

St Francis Xavier Cabrini

Each and everyone of us have our own particular fears. These fears can be simple like a fear of dogs or of spiders. But more importantly are fears that surround areas such as trust or control are far more important areas to work on as they relate to following the will of God. I wish I could say that these are areas that can be easily given over to God but in accords with His providence, they are not. Indeed, as one wise bishop once said, "One of the most difficult tasks in the spiritual life is surrendering the desire to be in control of our lives." This is so that souls which truly wish to follow His will need to strive for that end and show through their actions they may show their love for God.

Now you may ask me "How do I begin to surrender control or fears of trust to God?" The question must go back one step to see if you have the desire to actually surrender those areas of your life. If you find that you don't, begin this journey by asking the Lord each day for the desire to surrender them. If, on the other hand, you already have the desire, I strongly encourage the Surrender Novena. This is a very short prayer that you do that takes no more than one minute. Keep praying it day after day and slowly but surely you will see yourself making progress in this area of your life.

To keep in mind as you begin to surrender areas of your life which you find difficult in surrendering to God, is that we should also be willing to accept God's will for us in this pursuit. Some may find that they progress quickly through the grace of God to surrender to Him while others will find greater difficulty in doing so. Whichever God has in store for you, be prepared to accept such as coming from the will of God.

St. Francis Xavier Cabrini is an example in how to do this as not only did she endure more mundane fears such as sea travel for the sake of God's will but was obedient to the will of her superiors, namely the Holy Father in Rome. This is not the only reason which we should look to her as a patron of ours as she also traveled to Colorado and founded an orphanage in the mountains. If you haven't been up to the St. Francis Cabrini Shrine, I highly encourage the trip as it is less than an hour drive from Ave Maria. Remember as you pursue this path to ask for the intercession of your guardian angel and Our Mother Mary. St. Francis Xavier Cabrini pray for us.