



Bloom and Grow!

Devotion

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

Edelweiss, Edelweiss Every morning you greet me
Small and white clean and bright You look happy to meet me
Blossom of snow may you bloom and grow Bloom and grow forever
Edelweiss, Edelweiss Bless my homeland forever.*

*Words and tune: Rodgers and Hammerstein

Congratulations if you were able to read those words without singing them or hear them as they were read to you without hearing the tune from “The Sound of Music.” Please take some time to think of the significance of the small, white, snow-like flower called Edelweiss.

Edelweiss covers many of the higher areas in mountainous regions of Europe. It does not have a long life, but spreads its seed to produce more and more plants and flowers. The leaves of Edelweiss are soft and almost wooly feeling to the touch. The center of each bloom has yellow-colored flowerets.

So when are we, as Christians, like Edelweiss? It is our intention to walk on the higher ground as we model God’s love and His expectations for His children. When we are soft and “wooly” by showing care and compassion, our families, churches, and communities take note. As flowers drop their seeds, so the Holy Spirit plants seed in us. As these seeds are nurtured and grow into beautiful plants, so we are fed and strengthened on God’s Word and the blessed Sacrament of Holy Communion as He has called us to be His through the water and Word of Holy Baptism. We can also feed the faith of those around us, no matter how old or new that faith may be.

The center, yellow-colored flowerets remind us of the opportunity we have to let God’s light shine to us and then through us to those with whom we come in contact. Obviously, the fact that this small flower is white has some connections as well. We are white as snow because of the crimson blood of Jesus. Our sins are gone. We are free. While we may still live surrounded by sin as well as add to the sin in our world, we are also forgiven children of the Lord. We are washed clean in His eyes and given eternal life in heaven with all the saints who have gone before us.

So, bloom and grow. Be in the Word so that the seeds of modeling God’s love that you drop are pure, strong, and seen by others.

Prayer: Dear Lord, You have created us to share Your love and Your Word with those around us. Help us to be bold and bright so that we attract others to You. Move us to bloom and grow so our lives glorify You. In the holy name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

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