

inexorable condemnation of all those who have not practiced true Charity. Where true Charity – AS GOD DEFINES IT – does not exist, all that we do is of no value – it is no more than a sounding brass! Above and beyond every human consideration, we must be honest enough to make a very clear distinction between the charity which flows from social concern and the Charity which flows from our Love for God.

All the precepts and all the prayers of our Blessed Lord clearly manifest the supreme desire of His Heart, and we who claim to have reserved the best of our love for God – should we not give clear indication to all the people who live the “wise” life of the street what it means for one to reserve the best of his love for God? How very careful we should be in giving good example in this matter! The prayers we recite without fail; the sacrifices we make; the efforts we make to reach God where the True Sacrifice is offered, and all the rest, should not all of this be an honest indication that we have pledged to live our lives according to the true doctrine of Christ?

Our Traditional Roman Catholic Church is made up of many Traditional – conservative groupings of devout Catholic people, each pledged to labor for the preservation of the True Mass. Is it not most unfortunate that these groupings, generally speaking, cannot find a way to work more closely together in Charity and harmony? Each grouping suggests itself to be the only group at work in the preservation of the Mass. Each grouping suggests itself to be the only possessor of true Catholic Experience! For any one grouping to suggest itself to be the only existing Traditional Roman Catholic grouping that is working in the interests of Sacred Tradition is wrong and demonstrates reckless temerity. The attitude we maintain toward each other determines, indeed it demonstrates, the degree of the perfection of traditionalist charity. As a body of like minded people, if ever we are to succeed in our efforts, we are – every one of us – going to have to work to solve this serious problem.

Let us not deceive ourselves. it is not the prayers we say, nor the penances we impose upon ourselves, it is not the number of times we attend Mass and receive Holy Communion – none of these IN THEMSELVES – make us true and acceptable disciples of Christ. What makes us true disciples of Jesus Christ is the true and profound Charity we have for one another. Unless this true Charity exists amongst us, as defined by Christ – every effort put into use is vain, and has no value. The prominence of the group in no way demands a greater amount of credibility for its position of uncharitable exclusivity. Charity demands that we knock down EVERY wall that stands between any and all of us whose will is good. It also demands that we forgive all whose will is not so good. Those who have had the good fortune to have lived, once upon a time, the life of Catholic Charity, and who understand what is meant by the term: CATHOLIC EXPERIENCE, will understand the meaning of these words. The only answer to things is the true answer to things! We should try to answer the question: Do we really love our neighbor as we love ourselves, or do we hold ourselves aloof from our neighbor, hindering his honest welfare, and thereby acting very much like the proverbial amaranthine weed described by the poet Francis Thompson: “suffering no flowers except its own to mount”?