

# **The Miracle of the Son**

## ***Not in the Sky But in Our Souls,***

### **Seen Only with the Eyes of Faith!**

**We consecrate our hearts, our homes, our Land to your Most Pure Heart, O great Queen, that the kingdom of your Son, our Redeemer and our God, may be firmly established in us.**

**We ask no special sign of you, sweet Mother, for we believe in your great love for us, and we place in you our entire confidence. We promise to honor you by faith, love, and the purity of our lives according to your desires.**

**(From the Prayer to the Immaculate Conception, Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil, Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA©, Fostoria, Ohio, Pg. 47.)**

October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011 marks the 94th anniversary of the Great Sign, the miraculous dancing of the sun that occurred in Fatima, Portugal on October 13, 1917, a phenomenon that left many who saw it fearing that it was the end of the world. The display in the sky was Our Lady's response to Lucia's request for a miracle so people would believe that she had seen the Blessed Mother and that what she related to them was indeed a message from heaven. Had not the beautiful lady herself said that she had come from heaven? Thousands witnessed this spectacular spinning of the sun and its plunges to earth, suspending the laws of the universe and stumping all scientific explanation. Yet, in spite of this sign of such proportion and marvel as never before witnessed on earth, some still refused to believe. How can this be? It has been said that for those who believe, no explanation is necessary, but for those who do not believe, no explanation will ever suffice!

Human beings were created in God's image with an intellect to search for the truth about life and our existence, who we are, where we came from, where we are going, and how we get there; the truth about God's existence and something of His nature from what we can observe of Him in the works of His hands and from the conclusions we are able to draw with logic and discursive reasoning. But--Truth is larger than reason, and the deepest truth about Who God IS can only be known by Faith and Revelation. The knowledge we call Faith does not contradict reason but builds on it, while wondrously and exceedingly transcending it, for it is a gift of God's infinite Spirit, as is wisdom and understanding. God reveals Himself to us, intimately, as Person, as Father, as Trinity, as Love and Mercy and perfect justice, as the pure perfection of all that is or can be. We creatures cannot know the law and splendor of our own nature without the revelation of God, the author of our nature Who created us for Himself. The Baltimore catechism answered the question "Why did God make me?" with "to know Him, to love Him, and to

serve Him in this world, and to be happy with Him in the next.” How unified and simple this response of Faith is as it thrusts us straight into the heart of the mystery of God!

**Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth; and God has placed in the human heart a desire to know the truth—in a word, to know himself—so that, by knowing and loving God, men and women may also come to the fullness of truth about themselves.**

**(Blessed John Paul II, FIDES ET RATIO, On Faith and Reason, Introduction.)**

Rational human knowledge comes through our bodily senses and craves the tangible, what can be seen, touched, felt, and examined. Faith, however, is knowledge which defies the limits of the intellect engorged with a diet of data at the table of subjective human experience. The greatest human minds are as nothing before the infinite mind and mystery of God! St. Thomas Aquinas, one of the most brilliant minds known to man, had a glimpse of heaven after which he refused to write again. So humbled was he by that glimpse that he felt all the knowledge he had expounded for the life of the Church was but straw when set against the incomprehensible wisdom and glory of God! Faith is that awesome gift that not only gives us **knowledge about God** but is itself a way of **knowing God in a spousal relationship, two become one in a communion of life. This is the Divine Indwelling -- God dwelling within our souls to espouse us to His Triune Self through His gift of sanctifying grace!**

On May 29, 1954 Our Lord spoke in locutions with Sister Mildred about the terrible lack of Faith in the world.

**My little white dove, do you know what I find most lacking in the world today? It is FAITH. There are so few souls that believe in Me and My love. They profess their belief and their love, but they do not live this belief. Their hearts are cold, for without faith there can be no love.” (Diary, Pgs 4-5.)**

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, #'s 35-38, tells us...

**Man’s faculties make him capable of coming to a knowledge of the existence of a personal God. But for man to be able to enter into real intimacy with him, God willed both to reveal himself to man and to give him the grace of being able to welcome this revelation in faith. The proofs of God’s existence, however, can predispose one to faith and help one to see that faith is not opposed to reason.**

**“Our holy mother, the Church, holds and teaches that God, the first principle and last end of all things, can be known with certainty from the created world by the natural light of human reason.” Without this capacity, man would not be able to welcome God’s revelation. Man has this capacity because he is created “in the image of God.”**

**In the historical conditions in which he finds himself, however, man experiences many difficulties in coming to know God by the light of reason alone: Though human reason is, strictly speaking, truly capable by its own natural power**

and light of attaining to a true and certain knowledge of the one personal God, who watches over and controls the world by his providence, and of the natural law written in our hearts by the Creator; yet there are many obstacles which prevent reason from the effective and fruitful use of this inborn faculty. For the truths that concern the relations between God and man wholly transcend the visible order of things, and, if they are translated into human action and influence it, they call for self-surrender and abnegation. The human mind, in its turn, is hampered in the attaining of such truths, not only by the impact of the sense and the imagination, but also by disordered appetites which are the consequences of original sin. ... This is why man stands in need of being enlightened by God's revelation.....

On July 13, 1981, feast of the Precious Blood, twenty-seven years after Our Lord's first locution on the lack of Faith in the world, Jesus lamented to Sister that neither the world nor his own people truly know Him.

**"My faithful spouse, the world does not know me. My people do not know me. I am a stranger to them. Many claim to love me yet hate and kill their neighbor and say they do it in My Name. These listen to the false prophets who are manipulated by the powers of evil. Me they do not follow, Me they do not hear. The Bible, the Gospels are to them just so many words that they throw out to those hungering to know about the real Christ who seeks their love, who holds out the true meaning of the Gospels, the only One who can lead them to the Father. ...**

**My dearest one, many false doctrines are being taught and for many the true Christ is never made known. The false prophets and self-proclaimed Messiahs are drawing many away from Me, the Way, the Truth and the Life. 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." (Diary, Pg. 40.)**

We are reminded how Jesus asked His apostles who people say the Son of Man is before turning to them and asking, **"Who do you say that I am?"** Peter answered, **"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God,"** to which Jesus stated, **"Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my heavenly Father."** (Mt 16:13-18) We know well the story of the "doubting Thomas" who would not believe Jesus had resurrected until he could put his fingers in Jesus' wounds, and the words of Jesus, **"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."** (Jn 20:27) How often do we ponder the passage in Luke 11: 27-29, where a woman in the crowd called out, **"Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed,"** to which Jesus replied, **"Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."** Jesus was not slighting His Mother, but was commending her obedience in faith, for she truly was His first disciple.

Faith is a gift, not something we can earn or figure out, for it wraps us round in the mystery of God Himself, the Most Holy Trinity, the Alpha and the Omega of all life and happiness. Those alive in the faith do not demand signs as proof of God's love for us, for

they see God's love constantly at work in our souls and in our world, in the sacraments and the sacramentality of the whole mystery of creation, redemption and our sanctification. If we cannot see these signs of love, perhaps we are not attuned to the Spirit who speaks to our hearts and penetrates our minds and who establishes the reign of the Indwelling Trinity in our souls. It is a rather unique dimension of the message of Our Lady of America® that there are no miraculous waters as at Lourdes, no miracle of the sun as at Fatima, no obvious physical phenomenon to amaze us, no new shrine to build as in these apparitions, as we were already building our National Shrine which honors and pleases our Patroness so. No, Our Lady of America®'s emphasis and promises are for the much more critically needed **miracles of the soul**. Her message is a call to live in the power of the greatest miracles of all, **the miracle of the Sacred Humanity**, our only Savior and Mediator before God, made flesh in our lives in the Virgin birth of Mary; and to know the **miracle of sanctifying grace in our souls, the Indwelling Presence of the Most Holy Trinity** which gives us a share in God's very own life. Our Lady of America® is calling us to a maturity of faith, believing what we cannot see but know is true because God's Word is Truth. She is turning us inward to the interior life, holiness from within. Our Lady tells us that by the grace and power of the Indwelling Trinity Satan will be destroyed forever and that our young people must especially take up this call, for evil is targeted heavily against them as the future of the Church and of a God-fearing world. **These are the dearest miracles of our Faith—the Sacred Humanity and the Indwelling Trinity—miracles for our souls! How many other miracles of grace flow from these two greatest mysteries of Christian belief. But – there can be no miracles without Faith!**

**“I am pleased, my child, with the love and honor my children in America give to me, especially through my glorious and unique privilege of the Immaculate Conception. I promise to reward their love by working through the power of my Son's Heart and my Immaculate Heart miracles of grace among them. I do not promise miracles of the body, but of the soul.”**

**Our Lady emphasized this very much. She is anxiously concerned about our inner life. She continued: “For it is mainly through these miracles of grace that the Holy Trinity is glorified among men and nations. Let America continue and grow in its love for me, and I in return, in union with the Heart of my Son, promise to work wonders in her. My child, I desire that this be known.”**

**“My child, I entrust you with this message that you must make known to my children in America. I wish it to be the country dedicated to my purity. The wonders I will work will be the wonders of the soul. They must have faith and believe firmly in my love for them. I desire that they be the children of my Pure Heart. ... I desire to make the whole of America my shrine by making every heart accessible to the love of my Son.” (Diary, Pgs. 10-12.)**

On the evening of August 5, 1957, feast of Our Lady of Snow, Sister Mildred states:

... As I knelt in my room, Our Lady spoke to me about the Divine Indwelling. It was her life and she lived it perfectly, always conscious of His presence, never forgetting that all her greatness came from within, from Him Who dwelt there, working, loving, and doing good through her. This is what Our Lady means when she speaks of reformation, renewal. It is this about which she is so concerned, namely, sanctification from within.

As Our Lady spoke this, she seemed at the time to be deeply occupied. Though the serenity of her countenance never left her, she spoke with a gravity that made her words all the more solemn. She seemed anxious to impress me with the idea of the greatness of this gift of God to us, namely, His Divine Presence within our souls through sanctifying grace. (Diary, Pg. 18.)

On the eve of his feast, March 19, 1958, St. Joseph appeared to Sister Mildred and said, **“Through you, small one, the Trinity desires to make known to souls Its desire to be adored, honored, and loved within the kingdom, the interior kingdom of their hearts.** (Diary, Pg. 27.) Nearly twenty-two years later, on July 18, 1980, Our Lady expressed her sorrow that the cause of interior holiness, the Indwelling Trinity in every person, is not being furthered.

**“Sweet child, beloved of my Son and cherished by me, my message has not been heeded nor have I yet found one to further the cause of renewal within. The Presence of the trinity within every human being is the focal point, the basis of interior holiness. From this will spring a deep life of prayer and a love for penance as the discipline needed to convert all peoples to a serious preparation for the coming of my Son and His Kingdom. ...**

You must try to make my people understand that the life of God within them is the source of their peace and happiness. There is no other way. **This is what my Son came to teach and bring and it was for this He lived and died. Unless this mystery of God’s Presence within is accepted and lived, peace will not come. It is the only way, believe me, my daughter.”** (Diary, Pg. 37.)

That miracle of the sun in Fatima in 1917 had to be incredibly dazzling to the eyes and dazzling to the mind. Even atheists wrote about it in their inability to explain it. But—as stupendous as that miracle of the sun was to the eyes of the body, can it compare to the miracles of grace only visible to the eyes of the soul, that miracle of grace that is the Sacred Humanity in our flesh and history? Or to the miracle of grace that is the Divine Indwelling of the Most Holy Trinity in our souls? Or the miracle of grace that is the Real and Eucharistic Presence of our Lord in Holy Communion which turns our poor selves into tabernacles in flesh for the living God? It takes Faith to believe and Faith to love! These miracles in our souls are far greater than the spinning sun, great as that was, but these miracles of grace demand a Faith that believes without seeing, yet sees with certainty with the eyes of faith, the eyes of the soul, what the eyes of the body are too weak to see and comprehend.

Sister Mildred wrote to her spiritual director, Father Paul Leibold, words St. Joseph spoke to her on March 30, 1958, reminding her of her first duty, **the first duty of every soul, especially of the chosen, of living with God in the interior castle of their hearts.**

**“It is time. Kneel my beloved daughter, for God is about to reveal to you a secret of the interior life. Few there are who learn it, and fewer they who live it in its fullness. This SECRET, dear child, is living with Him Who is within you and has made of your soul His Kingdom. There are many who know this Doctrine, but few to whom God reveals its secret operation. Few souls there are who empty themselves of all things that they may possess this SECRET OF SECRETS, this ultimate glory of all living, this union with the Divine, ending in Eternal Vision.**

**This Secret cannot be written, lovely child. Its deepest meaning will be made known to you in the interior depths of your child-like soul, in your humble heart, where LOVE has found its resting place, its palace beautiful. They who would possess for themselves this mysterious workings of the Divine Secret must strive to cultivate in *silence* and *humility* this love for the Eternal Being within them. We lived this life, beloved child, so to attain it, souls must imitate as far as possible the fullness of our union with The Indwelling God.”**

Already on November 22-23 of 1957, Sister Mildred had spoken of Mary, that most perfect example of the **miracle of the Son in her soul** when she described Mary as she really and truly was-- the Immaculate Tabernacle of the Indwelling God!

**Our Lady was standing on a globe, her right foot resting on a crescent or quarter moon, the left on the snout of a rather small and very ugly looking dragon. I saw fire come out of his huge jaws, but not very much, as he could not open them wide enough because of Our Lady's foot. At times he seemed to be somewhat black, again of a shade of green. Our Lady was all in white. Her veil was so long that it seemed to envelop the globe halfway. Sometimes the veil appeared so transparent that Our Lady's hair could be seen through it, and the hair seemed to be sparkling with the light of many glittering stars. At times the edges of the veil, sleeves, and garments seemed to be outlined in light. The veil was held about her head by a wreath of white roses. Her feet were bare.**

**The previous day Our Lady had appeared with her hands outstretched. At this second visit she slowly raised them, then crossed them on her breast rather close to her waist. While doing so, she bent her head slightly forward, and it seemed that her eyes closed, not just lowered. On her breast, as though through a veil, the Triangle and the Eye, which is often depicted as the symbol of the Divine Indwelling, could be visibly seen. I said that Our Lady's feet were bare, that is, devoid of any kind of footwear, but on each foot was a large white rose. The roses, both on the feet and on the crown, were of such dazzling whiteness that the outlines of the petals could barely be seen, sometimes not at all. It seemed that a strong beam of light streamed from the Divine Presence within Our Lady onto the**

globe at her feet. Then halfway around the figure of Our Lady above her head appeared a scroll on which were written in letters of gold the words: "All the glory of the King's daughter is within."

Though it did not appear that her lips moved, yet I heard these words quite plainly: "I am Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling, handmaid of Him Who dwells within." She seemed suffused in a soft glow of light that appeared to come from within her. It seemed to permeate and, as it were, saturate her whole being, even her apparel and the roses. (Diary, Pgs. 22-23.)

Can any miracle in the sky compare to that miracle of the Son  
in His Triune nature in the depths of Mary's soul? Or ours?

*Live, my Triune God, so live in me that all I do be done by Thee,  
that all I think and all I say  
will be Thy thoughts and words this day!*

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Fostoria, Ohio, October, 2011. Anniversary of the miracle of the sun at Fatima.

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