## Our Lady of America on the Feast of the Holy Rosary, 1957 A Particular Concern for America

On the evening of the feast of the Most Holy Rosary, October 7, 1957, Our Lady again appeared. Her hands were clasped in an attitude of prayer. Her look was serious, though her countenance retained its usual deep serenity. Hanging from her right hand was a blue rosary of a glass-like quality. I was conscious of the fact that what she was about to say to me was not only very grave but of the utmost importance. Our Lady reiterated in a similar manner her first warnings:

"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 child, there will be peace, as has been promised, but not until my children are purified and cleansed from defilement, and clothed thus with the white garment of grace, are made ready to receive this peace, so long promised and so long held back because of the sins of men."

"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." [our emphasis]

"Making the rosary a family prayer is very pleasing to me. I ask that all families strive to do so. But be careful to say it with great devotion, meditating on each mystery and striving to imitate in your daily lives the virtues depicted therein. Live the mysteries of the rosary as I lived them, and it will become a chain binding you to me forever. They who are found in the circle of my rosary will never be lost. I myself will lead them at death to the throne of my Son, to be eternally united to Him. Write these words upon your hearts, my dear children, because of the compassion I have for you in my Immaculate Heart. Oh, if you knew the punishments I am holding back from you by my pleading and intercession on your behalf! Will you do as I wish at last, my children?"

(Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA©, Lodi, Ohio, Pgs. 20-21.)

Our Lady of America did not have a rosary on her right hand when she appeared on September 26, 1956. Why now in 1957? Obviously, being the feast of the Holy Rosary, she wished to emphasize its importance for our lives, but it symbolizes her call for sacrifice as well. In her October 9, 1957 letter to her spiritual director, Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil tells how Our Lady had asked for the sacrifice of her lovely blue rosary. Later, when Our Lady appeared again, Sister exclaims, "Oh Mother, you have the blue rosary!" Our Lady smiled; she had graciously accepted the sacrifice and rewarded it this way. Thereafter, whenever Our Lady appeared with a rosary it was always of this same blue color.

But Our Lady's focus on the rosary goes much deeper. Her message for America is very stern, repeating her previous warnings of punishments necessary to atone for mankind's transgressions, punishments hitherto unknow to her children in America if we do not embrace the reform of life she is calling for and do penance by mortification and self-denial. She bids Sister to pray and do penance so Christ's peace might come once again to mankind. On February 11, 1958, feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady refers to the sword in her heart.

"Nothing is accomplished without pain. Prepare to suffer much."..."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. ... "O my small one, beloved of my Son's Heart, prepare yourself by prayer, penance, and suffering for what is to come." (The Diary, Pgs. 23-24.)

On <u>February 11, 1981</u>, Our Lady again called for the family rosary to be prayed every day with as many members of the family as possible and asked that we pray the prayer **To the Immaculate Conception**, **Patroness of the United States** once a day or oftener. She warned "the Forces of Evil are enveloping the world. Their hatred, however, is now particularly focused on the United States because of the Divine Mandate given to it to lead the world to peace." (The Diary, Pg. 39.)

Our Lady of America first appeared to Sister Mildred as Our Lady of Lourdes, wearing a rosary over her right hand as well and giving Sister the same message she had given to Bernadette: "Penance, penance, penance!" At Fatima Our Lady called herself "The Lady of the Rosary" and also had a rosary over her right hand. The Fatima children were asked to pray many rosaries and to offer many sacrifices for the salvation of souls. They were shown a vision of hell where the souls of poor sinners go because there is no one to pray for them. Our Lady of America connects these three apparitions meant to correct the errors of the modern world that has turned so deeply away from God. Our Lady of Fatima warned of a second world war, and possibly a third if we did not repent of our sins and Russia was not consecrated to her Immaculate Heart. We obviously did neither, as World War II happened. Are we on the brink of World War III? Our Lady warned that the errors of atheism would spread from Russia throughout the world; hence, the call for its consecration and conversion. Should there be a third World War, whole nations would be annihilated. Our Lady said that "sin is overwhelming the world and punishment is not far away." She spoke of a "holocaust that is so near approaching." We should shudder at these words with a holy fear of God and of sin!

The third secret of Fatima was to remain secret until 1960 when Pope John XXIII read it and closed it again. However, on the anniversary of the miracle of the sun, Oct. 12-13, 1960, he invited the bishops of the world to a night of prayer at Fatima. It was October 12, 1960, that Khrushchev pounded his shoe on the table at the UN and said he would annihilate the US. Days later, on October 24, the Nedelin missile that was to be presented to Khrushchev suddenly exploded, killing Marshal Nedelin and 100 people, setting Russia's nuclear program back 20 years. Interestingly, it was January 3, 1984 when Sister asked Our Lady if there would be a nuclear war. Imagine how many nations might be annihilated with one! Our Lady said it is up to us and, should it happen, there would be a remnant who would renew the earth with their holy lives. Note that it was March 25,1984, feast of the Annunciation, when St. John Paul Il completed Our Lady's June 13, 1929 request to consecrate Russia to her Immaculate Heart in union with all the bishops of the world. In her memoirs Lucia of Fatima said Our Lady accepted this second consecration, not only of Russia but of all the world. Why all the world as well? Because by 1984 atheism had indeed spread throughout the world, fomenting hate and war and opposition to God. Then on May 13, 1984, anniversary of the first Fatima apparition, a massive explosion destroyed 2/3 of Russia's mightiest Northern Naval Fleet of surface-to-air missiles, killing 200-300 people. That was followed by the April 26, 1986 disaster at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in the Ukraine, under the Soviet Socialist Republic at the time. Note the dates. There are no accidents with God; everything is ordered to His purpose, as was the assassination attempt on John Paul II's life on May 13, 1981, which prompted the Pope's study of the Fatima message and led to his 1982 and 1984 consecrations of Russia to the Immaculate Heart. The Pope knew Our Lady had saved his life and, consequently, had the bullet placed in the crown of Our Lady of Fatima as a living testimony to that great favor.

There is no prayer more powerful for calling down God's graces for the repentance of His people than that of the Holy Mass wherein we offer back to God His own most precious Son who died to free us from sin. But Lucia, of Fatima, tells us ...

The Most Holy Virgin in these last times in which we live has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families...that cannot be solved by the Rosary. There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary." Ref: <a href="https://catholicismpure.wordpress.com/2017/04/27/the-rosary-has-a-new-efficacy-in-these-times/">https://catholicismpure.wordpress.com/2017/04/27/the-rosary-has-a-new-efficacy-in-these-times/</a>

Various popes have written numerous documents attesting to the importance of the rosary in the work of salvation and in the battle against evil. The book, **17 Papal Documents on the Rosary**, published by the Daughters of St. Paul, cites 17 by Popes Paul VI, John XXIII and Leo XIII, the Pope of the Rosary. These show how the rosary has changed history. In the Battle of Lepanto, October 7, 1571, a small Christian fleet defeated the indomitable forces of the Ottoman Empire. Pope Pius V had called for the recitation of the rosary for victory; thereafter, he established the feast of Our Lady of Victories, later changed by Pope Gregory XIII to the feast of the Most Holy Rosary. The rosary had been given to St. Dominic back in 1214 to appease God's anger and to implore Our Lady's help against the Albigensian heresy. It must be our power against the heresies of our own day as well. Pope Pius XII's encyclical letter, *Ingruentium Malorum*, likens the Rosary to the sling shot of David against Goliath.

It is not with physical force, not with arms, not with human power, but with the divine help obtained through the Rosary, that the Church, and all is members, strong and undaunted like David with his sling shot, will be able to confront the infernal enemy.

St. Louis de Montfort's book, **The Secret of the Rosary**, proclaims its power against evil of every kind. It is far more formidable to the devil if we pray the rosary with others rather than alone; hence, the importance of the family rosary. A plenary indulgence is attached to praying the rosary before the Blessed Sacrament, along with the usual conditions. St. Louis de Montfort truly believed in the power of the rosary.

If you say the Rosary faithfully until death, I do assure you that, in spite of the gravity of your sins, you shall receive a never fading crown of glory. Even if you are on the brink of damnation, even if you have one foot in Hell, even if you have sold your soul to the devil...sooner or later you will be converted and will amend your life and save your soul. If—mark well what I say—if you say the Rosary devoutly every day of your life.

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