PROPHETIC WORDS GIVEN AT ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL

Prophecy isn't primarily about telling the future. It's essentially giving us current insight into God's plan and His Word, calling us back to what's already been revealed in public revelation. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that although "Revelation is complete, it has not been made completely explicit; it remains for Christian faith gradually to grasp its full significance". (CCC66) Prophecy encourages us and reminds us of the heart of Christianity: of God's love, His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus and His presence with us through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The following words were given at Alton Day of Renewal, and we believe they are from the Lord. But they will not all be relevant f]or everyone: you need to pray to the Holy Spirit for discernment about whether God is speaking to you personally about something. We hope you find them inspiring, encouraging, or comforting. Although we have prayed and discerned that they are in line with Scripture and the teaching of the Church, please bear in mind that "Private revelations.... do not belong to the deposit of faith. It is not their role to improve or complete Christ's definitive Revelation, but to help live more fully by it in a certain period of history." (CCC67)

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First Word

I was very taken during the Mass and certainly afterwards with the lovely candles. And I was thinking about the oil in the lamps. And of course, that little wick inside is giving so much light. And then during the adoration, Timothy Two came: "fan into a flame the light that you've been given" [2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.] And I was thinking about oil and all the anointing we have in our life that perhaps is our oil. But as I looked at the actual flames that were coming from those lamps, one was slightly taller or sharper than the other one, but they both shed light and they didn't flicker. They were steadfast. And that word steadfast came to me: "Be encouraged, but stay strong. Don't let it go". But again, it's that power of the oil and the blessings and how much light and not letting it flicker. So with a whole lot of symbolism, probably just for me, but I got an awful lot out of looking at those lamps.

Second Word

I started with the candles as well. As soon as we went to Rome, I was very struck by the globe shape of the candle and the flame on the top. And it spoke to me of the purity of the world when the world was first created and before the fall. And the flame was sort of like Jesus, the light of the world on the top. But then when we went to Adoration and Jesus was there in the monstrance, he seemed to be looking over the world, kind of protecting it. And a couple of times a shadow appeared on the wall. I think it was Father Anthony, but a shadow appeared on the wall, a misshapen shadow. It didn't look like a person. It was just a black shape coming in from the right. And it seemed to be threat, darkness, evil coming over the world. And Jesus was there protecting the world and keeping it safe.

And then I don't know whether the monstrance, the spikes coming out of it, were gold all the way around, but suddenly some of them - and it could just have been the way the sunlight was coming in the window - but some of them at the bottom suddenly looked silver and more and more of them were turning silver starting at the bottom of the monstrance. And then it kind of seemed to me that it was ice forming around the bottom of the monstrance coldness: coming from the world towards Jesus. So then I was upset that he should feel this coldness coming towards him, so I started sort of praying to console him and to tell him how much we do appreciate him and what he's done for us and who he is and everything. And then these silver spikes on the monstrance went pink, they

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went kind of rose gold and the shadow, the black shadow sort of disappeared. No overall conclusions, but thank you, Lord.

Third Word

I also looked at the candles and I just felt that there was steadfast love for us all. So I wrote down, "My dear ones, in these times, never be anxious or afraid. Wherever you are and whatever your concerns, I am always with you and I position my angel to watch over you. You are never alone, never abandoned and always at all times, my beloved child."

Fourth Word

Like everybody else, my attention was drawn to the oil-filled candles and I thought of the worship song, "Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning." And it sort of tied in with what Father Anthony was saying in the homily, that we can grow stale and lose our enthusiasm. Our hearts can be hardened by the cares of life, as it said in the Gospel. And we need to be continually refilled with the oil of the Holy Spirit. And the Lord said this: "Receive from me the oil of gladness that will cause your heart to glow with my love. Burn brightly in the darkness so that people will be drawn to me, the light of the world."

Fifth Word

"My word is fading away in this world. Only you can help to bring my word back to others. Be my hands and feet, be my mouth. Speak for me to those around you. Stand up for me and be my witness in the world. The world will persecute you, but you know what is right, what is just, what you must do. Do not be afraid to do it. Bring the people to me. Break the chains that enslave them. Pray for the world. Never cease to pray, no matter how hopeless things may seem. Trust in me. Read the Bible Read good books. Be ready to speak out. You never know the time I am calling you to stand up and be counted. But that time is coming. Do not be afraid for I have overcome the world."

Sixth Word

First of all, during Mass, I was very struck by the words "inspiration and revelation", because inspiration always brings to me the Holy Spirit – "inspire", as in "breathing in." And then when we went to the Blessed Sacrament, the Adoration, I too, was struck by the candles. I was struck by the monstrance, and I saw the shadow as well. But what really struck me all of a sudden, and this has never happened to me, as I was sat there looking at our Lord and he looking at me, the spikes on the monstrance reminded me of the crown of thorns, which became a crown of glory. And then it seemed to be burning brighter. And then I saw this silver at the bottom, and the Blessed Sacrament itself seemed to be burning brighter and brighter. It was almost as if to say: "Don't worry, the suffering will come to an end and it will be a crown of glory in the end." That's what came to me very strongly this time.

Seventh word

I only got two words, but I think they might be really special. BE PEACEFUL. BE in capital letters: "Do it!" And peaceful: full of peace. And I think it is because of all the turmoil we're in and the world is in that it's the case of trying to place ourselves in that, to actually be peaceful.

Eighth word

Our parish priest has asked us to think about our favourite Bible quotation to put in the newsletter. And I'm afraid to say I got distracted at Communion because I was trying to think of the Bible quote and the way it went, which is, for me, it's just after the Ascension. And I couldn't believe my ears, because the next minute I knew Father was saying the Communion antiphon, which was: "I will be with you always until the end of time." And that was exactly what I was trying to work out the exact words of in my head. And I thought, yes, Lord, you are with us. You're with me, you're with all of us, and for always. And I just thought that was a lovely reminder.

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Ninth Word

I had this sense that as we journey to Bethlehem, this Advent, that he's inviting us to prepare a stable in our hearts, and he wants to come to us in a new way. And I'm aware of the Scripture, I think it's Romans five, verse five, where it says, "He pours His own love into our hearts." His own love, because our love is very wonky, isn't it? He pours His own love into our hearts, and then He will enable us to really love in a new way. And for that to impact those around us and impact the world.

Tenth word

At the beginning of this month, during silent prayer, I had the words, "Maranatha*, come to me." And I know the song, and so that's been coming to me quite often this month, and it was in the psalm today, so that moved me a lot.

["Maranatha" is an Aramaic word used in the early church. It can mean "Our Lord has come," "Come, Lord!" or "Our Lord is coming."]

Eleventh word

I noticed the candles too...one flame taller than the other and no flickering either...yes let us remain steadfast, trust and rejoice in the Lord always.

Twelfth word

I noticed that brightness at the bottom too. And I loved the candles too.

Thirteenth word

"Be still and know that I am God, fix your gaze on Me," says the Lord.

Fourteenth word

The candle, sphere, representing the world, being transparent and pure and illuminating the world with the Lord's light through the way you speak and act.

Fifteenth word

The word PEACE came to me as well.

Sixteenth word

"Keep your eyes on the Prize; Heaven high, beyond the sky; Where I fly, free as a bird."

Seventeenth word

I also had the sense that God wants to come into our hearts in a new way.

Eighteenth word

The message that came to me at adoration was- "Be still and know that I am God. I am in control. Trust in me."

Words of knowledge for healing

- Someone with fallen arches getting intermittent pain in both feet.
- A woman with a painful right knee at times. This word was given a couple of months ago and not claimed.
- A man with lower back pain.
- Someone getting very forgetful.
- Someone struggling with poorer eyesight in the dark.
- Someone coughing when eating muesli or breakfast cereal.

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- Someone needing the courage to speak out about their faith and the injustice that they see.
- Someone with toothache.
- Someone with cancer of the mouth, on the roof of the mouth at the side the Lord says to be at peace
- A woman feeling shame the Lord wants you to know he is merciful and wants to welcome you and assure you that 'you have a place at the table'.
- I feel there are several people at the meeting who are Catholics married to non-Catholics and the division is causing problems. We encourage you to ask for prayer from the telephone ministry to receive gifts of love, patience and tolerance.
- Someone with a dental problem who is having difficulty getting an appointment ask for prayer support to resolve this problem.
- There is woman who is struggling with regret because her mother is now dead and their relationship was not at all close. The scripture that came to mind was from Joel 2 v 25. 'I will repay you for the years the locust has eaten...' Have faith dear friend, that the Lord can bring deep healing to you and enkindle a flame of love in your heart for your mother even though she is no longer with you on earth. Your relationship can be restored.