

## FRIDAY READING

### MORNING TALK (Talk 10)

#### 1. REFERENCES GIVEN IN TALK

##### **Archbishop of Canterbury Theodore Arundel**

*“THE contemplation of the great mystery of the Incarnation” has drawn all Christian nations to venerate her from whom come the first beginnings of our redemption. But we English, being the servants of her special inheritance and her own Dowry as we are commonly called, ought to surpass others in the fervour of our praises and devotions.”*

##### **St John Paul II**

*Our act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary refers ultimately to the Heart of her Son, for as the Mother of Christ she is wholly united to his redemptive mission. As at the marriage feast of Cana, when she said "Do whatever he tells you", Mary directs all things to her Son, .....who answers our prayers and forgives our sins.”*

##### **Bishop Ethelwold in 760**

*“Holy Mother of God, Virgin ever blest, glorious and noble, chaste and inviolate, Mary Immaculate, chosen and beloved of God, endowed with singular sanctity, worthy of all praise, you are the advocate for the sins (peril) of the whole world; listen, listen, listen to us, holy Mary. Pray for us, intercede for us, disdain not to help us. For we are confident and know for certain that you can obtain all you will from your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, God Almighty, the King of Ages, who lives with the Father and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.”*

##### **St. Aelred of Rievaulx**

*“If the Lord is to be praised in those saints by whom He works miracles, how much more is He to be praised in Her in whom He the Wonder of wonders was made flesh! If they are to be praised who keep their chastity, how much more she who chose virginity, and received fruitfulness as its reward! If they are to be praised by whom God raised the dead, how much more she by whose holiness the whole world has been raised from death eternal! Let us, then, praise her with our mouths, and beware lest we insult her by our acts. He gives but feigned praise who cares not to imitate what he praises. He truly praises Mary’s humility who strives himself to be humble. He truly praises her chastity who execrates and scorns all impurity and lust. He truly praises her charity whose whole desires and efforts are to love both God and his neighbour with a perfect love.”*

## St Anselm of Canterbury

*“Blessed Lady, sky and stars, earth and rivers, day and night - everything that is subject to the power or use of man - rejoice that through you they are in some sense restored to their lost beauty and are endowed with inexpressible new grace. All creatures were dead, as it were, useless for men or for the praise of God, who made them. The world, contrary to its true destiny, was corrupted and tainted by the acts of men who served idols. Now all creation has been restored to life and rejoices that it is controlled and given splendour by men who believe in God.*

*The universe rejoices with new and indefinable loveliness. Not only does it feel the unseen presence of God himself, its Creator, it sees him openly, working and making it holy. These great blessings spring from the blessed fruit of Mary's womb.*

*Through the fullness of the grace that was given you, dead things rejoice in their freedom, and those in heaven are glad to be made new. Through the Son who was the glorious fruit of your virgin womb, just souls who died before his life-giving death rejoice as they are freed from captivity, and the angels are glad at the restoration of their shattered domain.*

*Lady, full and overflowing with grace, all creation receives new life from your abundance. Virgin, blessed above all creatures, through your blessing all creation is blessed, not only creation from its Creator, but the Creator himself has been blessed by creation.*

*To Mary God gave his only-begotten Son, whom he loved as himself. Through Mary God made himself a Son, not different but the same, by nature Son of God and Son of Mary. The whole universe was created by God, and God was born of Mary. God created all things, and Mary gave birth to God. The God who made all things gave himself form through Mary, and thus he made his own creation. He who could create all things from nothing would not remake his ruined creation without Mary.*

*God, then, is the Father of the created world and Mary the mother of the re-created world. God is the Father by whom all things were given life, and Mary the mother through whom all things were given new life. For God begot the Son, through whom all things were made, and Mary gave birth to him as the Saviour of the world. Without God's Son, nothing could exist; without Mary's Son, nothing could be redeemed.*

*Truly the Lord is with you, to whom the Lord granted that all nature should owe as much to you as to himself.”*

## **Pope Leo XIII**

*"of the wonderful filial love which burnt within the hearts of your forefathers towards the get Mother of God... to whose service they consecrated themselves with such abundant proofs of devotion, that the Kingdom itself acquired the singular title of Mary's Dowry."*

“When England returns to Walsingham, Our Lady will return to England” in the hour of our need Our Blessed Mother has indeed returned to England!

## **Sir Gawain and the Green Knight**

*“And wherever this man in trouble stood,  
his first thought was that, over all other things,  
his strength he found in the five joys  
that the holy Queen of heaven had of her child.  
And the knight fittingly had  
on the inner half of his shield her image painted,  
so that when he beheld her his courage never failed.”*

## **Cardinal Vincent Nichols**

*“Devotion to Mary is not an optional ‘add-on’ to Catholic belief, but an expression of what is at the heart of our faith. To draw close to Mary is to draw close to Jesus. As the earliest Christian witnesses often taught, Mary was open to receiving Jesus in her mind and in her heart before she gave birth to him in her flesh. For this reason she is the first of all the disciples of the Lord as she is the most faithful of all the Lord’s followers. In her maternal love of us she continues to assist us in our following of Him; a consecration to her Immaculate Heart gives expression to this in a simple way”.*

## 2. LECTIO DIVINA :FROM COMFORTABLE DISCIPLESHIP TO COSTLY DISCIPLESHIP

**Jn 15:18-27** If they persecuted me, they will persecute you

Other Texts:

Mt 10:11-24 You will be dragged before rulers, kings and queens for my sake.

Acts 7:1-60 Stephen's speech, his trial, his prayer of forgiveness, his stoning.

Jn 8:21-30 When you have lifted me up, then you will know who I am.

Jn 1:1-14 Jesus came to his own people and they did not accept him.

1Cor 4:6-13 Here we are, fools for the sake of Christ...

2Cor 4:7-18 We see no answer to our problems, but never despairing; we have been persecuted, but never deserted.

Is 50:4-11 I made no resistance, neither did I turn away, I offered my back to those who struck me.

Ps 37 Unprovoked they spread their net for me, they dug a pit for me.

*Mgr John Armitage*

*Walsingham*

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