

Without a Stitch *Me **God

Without a stitch I appear before you this morning
who, without a stitch, appear before me, always –

uncovered, unclad, unclothed from the restrictions and cares of life –
uncovered, unclad, unclothed, as I embraced a life like yours, for you, and
for your salvation!

Like children who have no concern other than a mother's look, a mother's voice,
a mother's touch,
a father and a brother am I unto you – whom I love beyond all telling –

At the dawn of a new day I place myself naked, open, vulnerable and trusting,
to receive my innumerable benefits and blessings, that will clothe you in
light, and truth and peace and hope, to pervade the venues in which you are led
by my Spirit –

my task then, this day, is to remain open, unclad, transparent in my thoughts,
words and deeds of prayer, study and loving service...
my task is to take you at your word, and to strengthen and enlighten and
move you as I would, for the good of another – throughout the day, and into the
evening hours

when I will appear before you again, open, unmasked, unconcealed to present to
you my trophies of love-accomplished, my sorrow for opportunities missed, or
misused, and a resolution for a better end tomorrow –
and I will cover and clothe you with a blanket of forgiveness, peace and
hope – to spend the night, angel-guarded and slumber-resting – in my care, in
my love, in my admiration for you – who are “the apple of my eye”!

In Jesus' holy Name, I pray,
the naked Lord, whom, nakedly I follow
day-by-day!
Amen.

Father Peter Anthony, J.S.C. (+Abbot ProTemp, Joyful Servants of the Cross)

December 14, 2017 – Feast Day of St. John of the Cross