






## Reflection - Memorial of Saint Charles Borromeo - 4th November 2020

he polls were closed now. The lines had been long. The weather had been mixed. We had had to put up with the hordes, the noisy crowds. But finally, after our agonising deliberation we had made our choice. We had cast in our lot with one or the other option. We had only to stand by our decision, one way or another. Did others make that same choice we did, we wonder?

nd now our eyes open, and we gaze upon... our particular judgement day. The Day of Christ. Yes! Our choice was either for this world's pleasures, or the next's, and our eternal fate was sealed along with that choice we made, and now we must face the Most Supreme Court of Heaven. What will be the results of our election? What will the sentence be? All depends on us, because even with every grace and virtue, in freedom we decide our ultimate fate.

aint Paul reminds us, we must work out our salvation with fear and trembling. Fear in respect of putting every reality in the light of God, of the bigger picture, and trembling in respect of knowing our own weaknesses and failings which must be aided by God's grace working through us to will and work for God's good pleasure.

f anyone comes to me and does not hate... even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Heaven must come first, it must be the thing you choose, not the world, the flesh, and the devil, not even familial ties! Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple. Our cross must be carried, even if it's with fear and trembling, by each of us, or there's no heaven for us. We cannot be Christ's disciples if we're still self-interestedly being disciples of ourselves, following after our own teachings, our own demands, opinions, full of ourselves, full of our own policies and slogans.

o we must renounce it all. Make the choice to be Christ's and citizens of our true commonwealth, which is in heaven. If we don't, we cannot be Christ's disciple, and if we're not his disciple, then what we elect for is hell. So let us embrace the cross, renounce selfish choices, and look towards heaven, for it is only there in our true native land, abiding with God for ever, that things will ever be truly perfect!