



If He fails, everything comes down

■ HolyChristmas2025

Faith is primarily a response to God's love, and the greatest mistake we can make as Christians is, in the words of Saint Augustine, "to claim that Christ's grace consists in his example and not in the gift of his person". How often, even in the not too distant past, have we forgotten this truth and presented Christian life mostly as a set of rules to be kept, replacing the marvelous experience of encountering Jesus – God who gives himself to us – with a moralistic, burdensome and unappealing religion that, in some ways, is impossible to live in concrete daily life.

Pope Leo XIV

If He fails, everything comes down, the whole Church comes down. Imagine seeing the Church suddenly collapse, with all its beauty of humanity, charity, architecture, paintings, music and colours that characterise it. If that Child named Jesus, the presence of God made flesh in the presence of Jesus, fails, everything comes down, everything fails. Because the nature of the Church - with all its life, with all its wonder and splendour of holiness, charity, humanity consumed in love, beauty, even in its architecture, art and music - is to show and affirm the presence of Christ alive and redeemer of man, to highlight and proclaim his Presence contemporary with the human story of every man, to make him being encountered present and let him speak to the heart of every man of every time.

Nicolino Pompei