## **Quotes from Our Contemplative Journey in Italy**

The ego believes that to accomplish its goal is happiness. But it is given you to know that God's function is yours, and happiness cannot be found apart from Your joint Will. ~ ACIM, Dynamics of the Ego

"This is the struggle of every person: be free or be a slave." ~ Pope Francis

"There is a celebrated saying by the French writer Léon Bloy, who in the last moments of his life said, 'The only real sadness in life is not becoming a saint.' Let us not lose the hope of holiness; let us follow this path." ~ Pope Francis

God will come upon you in your willingness to see nothing else.  $\sim$  NTI 1 Peter

He who desires anything else but God deceives himself utterly.  $\sim$  St. Philip Neri

This is your lifetime; it could end at anytime. Where is your attention? Where is your prayer? Where is your song? ~ Kirtana

Don't be addicted to your own self-image or to anything else that promises cheap fulfillment or an easy escape from problems. ~ St. Benedict

There's no sense acting like you've achieved sainthood. Instead, work on becoming a saint in every little thing you do so your actions might one day speak for themselves. ~ St. Benedict

In my soul, there is a temple, a shrine, a mosque, a church that dissolve, that dissolve in God.  $\sim$  Rabia

It was easy to love God in all that was beautiful. The lessons of deeper knowledge, though, instructed me to embrace God in all things. ~ St. Francis

Never forget that the way which leads to heaven is narrow; that the gate leading to life is narrow and low; that there are but few who find it and enter by it; and if there be some who go in and tread the narrow path for some time, there are but very few who persevere therein.  $\sim$  St. Clare