

A Mother's Love, Pure and Simple!

The Most Important Person on earth is a mother. She cannot claim the honor of having built Notre Dame Cathedral. She need not. She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral—a dwelling for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby's body... The angels have not been blessed with such a grace. They cannot share in God's creative miracle to bring new saints to Heaven. Only a human mother can. Mothers are closer to God the Creator than any other creature; God joins forces with mothers in performing this act of creation... What on God's good earth is more glorious than this: to be a mother?

Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty

And the mother closest to God of all mothers is Mary!

In our day when so much of mankind has chosen to distance itself from the Eternal Beloved and Father of all life, the importance of Mary as Mother of the Sacred Humanity and Mother of the Mystical Christ, His Church, is of the utmost importance. Jesus often called Mary "Woman," a word with deep respect, for it identified her as the Woman of Genesis who would crush the head of the ancient serpent who is the devil, and as the Woman clothed with the sun in Revelations, the Woman who delivers her Son and is carried away from the power of the dragon, the evil one. She is the Mother of all mothers, the Woman of all women, the splendor of God's creation. No one can equal her.

Mary is the feminine side of God, for she is one with her Divine Spouse, the Holy Spirit, Who is the fecundity of Love between Father and Son in the inner life of the Trinity Itself. She is the bridge between the uncreated Trinity in Itself and the created trinity made manifest on earth in the Holy Family, for she shares a unique and special connection between this heavenly trinity and this earthly one. The God who wishes to give Himself to His creatures and to redeem them from their sin uses Mary, the Woman He fashioned after His own Heart, to birth Himself forth into our human experience in the Sacred Humanity of Jesus. She is the door that opens God's Heart to us to give us His Beloved Son who becomes one of us, taking on our flesh so He might take hold of our hand and lead us back to our Father's house that is our home, for we have gotten lost along the way. Like the first Eve, the first woman, taken from the side of Adam, the first man, at a place near his heart, we might well say Mary was mystically formed and taken from the self-inflicted wound in the side of the Eternal Beloved, First Father of all, so she might be the splendor of His creation, so like to the Father, now Mother of all who would be born of the Father's love, beginning with the Word made flesh who would be flesh of her flesh

and bone of her bone. God knew Mary even before He brought forth the world and its children whom He would place in her Motherly arms to nourish and protect. With her “yes” God broke open His heart and sent His only begotten Son into our lives to share with us the secrets of His Father’s love and to bear the burden of our sin that scarred our nature by regenerating that wounded nature with a share in His own, His sanctifying grace, His Indwelling Presence. “In Him we live and move and have our being,” St. Paul says. Mary is the new Eve fashioned by First Love to be mother of the new Adam and all who are born again through Him in this new creation.

Ponder the mystery! Be still and know that we are in the Presence of God! Mary becomes a cradle in flesh for that Sacred Humanity who comes to dwell in her virginal womb. Oh how that Holy Child must have listened in filial delight to her beating heart as it hummed its constant prayer as a sweet lullaby of praise to her God for the wondrous deeds He had wrought in her with this Child. “My soul magnifies the Lord!” She is Theotokos! God bearer! Truly the Ark of the New Covenant prefigured in that of the Old which held the sacred signs of the Presence of God. She carried *God Himself* within her. While men busy themselves building monuments in stone and are often tempted to give the glory to themselves, She, and all women who model their lives on hers, seek only to build temples in the hearts and minds, the souls of the children of men, and to make living temples of them to enshrine the Living God. You are awesome in this place, our poor hearts, O Mighty God! She who was so full of grace, the mystery of the Indwelling God, unveils that mystery for each of us when she bids us humbly look deep within our own souls to find what really matters, for the All Holy Infinite God has written Himself into the very fibers of our being so He would never be too far from us and so the hunger He put there would keep us forever looking for Him.

On November 22-23, 1957 this wondrous Lady revealed herself to Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil in the glory of this awesome mystery as the Immaculate Tabernacle of the Indwelling God.

Our Lady was standing on a globe, her right foot resting on a crescent or quarter moon, the left on the snout of a rather small and very ugly looking dragon. I saw fire come out of his huge jaws, but not very much, as he could not open them wide enough because of Our Lady’s foot. At times he seemed to be somewhat black, again of a shade of green. Our Lady was all in white. Her veil was so long that it seemed to envelop the globe halfway. Sometimes the veil appeared so transparent that Our Lady’s hair could be seen through it, and the hair seemed to be sparkling with the light of many glittering stars. At times the edges of the veil, sleeves, and garments seemed to be outlined in light. The veil was held about her head by a wreath of white roses. Her feet were bare.

The previous day Our Lady had appeared with her hands outstretched. At this second visit she slowly raised them, then crossed them on her breast rather close to her waist. While doing so, she bent her head slightly forward, and it seemed that her eyes were closed, not just lowered. On her breast, as though through a veil, the Triangle and the Eye, which is often depicted as the symbol of the Divine Indwelling, could be visibly seen. I said that Our Lady's feet were bare, that is, devoid of any kind of footwear, but on each foot was a large white rose. The roses, both on the feet and on the crown, were of such dazzling whiteness that the outlines of the petals could barely be seen, sometimes not at all. It seemed that a strong beam of light streamed from the Divine Presence within Our Lady onto the globe at her feet. Then halfway around the figure of Our Lady above her head appeared a scroll on which were written in letters of gold the words: "All the glory of the King's daughter is within."

Though it did not appear that her lips moved, yet I heard these words quite plainly: "I am Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling, handmaid of Him Who dwells within." She seemed suffused in a soft glow of light that appeared to come from within her. It seemed to permeate and, as it were, saturate her whole being, even her apparel and the roses.

(Diary, Our Lady of America, Sr. Mildred Mary Neuzil, pgs. 22-23.)

All women share in the grace of this Woman, this Mother. Like Mary, they can marvel at the miracle of life God has wrought within them through the laws of Nature He so marvelously designed. Like Mary, they can rock the little one within to a peaceful sleep as they remember Mary's song in their own steady heartbeat. Like Mary, every woman knows her life is bigger than her own and that what she carries in her womb is more truly born of God than of her, for she neither creates the body nor breathes forth the soul that is the life of her child. As with Mary in the Holy Family, we understand that God has centered the woman at the heart of the home and magnified her gifts so as to hold the family together in a bondage of love. Man may initiate life, but it is woman who sustains and nurtures and perfects it with all the grace that comes from a divine spirit within her. They say the angels dance in heaven each time a child is born! No matter what the circumstances, the child is innocent and heaven truly rejoices! A child of God is born!

Mary is full of grace, God's cosmetic for body and soul, for grace effects a beauty from the inside out that shines in the eyes and radiates in the face the Divine Presence within. How superficial and skin deep the beauty of the flesh and the man-made creams of our cosmetic world. Mary achieved greatness, not by doing great deeds but by performing the hidden and ordinary duties in the home with great love, keeping Jesus always on her mind, and by letting God have HIS way with her. Her life is a witness to the truth that we glorify God by our very existence, like the lilies in the field that neither toil nor labor, but praise Him. Her life challenges us to stand

against the cheap values of a world that credits a person's worth by whether or not he or she is productive in the wheel of prosperity. Mary teaches us that our true meaning is in a holy communion with our Maker Who alone can satisfy the hungers of the human heart and soothe the wounds that an imperfect world so often inflicts upon us. God is our Alpha and God is our Omega. He is our Father, our Eternal Beloved!

Mary brings us simplicity, purity and Truth, bound together in Supernatural Faith that is a Light in the night of that darkness that seeks to invade our day with its shadows and its terror. She brings us her Son, Prince of Peace, Light of the World, like an abundance of sunshine pouring down upon us from heaven's eternal day. Oh how simple and pure does she stand against this culture of darkness today! She is saturated with the Divine Indwelling Presence and can do nothing but allow its splendor to pass through her to us, her children, whom she still bears in her mystical womb. This is our Mother, Tabernacle of the Indwelling God, handmaid of Him Who dwells within.

Come, all you women, women of grace privileged to bear the miracle of life within you, and ponder, as Mary did, all these things so precious to your hearts. Sing with Mary God's praises and magnify the Lord Who has done such great things for you. And come, too, all you women who are spiritual Moms to so many souls whose natural mothers live outside the mystery and wonder of God.

Women, rise up and claim your special place in the vision of God!

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