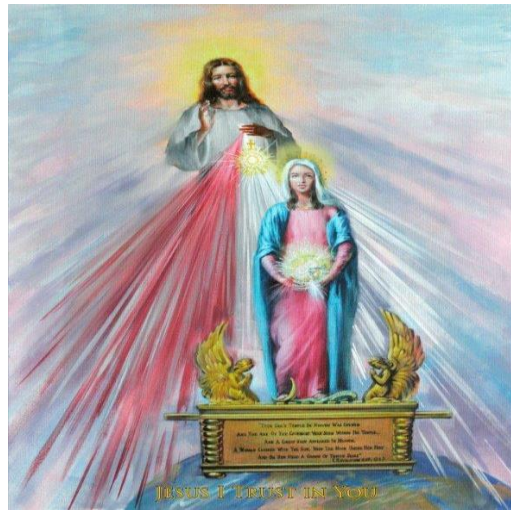


# Mary, Ark of the New and Eternal Covenant Our Mother of Mercy



Now in the sixth month the Angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And when the angel had come to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women." And when she had heard him she was troubled at his word, and kept pondering what manner of greeting this might be.

And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God. Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he shall be king over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there shall be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How shall this happen, since I do not know man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee; and therefore the Holy One to be born shall be called the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth thy kinswoman also has conceived a son in her old age, and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing shall be impossible with God." But Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her. (Luke 1:26-39, The Holy Bible, Catholic Action Edition, Good Will Publishers, Gastonia, NC. 1953.)

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2676, references archangel Gabriel's greeting to Mary, "**Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.**" Mary is full of grace because she was already sanctified before her conception with the sanctifying grace of the Divine Indwelling Presence in anticipation of Christ's redeeming grace because of her exalted vocation to be Mother to the Holy One of God Who would take flesh within her. She is a daughter of Zion because she delivers the Messiah first promised in the Garden of Eden, a promise renewed in Covenant with God's Chosen People from generation to generation, a promise to deliver them from every form of bondage if they remained faithful to the Covenant. As a sign of the Covenant God directed His people to build an Ark, laden with gold within and without, and to carry within it the tablets of the law given by Moses, the priestly rod of Aaron,

and a jar of manna, the bread that fed them in the desert of their purification as they journeyed toward the Promised Land, signs of God's faithfulness to be their God Who cares for them. The Ark was to rest in the Holy of Holies of the tabernacle which would be carried from place to place with the people. The Ark would be a sign of God's saving Presence in their midst.

Many Church Fathers refer to Mary as the Ark of the New and Eternal Covenant, not made by human hands but by God Himself, Who adorned her within, not with gold but with the Word-made-Flesh, and without, with the Purity and privileges He Himself bestowed upon her to make her the most precious and worthy vessel to bear God into our world. In this new Ark was carried, not a priestly rod but the Eternal High Priest Himself Who is the Lamb of God Who would be sacrificed on the altar of Calvary as the most Perfect Sacrifice to achieve complete atonement for the sins of mankind. In this Ark of Mary would be carried, not bread for the body but the Living Bread, the Real Presence of the sacrificial Eucharistic meal, come down from heaven for the salvation of souls. As the glory cloud of God, the shekinah, overshadowed the Ark of old, so the Holy Spirit of God overshadowed Mary, concealing the great mystery that dwelt within her until the fullness of time for it to be revealed. When the Philistines captured the Ark of old and returned it to Israel when it brought them defeat, David, wearing the garment of a priest, danced before the Ark and leapt for joy. John the Baptist, of the priestly line of Levi, leapt for joy in the womb of Elizabeth when Mary, the Ark of the new Christian covenant, bearing the Incarnate Savior, brought Him into her home. When the Ark of old was lost for 600 years, John, exiled on the island Patmos, had a revelation. **"Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple!"** (Rev 11:19.) **"And a great portent appeared in heaven, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; she was with child."** (Rev. 12:1-2.) The woman is Mary, the Ark of the Covenant, revealed by God to John. She was seen bearing the child who would rule the world with a rod of iron. (Rev. 12:5.) Mary was seen as both Mother and Queen. Ref: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?id=6811>

Mary is the Immaculate Tabernacle of the Indwelling God, the Theotokos, the God-bearer. God gives Himself to her so she may deliver Him to us. The Mother of the Redeemer is also the Mother of the redeemed who belong to Him Who bought us with the price of His Most Precious Blood. On the Ark of old there had to be one cherubim of gold on both ends of the mercy seat or lid of atonement. The cherubim had their wings spread and facing one another, symbolizing the angels' attention and readiness to do God's will. The space between the angels was the meeting place where God spoke to His people through the high priest. Jesus is that mercy seat of God, that meeting place where the Father speaks to us through His Eternal High Priest and calls us into obedience to His Holy Will. He is the love and mercy of the Father made flesh for us and given to us as a pledge of our salvation. As the Mother of Jesus, Who is God's Mercy made manifest in her, Mary is truly our Mother of Mercy. Jesus poured out His mercy when He gave us His Mother on calvary. The picture on page 1 shows that mercy flowing from the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the Divine Mercy image onto His Mother who bears it within and delivers it to us. Hence, she stands in the space between the cherubim as Mediator and Mediatrix of her Divine Son's merciful love.

**In the evening of August 5 [1957], the feast of Our Lady of the Snow, 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. ... 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.

(Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Pg. 18.)

On November 22-23, 1957, Our Lady revealed herself to Sister Mildred Neuzil as she really and truly was, ***the Immaculate Tabernacle of the Indwelling God.*** “All the glory of the King’s daughter is within.” ... “I am Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling, handmaid of Him Who dwells within.” (The Diary, pgs. 23-24.) “My heart, my Immaculate Heart, is the channel through which the graces of the Sacred Heart are given to men.” (The Diary, Pg. 18, feast of the Immaculate Heart.)



In her May 5, 1957 letter, Sister records how Our Lady had shown herself as our Mother of Mercy, a reality so clearly depicted in the image at the beginning of this newsletter.

“I am the Mother of Mercy. Under my mantle I will hide my children. The justice of God will not reach them if they seek refuge [be]neath the protection of my mercy. My Son gives to me all those souls who come to me with confidence, calling upon my aid. Their salvation is in my hands. I will obtain for them the necessary graces to save their souls. Come to me, poor suffering and frightened ones. I am your Mother. Never will I forsake you. Only come to me with a wholehearted and loving trust. Place your souls into my keeping. I am that faithful Mother who never forsakes her children. Honor me by your confidence and love. This I desire and ask of you, my poor children. Do not deny the wishes of your Mother.”

**Jesus is the Mercy Seat of God. Mary is the Mother of Mercy!  
She will never forsake her children!**

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This site is maintained by a group of faithful Catholics who knew Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil personally and are committed to promoting and protecting the purity and integrity of the message as given by Our Lady to Sister and by Sister to us, while working toward the enthronement.