



# Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem ® \* Knights of Malta \*

February  
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## Chancellor's Update

### Here After

We were not made for this world, but we're getting ready for the life to come. We don't know how long we're going to be here. We're fools if we live for this world. Every single part of our day should be related to God.

We're getting ready for eternity. We're putting money in the bank of eternity, and for all eternity we're going to be glad. Every single thing we do here is going to be remembered - per omnia saecula saeculorum – “forever and ever” - not today, nor tomorrow, but forever and ever. Do everything that you do for eternity.

Saint Therese Couderc said, "This is the business of our life - by labor and toil, prayer and sacrifice, to increase grace in our soul."

As one saint said when the clock struck the hour, "One hour less here below, and one hour closer to eternity." That's good to notice. One day nearer to eternity, and one day less here below. Why don't we see these values? They're there. Why can't we see that we're being prepared for eternity, not for living? We were not made for time but for eternity. We won't be here long. We should be thinking of God all day long in everything we do.

We were not made for this world and we shouldn't be living for this world. Every single thing we do should be done for eternity - for our salvation. And every single thing we do for each other should be prayerful.

What do I want to do every day? What's most for God. You should live each day as if it were your last. All the Saints say that. Whatever you do, do it in the Name of Our Lord." Save your servant, my God." Isn't it wonderful to be able to say, "My God!" Oh, if Catholics would only see this! "All day I have called to you." Do we call on God all day? We should not be living for this life. Anything you do during the day that doesn't lead to God is a deficiency. We should be relating every bit of our day as much as we can to eternity.

The matter of salvation is not only the most important, but the only matter to which we have to attend in this life. Saint Paul says, "We have not here a lasting city, but we seek one that is to come." This earth is not our country; it is a place of passage, in which we are travelers.

Where were we a few years ago? Suddenly we woke up and found ourselves in existence. We found ourselves in this world, and we'll be out of it - not out of existence, but out of this world - very soon. Some of us may have twenty years, some fifty, but that isn't long. We weren't made for this world, and nothing in this world can make us happy. We were made for God and God alone.

It is wonderful how mysteriously, we are made. We don't know where we came from. We're never seen the inside of our heads. We found our teeth there. We don't know how we lift our hands. We don't know how we see or hear. What a miracle we are to ourselves! We do something, but we don't know how we do it. We are "wonderfully and fearfully made." We are in awe of what God has made in making us.

We're getting ready for the lift to come and we don't know how soon we'll go there. In the "Hail, Holy Queen "we say" After this, our exile." So, if "the law of praying is the law of believing," we are in exile here. We look around and see what a beautiful world God made – the wonder and majesty of it. But it is not our true home. We don't know how soon we'll go out of it. Stick to your Faith. You weren't made for time.

It's foolish to live for this world. The world has got nothing to offer to make you happy. We're getting ready, ready, ready, every day for the day we're going to eternity to be one with God. "As the Father and I are one. You and I shall be one." Just imagine being able to say with Jesus, "Our Father." You say that *with* Jesus. He teaches you to say that. That's the Lord's Prayer.

We can make all our lives holy and divine and centered on God. If you love God, everything in your heart rises like incense to God. If you don't love God, you have no incense in your heart. Offer yourself fervently to God every day. Do that now. This may be your last day. Our business on earth is to prepare for Heaven. Desire to be perfect. Give yourself to God.

The only purpose for which we're living is to get ready for eternity. How *foolish* we are not to see that. God helps us. He has given us a guardian angel to help us. And the Blessed Mother of God prays for us every time we say to her, as we do in the Hail Mary, "Pray for us now and at the hour of our death."

Everything we do for God He will remember for all eternity. To live every bit of our life, every bit of our day, relating it as much as we can to Him is like putting money in the Bank of Heaven. We will never regret it. – *From Not Made For This World*.

Fr. Leonard Feeney was a good Jesuit. He was so good that he got into trouble for converting non-Christians to the Catholic Church that his political opponents got Rome to excommunicate him. In typical Roman ways the Church lifted the excommunication shortly before his death. He is most remembered for presenting to the world the famous teaching of Pope Boniface VIII in the Bull *Unam Sanctam*, 1302.

Extra Ecclesiam Nulla Salus

Ex Cathedra: "We declare, say, define, and pronounce that it is absolutely necessary for the salvation of every human creature to be subject to the Roman Pontiff."

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