



**“For sixty years of comfort here on earth,
could I pass by the Cross that He sent in His love for me?”**

The Cross of His Love and Our Personal Cross*

My child, I have a great drama in my life.
Twenty days after I became engaged to my future wife, she fell ill with a high fever.

In a word, she was suffering from a severe form of tuberculosis.

I did not change my mind. I married her, and instead of his best wishes, my father bestowed on me an... insulting hand gesture and the honorific title “blockhead.”

Anyone in my place would have been pardoned for leaving.

I, however, understood at that time that my Cross lay before me.

Did I have the right to turn a blind eye?

How would I justify myself to Him Who was crucified in His love for me?



Patience



No! The young woman’s feverish eyes would have haunted me my entire life.

For sixty years of comfort here on earth, could I pass by the Cross that Christ sent in His love for me?

I married her and have been nursing her for sixty years now, glory to God.



(*) Source: “Consolation and Edification,” vol. VI (December 2014 - February 2015), p. 3. Translated from the Greek.