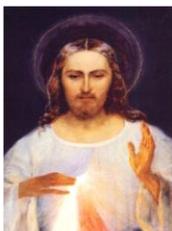


Priests Must Proclaim My Unfathomable Mercy



By Eugeniusz
Kazimirowski

No soul will be justified until it turns with confidence to My mercy, and this is why the first Sunday after Easter is to be the Feast of Mercy. On that day, priests are to tell everyone about My unfathomable mercy. I am making you the administrator of My mercy. Tell the confessor that the Image is to be on view in the church and not within the enclosure in that convent. By means of this Image I shall be granting many graces to souls; so let every soul have access to it. (Words of Jesus to St. Faustina)

My Heart is a refuge for all sinners. If only they would come to me, I would enclose them in My Heart. There they would be cleansed and My Father's anger would not reach them. Alas, bride of My Heart, alas for those who will not come to Me. Where will they hide from My Father's anger? (Words of Jesus to Sister Mildred Neuzil, letter, February 20, 1954.)

Jesus goes on to bid Sister to pray, pray, pray and sacrifice herself for the souls of poor sinners, for so many are lost because there is no one to pray or sacrifice for them. He chides His Chosen Ones.

Where are your prayers, oh My Priests and Religious, where are your sacrifices? Do you not know that sinners will not be converted unless prayer and penance call down the grace of God upon them? 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 in 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 Mildred Neuzil

Jesus bids Sister to tell her spiritual director, Father Paul F. Leibold, whom God placed over her, that His Heart is pleased with Father's efforts to make Jesus loved, and that He will make Father's work fruitful on behalf of the souls entrusted to his care. Jesus asks Father to double his efforts in making known the love of His Heart for poor sinners. He asks again for prayer and penance. Jesus then gives Sister this beautiful promise for Father.

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.)



On September 26-27, 1957, Our Lady gave Sister Mildred a special exhortation for her beloved sons, our priests, who are called to administer God's mercy to all.

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. It is through you that the grace of the Sacraments is given to souls. Strive then to make yourselves more worthy receptacles to receive these graces and transmit them in turn to the souls under your care...

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

While these words of Jesus and Mary are addressed in a special way to Priests and Religious, because we share in the Eternal Priesthood of Christ through Baptism and are likewise called to be saints, we, too, must share in this mandate to priests and religious to show great mercy to others. Our Lady pleads, **“Help me save those who will not save themselves.”**

In January of 1957 Our Lady echoed Christ’s earlier words to Sister in 1954.

“Pray and do penance, my sweet child, that this may come to pass. Trust me and love me; I so desire it. Do not forget your poor Mother, who weeps over the loss of so many of her children.”

“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.” (The Diary, Pgs. 15, 34.)

When God calls one to a great mission, He also gives the person great graces. One is a wise and holy spiritual director. Saint Faustina, Apostle of Divine Mercy, spoke of praying ardently and asking God Himself to choose a spiritual director for her to whom she could uncover the most hidden depths of her soul. She suffered a great deal in this regard, for it was only after many novenas, prayers and penances that God sent her a priest who understood her soul. There are times when everyone needs spiritual direction from caring and holy priests.

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.)

On February 13, 1937 #948, DIVINE MERCY IN MY SOUL, St. Faustina describes what she saw during the celebration of the Passover service. The experience is similar to that of Sister Mildred when Jesus asked her if she would be willing to wear His crown of thorns and be nailed to His cross for the love of souls, to be laid on the altar of sacrifice, to be a victim soul.

I saw Jesus being tortured and crowned with thorns and holding a reed in his hand. Jesus was silent as the soldiers were bustling about, vying with each other in torturing Him, Jesus said nothing, but just looked at me, and in that gaze I felt His pain, so terrible that we have not the faintest idea of how much He suffered for us before He was crucified. My soul was filled with pain and longing; in my soul, I felt great hatred for sin, and even the smallest infidelity on my part seemed to me like a huge mountain for which I must expiate by mortification and penance. When I see Jesus tormented, my heart is torn to pieces, and I think what will become of sinners if they do not take advantage of the Passion of Jesus: In His Passion, I see a whole sea of mercy.

Sister Mildred Neuzil was so blessed in the spiritual director God chose for her. When she first met Father Leibold, she knew he would be the one to guide her in this mission from Our Lady. She sensed his holiness and felt she could tell him anything.



Archbishop Paul F.
Leibold

You say, Rev. Father, that you feel frustrated. Well, so do I. Every great work, if it is to have any success or rather, if it is to bear much fruit for the glory of God must be pushed forward by suffering. You know better than I do, Father, that it is when we feel we are doing the least for God that we are in reality doing the most. For it is at such times that God receives the full glory of our efforts, while we receive nothing but what we deserve as His poor creatures, namely, the realization of our great weakness and inability to do any good without His aid.

When I feel as I do now, the full weight of my weakness and sinfulness, I cast myself and all my wretchedness into the Heart of Christ. There, Rev. Father, is our refuge. When we cast ourselves there upon our Lord, He Himself takes the full responsibility of our sanctification. We have only to humble ourselves and permit Him to do as He desires with us. It is not easy to feel so useless and so inadequate in the service of God. It is a hard way, but the safest way. It is the best way to keep us humble, and thus always to ensure for ourselves the love of God, Whose eyes are always and ever fixed upon the lowly and humble of Heart.

Sister then asks Father to offer the poor little white dove in His sacred hands to God daily at the Holy Mass. She wished to share deeply in His priesthood as he would share deeply in all the graces bestowed upon her. **“May a little white dove, unable to fly such a vast distance, find a place on one of the great wings of your Holy Priesthood and thus also come a little closer to the Divine Sun.”** (Sister Mildred Neuzil, June 29, 1954 letter.)

What does all this pertaining to three holy souls have to do with us? Quite simply, God wants us to understand the great gift of the Priesthood to us and how His mercy flows to us through the sacred hands of the Priest, on the altar, in the confessional, in blessing and compassion, direction and encouragement, teaching and discernment. He has given us the priesthood as one of the great gifts of His mercy in meting out the graces won for us in His terrible Passion. Let us meditate often on that Passion and on the priestly hands of Jesus that first offered Himself to the Father for us, and on the hands of our priests who daily offer Jesus to the Father to plead mercy and life upon all of us, our families, our nation, our Church and on the whole world. Let us seek refuge in the Heart of Jesus and heed His words to plead for deliverance from all the chastisements we, and all the world, so justly deserve, even now.

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....O child, especially beloved by Me, apple of My eye, rest a moment near My Heart and taste of the love in which you will delight for all eternity. (Divine Mercy in My Soul, Pg. 533.)



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