

## “Thou Thyself Shall Be the Sign, the Sign I Give to the World.”

“Ask Me not for a sign. Wouldst thou be as the Scribes and Pharisees or even as My Apostles, always seeking signs? What I ask of thee is faith, that deep, strong faith that sees no signs but only believes.



**Thou Thyself shall be the sign, the sign I will give to the world. A little, white dove, a sign of peace, yes, the reign of peace in the world.**

If I have brought thee low, my poor child, that thou art graveling upon the earth, know that it is for thy good, for he whom I love I chastise. Since I wish to do a great work in thee, and through thee in souls, those must be purified before hand in the fire of humiliation and sorrow so that, weighed down with thy own misery, thou mayest share in my sorrow for all sinners who, crushed beneath the burden of their sins, refuse My help in order that they might find relief. Oh, how My Heart yearns after them, poor fallen creatures.

Take courage, My daughter. Soon I will come and raise thee up in My arms. Then thou wilt see the glory of God.”

This passage was recorded in notes written by Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil in July of 1955, roughly fourteen months before the first visit of Our Lady as Our Lady of Lourdes on September 25, 1956, and then as Our Lady of America on September 26. It is powerful in recalling Scriptures passages that address the lack of faith in people, the Scribes, the Pharisees, even in the apostles. In John 4:48 Jesus tells the people in Cana of Galilee, “**Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe,**” but a royal official, not having seen the miracle at the wedding feast of Cana, came to Jesus in faith to request the healing of his son, sick unto death in Capernaum. Because of his faith, Jesus healed his son. In Matthew 12:38, the Scribes and Pharisees, refusing to accept the exorcisms done by Jesus as proof of His claims about who He is, demand a sign from heaven. Jesus responds: “**An evil and unfaithful generation seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it but the sign of Jonah, the prophet.**” We know from the Hebrew Scriptures that the prophets were not accepted by their own and were persecuted and often killed. Did not the same happen to Jesus, the Prophet of all prophets, who was rejected by His own and in His own town? Jonah’s three days in the belly of a whale prefigured the Messiah’s three days in the belly of the earth, after being rejected and crucified by His own, before rising again on the third day.

What are we to understand by these words of Jesus to Sister Mildred? Are we like the Scribes and Pharisees, the people who rejected the prophets, those who rejected Jesus Himself and those who do so today? Are we always looking for signs and wonders? Or are we to be like Sister Mildred, chastised by the One we love so we will be ready to face rejection because of what God calls us to be and to do for Him? Our Lady told Sister on August 14, 1980:

**Beloved daughter, you are not being accepted because you are a small one. But in the end, all will come as I desire. Those who oppose you will receive light to understand. These good people mean well and if they are in authority, it is for you to listen respectfully and obey.**

**I will speak to them in their hearts and the Divine Spirit who makes all things clear will give them wisdom and understanding. In the end they will do as I wish. So, have patience, dear one, it will happen as I have said and those who have opposed me will become my most ardent and courageous supporters. Until this comes to pass, wait in trust, knowing that I never fail those who place their confidence in me. My Son blesses you, be at peace. (Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil, The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Page 37.)**

Jesus speaks of chastising those whom He loves, purifying them so He can do a great work in and through them. From the letters of Sister Mildred, we know how deeply she suffered rejection by her own community and others, the dark nights of the soul she endured, the attacks from satan who was determined to make her life miserable if she did not give up this mission from heaven for the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary that suffered so much with the Sacred Heart of Jesus throughout His Passion and death. Our Blessed Mother lived with and died with her Divine Son, two hearts bound as one. Anyone who would seek redemption in the Blood of the Lamb must enter by way of Christ's pierced side and His Sacred Wounds. We must place ourselves into those sacred cavities and be hidden away with Him, sharing His pain, His rejection, His loneliness and His broken Heart. Only then, after being buried with Him, can we rise with Him anew. Sister Mildred was indeed a victim soul, as her Prayer to the Indwelling Trinity implies. She was invited to wear Christ's Crown of Thorns and to be nailed with Him to His cross on the Calvary in her heart. Like Mary, she said "yes" to all that her beloved Bridegroom asked of her, no matter where it would take her or of what it would deprive her. The Trinity was her only good.

***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. (Prayer to the Indwelling Most Holy Trinity.)***

September 15 is the feast that remembers Mary's sorrows, her agony in the garden of her heart, her way of the cross in the footsteps of Jesus, her weeping at His feet for those who crucified Him, and for those who still do, by their sins. She wept bitterly over the sins of her children that drove the nails, the thorns, so deeply into the flesh of that Sacred Humanity, and drained the blood from that once perfect Body of Christ, now scarred and torn with the wounds of hate and blasphemy. Jesus told His disciples, **"If they have persecuted Me, they will persecute you."** His life speaks clearly that the Cross is the only way to salvation. On February 11, 1958, feast of Our Lady of Lourdes where Our Lady revealed her name as **"I am the Immaculate Conception,"** Our Lady speaks to Sister of the role of suffering in the workings of grace. Like Mary, we all share in Christ's work of redemption as it pertains to His Mystical Body, a suffering of expiation for sin, all sin, no matter whose.

**"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 grace in my soul. He who refuses to suffer will never abide in the Spirit of Christ, will never be formed into His image."**

We honor seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary, but the sorrows she endured are too numerous to mention. The seven are: 1) The prophecy of Simeon that a sword would pierce her heart. 2) The flight into Egypt lest Jesus be murdered by Herod. 3. The loss of the child Jesus in the Temple. 4) Meeting Jesus on the Way of the Cross. 5) The crucifixion and

death of Jesus on a cross of ignominy. 6) The body of Jesus is taken from the cross and laid in Mary's lap. 7) The burial of Jesus.

What we can be certain of from Jesus' words to Sister Mildred is that we are, indeed, co-redeemers with Him, and with Our Lady, in a subordinate way and in varying degrees according to our vocation in life, for the salvation of souls. How often Our Lady pleads that we help her save those who will not save themselves, help save those who go to hell because there is no one to pray for them. Suffering is part of being identified with and incorporated into the Body of Christ. His pain is our pain and ours has been borne by Him. The other certainty of Jesus' words to Sister is that of the need for Faith in all we do and hope for. On May 29, 1954, Jesus addressed Sister in these words:

**"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. Pray and sacrifice yourself, My child, that faith may once again find entrance into the hearts of men." (Diary, Page 5.)**

The May 7, 2020 conclusion of the study of the messages of Our Lady of America states: **"We do not find evidence that these were objective visions and revelations of the type seen at Guadalupe, Fatima, and Lourdes."** Herein lies the great irony to which Jesus is speaking in His words to Sister Mildred. This apparition was not meant to be about sensational signs but about hidden, spiritual truths and holiness from within that require Faith to see them. Why do we need signs, fantastic signs, like spinning suns, healing waters, an image on a tilma, to believe God has spoken through His beloved, the bride of His Heart, His little white dove, the secretary of His Heart? Yes, the Church must officially confirm that these visions and locutions are indeed from heaven, but Jesus and His Holy Mother continually ask us to believe, to believe and then we will see the wonders! This alleged apparition is already widely accepted by the people as authentic because they believe in it, in Sister. No one would endure what Sister Mildred and her companions endured if it were not ordained by heaven for heaven's purpose.

The real beauty of this apparition is that it is Contemplative, entirely spiritual in its promises—**"miracles not of the body but of the soul."** Make My Shrine a place of pilgrimage and I will make it a place of wonders, Our Lady said. We must believe in the Indwelling Presence of God in every person, and especially in ourselves and in poor sinners, if wondrous objective miracles are to take place. There is no love without Faith, and there are no miracles without Faith and the love that continues to believe in and hope for them. **This message is about believing in the Love of God for His people! It is about believing in Our Lady's love for her children. It is all about Faith and the miracles of the soul. Faith and love bring peace!**

**For those who believe, no miracle is necessary. For those who do not believe, no miracle will suffice.**

**The little, white dove IS the SIGN,  
the only sign God wishes to give to our world! It is time to believe in this sign of peace,  
purity, love, life, presence, spirit and light!**

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