



January 14, 2015 Meditation

A Greeting of Silence!

At the beginning of a new year of grace we usually exchange wishes for peace and blessings of prosperity. From the land of Poland we wish you silence! A wish that we welcome from the Word of God who tells Elijah and each of us:

After the wind there was an earthquake-but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound. When he heard this, Elijah hid his face in his cloak. (Kings 19: 11-13)

Father Kolbe often strove to preserve interior peace, independent of the events of life. He wrote, "In the midst of the storms, be they exterior or interior, much, very much tranquility is necessary."¹

During the Provincial Chapter of 1936, Father Bonaventura spoke aggressively against the practices of the Conventual life at Niepokalanów. A bitter discussion threatened between those in favor and against. The ferment was great. Father Maximilian kept a heroic equilibrium and calm, notwithstanding that such questions regarded him personally. ²

Father Kolbe, witnesses have said, almost forced his confreres to descend to a deeper level. He guided them to reflect on their actions, to dedicate themselves to the right path, proper to every believer and every consecrated person, the path of love.

Father Kolbe gives time, all the time necessary to listen to each confrere. He rejoices when he glimpses in the face of the person he helps, with listening and welcoming, a hint of serenity to walk together on the road of trust and tenderness.

Happy New Year with Mary, the Virgin of Silence.

Angela Esposito
for the community

¹KW 943

²Father Cornelio Czupryk

³Fra Ferdinando Maria Kasz

⁴KW 935

⁵KW 903