## The Real Pandemic Is the Virus That Is Killing Our Souls

"I am indeed the children who pierce my heart. and selfishness. They love my hearts. They refuse to follow the Cross, because they have not count the cost. But for They are willing to receive, in give. A full heart cannot



Mother of Sorrows, and it is my Their lives are filled with vanity Son with their lips but not in their me and my Son along the way of no love. Love gives, love does most souls, love asks too much. abundance, but they will not receive love. It must first be

emptied. It must give all, then it will receive all. Oh my children, give me your hearts, emptied of all self-seeking and sinful pleasures, and I will fill it with Divine Love. I will give you Jesus to hold in your hearts. He will fill it and then Jesus will live in you and work through you for the glory of His Father."

"Oh my children, turn your Mother's sorrow into joy. Take the sword out of my wounded Heart by doing what I ask. I seek only the glory of my Son and your greater good. Listen to your Mother's voice and be the consolation of my Immaculate Heart. My sweet child, unless my children reform their lives, they will suffer great persecution. If man himself will not take upon himself the penance necessary to atone for his sins and those of others, God, in His justice, will have to send upon him the punishment necessary to atone for his transgressions. War is the result of man's sins." (Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, letter, April of 1957.)

Day in and day out we are overwhelmed with news reports of the corona virus pandemic spreading around the world. We are at a loss for a cure or even a way to slow it down, and certainly have no clue how to prevent another outbreak. It has been called a war, "an invisible war," but little is said in the public arena that it may be a punishment for sin, "a chastisement hitherto unknown to us," as Our Lady of America warned in her message to Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil. There is no significant public outcry to Jesus, the Divine Physician, who cured the blind and the lame, raised Lazarus from the dead, calmed the storm on the sea, multiplied loaves and fishes to feed the hungry, and cast out demons from those possessed, to provide us with a cure. Where are those people who worked miracles in Jesus' name as in the past? At a time when prayer is most needed, our churches are closed. Whose work is that? The last century gave rise to great efforts to dethrone God while enthroning a variety of human dictators who committed heinous crimes against humanity, genocides of thousands of people, and now innocent babies in the womb. While our secular culture refuses to name sin, it parades it in our streets, signs it into law, even mocks the rainbow that marked God's timeless covenant with His people after the flood that was to purify the world of its sins against purity.

In ages past the devil was an ugly monster to be feared. Today some young people shout chants to him in our schools while others hail his reign of darkness on the steps of some of our government buildings. Who can believe the noble human being, made in God's image, has descended so low? Yes, we are at war, an invisible war for the souls of men and women everywhere. But the war is not new; it is the age-old battle of the Prince of Darkness against the King of kings and His Queen-Mother and their loyal subjects. Jesus, Son of the living God, was sent into our world to free us from servitude

to this Master Deceiver, to atone for our sins and to reconcile us to our Heavenly Father, Who raises us up to a *supernatural* state of being. He gives us a share in His own divine life with sanctifying grace. Only God, the source of our being, can give us the happiness for which we crave and were made-- union with Himself. Adam and Eve's disobedience brought sin into our world. We are all born scarred with its concupiscence, that tendency to exalt ourselves over God. Suffering, evil and death are now a natural part of our lives, but Jesus shows us how to make suffering redemptive, for ourselves and for others.

Jesus is the only Messiah and Redeemer of the world. He embraced our suffering and kissed the cross upon which we nailed Him. His infinite Love prompted the outpouring of every drop of His blood upon us, that in His Blood we might have new life. There at His side, from the moment of conception to the point of death on the cross, stood His Mother, the Mother of Sorrows, for it was we, her own children, who crucified her heart there along with her Son's with the swords of our ingratitude. "I am the true Messiah who was sent and the only one proclaimed as such by my Father. Seek Me for I only am truth, I only am the Christ." (Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Pg. 40, Our Lord to Sister, July 13, 1981.)

In the same April 1957 letter quoted on page one, Sister states that shortly after Our Lady's first appearance as Our Lady of America, Our Lady came to her under her image of Our Lady of Grace, for it is through her hands as co-redeemer with Christ, that all the



grace of His Sacred Heart flows to all humankind. Imagine, the Son crucified by His own creatures, and the Mother of the Crucified, continue to pour out on us, neither hate nor revenge, but the infinite love of God for His children despite all the rejection and refusal of love we show to them. Sister states: Only she wore a crown, and in her right hand she held out a rosary, in her left a scapular. From these, the rosary and scapular, there came forth, as it were, darts of light, like streaks of lightning. I was then given to understand, that this represented the graces that souls received through the devout use of these holy instruments of Mary.

Shortly after the appearance of Our Lady of Grace, Sister saw Our Lady as Our Lady of Mount Carmel. She was holding the Divine Child and both He and His Mother were wearing a crown. She was aiding the souls in Purgatory, especially those who had been faithful in the wearing of the scapular. Sister further stated to Father that at another time Our Lady presented her with the lily she was holding and said to her: "Take it and cherish it. It is the sign with which I mark my children." We have stated previously how Our Lady told Sister, as recorded in a



letter from her friend, that all her apparitions were converging in this one because of that great mystery and doctrine of the Divine Indwelling of the Trinity in the soul as the source of its peace and happiness. It was this that Jesus came to teach and for which He lived and died. Unless this mystery of God's Presence within is accepted and lived, peace will not come. (The Diary, Pg. 37, July 18, 1980.)

Sister also wrote Father Leibold, her spiritual director, about an experience she had years before while working in the Chancery. She said she was in one of those trance-like sleeps and was walking along a narrow road by herself when suddenly a figure was

beside her. It was a woman, but she could not see her face, as she was covered from head to foot in a long blue veil and mantle. She walked to the left of me, and so close I rested my head on her shoulder. As I did this, I said wonderingly, "Who are you?" She



replied, "I am Our Lady of Perpetual Help. I will help you always." It was an experience Sister never forgot, for the strain of her mission and the attacks of Satan against it, and her, so often required help from a power above. During this period of darkness with the corona virus, we, too, must beg the assistance of Our Lady of Perpetual Help to triumph over it. As with Jesus, we must ask for this help, for neither Jesus nor Mary will ever force their help upon us. They are too respectful of the freedom God gave us.

In her message, Our Lady of America was so anxious to impress upon us what a great gift from God is His Divine Presence within our souls through sanctifying grace. How can we sanctify our families and our world if we ourselves do not strive for personal holiness from deep within through union with the Indwelling Trinity? How many times throughout history, besides those mentioned here, has Our Lady appeared calling for repentance, conversion and the salvation of souls through reform of life, prayer, penance and interior renewal? How many holy instruments of grace has Our Lady brought us, especially her rosary and her scapular, next only to the Holy Mass, as weapons against evil and the power of Satan over the affairs of mankind? In the message of Our Lady of America Mary gives us her medallion for personal protection, her image in the home as protection for our homes and our families, and asks for a statue made in this new image to be enthroned in our Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., the center of the Catholic Church in America, as a protection for our land. She is our Mother, our Patroness, our Mediatrix and our Queen. When will Mary's beloved sons complete her urgent request for the protection of our beloved land?

As we walk with Jesus and Mary to the Hill of Calvary this Holy Week, let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus as He gazes upon her and surrenders to us, not only the whole of His life, but the most precious gift of His Mother to be our very own. As we fret over this evil virus affecting so many lives around the world, let us pick up her powerful weapons against evil, especially her rosary, and plead for the healing of our bodies, our minds and our souls with a confidence in her intercessory power with her Divine Son which our present world refuses to claim for its own. Let us put our confidence in the words of Sr. Lucia of Fatima, where Our Lady called herself "Our Lady of the Holy Rosary." Let us bind this whole world of ours to Our Lady with these unbreakable "chains of love."

By your Holy and Immaculate Conception, O Mary, deliver us from evil. Every evil, Amen.

"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."

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