

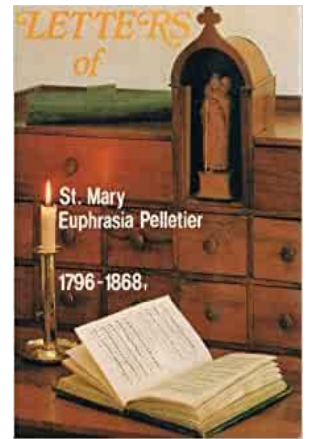
2nd Week



MY BELOVED DAUGHTERS,

“Be Positive and Firm when Facing Struggles”

St. M. Euphrasia always challenged everyone to accept the reality wherever they were and whatever they did. In her letter 413, in response to the Mayor of Rheims she states that the sisters may stay there and suffer for the work. She encouraged the sisters saying,



“Take my word for it and this storm will pass away just as so many others have passed”

In the letter 311, she encouraged the sisters,

“ Whatever the outcomes may be, let us remain in Peace:

this trial will pass soon.”

Once when the whole house was flooding and work was lost, in her letter 308, she said.

“The river came into the cloister without being invited.

It was actually quite beautiful.”

She was found positive in whatever the situation she faced. Isn't it the true nature of Good Shepherd?

When she expressed her pain, in her letter 221, she said,

“We can't escape sorrow in this life: it gives us such a sense of hope and empowerment that no one can steal joy from us.”

There is no denying that life is hard, the mission is hard, work is hard where it requires great personal sacrifice. Often the best things come out of the struggle. In this sense, St. Mary Euphrasia strengthened her sisters saying, in the letter 260,

“Everywhere, my dear daughters, there is always a cross. In proportion to the graces, the suffering is nothing.”

“To tell you frankly my beloved sisters, I feel very much alone. Nature is suffering greatly, but grace sustains me.”

She shared her lamentation with Sr. Stanislaus in letter 52. It’s really inspired in letter 233 by her statement that,

“There is nothing to fear; do not waver; we will never leave you in distress.”

Questions for reflection and sharing :

- 1. How do we help someone or hold someone, while they struggle to see “graces “?*
- 2. What attitudes do we need to cultivate to remain at peace in the midst of struggles?*



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