## "I Am the Immaculate One, Patroness of Your Land"

God has never made or formed but one enmity...but it is an irreconcilable one, which shall endure and develop even to the end. It is between Mary, His worthy Mother, and the devil--between the children and the servants of the Blessed Virgin and the children and instruments of Lucifer. The most terrible of all the enemies which God has set up against the devil is His holy Mother, Mary. ...he [the devil] fears her not only more than all angels and men, but in a sense more than God Himself. Not that the anger, the hatred and the power of God are not infinitely greater than those of the Blessed Virgin, for the perfections of Mary are limited; but first, because Satan, being proud, suffers infinitely more from being beaten and punished by a little and humble handmaid of God, and her humility humbles him more than the Divine power; and secondly, because God has given Mary such a great power against the devils that--as they have often been obliged to confess, in spite of themselves, by the mouth of the possessed--they fear one of her sighs for a soul more than the prayers of all the saints, and one of her threats against them more than all other torments.

(St. Louis de Montfort, TRUE DEVOTION TO MARY, Tan Books and Publishers, Rockford, IL, 1985, Pgs. 30-31.)

God gave humankind a promise for redemption in the Garden of Eden when pride led Adam and Eve to disobey Him, inflicting on all their posterity the consequent darkness and concupiscence of sin. God then fashioned a new Adam and a new Eve to reverse sin and to restore mankind to His original design. Through their humility and obedience, the new Adam and the new Eve, Jesus and His holy Mother, humanity was regenerated from its conception in its mother's womb to the point of death. The supernatural gifts bestowed on regenerated humankind gave it a glory higher than that of the preternatural state in which Adam and Eve were created. While Eve was formed with a rib from Adam's side, the humanity of Jesus was formed with flesh from the Immaculate Virgin's womb. What unfathomable glory was given to Mary as befits her exalted state as Mother of God! What humility for the Son of God to stoop so low as to be imprisoned forever in human flesh, which He henceforth glorified. In these two the promise would be fulfilled and Satan would be cursed forever. "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; They will strike at your head, while you strike at their heel". (Gen 3:15.) O happy fault to merit so great a Redeemer, and co-Redemptrix, for the promise of crushing the head of the ancient serpent included the victory of the Redeemer and the victory of the Woman ordained to be at His side from start to finish in the plan for our salvation. That Woman is Mary, Mother of Jesus, of the Son of God, of the Church that is His Bride, which is all of us! "You and the Woman" refer to Satan and Mary. "Your offspring" refers to Satan's followers and "hers" are Jesus and His followers, Mary's spiritual children. The humility and obedience to the Will of God of Jesus and Mary strikes at the head of the ancient serpent, for the head is where the intellect resides and pride originates to influences the will to turn away from God. Satan did not, and cannot conquer Jesus and Mary; thus, he strikes with a vengeance at their heel, those who follow them, His Church, all of us. Elizabeth rightly proclaimed Mary "the most blessed among women." Just as Jesus came to us the first time in history through Mary, so He comes to us spiritually through her, and will come again at the second or final coming through her, though in a different manner. Salvation began with her and it will be consummated with her. The royal reign of Jesus Christ the King is also the reign of His Queen Mother who sits at His right hand! Jesus' victory is the Resurrection; Mary's victory will be the full triumph of her Immaculate Heart.

St. Louis de Montfort spoke of the necessity of devotion to Mary in the pursuit of perfection and salvation. Though she is but an atom in comparison to God, who needs nothing and no one to fulfill His will or to manifest His glory, the fact that He chose to enter our human history through her implies He will continue to come to us through her, for He is God and is unchanging in His ways. On August 22, 1957, the feast of the Immaculate Heart, Our Lady said: "My heart, my Immaculate Heart, is the channel through which the graces of the Sacred Heart are given to men."

The messages of Our Lady of America© are filled with the exhortation to come to the Mother as a sure way to the Son. On November 8, 1954, Our Lady spoke these words to Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil about making our homes a bit of heaven on earth. God wishes to dwell both with and within us.

"It is the wish of my Son that fathers and mothers strive to imitate me and my chaste spouse in our holy life at Nazareth. We practiced the simple virtues of family life, Jesus our Son being the center of all our love and activity. The Holy Trinity dwelt with us in a manner far surpassing anything that can ever be imagined. For ours was the earthly paradise where once again God walked among men. As in our little home no sin was to be found, so it is the wish of the Heart of my Son and my Immaculate Heart that sin should, as far as possible, be unheard of in the homes of our children.

The Divine Trinity will dwell in your midst only if you are faithful in practicing the virtues of our life at Nazareth. Then, you also, my children, you also will become another paradise. God will then walk among you and you will have peace."

(Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA©, Lodi, Ohio, Pg. 8.)

On November 20, 1955, the Archangel Gabriel told Sister Mildred that God was pleased with her effort to do good and that Jesus wanted her to go to His Mother to learn great purity of heart. (The Diary, Pg. 9.) On September 26,1956, the day Our Lady first appeared as Our Lady of America®, she asked that America be the country dedicated to her purity; she promised to work wonders, miracles, in our souls. Our Lady desires to further the cause of faith and purity in the world through her children in America! "Let them come to me with confidence and simplicity, and I, their Mother, will teach them to become pure like to my Heart that their own hearts may be more pleasing to the Heart of my Son." (The Diary, Pg. 11.) On September 27, 1956, Our Lady appeared with the world in her hands as she wept over it. She said she came to America as a last resort and begged us not to let her weep in vain but to be her army of chaste soldiers, fighting to the death to preserve the purity of our souls.

"Live in His Heart, and take me in that I may teach you to live in great purity of heart which is so pleasing to God. Be my army of chaste soldiers, ready to fight to the death to preserve the purity of your souls. I am the Immaculate One, Patroness of your land. Be my faithful children as I have been your faithful Mother." (The Diary, Pg. 12.)

O child of my Pure Heart, tell my children to come to me and learn this true love of my Son, which is so necessary for their peace of soul. (February 3, 1957, The Diary, Pg. 16.) God looks at the heart, and if it resembles the heart of His divine Son, it is with the greatest pleasure He regards it. But to make your hearts grow more and more like to the Heart of the Son, you must go to the Mother, whose heart is most like His. From this Pure and Immaculate Heart you will learn all that will make you more

pleasing to the Divine Heart of the Son of God. The Holy Trinity looks down with infinite delight upon such souls and makes them Its heaven upon earth. Come to me, my children, come to me and learn. There is much I would teach you. It is for your own happiness and eternal salvation. ...Has ever a mother shown more love and interest in her children's welfare than I have done? (The Diary, Pgs. 16-17.)

Repeatedly Our Lady called for a reform of life by which she meant sanctification from within through imitation of the Holy Family and through union with the Divine Indwelling Presence of the Most Holy Trinity. On November 22-23, 1957, Our Lady presented herself under another new image, that of Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling, handmaid of Him Who dwells within.® (The Diary, Pgs. 22-23.) Our Lady warned that the time is late and if we do not repent of our many sins, God, in His perfect justice, would have to send us chastisements hitherto unknown to us to make atonement for them. She warned her beloved priest-sons to live lives of prayer and self-denial. The peace so long promised cannot come until we are purified and made ready to receive it. She asked that we pray the rosary as a family and promised no one found in the circle of her rosary would ever be lost. On February 11,1958, she renewed the Fatima promise regarding the triumph of her Immaculate Heart, "My Immaculate Heart will win in the end, and the Spirit of Christ will dwell in the hearts of men. Those in whom this Spirit is not found will be condemned to eternal hell-fire." (The Diary, Pg. 23.) Later that day, Our Lady declared herself co-redemptrix with Christ. "I am the Mother of the sacred humanity, and it is my special work as co-redemptrix of the human race to help souls reach the sanctity of the Father in eternal union by showing them how to put on Christ, to imbibe His Spirit, and thus become one with Him." (The Diary, Pg. 24.) On July 18, 1980, Our Lady lamented that her message had not been heeded, nor had she yet found one to further the cause of renewal from within. She assured Sister Mildred that in the end all will come as she desires, for she never fails those who put their confidence in her.

In the **Mystical City of God,** Vol. IV, Chapter XXII, #779, Venerable Mary of Agreda recounts her vision of Mary being crowned in heaven and the reign God has bestowed on her.

... Thou hast humiliated Thyself in thy own estimation to the lowest place; receive now the supreme dignity deserved by Thee and, as a participation in our Divinity, the dominion over all the creatures of our Omnipotence. ... and by the power We now give thee thou shalt subject hell with all its demons and inhabitants. ... Thou shalt be the Empress and Mistress of the militant Church, its Protectress, its Advocate, its Mother and Teacher. Thou shalt be the special Patroness of the Catholic countries; and whenever they, or the faithful, or any of the children of Adam call upon Thee from their heart, serve or oblige Thee, Thou shalt relieve and help them in their labors and necessities. ...In view of all this we make Thee the Depository of our riches, the Treasurer of our goods; we place into thy hands the helps and blessings of our grace for distribution; nothing do We wish to be given to the world, which does not pass through thy hands; and nothing do We deny, which Thou wishest to concede to men. Grace shall be diffused in thy lips for obtaining all that Thou wishest and ordainest in heaven and on earth, and everywhere shall angels and men obey Thee; because whatever is ours shall be thine, just as Thou hast always been ours; and Thou shalt reign with Us forever. [In 1954 Pope Pius XII established the feast of the Queenship of Mary, celebrated on August 22, octave of the feast of the Assumption.]

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