

Holy Family Radio

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St. JoseMaria Escriva

Dear Friend of Holy Family Radio:

Have you ever even heard of Sangamo Electronics? Did you know they make a .001 MFD, 6000 Volt, 7.5 Amp, Mica capacitor? Me either. They do. It looks almost bulletproof, but its not. They overheat and melt thick black tar all over the other components in the antenna tuning box.)-: We're really not sure if the weather had anything to do with it, but, sorry to say, we are off the air for a few days while a replacement capacitor is ordered. God willing, we'll be back on the air by Friday.



Most Catholics interested in religious orders are familiar with the founder of Opus Dei, St. Josemaria Escriva. He was a Spanish priest who was inspired to teach people to sanctify themselves through their daily work. There are, reportedly, somewhere upwards of 100,000 members worldwide. The organization runs houses for members where some live in imitation of monastic orders. Much of this goes unnoticed as personal sanctification is quietly done. Even so, the life of the Church is interesting to observe.

Back in the day, the mission was to reach all corners of the earth with the Gospel message. The Church was outgoing and missionary, risk-taking and adventurous. There has always been the universal call to holiness, but it was implicit in the people reaching out to the world with a life of example and even persuasion. Things seem to have shifted in the 17th Century as women religious became more prominent and esteemed. Reflection overtook evangelization as the model of sanctification as women became more active, working in industry (not necessarily happily) and eventually gaining the power to vote in political elections. After that, it is fair to say that women have risen to prominence and near total control of society.

The passive model of personal sanctification has changed the way the world works. Men now tend to stand back silently while moms rule the children, the household and even the Church. Saint Escriva seemed to think that interior sanctification would convert the world to Christ, by authenticity and by example in fulfilling one's daily duties. For many others, interiority is a necessary starting point, but the Gospel cries out to be shared. Maybe it's both.

A great example of interiority that changed the world is the example of Our Lady. Yet, one important act of hers was decidedly exterior – her response to the angel, "Be it done unto me according to thy word." Pondering the ways in which Our Lady could be said to be the most beautiful creature, certainly God must find that disposition of soul to be beautiful.

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If you have ever tried to recruit a group of people to do something, you have discovered that pride and uncertainty keep people from cooperating until they know all the ins and out and have a chance to evaluate every detail of any plan. There is no presumption of cooperation, no readiness to trust. Occasionally, children might show such willingness. Often not.

Even in the military garnering cooperation is a challenge. What would the leaders think if suddenly the soldiers were willing to march? What do the parents think if suddenly the children were all cooperative? That has to be the view that God sees when His creature given free will, immediately and unequivocally gives her consent to the plan without knowing what all it entails! What a heartwarming experience to be fully and immediately trusted!

It doesn't seem like much, "sure, I'll do it," but when was the last time you gave your unequivocal consent to someone else's project without grilling them on every detail first? Be honest. There really isn't someone out there you trust so much as to give your yes before you even know the question. Mary's trust was exceptional. It's a subtle thing, not very apparent to the third-party observer, but strikingly beautiful to the recipient. That's the hidden beauty of it.

Anyway, back to the daily duties. Yes, we're off the air briefly. With your continued support we'll be back on before you even get this letter! This little bump in the road is just part of the process.

Keep us in your prayers and support and Holy Family Radio will keep pushing the ordinary road! May God reward you for your Faith and perseverance!



Very truly yours,

K. Rice
for Holy Family Radio