

For This Was I Born

Sister's Own Words About Her Mission

“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.

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 Mary Neuzil, letter to her spiritual director, June 5, 1957.)

Every woman who consecrates herself to Christ is referred to as the Bride of Christ when she makes her final profession of the three evangelical vows: poverty, chastity and obedience. Sister Mildred Neuzil, however, from early in her consecrated life began to have mystical experiences and locutions with Our Lord and Our Lady that were not common to the other religious with whom she lived. These locutions were followed by appearances of the archangels Gabriel and Michael in 1954, and then the apparition of Our Lady of America on September 26, 1956. In these locutions and later appearances Our Lord spoke to Sister in terms that noted this was no ordinary relationship but one with a great mission. When one is given a great mission, one is also given great favor. The term **“Bride of My Heart”** acknowledges Sister's special espousal with Jesus, while the designation **“My little white dove”** confirms His predilection for humility, for the poor and the little ones. She was a little one!

Sister stated in her diary, **OUR LADY OF AMERICA**®, that already in the 1940's she had begun to understand that her mission was **“to converge towards the sanctification of the family.”** She would later understand this would be accomplished by fulfilling the duties of one's state in life and by imitating the simple virtues of the Holy Family who lived in constant awareness of God dwelling in their midst, a paradise on earth. In the same letter noted above, Sister also recounts Our Lady's words to her.

“Your mission is vast, my child. It reaches to the ends of the earth. It will continue until time is no more, because there will always be the need for the sanctification of the family and of souls.

Fear not, small one, for it is through the most unlikely of instruments that God works His wonders. He chooses where the world would not. He makes that possible what the world deems impossible. He stops where the world would pass on. God has no need of anyone, yet He chooses the smallest of the small for His glory. Sweet child, let your humble heart be filled with a

great confidence for my Son is in love with your lowliness and simplicity of heart. Make known to souls the preference my Son has for humility.

Behold, I, His humble Mother, always looked upon myself as His lowly Handmaid, ready at all times to do His bidding. The humble, so greatly loved by Him, are also in deed and in truth, my children.”

In another letter Sister wrote her spiritual director, Father Paul F. Leibold, that she had difficulty reconciling herself to God’s choice of her for this mission.

...as you know, Father, I couldn’t seem to be able to reconcile myself to the fact that God should choose such a nothing like me for so great and tremendous a mission. It seemed so impossible to me that I was often plagued with the thought that I was being deceived, that I was nothing but a fraud, a victim of my own imagination and self-love. Yet the strange thing was, deep down in my soul, I knew this was not so, as I would rather die than be guilty of such things and thus become a stumbling block to others. I knew, in spite of these temptations that harassed me that I lived in the Truth and eventually this truth would free me from these chains. What suffering this caused me, what heaviness of heart, but always I turned to Our Lady with the conviction that through her, help would be given me. It was not in vain. I entrusted my cause to her. On her feast of the holy rosary, the grace and light that flooded my soul marked the beginning of a new phase in my life. I have accepted wholly and entirely the role God has destined for me. There is no longer any question in my mind that it was for this I was born, and for this I must spend myself. I will always be a nothing, yet a nothing full of confidence in Him Who chooses the foolish things of this world to confound the wise, and the weak things of this world to confound the strong. For it is not right that flesh should glory in His sight. How happy I am to be such a nothing, to be counted as naught. “Hide me away, my God, I am only fit to be hidden away in some dark corner, unseen by anyone but You.”

As Sister continued to pray an extra rosary, Our Lady spoke to her: “I have graced you with my perpetual presence because your mission is a grave one and you will be in constant need of my help.”

As we read Sister Mildred’s Diary, we see the whole scope of the message and mission she was asked to give to the world, the call to a reform of life by which Our Lady means sanctification from within; a return to Faith and Purity so we might be the Nation dedicated to her Purity; the recognition of God in every person if we are to turn the world away from hate to find Christ’s peace in our lives. Our Lady calls us to obedience to Christ’s Vicar on earth and to the laws of God, to a reverence for Christ’s Presence in the Most Holy Eucharist. She summons us to a purity of heart so we may discern what is truly good from what is a lie, only an appearance of or partial good. There are so many lies of Satan that are creating confusion, division and violence in society today, and such opposition to God. There can be no intrinsic rights to anything

that violates God's law, the natural or the moral law, for He is author of the law and of our intrinsic rights and He cannot contradict Himself. Our Lady asks for prayer and penance, penance and more penance for our own sins and to help her save those who will not save themselves. Our Lady calls us to mirror her as Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling, living in union with the Holy Trinity dwelling within us to make us holy as God is holy. The Holy Trinity is the central doctrine of our Faith and of this message. Our Lady asks us to honor St. Joseph, her spouse, protector of the Church and the family, especially on the first Wednesday of the month. She asks of her children that simple act of devotion to wear her medallion and to enthrone her image in our homes. She asks of our bishops to carry a statue of her as Our Lady of America in solemn procession and then enthrone it in a place of honor in our National Shrine where she pledges us her protection and special wonders and miracles of the soul. What favor she has given to America, and how little gratitude she asks in return. Will you do as I ask, my children? Will you do as I ask, my loyal sons?

Jesus, too, had a mission that entailed a profound humility and a radical surrender to the will of God, an obedience even to death, an ignominious death on a cross so that our sins would be atoned for and heaven would be open to us. How Satan tempted Him in the desert to abandon His mission. Even the chosen apostles did not understand that He must suffer or we would not enter the beatific vision, and they begged Him to turn away from His horrible death. Jesus showed us that humility and obedience are the only way to reverse that original sin that came by way of pride and disobedience on the part of Adam and Eve. This new Adam would reverse this disorder and restore the human family to its original grace and more. In His wounds we are all healed. Like Jesus, Sister's mission came with the invitation to suffer for the salvation of souls. We never tire of offering her response to that invitation for your inspiration.

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?" You know the only answer I could give, Father. 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, anniversary of my perpetual union with Jesus, 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, I am poor and wretched and unworthy, but you know what is in my heart." 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?" ... [He assured Sister:] "I will be with you wherever you are, spouse of my Heart. You have nothing to fear." (August 16, 1956 letter to her spiritual director.)**

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