

“Help Me Save Those Who Will Not Save Themselves”

“Weep With Your Mother Over the Sins of Men”

“My child, nothing is accomplished without pain. Prepare to suffer much. You see the sword in the Heart of your Mother. Suffering completed the work of divine grace in my soul. He who refuses to suffer will never abide in the Spirit of Christ, will never be formed into His image....Beloved daughter, you wonder at the sword and the deep wound it has made in my Heart. It is the sword of grief plunged therein by my children who refuse to let me teach them the true way. There is only one true way to the Father, my child, only one way to eternal union. It is the way of the divine humanity. ...O my small one, beloved of my Son’s Heart, prepare yourself by prayer, penance, and suffering for what is to come....”

(Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA©, Fostoria, Ohio, Pgs. 23-24. Words spoken by Our Lady, February 11, 1958.)

Suffering is part of our human condition since original sin; there is no escape from it. Nature teaches us well that new life cannot be born without the pains of labor. The grain cannot be tilled in our fields without the sweat of our brow. The seed cannot blossom unless it first dies in the ground. St. Paul reminds us there is no victory unless we endure the race, and we cannot become the adult until we cease to be the child. Servant of God Bishop Fulton J. Sheen would say **“one cannot be crowned unless one has first suffered.”** Jesus tells us if we wish to follow him, we must pick up our cross daily and climb the hill of Calvary to be nailed to **our** cross alongside His, good thieves in our own rite, begging Him to remember us from His eternal kingdom.

The message of Our Lady of America bleeds with a terrible sense of urgency as her words, dampened with the tears of a Mother pleading for her children, beg us to reform our lives and to come to her and hide beneath her mantle of mercy from God’s perfect justice about to fall upon a sinful and ungrateful generation. In January of 1957 Our Lady exhorted Sister to prayer and penance.

“O my little one, daughter of my Pure Heart, you must pray with greater fervor and offer yourself with greater love to the Heart of my Son. ... What am I to do, child of my heart, when my children turn from me?” ... (Diary, Pgs. 17-19.) On December 20, 1959 Our Lady pleaded.] ... “Weep then, dear child, weep with your Mother over the sins of men. Intercede with me before the throne of mercy, for sin is overwhelming the world and punishment is not far away.” (Diary, Pg. 34.)

Our present culture wreaks of death-- abortion, drug abuse, violence, suicide and euthanasia because it cannot understand the redemptive nature of suffering when joined to the sufferings of Christ Who bore all our pains before us and was victorious over them. Jesus is the Wounded Healer in Whose Heart-torn-open we find rest and healing for our souls. He invites us into the flaming furnace of His refining Love that purifies without

consuming. So much of our society is hedonistic, idolatrous, adulterous, relativistic and subjective, dethroning God so we can sit on His throne and rule as we please. We glorify sin in our streets and write it into our laws. Some poor souls even chant, "I choose Satan." Pray God give them a glimpse of hell so they would run toward Him and cry for mercy! On October 7, 1957, feast of her Rosary, Our Lady spoke gravely to us!

"My beloved daughter, what I am about to tell you concerns in a particular way my children in America. Unless they do penance by mortification and self-denial and thus reform their lives, God will visit them with punishments hitherto unknown to them....My dear children, either you will do as I desire and reform your lives, or God Himself will need to cleanse you in the fires of untold punishment. You must be prepared to receive His great gift of peace. If you will not prepare yourselves, God will Himself be forced to do so in His justice and mercy." (Diary, Pg. 21.)

In his encyclical *Mystici Corporis Christi, On the Mystical Body of Christ*, Pope Pius XII addresses this mystery of our communion in the living Body of Christ and the obligation it imposes on us to suffer with and for the other members of Christ's Body even as Christ Himself has, and to bring into its grace those not already joined to Christ.

This is a deep mystery, and an inexhaustible subject of meditation, that the salvation of many depends on the prayers and voluntary penances which the members of the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ offer for this intention, and on the cooperation of pastors of souls and of the faithful, especially of fathers and mothers of families, a cooperation which they must offer to our Divine Savior as though they were His associates. #44For that which our Lord began when hanging on the Cross, he continues unceasingly amid the joys of heaven: "Our Head," says St. Augustine, "intercedes for us: some members He is receiving, others He is chastising, others cleansing, others consoling, others creating, others calling, others recalling, others correcting, others renewing." But it is for us to cooperate with Christ in this work of salvation... #59

Saint Faustina records in her Diary, **Divine Mercy in My Soul**, how her guardian angel took her on a visit to hell so she might describe its horrors to us and attest to the truth of its existence and the impact it made on her to pray for sinners and plead God's mercy on them. Jesus told her He wanted her to know the profound love that burns in His Heart for souls. He bid her meditate on His Passion to learn such love for souls and to call on His Mercy to save them, for the greater the need of the sinner, the greater his or her right to His Mercy. He said if one prays this prayer devoutly on behalf of a sinner, He would give the grace of conversion. [The prayer.] **"Oh Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You. Amen."**

St. John Vianney was only content when he was praying for sinners and he believed God loved him for that. One night he was awakened by a voice or a dream and was told that to save a soul in the state of sin was more pleasing to God than all sacrifices. St. Paul of the Cross said holiness is found in the Passion of Jesus.

Here learn the science of the Saints: All is to be found in the passion of Jesus. Make every effort to remain hidden in the wounds of Jesus, and you will be enriched with every good and every true light, enabling you to fly to that Perfection which is consonant with your way of life. ... The passion of Jesus is a sea of sorrows, but it is also an ocean of love. Ask the Lord to teach you to fish in this ocean. Dive into its depths. No matter how deep you go, you will never reach the bottom.

At Fatima the three shepherd children were also shown a vision of hell that terrified them. Our Lady told them that **“hell is where the souls of poor sinners go because there is no one to pray for them.”** Sister Mildred, a **victim soul**, certainly did her part in prayer and suffering for the salvation of souls when she said **“yes”** to Jesus as He offered her His crown of thorns and asked if she would allow herself to be nailed to the cross and laid on the altar of sacrifice. Servant of God Bishop Fulton J. Sheen gives us equally ponderous words on Christ’s sufferings and our need to be united to them.

What He has done with His human nature, we must do with ours—plant it in the soil of the cross and await the Resurrection of the Eternal Easter.... The cross is the condition; we must be nailed to it. Our Lord loved His Cross so much that He keeps its scars even in His glory. He who had won victory over death, kept the record of its wounds. If so precious to Him, they cannot be meaningless for us. In their preservation is the reminder that we too must be signed with those signs and sealed with those seals. On Judgment Day He will say to each of us: “Show Me your hands and feet. Where are your scars of victory?” ... But woe to us who come down from the Calvary of this earthly pilgrimage with hands unscarred and white!

(Fulton J. Sheen, THE SEVEN CAPITAL SINS, Alba House, St. Pauls, Pgs. 69-70.)

**“Today bring to Me all mankind, especially all sinners,
and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.
In this way you will console Me in the bitter grief into which
the loss of souls plunges Me.” Jesus**

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