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J.M.J.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING

— *Saint Gertrude the Great*



SUBLIME ACT OF THANKSGIVING

From the devotions of St. Gertrude.

BLESSED be Thy goodness,
O my God,
and blessed be Thy compassion,
O Thou one and true Godhead,
Thou one and holy Trinity,
Thou one and supreme God,
for all the benefits and loving-
kindnesses with which Thy
profuse and loving compassion
has surrounded me,
undeserving as I am.
For all these I adore Thee,
I praise and bless Thee,
O my most tender Lord and God,
in union with that supernal praise
with which Thou,
O glorious Trinity,
art Thine own sufficient praise,
which pours down from Thee
upon the blessed Humanity
of our Lord Jesus Christ,
upon His glorious Mother, and
upon all holy angels and saints;
and from them flows back
again into its source
in the abysses of Thy Divinity.
I give Thee thanks for the love
with which Thou hast

created and redeemed me,
sanctified me, called me,
preserved me, and endowed me
with all manner of good things.
And since praise is not seemly
in the mouth of a sinner,
I beseech Thee, O sweetest Jesus,
by that prevailing love wherewith
Thou sittest at the right hand
of the Father, to pay for me
to my God eternal, infinite,
unfaltering, unceasing praises,
such as Thou alone canst pay,
and as Thou knowest to be
befitting His most dread glory
and the honour of His Majesty,
for all the good which has ever
flowed forth upon me
from the inexhaustible abyss
of His Godhead.
Break forth, therefore,
O beloved Jesus,
into such thanksgivings
as Thou alone canst utter;
O my Lord, great and wonderful
exceedingly, praise the Godhead
in Thyself, in me and for me,
with all the might of Thy
Divinity, and with all the love of
Thy Humanity, in the name and
on behalf of all the universe
Thy hands have made. Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE BENEFITS OF GOD

While saying this prayer, St. Gertrude received from the Son of God most gracious tokens of His love, and His promise that He would take her into His most intimate and special protection. Hence she learned that the Lord takes in a special manner under His protection all who gratefully recite this acknowledgment, and commit themselves to His divine Providence.

I give Thee thanks, O holy Father, with all my strength; through Him who sitteth at Thy right hand, for all the gifts I have ever received from Thy munificent bounty; and I acknowledge that no power could have bestowed them on me but Thine, Who are all-powerful and upholdest all creation.

I give Thee thanks, most kind and gentle Jesus, and I confess, and will confess to my

latest breath, that Thou hast most wisely and well provided for me in body and in soul, in all things prosperous or adverse; and I acknowledge that no wisdom could thus embrace all my whole life but Thy increated wisdom alone, O my most tender God, which reacheth from end to end mightily, and ordereth all things sweetly.

I give Thee thanks, O good and quickening Spirit, the Comforter, through Him who was by Thy cooperation made flesh in the Virgin's womb, that Thou dost in all things so sweetly anticipate me, unworthy as I am, with the blessings of Thy gracious bounty; and I acknowledge that no goodness could thus diffuse itself but Thy ineffable goodness, in which all good things are contained, from which they proceed, and

together with which they are received. And as Thou hast hitherto and always provided for me, so I confidently hope and rely that Thou wilt provide for me to the end through Thy divine goodness, to which I most devoutly commend myself. Amen.

PRAYER TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, pour down Thy blessings abundantly upon Thy Church, upon the Supreme Pontiff, and upon all the clergy; give perseverance to the just, convert sinners, enlighten unbelievers, bless our parents, friends and benefactors, help the dying, free the Souls in Purgatory, and extend over all hearts the sweet empire of Thy love. Amen.