**December 10, 1939**

Dear fellow countrymen and countrywomen, I greet you with the words: Praised be Jesus Christ!

**God Cares for the Polish Nation!**

We read about the learned and pious John Tauler who despite his already holy disposition wanted to lead an even better life. One morning when he was praying more fervently than usual, he heard a voice talking to him: "Go to the porch of the church; there you will find someone who will point you the path to even greater holiness." Recognizing in that command the word of God he went to the Church and there in a holy place he found none other than a beggar in dirty and torn garments. Tauler greeted him with "Good Day." The beggar replied, "I don't recall ever having a bad day in my life"

     "May God bless you", said the theologian.

     "God was always good to me", replied the beggar.

     "But," replied the learned Tauler; "How is that possible? I don't understand you."

     "I will explain to you," said the unknown beggar. "You greeted me with the words good day, and I replied that I never had a bad day and I will prove that to you. When I am hungry and have nothing to eat, I say, 'Oh, God, your will be done!' When I am cold and I have no fire I say, 'Oh, God, your will be done!' When I am sick and I suffer pain, when others persecute me and bother me, then I say 'Oh God, your will be done!' That is why I am always content and I spend the days of my life pleasantly. When you spoke to me the words 'May God bless you.' I replied 'God was always good to me.' Why? Because whatever he sends down to me, it makes no difference if it is sad or joyful, it is sweet or bitter, I am sure and I hope that it will work out for my good. I am always happy and cheerful.'

The pious John Tauler understood the wisdom and deep faith of the beggar. From that moment onward, he accepted the evil of daily life as coming from the hand of God, and soon he had a great peace of mind and heart as his will was at one with the will of God.

Beloved! It is true that God ordered everything on this Earth well as says the Sacred Scriptures, "God saw how good it was" (Genesis 1:3). Yet in spite of how often in this present day, how each Pole in his blood and bones feels the sad fate and destiny that came like hail on our Polish nation across the ocean, how bitter complaining is heard, and what's worse, even blasphemy against God and unfair accusations against the followers of Christ on earth; how often there comes to our mouths the cry, "God has deserted the Polish nation; he has forgotten about it; now there is no reason or purpose for living." Oh, just and powerful Lord, what blasphemy and what great lack of faith! I admit that as a result of human weakness, which allows itself to nurture depressing thoughts and sad experiences, however one must admit that the just man weighs the current and future fortunes of nations. To waken and strengthen our faith in the Providence of God over the whole world, to encourage to beautiful virtue- following the will of God- even though it comes with difficulty, when talk of the sad fate of the Polish nation, I picked a topic for today's audience- God cares for the Polish nation!

The chronicles of previous ages give good testimony that God is strange in the ways of his Providence. Looking at the powerful kingdoms and countries we see how constantly the country rulers change; the jewels and scepters go from one hand to another; countries rise in power and splendor, only so that soon they can collapse into ruin and obscurity. God gives out crowns and jewels out of his own will, he raises and then lowers the powerful in countries according to his Holy Will; he blesses those whom he wants to bless and he sends terrible losses to those who shamelessly oppose his will and plans. God is he who sustains, shields, and defends his immortal work from all the assaults of hell- in a word, he gives unassailable witness that to him only does it belong to root out, judge, build and destroy, give life and send death according to the desires of his Divine Will. The Sacred Scripture proves that to us. We see how the innocent Abel was killed in the bloom of life while Cain the murderer stayed to continue leading his miserable life; we see Job sitting on a pile of crap and the unjust Ahab winning kingly palaces and thrones; we see Saint Paul chained in prison, the cruel Nero in imperial splendor and praise. Sinners swim in luxury while the saints are grounded under persecution. Who can study and unify these secrets? Who would have thought that Moses, that deserted and helpless child, rescued from the watery grave on the banks of the Nile will rise up to tear down the crown from the head of the proud Pharaoh, liberate the Jewish nation from slavery, and cause the ruin of Egypt?

Everyday experience teaches us that God constantly looks down on the world; he does not sleep, although the whole world is wrapped in a dreamy slumber. This all-seeing and omnipotent God in his omnipotent wisdom crafts for himself certain plans and desires which he is committed to bringing about and which he will without doubt accomplish despite the opposition and duplicity of people. Man can propose, but God controls. God's creatures can refuse obedience to his commandments, but they cannot act beyond the influence of his divine power; and though the duplicitous deeds belong only to them, even so God uses them, if they want to or not, to bring about his wonderful and worthy of praise desires. His all-powerful arm sustains the heavenly skies, he causes that the heavenly bodies to move in orbital spheres, he orders the storms and winds; his mercy gives food and clothing to the unreasonable animals and takes care of all the needs of animals as well as people. "Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they? Why are you anxious about clothes? Learn from the way the wild flowers grow. They do not work or spin. But I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was clothed like one of them." (Mt 6, 26; 28; 29).

Oh, how wonderful is the goodness of the Divine Providence towards friends; how harsh towards his enemies. Whatever happens on earth is the work or something permitted by the great ruler, who rules over the whole universe. For nothing on earth happens blindly and by accident, as the pagans claim. From the divine ruling will comes all that is good in nature and no defeat or unhappiness comes down to earth and to people without the permission of God. So cease with this murmuring that cheats, losses, defeats, and humiliations are the result of human duplicity and that God knows nothing about it. No, and once more, no- it is God who sends down the blows and those who deal them are just the instruments in the hands of God. Let us give thanks to God in our sorrows as well as in our successes "Your will be done!" and let us not allow for the feelings of our country to take the better of us so that we forget about the tender Divine Providence.

To cheer you up a little more and to thoroughly ground you in the truth that nothing happens in this world without the will of God, let us look closer at the sufferings and defeats of the saintly Job. He had seven sons and three daughters; he had seven thousand sheep and three thousand camels, five hundred oxen, five hundred mules and a lot of servants. And it happened that one day a messenger came to him one after the other telling him about one disaster after the other; in other words that all of his possessions were lost and even his sons and daughters were slaughtered. How did this son of God act in the face of these multiple and varied disasters and adversities? Job got up, tore his garments, and falling to the ground said, “The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD!" (Job 1:3). Not for one moment did he show any displeasure towards God, he did not complain about what God had allowed, but he humbly agreed to accept the blows coming from the hand of God. It is true that his losses had been caused by the evil anger of Satan, yet he did not attribute them to Satan, for he knew that without the Will and Power of God and without his permission the bad devil could not harm him.

Thus did Job suffer in body and soul; his friends tried to convince him that the cause of his suffering was his sinful lifestyle and convinced him to turn from God, yet he insisted that he was an innocent and just man, even though he could not prove his innocence to God in a court. His brothers and friends left him and mocked him.

P. 70a a zona…- jak w czasach...

Just as in the difficult times of slavery during the Polish partitions, so now even more fervently and sincerely does our prayer for freedom rise to heaven, "Before your altar, we lift our cries. Give us a free fatherland, Lord" (from the famous Polish song “Boże, coś Polskę”).

Let us not forget in our prayers about the Queen of the Polish nation Mary, and let us lay our trust in her all-powerful protection. For centuries she had so many times covered our country in the most difficult times with the mantle of her protection. So today, just as in years past, our Blessed Mother will not abandon her faithful sons especially since in the difficult times, her praise suffered and her kingdom was trampled. Just as in times past she conquered many Swedes, Turks, and wild Muscovites, who tried to conquer the Polish lands with force, so now she will not allow the brutal, godless, and vicious Nazis and Bolsheviks to hold it down. We need only to carry up our prayers and petitions to the Queen of the whole Polish nation and she will not abandon, she will not sell us to the enemies, and she will hasten the time of the resurrection of a stronger and more glorious Poland.