## "I Am a Beggar for Love..." Jesus!

"I am a Beggar for love, but how few give to Me the means by which to satisfy My divine hunger. I hunger for the love of My own, and I receive only the crumbs no other would accept." ...

"My children, every home and every soul is My Father's house, for He made them and they are His. But many of them are no longer sanctified by His Presence. Thieves have entered in and stolen from Him His temples of prayer. It is you, My children, who have let them in. If, My children, you will cleanse your temples, My Father will return and We will come and make our abode with you."

"Return, My people, for My Heart hungers and thirsts for your love. If you will not return, the just anger of My Father will descend upon you. What would you—My love or My Father's anger? Choose, and as you choose, so shall it be done. I will not force your free will, for that is yours to use as you desire."

(Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Pgs. 6-7.)

Imagine! Jesus begging for our love after all He has done for us! Can we fathom the love and humility that prompted His utter condescension from His eternal Majesty to willingly assume our wretched, sin-scarred nature so He might make atonement for our sins, in our place, to satisfy the justice of God? Only then could the floodgates of God's infinite love and compassion break wide open, allowing His boundless mercy to flow upon us like rivers of living water to cleanse and renew us. Adam's sin had forfeited heaven for all his posterity. The God-man must die so we can live, for the Word-made-flesh alone, in His divine nature, can satisfy divine justice, and in His human nature, can truly represent all humanity, thus restoring heaven to us. He who chose freely to love us so much beyond all comprehension will never force us to love Him in return. God does not need our love, He is complete in Himself, but He desires it because He is Love and that is the nature of love, *reciprocity*, *love freely returned!* Jesus is always inviting us into an intimate relationship with Him, with the Most Holy Trinity, for He is Its Heart, a Heart laid bare on Calvary, having been wrapped in flesh at Bethlehem, to give tangible Presence and proof of the Father's eternal love for us. That love comes to us most tangibly in the *Holy Eucharist* when we receive the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus, and in our *baptismal grace*, that *supernatural share in* God's own divine nature which sanctifies us and allows Him to dwell within us.

...those souls who best realize the mystery of the Divine Indwelling will, more than any others, understand the Eucharist in the highest sense. They will realize that if they receive a Victim, they also are called to make an oblation of themselves. By meditating on the *temples of God* which they are, they will readily perceive that their hearts should be the place of a liturgical offering, an intimate sanctuary, wherein they will be called upon to bring as a sacrifice every movement of their souls, according to the invitation of St. Paul that we should be like Christ, a *living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God*, and that, in this sense, they are endowed, as we read in St. Peter and the Apocalypse, with true priesthood.

(Raoul Plus, S.J., GOD WITHIN US, New York: P.J. Kenedy & Sons, 1924, Pg. 100.)

What powerful thoughts Father expresses here. We are temples of God and in the sanctuary of our own hearts we receive the Divine Victim who calls us to make an offering of our whole lives as a living sacrifice with Jesus, becoming with Him priest and victim in

every Eucharist we celebrate in memory of Him, making Him one with us in the deepest recesses of our being. Jesus is the Eternal High Priest and the true Paschal Lamb, the perfect sacrifice offered once and made present on every altar throughout time. On Calvary Jesus' Heart is broken open so we might enter in. Jesus' Blood brings life to his entire Mystical Body and lets us breathe in His own Holy Spirit whom He breathed out on us from His cross and in that Cenacle room on the First Pentecost, so we might live with His own life as He lives in the Father. The thought of God dwelling within us should not only foster a deeper appreciation of the Eucharist, but also of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

In every language the heart is the symbol of love. It is not surprising, then, that Christ, to whose love we owe our salvation, should say to Margaret Mary: "Behold my heart, which has done so much for men." To separate devotion to the Sacred Heart from the dogma of the divine Indwelling is to run the risk of making it a purely sentimental devotion, without either definite source or obvious aim.

Those souls, on the other hand, who have a right understanding of what is meant by a state of grace and of the divine Indwelling will infallibly practice an ardent devotion to the Sacred Heart of our Lord—to that heart to which they owe the spiritual riches whose possession they enjoy. (Plus, Pg. 102.)

Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, in her simplicity and humility, surrendered her whole life to Jesus. She was an ongoing oblation on the altar of her life, so much so that Jesus Himself, after inviting her most intimately to share in his Paschal Mystery by wearing His crown of thorns and being nailed to His cross, said He had laid her on the altar of sacrifice. "How can I refuse Him anything when He has done so much for me?" she said. She shared an *intimacy* with Him, with God, the essence of the Divine Indwelling of the Most Holy Trinity, that few of us can imagine. Yet, she appeared as ordinary as any of us. Her Eucharistic celebration must have taken place deep in the sanctuary of her soul. The Sacred Heart of Jesus was her dearest refuge amidst the sorrows of her life and in the joys she shared so specially with Him Who called her "spouse of my Heart." What endearing terms Jesus had for her, His little white dove, secretary of His Heart. Our Lady addressed Sister as the beloved of my Son. In expressing Jesus' love for humility, Our Lady told Sister, "My Son is in love with your lowliness." Pride has no place with God, for it is the root of all evil, of all disobedience. Humility and obedience secure us in God's grace. Jesus, Mary and Joseph have all taught us that most precious, spiritual lesson: humble obedience to the Will of God. May Sister's humble prayer truly become our own.

O Life, O Beatitude, O Heaven, You only delight of the soul. You who reach down from Your high celestial throne to gather unto Yourself the little ones of this earth and in recompense for the slight sufferings they bear out of love for You, give them Yourself. Look down, I beseech You, upon this, the smallest of Your small ones and have compassion on my extreme weakness and frailty, known even more to You than to myself, and make me entirely Yours.

One Holy Thursday Jesus came to Sister bearing in His hands the host and the chalice, saying:

"I am the Host of every Communion. I am Life to all who partake of Me. They who do not eat Me will die, for no one can live who does not partake of Me, for I am Eternal Life. Come, beloved souls, poor sinners so dear to the Heart of Your Host. Come receive Me that you may live and enjoy everlasting happiness in the Kingdom of My Father Who is your Father also. This I have obtained for you through My Body and Blood sacrificed for you on Calvary and become your Food and Drink in the Holy Mass offered constantly for you. Do not disappoint My hopes for I have waited long, oh so long for you. Bring joy to My Heart by letting Me come into yours. It is I alone who can bring you happiness, for only in Me is joy found in its fullness. Come that you may have life." (Sister's letter, April 12, 1958.)

On March 30, 1958, St. Joseph bid Sister kneel in his presence as he revealed to her the "Secret of Secrets," the secret of the interior life, the desire of the Trinity to make known to souls Its desire "to be adored, honored, and loved within the kingdom, the interior kingdom of their hearts." (Diary, Pg. 27.) He reminded her that it is the first duty of every soul to seek intimate union with God in the interior castle of their own souls.

"It is time. Kneel my beloved daughter, for God is about to reveal to you a secret of the interior life. Few there are who learn it, and fewer they who live it in its fullness. This SECRET, dear child, is living with Him Who is within you and has made of your soul His Kingdom. There are many who know this Doctrine, but few to whom God reveals its secret operation. Few souls there are who empty themselves of all things that they may possess this SECRET OF SECRETS, this ultimate glory of all living, this union with the Divine, ending in Eternal Vision. This Secret cannot be written, lovely child. Its deepest meaning will be made known to you in the interior depths of your child-like soul, in your humble heart, where LOVE has found Its resting place, Its palace beautiful. They who would possess for themselves this mysterious working of the Divine Secret must strive to cultivate in silence and humility this love for the Eternal Being within them. We lived this life, beloved child, so to attain it, souls must imitate as far as possible the fullness of our union with The Indwelling God." (Sister's letter, April 12, 1958.)

Deeply mindful of being a temple for the Indwelling God, Sister Mildred composed this magnificent **Prayer to the Indwelling Most Holy Trinity.** 

O my Love, my only Good, Most Holy Trinity, I adore You, hidden in the depths of my soul. To You, to Your honor and glory, I dedicate my life. May every thought, word and deed of mine be an act of adoration and praise directed towards Your Divine Majesty enthroned in my heart.

O Father, Infinite Goodness, behold Your child, clothed in the likeness of Your Son. Extend to me Your arms that I may belong to you forever. O Son, Divine Lord, made man, crucify me with Yourself that I may become, in union with You, a sacrifice of praise for the glory of Your Father. O Holy Spirit, Fire of Everlasting Love, consume me on the altar of Divine Charity, that at the end of life, nothing may remain but that which bears the likeness of Christ.

O Blessed Trinity, worthy of all adoration, I wish to remain in spirit on my knees, to acknowledge forever Your reign in me and over me, to your everlasting glory. Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the pure heart of St. Joseph, I consecrate my life to your adoration and glory. At the moment of death, receive me, O my Triune Love, that I may continue my adoration of love through all eternity. Amen (200 days)

"Let yourself be loved. All God wants of us is that we let Him love us and let His love rouse us to love Him in return." (Elizabeth of the Trinity.)

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