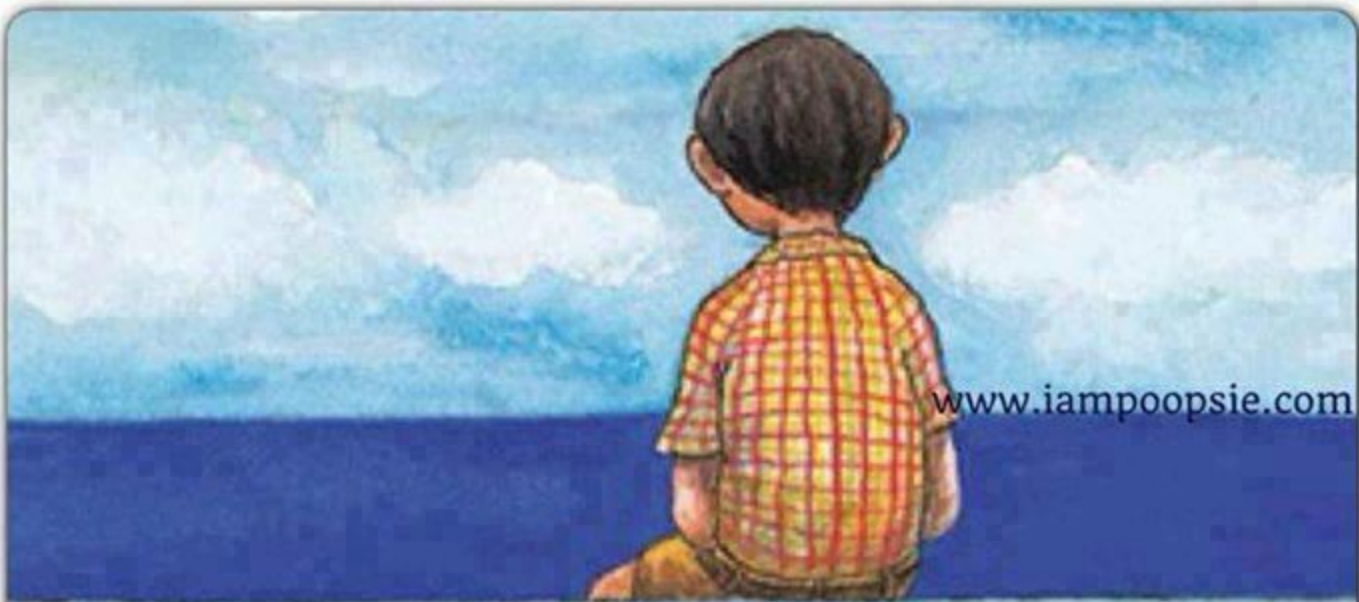


Abandonment to the Will of God

- Growth in abandonment, obedience, discernment, and detachment
 - Acceptance of ordinary, daily experiences as God's will
 - Self “annihilation” ... death to self (will)
 - Perseverance in prayer despite no consolation or even the feeling of devotion or love
 - Prayer of faith – surrender of whole self to God – “naked faith” as described by John of the Cross
- Devotion to Our Lady (Marian Consecration)
- Spiritual direction/mentorship

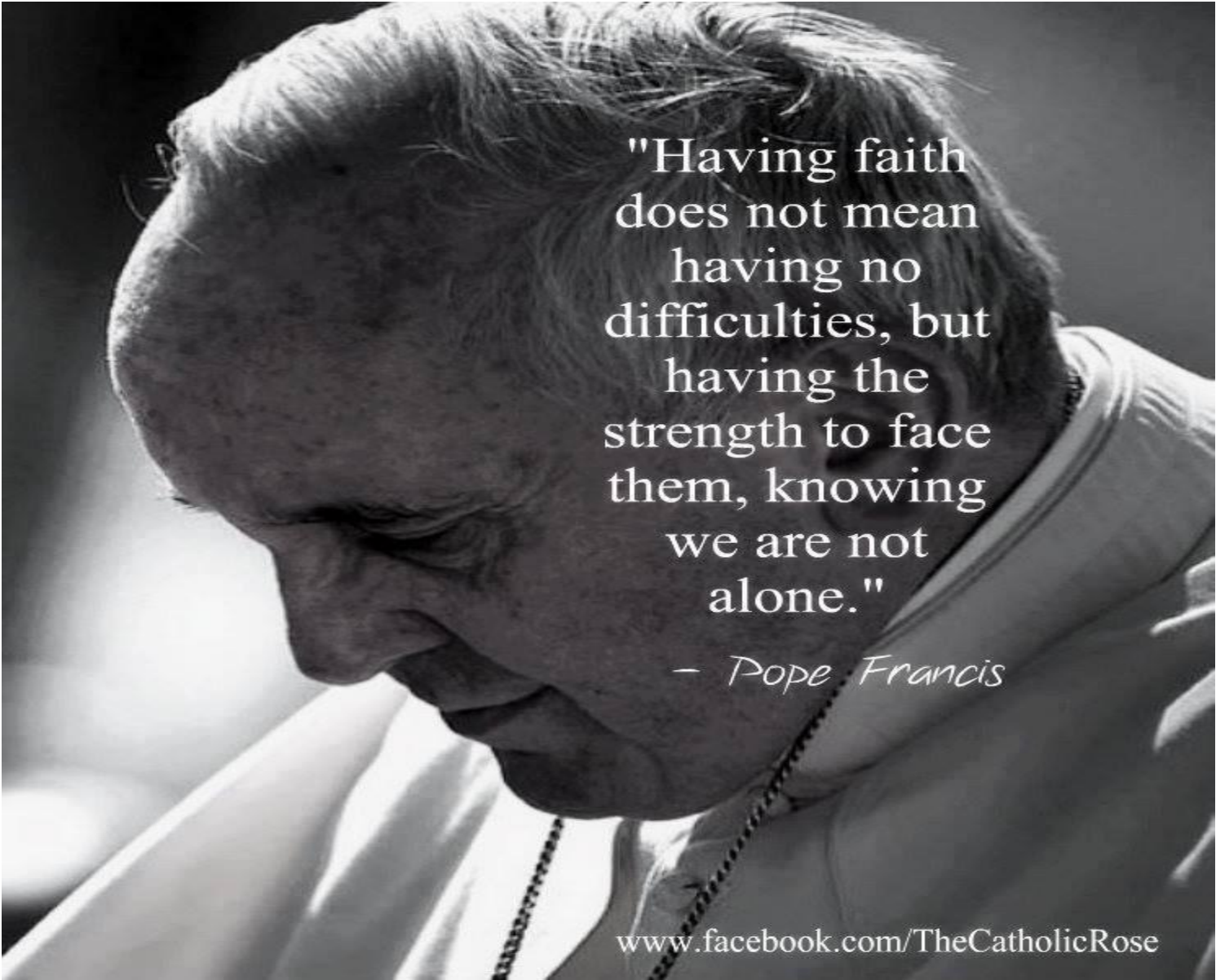


Worry is a total waste of time. It doesn't change anything. All it does is steal your joy and keeps you very busy doing nothing.



Let nothing disturb you,
Let nothing frighten you,
All things are passing away:
God never changes.
Patience obtains all things.

— *"Bookmark" of St. Teresa of Avila*

A black and white close-up photograph of Pope Francis. He is looking down and to the left, with a contemplative expression. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of his hair and the contours of his face. The background is dark and out of focus.

"Having faith
does not mean
having no
difficulties, but
having the
strength to face
them, knowing
we are not
alone."

- Pope Francis

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“FROM MARY

**WE LEARN TO SURRENDER
TO GOD'S WILL IN ALL THINGS.**

FROM MARY

**WE LEARN TO TRUST EVEN
WHEN ALL HOPE SEEMS GONE.**

FROM MARY

**WE LEARN TO LOVE CHRIST
HER SON AND THE SON OF GOD!”**

BLESSED POPE JOHN PAUL II



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How it all comes together

“A prayer that does not lead you to practical action for your brother...is a sterile and incomplete prayer. When time is not set aside for dialogue with him in prayer, we risk serving ourselves and not God present in our needy brother and sister.”


--Pope Francis, Angelus address, July 21, 2013

“A new evangelization, a church which evangelizes, must always start with prayer...without prayer, our acts are empty, and our proclamation has no soul; it is not inspired by Spirit.”

--Pope Francis, General Audience, May 22, 2013

“Act as if everything depended upon you, knowing that in reality everything depends on God.”

--St Ignatius de Loyola



For God is not the
author of confusion,
but of peace.

1 Corinthians 14:33

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But Do We Want to be Saints?

Mark Hart in his talk entitled, “Contemporary Sainthood” states:

“We were not created to just be alive, or to live, but to THRIVE...and all of the bad feelings—pain, regret, frustration, despair, anxiety, etc are rooted in our not fulfilling our true purpose in life.”

“For God created you not just to be good, or be better, but to be everything He created you to be—a saint... you have been given the Spirit and power of God for becoming a saint in Baptism...and the strength to do what is necessary in Confirmation. It just relies upon you to unleash that power and strength.”



What Stops Us?

- Pride
- Sin and Disobedience—don't want to change
- Fear—afraid of what we may have to give up

Mark Hart continues:

“We were not made for comfort, we were made for much more; we were made for GREATNESS, so we need to “get comfortable with being uncomfortable.”

GOD
DOESN'T
CALL
THE
EQUIPPED
HE
EQUIPS
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CALLED

TOBYNAC #SPEAKLIFE