

A LIFE LIVED FOR OTHERS (Talk 12)

1. My vocation is to do God's Will

God has created me for some special purpose. I will embrace my unique personal vocation, knowing that God has called me to follow in the footsteps of his son Jesus, in his mission of love and service to all.

2. To seek his will I must be a person of prayer.

In seeking his will, I commit myself to daily prayer. Where possible I shall attend weekday Mass, spending time in personal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, reading the scriptures and having a special devotion to Our Blessed Lady.

3. To accept His will is a daily task, which will sometimes involve suffering.

I accept that to love this life I shall joyfully abandon myself to God each day, accepting his will in life and embracing whatever crosses I may be asked to carry.

4. My growth into Christ entails a daily conversion of life.

I accept the change that comes by a humble acknowledgement of my sins in a daily examination of conscience and in the regular celebration of the love of God shown to me in the sacrament of reconciliation. "To live is to change, to be perfect is to have changed often." St John Henry Newman

5. I am called into the life of the Trinity through my relationships.

I recognise the love of family and friends in my life, and the life-giving support they give to me in helping to recreate myself through rest, and recreation. The gauge of my chastity shall be the quality and depth of my loving relationships with others, who sustain me.

6. Obedience - free for, and open to the God who comes ceaselessly into my life.

I embrace obedience as a free expression to turn my life over to God, where I experience him in the Church, and in the daily encounter with the people around me.

7. Simplicity - Everything I need for my future happiness I already possess

I commit myself to a simple lifestyle, so that I shall have no other gods but God.

8. I shall serve the poor

I commit my life to be a servant of the people of God, following in the footsteps of my Lord who washed the feet of his disciples, having a heart of service for all who are poor and on the margins of society.

SOME DEFINITE SERVICE.

*“He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work. I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it if I do but keep His commandments. Therefore, I will trust Him, whatever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, nay sickness may serve Him, in perplexity, nay perplexity may serve Him. If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. He does nothing in vain. He knows what He is about. He may take away my friends. He may throw me among strangers. He may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide nay future from me. Still, He knows what He is about” **Saint John Henry Newman***

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25/4/2020