

Peace on Earth...When Will It Come?

For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. (John 14:27) Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Phil 4: 6-7)

We hear a great deal today about peace, as war seems to be everywhere, but peace is not about the absence of war but about the Presence of God, source of true peace. How then are we to know the peace of God that transcends all understanding?

On September 7th, the vigil of the nativity of Our Lady, Pope Francis had asked **all** Christians to pray and fast for peace in Syria, Egypt, the Middle East, and the entire world so ravaged by war, violence, inhumanity and a culture of death and darkness. In the message of Our Lady of America® given to Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil Jesus tells us in the early 1940's, [during WWII] that we need not fear **“man-made destroyers of life”** but the destruction that is in ourselves by which **we** destroy ourselves. He says what is most lacking in the world today is Faith. We refuse to believe in and love the God Who loves us beyond comprehension, Who sent His only begotten Son into our world precisely to bring us His everlasting peace through the forgiveness of sin and the gift of his sanctifying grace, His Indwelling Presence. How fitting that Pope Francis chose the eve of the Nativity of Mary for a day of prayer, reminding the world of Our Lady's role in our redemption and in the reign of Christ's peace on earth among people of good will. It is Mary who brought the Prince of Peace and King of kings into our world, who surrendered Him to the Father's Will on Calvary for our salvation, and who dispenses His saving grace to us to overcome the hatred, jealousy, greed and lust for wealth and power that divide one nation against another and one heart against its sister or brother. As mother of the Prince of Peace and King of kings, she is rightly honored as Queen of heaven and earth, Queen of Peace. As Queen Mother her favor with her King Son is boundless.

The mention of world peace reminds us immediately of Our Lady's peace plan for the world given to the three shepherd children, Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia, at Fatima in Portugal in 1917, toward the end of World War I. That peace plan will not end as long as man has free will and the world does not end. All page references hereafter refer to **the Diary of Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil, OUR LADY OF AMERICA®** which complements the message of Fatima and expands on it for the whole Church. Both messages address the extreme sinfulness of our generation and call us to prayer, penance, reparation, reform of life, a turning away from sin and back to God, to faith and purity through union with the Indwelling God whose kingdom of peace, of love, is within us. Both have warnings of terrible chastisements for sin and promises of great blessing

for repentance. Each gives the Church and the country favored with Our Lady's visit a special mandate from heaven that must be fulfilled for peace and blessing to follow: for Fatima, the consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart and the devotion of the Five First Saturdays of reparation for sins committed against the Immaculate Heart; for America, enthronement of the statue of Our Lady of America® in our National Shrine, renewal of the family through devotion to the Holy Family, personal holiness in the sanctifying grace of the Indwelling Trinity, and leadership in a worldwide spiritual renewal.

At Fatima Jesus asked the Church to establish devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary alongside devotion to His Sacred Heart. In the message of Our Lady of America® Jesus emphasizes Mary's role as Co-redemptrix [Page 24] and Mediatrix of His grace [Page 18] for the salvation of all. While Fatima focused on peace through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the message of Our Lady of America® states that God wishes to honor St. Joseph as Virgin-Father of Jesus on earth and **Co-redeemer with Jesus and Mary in the Earthly Trinity**, [Page 13] and that **"The Divine Trinity has placed into our keeping [the Holy Family] the peace of the world."** [Page 29] Why the Holy Family? Jesus spoke interiorly to Sister Mildred in the early 1940's that her mission was to converge toward the sanctification of the family, [Page 4] which is under so much attack in our secular society today. St. Joseph is Protector of the Pope, [Page 30] the Church and the family. [Pgs 26-32]

The Fatima apparitions were preceded by three visits of the Angel of Portugal, the Angel of Peace in 1916. At the first, he asked the children to pray and sacrifice for those who do not believe in nor love God. At the second, he asked them to offer sacrifices and accept whatever suffering came their way in reparation for sin, for the conversion of sinners and for peace in their country. At the third, he taught them the Trinity prayer honoring Jesus in all the tabernacles of the world; then he gave them Holy Communion.

In the apparitions of Our Lady of America® Sister Mildred also had three visits of the Angel of Peace whom she later understood to be St. Michael. In 1954, [Pages 7-8] he asked Sister if she would accept the cross. In 1957 he announced the coming of the kingdom of peace, Christ's **kingdom within us**. [The Divine Indwelling, Page 17] In 1958 he presented Sister Mildred with the torch of Divine Love to carry throughout the world and called on Youth, especially, to be Torchbearers of the Queen. [Page 25] After the first visit of St. Michael in 1954 Our Lady spoke to Sister Mildred [locutions] of the simple virtues lived by the Holy Family at Nazareth, the earthly paradise where God walked among men. Our Lady urged us to imitate these virtues so we, too, might be God's paradise on earth and He would walk among us and we would have peace. **"I need your help to bring peace into the world,"** she said. [Page 8]

At Fatima, May 13th, 1917, the apparitions began and the children were asked to return to the Cova da Iria on the thirteenth day of the next five months. The Lady said they would go to heaven but their friend Amelia would be in purgatory until the end of the world. Our Lady asked if they would be willing to suffer in reparation for sin and for the

conversion of sinners and to pray the rosary every day for peace in the world and to end the war. At the second apparition on June 1, 1917, Lucia was told Jacinta and Francisco would go to heaven soon but she would have to remain to establish devotion to the Immaculate Heart in the world. The children were shown the Immaculate Heart of Mary encircled with thorns inflicted by the sins of her ungrateful children.

A similar revelation and appeal for reparation to Mary's Immaculate Heart was given to Sister Mildred on September 27, 1956. Having already appeared to Sister under the image of Our Lady of Lourdes and the new image of Our Lady of America®, Mary now appeared holding the world in her hands as she wept over it. Later she spoke of the sword in her heart, [vision at Fatima also] plunged therein by her children who refuse to let her teach them the only true way to the Father, the Divine Humanity, Jesus!

“Behold, O my children, the tears of your Mother! Shall I weep in vain? ... I come to you, O children of America, as a last resort... I am the Immaculate One, Patroness of your land. Be my faithful children as I have been your faithful Mother.”
[Page 12] [On February 11, 1958, Our Lady said:] **“Beloved daughter, you wonder at the sword and the deep wound it has made in my Heart. It is the sword of grief plunged therein by my children who refuse to let me teach them the true way. There is only one true way to the Father, my child, one way to eternal union. It is the way of the divine humanity. It is through my Son, the Only-begotten of the Father, that souls attain perfect union with the Divinity, as perfect as human nature is capable of, aided by divine grace.”** [Page 23] [On December 20, 1959 Mary said] **“See, I weep, but my children show me no compassion. They behold the sword in my heart but will make no move to withdraw it. I give them love; they give me only ingratitude.”** [Page 34]

At the third apparition of Fatima, July 13, 1917, Our Lady spoke of the triumph of her Immaculate Heart and promised a sign in October so everyone would believe. She then revealed **the three secrets of Fatima**. The first was a vision of hell and a request to pray for the conversion of sinners. The second was the warning of great chastisement, World War II, in punishment for sin and disobedience to God's will. To avert this chastisement Our Lady asked that we pray the rosary for world peace and the conversion of Russia, wear the brown scapular, practice the five First Saturdays of Reparation, and that Russia be formally consecrated to her Immaculate Heart by the Pope and all the Catholic bishops of the world. Why Russia? Russia was God's chosen instrument of chastisement, fomenting war, atheism, error and persecution of the Church around the world. The Pope would suffer much, the good would be martyred and whole nations would be annihilated. Our Lady said the current war would soon end but a worse war would begin in the reign of Pius XI if we did not stop offending God who is already too much offended, and it would be preceded by a great unknown light in the sky. History has recorded the failure to consecrate Russia to avert this chastisement. The Bolshevik Revolution took place there in late 1917, just weeks after the apparitions, and World War II began in 1939 and brought such devastation, the atomic bomb and the Holocaust. We now live in constant fear of that still worse third world war, likely nuclear, if there is not

enough repentance, more good than evil in the world. The third secret was not to be revealed before 1960, but in 1960 Blessed John XXIII opened and resealed the letter, as did Pope Paul VI. In 2000 Blessed John Paul II opened it and released it to the public. It concerned the struggle of atheism against the Church, the sufferings of the victims of the 20th century and the sufferings of the Pope. He was the unnamed Pope Jacinta had seen get shot and fall dead in her vision. John Paul II was shot on **May 13, 1981**, but Our Lady saved him and the bullet now rests in Our Lady of Fatima's crown in Portugal.

God's justice is always triumphed by His mercy. Before the chastisement of the Second World War, Our Lord began appearing to Polish nun, Sister Maria Faustina in 1931, inviting all to seek His Divine Mercy. She died in 1938 when the war was taking shape in Germany and Spain was in upheaval. After the war, on September 25, 1956 the apparitions of Our Lady of America® began, renewing the call for penance and reform of life and warning of chastisements, especially on America, if we do not listen to Our Lady.

“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.” [Page 21] “America, the United States in particular, is being given the tremendous, yet privileged, opportunity to lead all nations in a spiritual renewal never before so necessary, so important, so vital.” [February 11, 1958, Page 25]

“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.” [Page 10] “My Immaculate Heart will win in the end, and the Spirit of Christ will dwell in the hearts of men. Those in whom this Spirit is not found will be condemned to eternal hell-fire.” [Page 23]

On August 15, 1917, the children could not go to the Cova da Iria to see the Lady because they had been abducted by the Administrator and were imprisoned. Our Lady appeared to them on the 19th and asked for penance for the souls who go to hell because there is no one to pray for them. Twenty thousand people gathered at the fifth apparition on September 15, 1917, and saw iridescent petals fall from the sky. Our Lady asked for the recitation of the rosary to end the war, for it is the key to personal and world peace, and promised that in October Our Lady of Sorrows, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and St. Joseph with the Child Jesus [the Holy Family] would come; she would perform a miracle so all would believe, and she would give the children her name.

God always invites us to share in His work of redemption; he never forces our free will. Mary was invited at the Annunciation. The children were invited to do penance for the salvation of souls. Sister Mildred, too, was invited by St. Michael to accept the cross and by Jesus Himself to accept the cross and the crown of thorns. Her letter of August 6, 1956 to her spiritual director, Father Paul Leibold, states:

Jesus came to me holding a large cross and a crown of thorns. He said to me smiling, as though He knew what the answer would be (He did of course.) "I come with My cross and My crown of thorns, will you accept Me My spouse?" ... Who could refuse Jesus anything? During the night I awoke and Jesus said to me, and He said it with a profound emphasis: "I have placed you upon the Altar of Sacrifice." [June 14th]... He asked me again: "Bride of My Heart, do you still wish to suffer all things to give Me to souls?" I answered: "Yes, yes dear Lord", ... He said, "My little white dove, will you then continue to wear the Crown of Thorns, and permit yourself to be nailed to the Cross?" I told him in the best way I could, how much I desired Him to do with me just as He desired. So in this way my desires are wholly united to His.

October 13, 1917 the sixth and last apparition Our Lady identified herself as Our Lady of the Rosary and the children were given a vision of the Holy Family. It is **"the day the sun danced," the day of the great miracle.** People feared the end of the world had come. While people gazed at the sun, Lucia saw three scenes-- the joyful, the sorrowful and the glorious mysteries of the rosary. In the first St. Joseph appeared with the Child Jesus and Our Lady of the Rosary. St. Joseph and Jesus blessed the crowd three times. The second scene was of Our Lady of Sorrows with the sword in her breast and of Our Lord on the way to Calvary. In the third scene Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, crowned Queen of heaven and earth, appeared with the Child Jesus in her bosom. While the sun dazzled and zigzagged in the sky toward the screaming crowd and then returned to its place in the sky, it dried the rain drenched earth and clothes of the people there gathered. Even with such a spectacular miracle, many did not believe nor repent. Do we?

In August of 1957 Our Lady of America® stated that her Immaculate Heart is the channel through which the graces of the Sacred Heart are given to men. She warned against the false peace of this world which destroys so many and lamented our failure, like so long with the message of Fatima, to heed her warnings and to reform our lives. On August 5, 1957, feast of Our Lady of Snow, she spoke of the Divine Indwelling.

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. ... She seemed anxious to impress me with some idea of the greatness of this gift of God to us, namely, His Divine Presence within our souls through sanctifying grace. ... "They think they have done enough in consecrating themselves to my Immaculate Heart. It is not enough. That which I ask for and is most important many have not given me. What I ask, have asked, and will continue to ask is reformation of life. There must be sanctification from within." [Page 18] [Hence, the Divine Indwelling is the way to peace through the recognition of God in every person.]

After the six public apparitions of Fatima Jacinta spoke of private visions: the Pope being persecuted, the second war in which many would die and go to hell. She said war is punishment for sin. Although Francisco was to die soon, she chose to suffer more for the conversion of sinners and the salvation of souls. Our Lady told Jacinta she could no longer hold back the arm of her Son from chastising the world for its sins and said, if the world does not change, God would send a punishment that would fall first on Spain. We

know from history the Spanish Civil War began in 1936 and ended in 1939, the same year World War II began. Our Lady stated that the disobedience of priests and religious to the Holy Father and to their superiors offends our Lord, and she warned against those who govern and persecute the religion and Church of Our Lord and asked Jacinta to pray for them. The child said more souls go to hell for sins of the flesh than any other, and warned fashions would appear that greatly offend Our Lord, and that many marriages are not good. Our Lady taught Jacinta the need to flee riches, to speak ill of no one and to have charity even for those who are bad. She spoke of confession as a sacrament of mercy and said she desired more virgin souls to bind themselves to her in a vow of chastity and to be pure in body and soul. Our Lady said doctors cannot cure the sick properly because they do not have the love of God.

After Francisco and Jacinta's deaths, Our Lady continued to speak to Lucia. On December 10, 1925 Our Lady asked for the Church to formally establish the First Saturday devotion for five consecutive months in reparation for the sins committed against her Immaculate Heart. She promised great assistance at death for those devoted to the brown scapular. In 1927 Our Lord asked Lucia to reveal the first two parts of the Secret but to be silent on the third part. Lucia chose 1960 as the date to reveal it. On June 13, 1929 Lucia had a vision of the Holy Trinity and the Immaculate Heart of Mary and was asked to make a formal request for the Holy Father to consecrate Russia, in union with all the bishops of the world, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In 1930 the request for approval of the First Saturday devotion was sent to Pope Pius XI. Later Our Lord appeared to Lucia complaining the consecration had not been done and the Holy Father and bishops would repent, like the king of France, but it would be too late. Russia will already have spread its errors and persecution of the Church throughout the world. In 1936 the consecration still had not been done and Lucia asked Our Lord why he would not convert Russia without the Holy Father making the consecration. Jesus answered: **“Because I want My whole Church to acknowledge that consecration as a triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, so as to subsequently extend the devotion to it and place it alongside the devotion to My Sacred Heart.”** In 1940, with the Second World War underway, as we had not heeded the warnings, Lucia lamented that the consecration was still incomplete. Therefore, on December 2, 1940, she herself appealed to Pope Pius XII to fulfill the request with all the bishops as Our Lady had asked. On October 31, 1942, Pius XII consecrated the Church and the human race to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In 1943, Our Lord told Lucia to ask the bishops of Spain, already chastised with the Civil War, to pray and draw up a plan of reform for the people, the clergy, and religious orders. The penance He desires is the sacrifice one must make to fulfill his or her religious and temporal duties. Our Lord also said he would honor Pius XII's consecration, though incomplete, with the end of the war but the conversion of Russia would be postponed. He also said if the bishops of Spain did not obey, Russia would be the scourge by which they would be punished.

In 1952 Pius XII consecrated the peoples of Russia to the Immaculate Heart. Having received a petition from 510 archbishops and bishops at Vatican II, Pope Paul VI closed the third session of the Council on November 21, 1964, confiding the human race to the Immaculate Heart and proclaiming Our Lady *Mater Ecclesiae*. Blessed John Paul II consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart in 1982 and again in 1984, inviting all bishops to join with him. There is no clear way to ascertain if all bishops did, but with the collapse of communism and other events beginning in Russia in 1989 which destroyed their nuclear weapons and power and expertise and position as a world power, Sister Lucia has held the opinion that Our Lady accepted these consecrations. Gorbachev admitted he had ordered the hit on Blessed John Paul II and asked the Pope for forgiveness. His sincerity was evident in his restoration of religious freedom in Russia.

Prayer, penance, reform of life, sanctification from within, and the interior life are endless themes in the messages of Fatima and Our Lady of America®. The imitation of the simple virtues of the Holy Family and a spirituality of communion with the Indwelling Trinity provide the path to true peace and happiness and the harmony of nations and peoples. Both messages share an emphasis on the sacraments, especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist [Page 40] and Holy Matrimony and obedience to God's laws and the laws of His Church. [Especially in the apparitions of St. Joseph, Pages 26-31] Our Lady of America® exhorts her beloved sons, the priests, [Page 20], and the chosen ones to be the first to live lives of prayer and self-denial and to shun the trinkets of the world. [Pages 24, 33] Lucia was graced with a vision of the Heavenly Trinity and the Holy Family, God's trinity on earth. These two trinities are at the very center of the message of Our Lady of America®. As at Fatima, Our Lady calls for the family rosary [Page 21] and promises great favor to those found in the circle of her rosary. Jesus calls on parents to be good examples to their children and on children to honor and obey their parents. [Pages 5-7] At Fatima Our Lady has shown us that the peace of the world will come through her Immaculate Heart and that the conversion of Russia must be recognized as a triumph of that Immaculate Heart. Our Lady of America®'s message restates the triumph of the Immaculate Heart and further states that the Trinity has placed the peace of the world in the hands of the Holy Family, and that peace must come from within, not from without. Our Lady says: **“Man will only have peace if he has in his heart that true love of neighbor that springs from a wholehearted love for my Son”**. [Page 16]

Our Lady of Fatima asked for the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart to prevent the chastisements. Our Lady of America® is, in effect, asking for the consecration of America to her Immaculate Heart when asking the bishops of the United States to enthrone a statue of her under this new image in a place of honor in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., after being carried in solemn procession. She wishes to be honored there as **“Our Lady of America, the Immaculate Virgin®”**, a title indicating her gratitude for honoring her as our Patroness under her privileged title of the Immaculate Conception and her desire that

we be the nation dedicated to her purity. She mandates America to lead the world in spiritual renewal toward the peace of Christ that comes from that abiding Presence of Divine Love. Youth have a vital part in this spiritual renewal as Torchbearers of the Queen. Our Lady has given us her medallion for personal protection, the statue in the National Shrine for national protection, and says a statue or image of her will provide protection for the home, [Page 25] for the hatred of the world is focused on America because of this heavenly mandate to America. [Page 39] Our Lady, St. Joseph and the angels and hosts of heaven will assist us. We must never forget, the One within, the Divine One, is always stronger than the one without, the master liar and deceiver of men. Our Lady promised in 1956 that **“greater miracles than those granted at Lourdes and Fatima would be granted here in America, the United States in particular, if we would do as she desires.”** If we fail we must question the possibility of that still worse third world war spoken of at Fatima, a nuclear war. Between 1982-83, after Blessed John Paul II made the first consecration of Russia, Sister Mildred asked Our Lady if there would be a nuclear war. Our Lady responded that if we heeded her warnings and reformed our lives, there would be no nuclear war, but she has done all she can; it is now up to us. Should one happen, she assured us there would be a remnant untouched by the chaos who would renew the earth with their holy lives. [Page 45] As for chastisements hitherto unknown in America, have we not seen plenty in recent years, especially 9/11? As Mother of the Prince of Peace and King of kings, Mary is rightly the Queen Mother, our Queen of Peace. She is always more Mother than Queen and will never abandon us, but **after fifty-seven years, it is time we answer her questions: “...Will my children in America listen to my pleadings and console my Immaculate Heart? Will my loyal sons carry out my desires and thus help me bring the peace of Christ once again to mankind?”** [Page 15]

Let us act on the exhortation of Pope Pius XII in his October 11, 1954 encyclical, ***Ad Caeli Reginam***, #48, in which he proclaimed the Queenship of Mary.

Let all, therefore, try to approach with greater trust the throne of grace and mercy of our Queen and Mother, and beg for strength in adversity, light in darkness, consolation in sorrow; above all let them strive to free themselves from the slavery of sin and offer an unceasing homage, filled with filial loyalty, to their Queenly Mother. Let her churches be thronged by the faithful, her feast-days honored; may the beads of the Rosary be in the hands of all; may Christians gather, in small numbers and large, to sing her praises in churches, in homes, in hospitals, in prisons. May Mary’s name be held in highest reverence, a name sweeter than honey and more precious than jewels; may none utter blasphemous words, the sign of a defiled soul, against that name graced with such dignity and revered for its motherly goodness; let no one be so bold as to speak a syllable which lacks the respect due to her name.

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