

June 17, 2020

If you are reading this message, I am sure you a person who prays the Lord's Prayer, the Our Father, on a daily basis. As you know so well, one of the most challenging lines in the Lord's Prayer is "thy will be done."

St. Cyprian of Carthage, a third century bishop and martyr, penned in one sentence what we should do to follow through on the intention, "thy will be done."

"Humility in dealings with others; steadfastness in faith; modesty in words; justice in deeds; mercifulness in works; discipline in morals; to be unable to do a wrong, and to be able to bear a wrong when it is done; to keep peace with the brethren; to love God with all one's heart; to love God because he is a Father but fear him because he is God; to prefer nothing whatever to Christ because he preferred nothing to us; to adhere inseparably to his love; to stand faithfully and bravely by his cross; when there is any conflict over his name and honor, to exhibit in discourse that steadfastness in which we proclaim him; in torture, to show that confidence in which we unite; in death, that patience in which we are crowned – this is what it means to want to be coheirs with Christ, this is what it means to do what God commands, this is what it is to fulfill the will of the Father."

Amen to what St. Cyprian wrote!

"If you do the will of my heavenly Father, you will enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 7:21).

Peace, Fr. Marc