

Reflection Monday Week 31 – 2022

Pope Francis: God's initiative is gratuitous, salvation is gratuitous. The Lord does not ask for anything in return Only love and fidelity because He is love and He is faithful. Salvation is not bought. Because God's initiative is gratuitous and salvation is gratuitous, we should not miss the opportunity to feel loved. You can regain the feeling of loving but if you lose the feeling of being loved, you lose everything. It makes us think of the writing in the door of Dante's Inferno: 'Abandon all Hope', you've lost everything. We must think of this in front of the Lord: *'Because I tell you, I want my house to be filled.'* This great Lord, who is so loving, wants to fill His house free of charge. Let us ask the Lord to save us from losing the ability to feel loved."

Like the older brother of the Prodigal Son, who does not want to go to the banquet arranged by his father for his brother who had left: he does not understand. *"But he has spent all the money, spent his inheritance, has vices, sins, you are celebrating him? And I am a Catholic, practical, I go to Mass every Sunday, do things, nothing for me?"* He does not understand the gratuity of salvation, he thinks salvation is the fruit of *'I pay and you save me'*. Pay with this, with this, with this ... No, salvation is free! If you do not understand the dynamics of gratuity then you do not understand anything.

Salvation is a gift of God to which one responds with another gift, the gift of one's heart.

This great Lord, who is so loving, wants to fill His house free of charge. Let us ask the Lord to save us from losing the ability to feel loved.

What do you call two birds in love? Tweet-hearts.

What do you call two ants sharing a slice of pizza in Italy? Romance.