

March 24

Servant of God Adolph of Schaumburg

The company of saints is filled with a number of men and women who sought God's assistance when life or circumstances were about to overwhelm them. In response to a positive outcome, they promised they would respond by offering God the rest of their lives in prayer and service. Servant of God, Adolph of Schaumburg, is among the faithful who dedicated their life to God for a gift granted.



Trapped in a deadly conflict with the Danes, Duke Adolph sought God's help in securing a victory. Whether it was political fortune or the intervention of God, Duke Adolph triumphed against the Danes. His response to this victory was to vow to live the rest of his life as a Franciscan.

Adolph of Schaumburg reminds us that making a vow is one of the most generous gifts we can offer God. Similar to a fiduciary trust, it says that an unbreakable commitment has taken place that is to hold forever true. For example, wedding couples make their vows not just to each other, but to God. Hence, they are considered sacred and forever binding. The same holds true for others who have vowed to live in community or seek lifelong commitments. Vows taken in faith put God at the center of enduring relationships.

Consider the vows you have made. Do you understand that they are intended to last through the storms that come our way? Or are they made with a coolness that chills the fires of passion so necessary for love and trust? Relationships are costly and demanding but the rewards last into eternity. At the end of his life, Adolph of Schaumburg was given this revelation for his constancy of love and trust in God. "Come, with joy and confidence, for a blessed dwelling awaits you." Living our sacred vows and trusts offers us the same end as the company we keep today.

Let us pray.

Lord your steadfast love endures forever. Beginning with my baptismal vows, my life has been consecrated. Help me to be ever mindful that there are vows I have taken that have oriented my life to love you and my neighbor. All this is made possible because of Christ the Lord. Amen.

Adolph of Schaumburg is a friend of God, the company we welcome today.