

Love Lives by Sacrifice

Side by side both stand
Two sisters
Best friends
Once together, sharing a womb
Now two women
Two brides
With two desires
Different paths
But the same destination



There on the altar
Face to face
Eye to eye
She beholds her spouse
Before all she declares
To be one body, one flesh
Totally given and united
Poured out until death
With him
To him
For him
Through Him
Who became one flesh with us



Being drawn by this passion
To make Him loved
Adored
Known by all
She lies prostrate before the altar
Before the cross
Their marriage bed
Giving up all other desires
Even holy ones
For this one desire
To be offered
To be consumed
To be one with Him
To be radically given
Completely to Him
Who radically gave Himself



In this beautiful and holy desire they
share
To be one,
To be known
To be totally given
Their love is consummated
Their union
This explosion of love
Creates a whole new life
A life that is this union
Two bodies
Two hearts
Two souls
Become one
In this little embryo



In the silence of prayer
In the outpouring of charity
In the reception of His Body into
her very being
At the Holy Sacrifice
The consummation of their love
She becomes pregnant
With love
With mercy
With grace
With an undivided heart she seeks
Always to be conscious of this
divine life
Conceived within her

Aware of this new life within them
Both women radiate joy
Never has either felt more beautiful
More loved
More precious to behold
As when the gift of life
Has been entrusted
To their very being



Through blood and through water
And unspeakable pain
She offers her very body
This new life is poured forth
Becomes visible
Is held in her arms
Forgetting any pain
Their eyes lock
Her heart melts
This mother and child
Behold one another for the first time
And rejoice



Standing at the foot of the cross
And gazing on her Beloved
Through sacrifice
Through the offering of her heart
and body
Totally to Him
Through trial, temptation
She receives the blood and water
Cushing from His side
And pours it forth
On all souls
Thirsting for love
This new life of Christ
Is born to many
Though invisible to the eye

Both awaken in the early hours
One to a cry, the other to a bell
A helpless child cries out
For nourishment
For love
For his mother
Souls cry out for prayers
The lonely, abandoned, orphaned
Afflicted and poor
Who are not known or loved
Who need a mother



She and her spouse share a mission
To treasure and cherish
This child
This fruit of their love
Their world revolves around him
Dying to selfish desires
To bring this soul to knowledge
Of the infinite
Of the eternal
Of a tender heavenly Father



Together she and Jesus
Share a mission
To make known the love of their
Father
To all the world
Desperately searching for love
For a savior
To bring them to His eternal throne
Of love and grace
Mercy and truth
And there they shall behold
All joy, all fulfillment
And one by one
She shall lock eyes
For the first time
With her children

Two brides, two mothers
Two journeys of charity and
sacrifice
United forever
In this one
Eternal destination

~Sr. Thérèse Marie, TOR

marriage

religious life