

Pastoral Council
Thoughts for Reflections
May 8, 2016

Truth

A few years ago I realized that the intellectual argument – the ability to make sense with words, rational thought, reason, and logic – no longer holds sway in the world. Words have become irrelevant, and logic has been reduced to a mental trick without meaning or substance. Truth has become a free-for-all fought between competing interests.

The world is in the thrall of insanity, like a child who eats nothing but ice cream and cake until he gets sick. The culture is animated by sex workers. Our heroes are ghosts of men and women who have somehow become celebrities, either because of their money, their anatomical architecture, or their remarkable egotism.

Even many religious people seem tired. But here is the thing: The truth, once understood and experienced, can never be tiring. It is impossible to exhaust supernatural reality. It is impossible to be bored by Christ. If we are bored, it's because we have forgotten. If we forget the truth, then this exhausted planet starts to seem like all we'll ever know, so we had better get on with making friends with it or else.

But I can confidently state this: all the things that seem new and marvelous now will be old and exhausted soon.

The astonishing beauty of heaven has always been and will always be; without ceasing, without blemish, without dismay; without tiredness, without loss, without death. It is a sublime feast that does not lead to overeating, a love that does not lead to pain or desertion, friendship that endures forever. It is a garden that never suffers from weeds or rotting blossoms, or from boredom.

That is a fact. But in order to see it, we must turn away from the world. The world is lost and worn out, but we are renewed continuously by our Lord, Jesus Christ. Let's listen to his call.

Last week, Fr. Faustino wrote that it is time to wake up. What we need to wake up from is death. What we need to wake up to is the feast. It is not a worldly feast that ends in exhaustion. It is the feast of true life, of true food, of true love. It is the divine feast to which we, incredibly, are invited as family.

I do not at all mean to diminish the beauty of this world. But it is only truly beautiful when seen through the lens of divine reality. If we see it as reality itself, we will lose sight of the supernatural life that God promises us, and we will grow weary.