**SATURDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

# SUB TUUM PRAESIDIUM CONFUGIMUS

Once we wrote: We are meditating on the prayers through which the Christian soul turns to our heavenly Mother. Today we begin our meditation on a wonderful antiphon stating: ‘*Sub tuum praesidium confugimus, Sancta Dei Genetrix. Nostras deprecationes ne despicias in necessitatibus, sed a periculis cunctis libera nos semper, Virgo gloriosa et benedicta*‘ (’Under your protection we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God: do not despise the entreaties of us who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin"). Let us imagine a person in the open countryside being chased by many well-armed men who want to kill him. For this person there is no chance of staying alive. There is a disparity of forces that attests that his end has come. One against a thousand has no way of escape. He will soon be caught up and killed. Unless, before him, there is a well-fortified, well-defended, well-armed military garrison in which he can find asylum, refuge, salvation. It is enough to enter it and his life is saved. Every day we are pursued by a thousand devils who want to deprive us of our life, they desire our spiritual death, they long to bring our souls into hell, they delight in seeing our bodies in vices, they rejoice when they confuse our thoughts by turning good into evil and evil into good for us. For us there is no possibility of salvation. Unless, before us, there is a well-fortified, well-defended, well-armed, well-guarded, inviolable spiritual garrison, into which no devil can ever enter. This well-armed, well-defended, inviolable, impenetrable garrison is the Virgin Mary. Her garrison is a safe haven, proof against infernal, diabolic, satanic bullets. In the Church, this faith was once solid, firm, strong. It formed generations and generations of souls. It created certainties in many hearts. If I am under the care of the Mother of God, I will succeed. Satan will not overcome me. The devil will not triumph over me. She will protect me, She will hide me under her holy mantle, She will act as my shield and bulwark, for me She will be a fortified citadel, an anti-satanic and anti-diabolical bunker. The solidity of this faith in the Virgin Mary helped young people and adults, children and the elderly not to contract vices and to deliver themselves from them. It supported the path in virtues. It gave girls the strength to remain virgins until the day of marriage. She urged a life of obedience to God in the observance of his Commandments.

Today, this faith in the Virgin Mary is decaying. It is disappearing from many hearts. Young people no longer say even a Hail Mary. They live as if the Mother of Jesus did not exist for them, as if She was not their heavenly Mother, the safe refuge, the garrison against the onslaught of evil, the impregnable fortress in which to find shelter. If we do not regain faith in the Virgin Mary, it will be difficult to build an authentically Christian life. The Virgin Mary is our true Mother. As in a family without the Mother, there is the immediate dissolution of the family. The centre of unity, charity, mercy, peace, cohesion, communion, refuge, salvation is missing. The same applies to the Virgin Mary. Whoever does not live with a strong faith in Her soon becomes more than an orphan. One is in every way like an abandoned child, whom Satan takes and trains in the science and art of vice, immorality, pride and all concupiscence. He teaches him all the subtleties of evil, and his soul is damned forever, for one is prey to sin and all disobedience to the law of the Lord. One cannot raise an entire generation without a firm faith in our Heavenly Mother. Nor can one stand a single second outside her garrison. Satan knows how to capture a heart and against his snares She alone can save us. No one else has received from God the power, the strength, the grace to crush the head of man's enemy. Only the Virgin Mary can do this. She does this if we are under her protection, if we take refuge in the shadow of her wings, if we dwell in her house. That is why one urges to form faith in our heavenly Mother more than ever. We must all grow in great love for Her, making Her part of our life, becoming our very life. If we and She become one, then Satan will no longer be able to hold anything against us. He will no longer be able to remove a single hair from our head. Everything about us is made safe when her life becomes our life and our life becomes her life. Great is the mystery of our heavenly Mother. It is a mystery of eternal salvation.

Today we add one only prayer of request: “Holy Mother, more than ever, today, we need you to keep us into your heart. More than ever, today, we need you to deliver us from the endless hatred of Satan. More than ever, today, we need you to descend on our earth and convince the hearts so that they may accept your mystery and be willing to do your will as Mother and Teacher of the live of her children. More than ever, today, there is a hellish serpent, the most ferocious and wicked, the most devious and cunning of all serpents, who seeks your children to devour them. We pray you. Send Archangel Micheal against this devil so that he may capture him and close him in the fiery lake of sulphur. More than ever, today, we need you to descend to relieve our hearts who are still weak, frail, little in faith. Our hearts need to experience your presence of Mother who protects, of Mother who keeps, of Mother who deliver from the hellish serpent, who often takes on the appearance of man. Only the appearance are of man, though, the heart if of Satan. Enter the field today, at this hour, Holy Mother, against this serpent with human features, and deliver your children. Be true praesidium and defence for them, safe shelter on which Satan can never set foot. Thank you, Mother. We know You have listened to us. This is our faith in You. **20 April 2025**