

# Co-redeemers With Christ

## Mary, Joseph, Sister Mildred and All of Us!



### *Sister's Expiation for Sins Against Chastity*

**“My child, nothing is accomplished without pain. Prepare to suffer much. You see the sword in the Heart of your Mother. Suffering completed the work of divine grace in my soul. He who refuses to suffer will never abide in the spirit of Christ, will never be formed into His image.”**

**“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, only 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.”**

**“O my small one, beloved of my Son's Heart, prepare yourself by prayer, penance, and suffering for what is to come.” ...“I am the Mother of the sacred humanity, and it is my special work as co-redemptrix of the human race to help souls reach the sanctity of the Father in eternal union by showing them how to put on Christ, to imbibe His Spirit, and thus become one with Him.”**

**“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. 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.”**

**(Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil, The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Pages 23, 24, 34.)**

Each September we celebrate three special feasts of Our Blessed Mother. The first is her birth which follows upon her Immaculate Conception in the womb of her mother, St. Anne, both events marking the beginning of the whole redemptive mystery. The second is the feast of her Most Holy Name, a name God chose for her and which Tradition tells us was given to Joachim in a dream, much like Joseph would be told in a dream to call Mary's child Jesus, for He would save God's people from their sins. The third is her sorrows, too many to name but the Church celebrates seven in particular: the prophecy of Simeon that a sword would pierce her heart; the flight into Egypt to save Jesus from death at Herod's hands; the loss of Jesus in the temple when He would declare His manhood and divine paternity; that sorrowful meeting with Jesus on the Way of the Cross; climbing with Jesus up the hill to Calvary to be present with Him throughout His tortured death on the cross of ignominy; and finally, holding her dead Son in her arms before bathing His body and placing it in the tomb. In the words of the Stabat Mater—**“Come and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow?”**



*Maria Bambina - Baby Mary*

Since the early days of the Church, Christians have believed in Mary's role as co-redemptrix of the human race. She herself proclaims it in the message of Our Lady of America, even though the Church has never defined that as dogma. Some feel the Church refuses to define what we truly believe in order not to offend our non-Catholic brethren who do not accept Mary's role in God's plan of salvation as we do. Surely that makes it more

difficult, then, to accept St. Joseph's words in the message of Our Lady of America, that he is co-redemptor with Jesus and Mary **by way of his compassion as father and spouse for their sufferings**, as he would not be present on Calvary with them, a compassion for Jesus and Mary greater than any other person's on earth. On August 22, 1957, feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Our Lady of America declared that **"My heart, my Immaculate Heart, is the channel through which the graces of the Sacred Heart are given to men."** Since Our Lady participated in and cooperated with the redemptive mission of Jesus from His conception to His death, and gave Him her flesh and her blood for His Body to be sacrificed on the altar of atonement, and since she was eternally ordained to do so as **Virgin-Mother of the Messiah, the title "co-redemptrix" is heavenly ordained.** While Jesus made perfect atonement for all sin, redemption still must be accepted by each person and a measure of temporal punishment is still due for our sins. St. Paul says we must make up for what is lacking in the Body of Christ, His Mystical Body, His Church, by becoming co-redeemers with Christ through our baptism into His Paschal Mystery so we might expiate for the presence of sin in our temporal existence when redemption is refused. Redemption, with reconciliation to God, is a gift freely given and must be freely accepted to be complete. God never forces Himself upon us. He invites and woos. Like the Hound of Heaven, God pursues the human soul with His boundless Love. His Love prompted our redemption, and His Love seeks our love in return. **"I am a beggar for Love,"** He told Sister Mildred. Jesus also told Sister that evil spirits have been unleashed upon the earth in punishment for the world's grievous sins, and only sacrificial souls willing to return His Love can cast them into the infernal abyss from which they have come. Sister was such a willing and sacrificial soul, even to the point of being rejected by her own community of sisters.

**"My little, white dove, the evil spirits have been let loose upon the earth because love has grown cold in the hearts of men. Only sacrificial souls will be able to cast them forth into the infernal abyss from which they have come forth."**



*Espoused to Jesus*

**"Bride of my Heart, let love be the sacrificial altar of your holocaust. Behold the Furnace of Love, the Heart of your Divine Spouse. Lead to this Eternal Fire, oh My Spouse, which burns incessantly in My Adorable Heart, all those who are willing to sacrifice themselves to that Everlasting Love, Who first sacrificed Himself for them."** (Sister Mildred's Letter, June 5, 1957.)

In an early, undated letter to her spiritual director, Father Paul Leibold, Sister spoke of attacks by Satan, the "ordeal of 1950," and a vision of the sin that is wasting the earth, so terrible it is that the prolonged sight of it would have caused her death.

**I do not know how long this trial lasted—weeks, months. Then suddenly it stopped. But the devil was furious. Through the help of our Lord and His Holy Mother, he had lost his hold over me and had himself been defeated. He would give me a frightening remembrance of his hatred. One evening, I believe it was the same day the "ordeal" ended, as I made preparations for the night, I felt his presence in my cell. I got into bed and just as I closed my eyes the "attack" began, just that suddenly. It was no dream as I was not yet asleep. It was as though two huge, horrible arms encircled themselves around me and like a monstrous vise kept tightening and tightening. I could help myself in no way except by prayer. So I cried out in terror, "Jesus, Mary!" By this time the pressure, the pain became so unbearable, I was gasping for breath, but I managed to cry out one last prayer—"Jesus, Mary, Joseph!" Then just as suddenly as it started, it stopped. I opened my eyes and my soul was filled with that deep sense of peace that has since never left me. I opened my eyes to darkness but it held**

no terror for me as the Phantom of Evil had fled. Our Lord has since told me that one special part of my “mission” was to make reparation for sins against the chaste virtue. He said that to do this I would have to suffer these “attacks” off and on, all through my life. He asked if I were willing. I shuddered, Father, but how could I refuse Him? He is so good, besides His grace would always be there to help me. But it is a cause of much suffering to me and mental distress. I never know when these “attacks” will come, so can do nothing but pray. These latter attacks usually last only a few moments or minutes, sometimes longer, but they always seem to last such a long time and I am always in dread of them.

The attacks, Father, are extremely painful to me and cause me a great deal of suffering. In the midst of this horror our Lord appeared before me showing His burning Heart. He smiled at me and in a most encouraging manner thanked me for suffering this for His sake. Just think of it, Father, God thanking His very small creature for simply doing her duty. What exquisite manners He has. I was ashamed because I thought of the many times I neglect to thank Him for all His great mercy. Then He was gone and terror was on me again. Then suddenly it was over and I found myself, it seemed, in a very small room in what appeared was a cellar. As I sat there, facing the wall, the devil appeared and started towards me. He was very black and his eyes seemed to glow like red-hot coals of fire. Yet in my heart there dwelt a great confidence. It was not in vain. Just as the devil was about to grab hold of me, St. Michael stood by my side and his sword flashed between, warding him off. The devil fled then and did not return. St. Michael turned and looked at me. He smiled. It was a big smile. It said plainly—you did very well, now everything will be alright.



*Burning Heart of Jesus*

On February 20, 1917, at Fatima, Our Lady said that “**the sins which cause most souls to go to hell are the sins of the flesh,**” sins against chastity. She also said that many souls go to hell because there is no one to sacrifice and pray for them. It is this same message which Our Lady of America gives us through Sister Mildred Neuzil when she begs us to “**help me save those who will not save themselves.**” With Our Lady, St. Joseph, and the whole communion of saints, let us join our prayers and sacrifices to the Sacrifice of Jesus at every Holy Mass, pleading for the conversion of sinners and the salvation of souls, for Christ’s peace in our world. Let us put on *the vestments of Jesus’ Passion*—His crown of thorns, His Holy disfigured Face, His shoulder wound, His pierced side, the wounds in His hands and feet, the spittle and curses and blasphemies hurled against Him—and *compassionate with Him, as Our Lady and St. Joseph did,* over the sins of mankind. Let us weep with Christ’s Holy Mother over the loss of so many of her children and plead the Most Precious Blood of Her Divine Son upon every soul upon this earth, praying that not another soul should die the second death, that satan’s evil power over souls be completely destroyed. May the Blood of Jesus be not in vain for even one more soul. May the tears of our most Holy Mother wash away from us every stain of impurity of body, heart, mind, and soul so we might stand with her as spiritual sons and daughters, images of Christ, before the throne of His Father in heaven, our Father. Amen.

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord? ... His Mother was!  
And so must we be, at every Mass when His death is made present!**

**O Son, Divine Lord, made man, crucify me with Yourself that I may become, in union with You, a sacrifice of praise to the glory of your Father.** (Prayer to the Indwelling Trinity.)

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