

My Beloved Sons, the Priests, the Chosen Ones

Paul F. Leibold, a Priest After My Own Heart



Archbishop Paul F. Leibold

As we prepare to celebrate the Holy Triduum, we thank God for the gifts of the Eucharist and the priesthood on Holy Thursday, for Christ's redeeming death on the cross on Good Friday, and His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. It is a good time to reflect on Our Lady of America's words of exhortation, September 26-27, 1957, directed toward her beloved sons, the priests, who must be dedicated to the most intense and extraordinary imitation of her Son in continuing His Eternal Priesthood.

"Beloved sons, so cherished and greatly blessed among the sons of men, be careful to uphold the sanctity and dignity of your calling. Let the faithful see in you the favored and especially loved imitators of the Son of God. Be modest in your dress and speech as becomes those of so exalted a vocation. The apparel and manners of a man of the world is not for you, who though living in the world must not take on its ways. ...

Dear sons, I ask you to practice self-denial and penance in a special manner, because it is you who must lead my children in the way of peace. Yet this peace will come only by way of the sword, the flaming sword of divine love. If, therefore, you love my Son and wish to honor me, heed my admonition and be the first to give the example of a life of penance and self-denial. Thus, by sanctification from within you, you will become a bright and burning light to the faithful, who look to you for help and guidance.

I am pleased, dearly beloved sons, by the honor and love you have until now accorded me. Will you now go further and honor me yet more *by taking my words to your hearts and doing what I ask?*" (Italics our emphasis.)

(Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil. The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Pg. 20.)

Bishops, of course, are first priests. Our Lady bids Sister tell the Bishops of the United States, her loyal sons, of her desires and how to carry them out, and to tell him who is over her the longings of her Immaculate Heart to establish the reign of Jesus in the hearts of men and thereby save them from the scourge of heaven, now and hereafter. **"Will my loyal sons carry out my desires and thus help me bring the peace of Christ once again to mankind?" ... "If I ask for reform of life, it is first from the chosen that I look for it. They must, by the example of a sacrificial life, lead the way for souls to union with Christ, honoring the Father by putting on His Spirit and His likeness in all things."** (Diary, Pg. 24.) While Our Lady thanks her beloved sons for the love they have until now given her, Jesus, on the other hand, on July 18, 1959, chided his priests and religious, the chosen ones, for their pride and resistance to His grace. This was before the aftermath of Vatican II which saw a great exodus of priests and religious sisters from their consecrated lives and before the exposure of the pedophile scandals and money corruption within the Church.

"O My priests, My religious, what would I not do for you if you would only let me! I come daily laden with graces, which you daily refuse. What am I to say of you, my best beloved? How long will you resist My love? It is from you I expect everything,

and you give Me but the husks of your affections. How long will I bear with you, O My chosen ones? How long will you spurn My approaches? (Diary, Pg. 33.)

Jesus then told Sister that it was the ingratitude on the part of His priests and religious that caused Him so much sorrow in His passion. **Oh, how they resist My grace! How they fight against My love! So fearful are they that I will deprive them of their tawdry trinkets that they turn their backs lest they see the reproach in My eyes.”** (Diary, Pg. 33.) As recently as July 13, 1981, Our Lord spoke to the moral issues of our day as regards His chosen ones.

Many unnatural acts are being committed in the name of love. This evil is being disguised and tolerated as an intrinsic right like any other. Even some of My priests and consecrated virgins are being caught up into this web of evil, not realizing its terrible consequences. (Diary, Pg. 40.) (Italics our emphasis.)

Jesus laments to Sister that so many are lost because there is no one to pray and sacrifice for them. He asks His priests and religious, “Where are your prayers, your sacrifices that call down the grace of God upon poor sinners?” For it is through his priests and religious that sinners will be saved!

My Chosen Ones, you in particular are responsible for the souls of poor sinners. It is to you I have entrusted them. As their spiritual fathers and mothers you must care for them, and by your unceasing prayers on their behalf, lead them safely to My Father’s House. [Jesus’ words become even stronger...] Oh, My well-beloved Ones, you have become selfish and thoughtless. You have forgotten the greatness of your responsibilities. Unless you become saints, there will be no hope for poor sinners, for it is My wish that through your sacrificial lives, the souls of poor sinners will be saved. (Sister’s letter, Feb. 1954.)

Jesus told Sister that He is pleased with Father Paul F. Leibold whom He placed over her, and with Father’s efforts to make Him loved. He promised to make father’s work fruitful for the souls entrusted to his care, but He asked father to double his efforts in making known the love of His Heart for poor sinners. Pray, pray, pray, and sacrifice yourself for poor sinners!

As a priest after My Own Heart, I will be with him in all his trials and sorrows. Tell him not to become discouraged at the crosses awaiting him for I, the great High-Priest, go before him carrying the heaviest part of his cross. I seek always the humble and lowly of heart and since I have found two such, so I have entrusted to them a great Mission, but become not vain, for I have chosen him and you only because of your unworthiness and lack of virtue. Let this thought be with you always, that you may remember that it is I working through you, Who sanctify you for His glory and the salvation of souls. You are poor instruments in My hands, but through you a Great Work will be accomplished. I am the Great Sculptor of souls. With hammer and chisel I form them that they may glorify My Father by their beauty and perfection. Be pliant in My Hands, oh My two lowly ones, My chosen Priest and My little white dove, and then will you be formed into My Likeness and through you I will be formed in souls. (Letter, Feb. 20, 1954.) (Italics our emphasis.)



Our Lady also told Sister to tell Father Leibold that she was pleased with his striving to carry out at least some of her requests, those he felt able to at that time. She does not expect the impossible. When the time comes, she will take care of it herself, in her own way. It will come, that is for sure. (Sr. Mildred’s letter, May 29, 1957.) When Archbishop

Karl J. Alter retired in 1969, Bishop Paul F. Leibold became the Archbishop of Cincinnati. He had given the imprimatur to Sister's medal in 1961 and to the Prayer to the Indwelling Trinity in 1963. He worked with Bishop George J. Rehring of the Toledo diocese to have the medal struck and distributed. He helped Sister organize her manuscript of messages for printing. He also had small replicas and plaques of Our Lady's image made. **Now it is up to the US Bishops to complete Our Lady's ultimate request** to have a statue of her as Our Lady of America enthroned in our patronal church, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., after carrying it in solemn procession, **making HER SHRINE a place of special pilgrimage. She promises to make it a place of wonders-- with miracles, not of the body but of the soul, miracles greater than those granted at Lourdes and Fatima.** (Diary, Pgs, 14, 9.)

O Jesus, give us fervent and holy priests! Oh, how great is the dignity of the priest, but at the same time, how great is his responsibility! Much has been given you, O priest, but much will also be demanded of you. (#941, DIVINE MERCY IN MY SOUL.)

A subscriber informed us she received a word in prayer from Our Lady asking us to pray for our bishops, (and priests), particularly the bishop of our own diocese, by taking a photo of him and placing it in our prayer book or on the wall in our prayer space, to remind us to pray daily for the bishops of the United States to be the kind of priests Our Lady exhorts them to be. Let us ask Our Lady to keep her promise and to speak to their hearts so that those most opposed to Sister and to Our Lady will be given the grace to understand and to become her greatest advocates. (Diary, Pg. 37.) Without the priest there is no sacrifice; without sacrifice there is no worship; without worship there is no God. **Pray every day for our priests and bishops!** A great prayer for priests is the one St. John Vianney, the patron saint of priests, has given us.

God, please give to your Church today many more priests after your own heart. May they be worthy representatives of Christ the Good Shepherd. May they wholeheartedly devote themselves to prayer and penance; be examples of humility and poverty; shining models of holiness; tireless and powerful preachers of the Word of God; zealous dispensers of your grace in the sacraments. May their loving devotion to your Son Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary his Mother be the twin fountains of fruitfulness for their ministry. Amen.



All the treasures of my Heart are open to you. Take from this Heart all that you need for yourself and for the whole world. For the sake of your love, I withhold the just chastisements, which mankind has deserved. A single act of pure love pleases me more than a thousand imperfect prayers. One of your sighs of love atones for many offenses with which the godless offend Me. (From Divine Mercy in My Soul, St. Faustina.)

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