

I Am the True Messiah

The Only One Proclaimed as Such by My 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.”

(Sr. Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil, Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA©, Fostoria, OH Pg. 40.)

These words spoken by our Lord to Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil on July 13, 1981, express the very core of our Faith-- that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, our Savior, the true and only Savior of the world. We know that with the sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve, man was separated from God by a huge chasm from which we had no escape. No mere man could bridge that gap for no mere man could be or become God to reconnect the divine with the human, the infinite with the finite. It would be a contradiction to our finite human nature to be both human and divine at the same time and therefore impossible. But God, on the other hand, being God and the author of the universe, its laws and our human nature, has supreme authority over all that He has made. Nothing is impossible for Him for He transcends it all. God could bridge that gap because God could assume a human nature while retaining His own divine nature, wed two different natures together in one Divine Person. He could be both God and man at the same time. Thus was born the God-man Whose very name identifies Him as the absolute and essential connecting link between God and us, between Creator and creature, between the infinite and the finite, between the divine and the human. That God-man is Jesus, The Christ, The Anointed One, sent from God and by God to bridge the gap and procure the salvation of all mankind and of all the world. This is the meaning of Messiah, One Who saves, One able to conquer sin and death and make all things new again, reconciled, united, and better than before. Jesus is the bridge over that chasm. He is that hyphenated Being Who unites us to God in the same act by which we are united to Him. Unless we are joined to Christ like a branch is joined to the vine and have His Life running through the vein and root system of our beings, we have no fruitful communion with God Who is Life Itself and our means of eternal salvation.

On the matter of the Messiah, there can only be one, for there is only one Son of God who could be sent into our world, one who would accomplish salvation definitively and forever. If the Messiah is sent by God He must be of God and be pre-announced so that we know He is coming. The conditions of His coming must be delineated so we can recognize Him as the Messiah when He comes. He must be confirmed as being the Christ, the Anointed One sent by God with divine confirmation. He must fulfill all the prophetic words foretold about Him in preparation for His coming in the fullness of time.

He must, in fact, be the Savior, working miracles and wonders in testimony of His divine nature as He substitutes Himself for us in the payment of our debt to God and as He fulfills God's pledge to effect our salvation through Him Who is both God and man.

Before God drove Adam and Eve from the Garden of Paradise after their sin, He made His preannouncement that He would send us a Savior, a new Adam and a new Eve, who would crush the head of the serpent and undo the effects of that original sin, bequeathing us supernatural gifts greater than any preternatural gifts they had enjoyed.

**“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; she will strike at your head, while you strike at her heel.”
(Genesis 3:15.)**

Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures God sent prophets to renew that promise of a Redeemer and to clarify the signs by which mankind would recognize Him. Isaiah in particular speaks volumes about the kind of Messiah we should expect and what He will do and what will happen to Him.

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. (Is 7:14.) But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him; a spirit of wisdom and understanding,...Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, But he shall judge the poor with justice, ...and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked....The wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid. (Is 11:1-7.) For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, From David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. (Is 9:5-6.) A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the Lord! ...Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all mankind shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. (Is 40: 3-5.)

[Isaiah goes on to describe the Suffering Servant of Yahweh:] He was spurned and avoided by men, a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity....Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured,...he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins,...by his stripes we were healed....Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; Like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth...A grave was assigned him among the wicked and a burial place with evildoers, Though he had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood. (Is 53: 3-10.)

Jesus is that promised Messiah, the only one sent by God, not only to show us the way but to be The Way back to the Father from whom all life comes. He is the only

One Who was promised and the only One who fulfilled the promise. He is the Word of God and His Word is Faithful and True. We see Jesus' identity as Messiah, Son of God and Son of man confirmed repeatedly in the New Testament.

[The angel Gabriel to Joseph] **“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”** (Mt 1: 20-22.) [The Baptist to his followers] **“Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me....I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from the sky and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the holy Spirit.’ Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.”** (In Jn 1:29-35 we read:) **And we have beheld and bear witness that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.** (In 1 Jn 4:14 Peter answers Jesus' question, **“Who do you say that I am?”**) **“You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”** [After Pentecost Peter boldly proclaims:] **“The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom you had put to death by hanging Him on a cross. He is the one whom God exalted to His right hand as a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him.”** (Acts 5:30-32.)

[Jesus Himself confirms His identity as Messiah and Son of God by defining Himself in terms akin to the Hebrew name for God, the Great **“I Am.”**] **“I am the Bread of Life.” “I am the Light of the World.” “I am the door of the sheep.” “I am the Good Shepherd.” “I am the Resurrection and the Life.” “I am the Vine and you are the branches. Without Me, you can do nothing.” “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father but through me.”** [And at the Last Supper Jesus prayed:] **“Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you, just as you gave him authority over all people so that he may give eternal life to all you gave him. Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ. I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do. Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began.** (Jn 17: 1-6.) [And on Calvary Jesus completes the circle of redemptive promise and fulfillment.] **“It is finished.”** (Jn 19:30.) **“Father, into thy hands I commend my Spirit.”** (Lk 23:46.)

But who could give greater testimony and confirmation of Jesus' identity as Messiah and Son of God but the Father Himself? At Jesus' baptism by John in the River Jordan the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus in the bodily form of a dove and a voice from the heavens proclaimed, **“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”** (Lk 3: 22.) At the Transfiguration Peter, James and

John saw Jesus in the company of Moses and Elijah and heard a voice from the cloud that overshadowed them: **“This is my beloved Son; listen to him.”** (Lk 8: 35.)

What other testimony do we need to accept Jesus as our Messiah and Lord, the only one sent by God and the only one who can save us, than the Promise in Eden and the prophecies of the Old Testament that we see fulfilled in Jesus in his works in the New Testament—healing the sick, raising the dead, driving out demons, multiplying loaves and fishes, calming the seas—and the testimony of those who knew Him best, and His own words and the word of His Father in heaven? Why do we not claim Him as our personal Lord and Savior? Why do we not listen to Him? How sad are these words Jesus spoke to Sister Mildred.

“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. With the same tongue with which these benighted souls praise and proclaim their love and dedication to Me they curse and condemn their neighbor whom I redeemed as I did them.” (Diary, Pg. 40.)

In his encyclical, *Redemptor hominis*, **THE REDEEMER OF MAN**, Blessed John Paul II reminds us even an unbelieving world must confess that Jesus Christ is the centre of the universe and of history. All time is measured before His coming into our world or after that blessed event. He gives us this beautiful passage on Christ's redemptive mission:

...we do not forget even for a moment that Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, became our reconciliation with the Father⁴⁸. He it was, and he alone, who satisfied the Father's eternal love, that fatherhood that from the beginning found expression in creating the world, giving man all the riches of creation, and making him "little less than God"⁴⁹, in that he was created "in the image and after the likeness of God".⁵⁰. He and he alone also satisfied that fatherhood of God and that love which man in a way rejected by breaking the first Covenant⁵¹ and the later covenants that God "again and again offered to man"⁵². The redemption of the world--this tremendous mystery of love in which creation is renewed-⁵³ is, at its deepest root, the fullness of justice in a human Heart -- the Heart of the First-born Son -- in order that it may become justice in the hearts of many human beings, predestined from eternity in the Firstborn Son to bé children of God⁵⁴ and called to grace, called to love. The Cross on Calvary, through which Jesus Christ -- a Man, the Son of the Virgin Mary, thought to be the son of Joseph of Nazareth -- is also a fresh manifestation of the eternal fatherhood of God, who in him draws near again to humanity, to each human being, giving him the thrice holy "Spirit of truth"⁵⁵. ...This revelation of love is also described as mercy⁶³; and in man's history this

revelation of love and mercy has taken a form and a name: that of Jesus Christ. (Redemptoris hominis, #9.)

We have just celebrated the Church's great liturgical season of Lent, the Paschal triduum that commemorates Jesus as the Paschal Lamb in our own Passover from death to life, from slavery to sin to freedom as the children of God. We have celebrated Easter Sunday that promises resurrection to those who die with Christ and reminds us that every Sunday is a remembrance of that Easter experience, past, present and future. We have celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday and Good Shepherd Sunday, recalling that wondrous love that prompted Jesus to lay down His life for His sheep, for us. While the secular world has finished with Easter, the Church continues her celebration of Easter a full 40 days as we ponder on the encounter Mary and the apostles and disciples had with the Risen Lord while He showed Himself to them in His glorified body and continued to prepare them for His Ascension to the Father, prepare them for the sending of a new Advocate, the Holy Spirit, Who would publicly confirm the Church that was born on the hill of Calvary from the pierced side of the Savior. They would await that first Pentecost when they would all be baptized with the fire of God's Holy Spirit and would go forth to proclaim to all the world that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God, our Savior, the only Savior and Mediator for men before the throne of the Almighty and Eternal One.

**"I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."
(Jn 10:10.) For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (Jn 3:17.)**

Jesus is the revelation of the Father, the perfect image of Him, and in that image we were all made. Jesus is the mirror of the Father, the Face of the Father as it were, the same mirror and Face in which we must look to see ourselves as God intended us to be as we strive to imitate Christ in all we say and do. This loving relationship sealed in the bond of the Spirit binds us to Himself in power and sanctifying grace -- the Divine Indwelling Presence of this Triune God Who comes, not merely to walk with us but to dwell within us and make His dwelling place within. With St. Paul we can confess that we are crucified with Christ and no longer live but Christ lives in each one of us. And greater still, we confess that mystery of communion, knowing Christ unites us to Himself so we can equally say that in Him we live and move and have our being and apart from Him we are and can do nothing. This is the creative, redeeming and sanctifying Love God has called us to share in deepest communion with Himself, forever. Come let us worship this Sacred Humanity who is our Lord and our God, our Savior, the only Savior of the world. May He crush the serpent--the Hollywood idols, greedy corporate lords, scientific demi-gods, religious gurus, false religions and false teachers, and the corrupt world leaders and war mongers of this dark secular world that lies to itself that it can live

without God and contrary to His laws and His ways and not self destruct. There is NO human Savior but the man Who is also God! He alone can save us from ourselves.

... at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. (Phil 2:10-11.)

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, everything in the universe, cry out: "to the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessings and honor, glory and might, forever and ever." (Rev 5:13.)

May the holy name of Jesus that commands such authority and adoration, even from the evil one and the demons, be ever written in our hearts and flow from our lips as we join Sister Mildred in this magnificent homage to our Triune God, within and without.

Prayer to the Indwelling Most Holy Trinity

O my Love, my only Good, Most Holy Trinity, I adore You, hidden in the depths of my soul. To You, to Your honor and glory, I dedicate my life. May every thought, word and deed of mine be an act of adoration and praise directed towards your Divine Majesty enthroned in my heart.

O Father, Infinite Goodness, behold Your child clothed in the likeness of Your Son. Extend to me Your arms that I may belong to You forever.

O Son, Divine Lord, made man, crucify me with Yourself that I may become, in union with You, a sacrifice of praise for the glory of Your Father.

O Holy Spirit, Fire of Everlasting Love, consume me on the altar of Divine Charity, that at the end of life, nothing may remain but that which bears the likeness of Christ.

O Blessed Trinity, worthy of all adoration, I wish to remain in spirit on my knees, to acknowledge forever Your reign in me and over me, to Your everlasting glory.

Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the pure heart of St. Joseph, I consecrate my life to Your adoration and glory. At the moment of death, receive me, O my Triune Love, that I may continue my adoration of love through all eternity. Amen. (200 days)

Nihil Obstat: --- Daniel Pilarczyk, S.T.D.

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Blessed be the name of Jesus!

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