The Little Ones Through Whom God Does His Greatest Works



Is there any work of creation greater than this, the Incarnation of God's only begotten Son in a tiny baby's flesh to initiate our redemption? We see the Holy Child lying in a manger, adored by his humble parents and simple shepherds as their little lambs, tomorrow's sacrifices on the altars of Jewish ritual, gaze on. How great is our God Who sent His beloved Son into our world, reduced to this small size so He might raise us up to share a fraction of His own divine size and nature! Obediently, the wise men follow the star that pierced their darkest night and led them to the little King whose life would be an everlasting Light to all the world. How they humbled themselves before Him! Little did they know this innocent child, the unblemished Lamb of God, would one day lay Himself upon the *altar stone* of Calvary, the perfect sacrifice to atone for sin for all time. Oh, the humility of God Who laid aside the robes of His marvelous glory to be wrapped, helpless and dependent, in the rags of our profoundly wounded nature! What condescension, the stoop from the divine into the human;

but what amazing grace for humankind! What wondrous deeds God does through His little ones--babies, shepherds, lambs, and simple, humble souls! Sacred Scripture speaks of God's bias for the anawim (a-naweem), the little ones. In the Hebrew Scriptures, anawim describes the "poor in spirit" or those who remained faithful to God in times of trouble, the "faithful remnant," the obedient ones. Jesus called them meek and humble like unto His own Heart, God's little children. As Jesus placed a little child in the midst of the crowd He said:



"I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 18: 2-5.)

The message of Our Lady of America given to us through that simple, humble soul, Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil, addresses this truth over and over. In the 48 half pages of Sister Mildred's Diary, Our Lady addressed her thirty times (30) as "my child," eighteen times (18) as "my daughter," and eight times (8) with some combination of "small one." Jesus named Sister His "little white dove," and St. Michael called her "my little sister." A child is simple and without pretense or guile. Sister wrote in a September 29, 1955 letter how satan had attacked her, accusing her of fabricating this message from Our Lady. When Sister

began to doubt herself and wondered if she could possibly deceive herself, she heard a voice within: "You are too simple to deceive yourself." A February 1954 letter records Jesus' words about Sister and Father Leibold: "I seek always the humble and lowly of heart and since I have found two such, so I have entrusted to them a great mission, but become not vain, for I have chosen him and you only because of your unworthiness and lack of virtue....It is I working through you, Who sanctify you for His glory and the salvation of souls....I am the Great Sculptor of souls."

On August 14, 1980, Our Lady spoke thus to Sister:

"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 Ephrem) Neuzil, The Diary OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Tiffin, OH, Pg. 37.)

At another time Our Lady told Sister, **"My Son is in love with your lowliness."** How like Our Lady who called herself the handmaid of the Lord! Jesus prays to the Father:

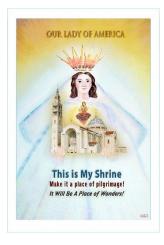
"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike." [the little ones] (Mt 12:25.)

The Christmas story is all about family, God's family and the human family, and a lot of little people, little in the eyes of the world. God promised Adam and Eve a Messiah in the Garden of Eden. He kept the promise alive with His words to the prophets, often called prophets of doom when they called out the rulers' corruption, but always bringing hope as well. Isaiah spoke of a Virgin who would bear a son whose name would be Emmanuel, God with us; He would rule the earth forever. Micah spoke of the little town of Bethlehem, the least significant in the land of Judah, from which would come a Good-Shepherd-King who would tend his flock with kindness and lay His life down for His sheep. Jeremiah, having warned the people God would deliver them to their enemies if they did not repent, later said a righteous king would rise from the line of David and would save them from their enemies.

Just as God called on these humble, obedient and simple people to carry on the promise of a Savior until the time of fulfillment with Jesus, Mary and Joseph in the stable in Bethlehem, so He continues to use little people to do great things in order to confound the proud and the haughty of this world. Just as Sister Mildred and Father Leibold were instruments in God's hands, used for His purpose, so, too, the United States of America, a small nation in comparison to the centuries old other nations of the world, is given a special mandate from heaven to lead the world to peace, the peace Christ brought with Him from heaven. In July of 2026 the United States will celebrate its 250th birthday as a nation, a young nation indeed. This mandate from heaven to the United States is a very serious matter. If God is to continue to bless America, America needs to be more obedient to God's laws and His ways; it needs to do what God's Mother has asked us to do. America must lead a spiritual renewal upon the face of the earth, and must work to renew and protect the family

that God designed, having headship with the father. The signs of our times indicate World War III is looming over our skies and creeping across our borders.

"Beloved daughter, the United States is a small one among nations, yet has it not been said that 'a little child shall lead them'? It is the United States that is to lead the world to peace, the peace of Christ, the peace that He brought with Him from heaven in His birth as man in the little town of Bethlehem. The Savior did not come to enter this world in a big city but a small town, again, a little one among many. Dear child, unless the United States accepts and carries out faithfully the mandate given to it by heaven to lead the world to peace, there will come upon it and all nations a great havoc of war and incredible suffering. If, however, the United States is faithful to this mandate from heaven and yet fails in the pursuit of peace because the rest of the world will not accept or co-operate then the United States will not be burdened with the punishment about to fall." (Diary, Page 38, November 22, 1980.)



This mandate from heaven to the United States of America to lead the world to peace is found in the later messages of Our Lady to Sister Mildred. Sadly, the first study of the messages and warnings of Our Lady of America that has been done did not include pages 35-46 of the Diary. Surely such a deletion is both a violation of the integrity of Sister's intellectual work and, therefore, also a contamination of the message. As Father Walter Abbott, S.J. spiritual advisor to the Contemplative Sisters had said, one must never add, delete or change anything in a message from heaven. It is for this reason that we believe further study of Our Lady's messages and of Sister Mildred's life must be undertaken so full canonical approval can be given to this apparition, making it a public devotion for all, not

just those connected with Rome City, Indiana. Our Lady asked the US Bishops to enthrone a statue of her as Our Lady of America in our Patronal Church, *Her Shrine as she called it*, where she reigns as our Queen-Mother and Patroness, and she will be a protection for our land. She has not asked for any other shrine, pilgrimage site or any other enthronement, except in our homes. Our Lady herself has centered this devotion in *Her Shrine, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception! So must we!*

"Will my loyal sons carry out my desires and thus help me bring the peace of Christ once again to mankind?" (Diary, Pg. 13.)

"I am pleased, dearly beloved sons, by the honor and love you have until now accorded me. Will you now go further and honor me yet more by taking my words to your hearts and doing what I ask?" (Diary, Pg. 20.)

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