

this preaching was very hard work, especially when we consider that she fasted constantly ; but she was refreshed with Heavenly visions. And no living being can imagine the sweetness and the glory that God reveals to those who, like her, give up all the delights of life for his work.

After four years the wicked Emperor came back with a larger army, and took the city again, and established in it a governor as wicked as himself. This man, on seeing how St. Rose had been the means of restoring the Faith, ordered her to be arrested and brought before him, he forbade her to preach any more, and she replied : " As long as I have breath in my body, I will use it to praise God " !

This made him so furious, that he ordered her and all her family to leave the city ! That very night they left their humble home ; it was winter, and the snow lay thick on the mountains, so that they lost the path in the darkness and had to wander all night in the snow. Rose praised God for letting her suffer, and tried to console and encourage her poor parents. When daylight came they found their way to the tower of Soriano, where they were received with great joy by the people who had heard of the little preacher.

She prophesied then that the Lord would soon call the apostate Emperor to give an account of his cruelty.

It happened just as she predicted : before the month was ended he died. The people of Viterbo drove away his governor, and called back to her native city Rose and her parents. They gave her a grand reception, all the people going out to meet her ; but her mission was ended. After the Emperor's death there was no more persecution, the people practiced their religion under the charge of their Pastors. Rose lived in her mother's house for nearly seven years after her public life ended, all the time longing to see God, and at length he released her soul. When she died the bells in the churches rang of themselves. It would fill a book to tell all the miracles worked by St. Rose during her life, and after her death ; when you are older you can read them for yourselves. She lived just seventeen years ! *Sancta Rosa, ora pro nobis.*

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