Adoration for the Unborn - January 22nd, 2020 Alieya Roderick

Last night I kneeled in prayer in a pew surrounded by many others who had the same feelings as me, older in age - I might have been the youngest to be there through the day. The Church stood silent - so silent you truly could hear a pin drop. I prayed and I sat, and I prayed again - on repeat.

While praying for the unborn, I found myself staring at the crucifix. God's only begotten son sent down to this our imperfect world to make the ultimate sacrifice for our salvation. This became something I began to ponder on the whole ride home. God knows our mistakes, our sins, our sufferings - he knew Jesus would be put to death, he knew his son would suffer all before placing him in this world and still he did. He didn't keep Christ from us because he knew the suffer that would come, no - he knew we needed his salvation; he knew we needed Christ. Above all, he knew that no matter who may cast stones or doubt his son that we needed him, and all the good Jesus would go on to do, all the word we would take from his time here.

I can't imagine a world that doesn't know Jesus Christ, I can't imagine a world that does hear the Gospel of our Lord. While our world is filled with many religions and many different beliefs - when we look at so many points in history, Christianity is the center of many great movements. What would this world have been if we didn't know Jesus Christ?

I thought to our Blessed Mother Mary and Joseph and the time they were facing. A time where Adultery was a crime, punishable by a death of stoning. Joseph did not go on to turn his back on Mary, he did not shame Mary, he had no desire to publicly humiliate her or to see her put to death. I tried to imagine the confusion Joseph may have felt prior to an angel coming to him in dream to cast away his doubt, something I cannot even began to fathom. He went on to become the Earthly father to Christ, he went on to be the protector of not only Christ but our Blessed Mother. He went on to follow blindly and faithfully in the plan that God meant for him, though he had free will - he became everything God desired for him and allowed Jesus to prosper. Where would the world be, had Joseph taken his free will and ran the other way?

I then saw that Christ was not given to a couple living as man and woman, Christ was not brought into a family with abundance wealth and status. Christ's life brought challenge and trials to both Mary and Joseph's life before he had even entered into this world. Our Blessed Mother carried a child that could have had to her murdered. Joseph stayed true to Mary even prior to his dream and never casted humiliation or trial on to her. He continued to stay after and raise Christ as his own with Mary. These were not easy choices, especially giving the time - but that's what they did; **they made a choice.**

I thought about our world today, fight for the "right" to deem whether a life should or shouldn't be brought into this world, where did we find the belief that our opinion holds greater value than God work? I think of how different our world is now versus the times Mary and Joseph were facing, how much more accepting we as a society and that there is no fear of Murder while bring a child into this world besides to the child itself. I think of the access to help we have, though I believe it should be multiplied and there's more we have to do to enforce a Child's right to life rather than a Mother & Father's right to abortion. I think to all of the babies murdered and pulled from the mother's womb for her right to choice while it had been decided for them that they had not right to life and their path because their mothers choice held more value to our world than their right to life. And I am truly saddened.

But it's not just the innocently murdered children I am saddened for, I too am saddened for their Mother's, Father's, their families, and all whom could have come in contact with them. I am saddened for our world. I have asked myself, what would this world have been if we didn't know Jesus Christ, I also have to ask myself what would the world have been with them? Who did the world not get to meet? What revelations have not come due to choice? Whose soulmate was taken away before they had the opportunity to meet? What cures died in a mother's womb with the child?