

O Blessed Virgin of Fatima, Mother of God, and ours, to whom we offer this meditation in reparation to your Immaculate Heart, intercede for us today as you once did at the Wedding Feast at Cana. Pray to your adorable Son to grant us the graces we lack and so greatly need to accept the miracles of Divine Mercy we experience in our lives during our pilgrimage towards Heaven. Amen!

Gospel of St. John (2, 3-10)

“And they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the feast had all been used, and the mother of Jesus said to him, ‘They have no wine.’ Jesus said, ‘Woman, what do you want from me? My time has not come yet.’ His mother said to the servants, ‘Do whatever he tells you.’ There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the customary ablutions of the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said

to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. Then he said to them, 'Draw some out now and take it to the master of the feast.' They did this, and the master tasted the water turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from—though the servants who had drawn the water knew—the master of the feast called the bridegroom and said, 'Everyone serves the good wine first and then the worse wine when the guests are well wined; but you have kept the best wine till now.'



*“The Wedding in Cana”
Benson*

I – TO COOPERATE WITH GOD IN THE MIRACLES OF FAITH

Cana was not far from Nazareth. It can be assumed that Mary was related to the families of the young couple and, having been invited to the feast, she felt obliged to attend. Our Lord accompanied her, taking with Him His first disciples: John, James, Peter, Andrew, Philip, and Nathaniel. As the Doctors of the Church teach, by appearing there, Our Lord honoured marriage and raised it to the dignity of a Sacrament.

He also showed the Church and the world that without the presence of the Son of God and His most holy Mother, there can be no marriage that is holy and pleasing to God.

1. Our Lady helps those who are in need

As always, unconcerned with herself, Mary paid attention to everything, eager to do good to others. Then she realized what an embarrassing situation it was for the hosts: the wine had run out! The disappointment would be even greater if that became public! But this did not happen because the Heart of Mary was touched, and even without being asked, she intervened by implicitly requesting a miracle of Jesus to avoid embarrassment to the couple.

Our Lady interpreted everything wisely and certainly considered that Providence had permitted the lack of wine to give Jesus the opportunity to manifest his Divinity. He had not yet worked any miracle, but Our Lady did not doubt the supernatural power of her Son.

2. Jesus is happy with the supplications of Mary

Our Lord must also have been saddened by the situation of those families. But He wanted to instruct his disciples and associate Our Lady with his work, and thus show the decisive role of his mother's mediation. That is why He surely rejoiced to hear Mary's request and responded with a great miracle.

3. Let us be obedient to the voice of grace

When Our Lady recommended that the servants do whatever Jesus told them to do, she was instructing them not to put any obstacle in the way of Jesus' will. And this is what she constantly repeats in our souls: "Do whatever he tells you" namely "follow the inner voice of grace without placing any obstacle in its way."

Unfortunately, we often do not know how to interpret well the voice of God, and we offer resistance to grace, contrary to the exemplary attitude of those servants. Certainly, the idea of offering water at a banquet must have seemed strange to them, but they obeyed promptly, without making the slightest comment. There is an

important lesson we should draw from this passage for our spiritual life: we should obey God faithfully and also those who take His place among us, without inquiring too closely into why they are demanding of us one thing or another. God wants our cooperation through faith, through obedience to the voice of grace within us. It is as if He were saying to us: "If you do what you can, I will do what you cannot."



II – EFFICACY AND POWER OF THE INTERCESSION OF MARY

Our Lady knew the Sacred Heart of Jesus very well. She knew that her plea would be attended to, and so told the servants to do whatever He asked them to do. And so, at Mary's request, the beginning of Christ's miracles was anticipated. This shows the efficacy of Our Lady's powerful supplication.

1. Let us always have confidence in Our Lady

This miracle shows how we must trust Our Lady intercession without restrictions, even when we seem to deserve Our Lord's rejection. It is she who will help us when, "the wine is lacking". For by God's Will, the power of supplication of the Mediatrix of all graces is truly great. In his Infinite Goodness, the Redeemer promised: "Whatever you ask the Father in my name, He will do it for you" (Jn 14:13).

Now if this is true for us, conceived in original sin and with so many personal faults, how can it not be true to a very high degree for his incomparable Mother? If Jesus denied her nothing on earth, would He do otherwise in heaven? If He performed this stupendous miracle, although his hour had not yet come, we can be sure that now his time has arrived, for He is in heaven as the Eternal Priest with the Father to intercede for us (cf. Heb 4:14). We can thus be certain that, by beseeching Mary, we will be heard in every circumstance.

2. Mary "anticipates" Jesus' hour in our favour

At the wedding feast at Cana Jesus also worked this miracle through Mary's intercession, to give a foreshadowing of his Mother's power regarding our own requests. Behold, at Cana a new era in the spirituality of humanity was opened with the powerful mediation of Mary on our behalf.

If Mary had not recommended the servants to act according to Jesus' instructions, the bride and groom, and their guests, would not have drunk the best wine in history, nor would the Apostles have seen such a great miracle. From this it follows that it is important that we pray to God through Our Lady, with fervour and constancy. We must manifest our needs to her, and He will hear her prayer in our need.

III – WE ARE HAPPY WHEN WE ARE UNITED TO JESUS AND MARY

How happy were the bride and groom to have invited Jesus and Mary to their wedding! Thanks to this august presence, everything there was holy and edifying; everything there was happy. When the wine ran short, Mary, who always looks out for the needs of those who love her, noticed the embarrassment that the lack of wine would cause the hosts. And without waiting for them to invoke her intercession, she implored the omnipotence of her Son in favour of the couple. And the best wine was served to all.

1. We gain when we live united to Jesus and Mary

This episode offers us this important lesson: how much we gain by living united to Jesus and Mary, and by practising all our actions in union with them! If we live in union with Our Lord and Our Lady, all the bitterness of life is softened, numerous graces are granted to us, and Jesus and Mary assist us and help us to face the trials we encounter on our way.

But, on the contrary, sad is the life separated from Jesus and Mary. It is the life of the world, where there is always something lacking, where no attention is paid to divine consolations. Even if we possessed all the goods that the world could offer, these goods would be insufficient to satisfy a heart made for the infinite. As Saint Augustine said, the human heart is restless until it rests in God, the only Good that can fully satisfy it.

2. How to live united to Our Lord and to Our Lady

If we wish to live united to Jesus and Mary, we must think of them often; think of their virtues and their holy example, so as to imitate them. We must love them tenderly, and form with them but one heart and soul; we must show our affection to them often, and strive to please them.

Moreover, let us try to conform our desires to God's will at all costs, in good or bad events, in everything we do or say. And since Jesus and Mary never want anything but the Will of God - and they want it with all their hearts - we necessarily need to be united to them. The Will of God will be the meeting point between us and them.

How have we practised this union up to now? Do we often think of Jesus and Mary, sometimes to invoke them, sometimes to imitate them? Do we love Jesus and Mary, and do we often affirm to them our love and devotion? Do we like to conform our will to theirs, which is God's, in all things?

Conclusion

As we conclude this meditation, let us ask the glorious Virgin of Fatima to grant us perfect trust in her powerful intercession with Jesus for us. May she confirm us in the resolution to always have recourse to her in all our needs. Then we will be certain that the Mother of God will obtain for us from the Divine Redeemer the grace of having the insipid water of our miseries transformed into the precious wine of holiness to which we are called.

