

Day 7

Jesus Christ

“I saw Our Lord Jesus Christ”

St-Jean de Brébeuf:

“On the 14th (February 1640), during meditation, I thought I saw Our Lord Jesus Christ, nailed to the cross, but coming towards me to shift His burden onto my shoulders. I was delighted to offer my shoulders, but I do not know what happened. All I know is that I saw a corpse separated from the cross no longer with the form it had before, but entirely covered with leprosy, without any form or beauty. Still I felt that it was the body of Our Lord Jesus Christ, because I could see the wounds in His hands; and I understood that we must not think of Jesus crucified as we have usually imagined Him, but very similar to a leper in whom there was no form nor beauty.”

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“On the same day, in the evening, when I was getting ready to meditate on the perfection of Jesus Christ, on his various relationships with me, and on my own wretchedness before Him, I began thinking that all other titles must be centered on His extraordinary love for us. Then, suddenly I thought that I saw a huge rose-window of marvelous complexity whose diversity of colors proceeded from one and the same center.”

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“I felt a strong desire to suffer something for Jesus Christ. I am afraid that I am damned because He has treated me too gently so far; I am especially afraid that I have seriously offended His divine Majesty. Henceforth I shall feel sure of my salvation when occasions for suffering are offered to me.”

Scripture Passages for Personal Prayer Time:

“All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings and become him in his death, in the hope that I myself will be raised from death to life.” (*Ephesians* 3. 7-21)

“If any of you want to come with me, you must forget yourself, carry your cross, and follow me.” (*Matthew* 16. 21-28)

Possible Questions for Personal Reflection:

1. Who is Jesus to me?
2. Are there any traits of Jesus' personality that I would like to replicate in my life?
3. What place does Christ occupy in my life?
4. Is suffering for Christ part of my disciple life?
5. What are the difficult times to carry my cross?