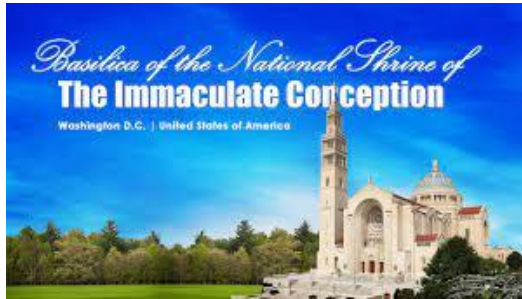


# What is the Next Step Toward Enthronement of Our Lady of America in Her Shrine?



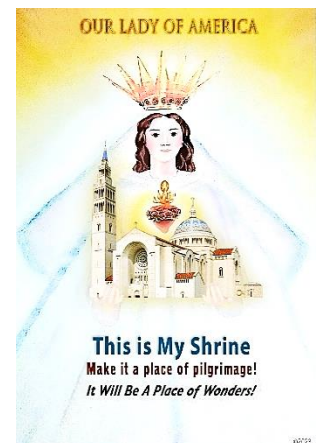
Let us review exactly what Our Lady has asked for and how we have responded to her requests. All quotes are from Sister Mildred Neuzil's Diary where the messages and warnings have been recorded. The letters between her and her spiritual director give insight into the supernatural character of Sister's experiences.

First, we notice that Our Lady identified herself clearly with the title of our Nation, "**I am Our Lady of America**," to show great **favor** to America as a Nation in gratitude for our devotion to her as the Immaculate Conception. Secondly, that title is to impress on America the enormous **responsibility** to be **the Nation** dedicated to her purity, the Nation mandated by heaven to lead an urgently needed spiritual renewal on the face of the earth.

Then solemnly and distinctly, in calm yet majestic tones, I heard these words: "**I am Our Lady of America. I desire that my children honor me, especially by the purity of their lives.**"

(Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil, Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Tiffin, OH, Page 10.)

Today the Holy Virgin appeared to me as I was working in my room. ... Instead of the lily, she held with both hands a small replica of the finished Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. She then began to speak. ... I then knelt down and wrote Our Lady's words as she desired: "This is my shrine, my daughter. I am very pleased with it. Tell my children I thank them. Let them finish it quickly and make it a place of pilgrimage. It will be a place of wonders. I promise this. I will bless all those who, either by prayers, labor, or material aid, help to erect this shrine." (October 13, 1956, Page 14.)



Our Lady then asked me to draw a picture of her first appearance. She also requested a statue made according to this likeness and placed, after being solemnly carried in procession, in the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. She wishes to be honored there in a special way as **Our Lady of America, the Immaculate Virgin**. (Diary, Page 14, November 15, 1956.)

These passages confirm that the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, which the people of America were still building at the time of Our Lady's appearances, is **Her Shrine**, her home. It is in **Washington, D.C., the only location** named in the Diary. Washington, D.C. is vital to our Nation as the seat of our civil government and as the spiritual center for the Church in America, **the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops**, which has authority over this Patronal Church. Our Lady asks that we make **IT** a place of pilgrimage and she will make **IT** a place of wonders, thereby confirming that the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is the central focus for this devotion. **Placing her statue there and honoring her as "Our Lady of America, the Immaculate Virgin" exalts her two singular privileges of the Immaculate Conception and her Perpetual Virginity, her Purity.** Her request is made to **all the bishops of the United States**, but it takes only one with a pure heart, untainted by the pursuit of money or power or self-interest to champion her cause.

**“Tell the Bishops of the United States, my loyal sons, of my desires and how I wish them to be carried out. ... ”Will my loyal sons carry out my desires and thus help me bring the peace of Christ once again to mankind?”** (Diary, Page 15, January, 1957.)

**“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, Page 20, September 26-27, 1957.)

**If my desires are not fulfilled, much suffering will come to this Land.** (Diary, Page 36, April 24, 1961.)

The USCCB as a whole has been entrusted with this responsibility pursuant to the **great favor Our Lady has given us with this apparition under the title of our country, Our Lady of America. Great responsibility comes with great favor!**

Our Lady continued to appear to Sister Mildred throughout the 1970's and **into the 1980's**, lamenting the lack of **reformation of life** and the **failure to respond to her expressed desires**. Our Lady told Sister Mildred that she (Sister) is not being accepted because she is a small one, but in the end, all will go as Our Lady desires.

**“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 put their confidence in me. My Son blesses you, be at peace** (Diary, Page 37, August 14, 1980.)

In what she called **the final message (for the public) on January 3, 1984**, Sister Mildred asked Our Lady **if there would be a nuclear war**. Our Lady's answer: **What happens to the world depends upon those who live in it. There must be much more good than evil prevailing in order to prevent the holocaust that is so near approaching.”** (Diary, Page 45.) The people of America are on red alert, so keenly aware of the state of moral depravity that is rampant throughout our land, and of the horrific blasphemies hurled at the Sacred Hearts of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph into whose care the Most Holy Trinity has entrusted the peace of the world. They are very anxious for the bishops to obey Our Lady's requests for the conversion and salvation of America whose sins cry to heaven for judgement. How can America lead in a spiritual renewal if it needs so much renewal itself?

### **What has been done thus far to obey Our Lady's requests?**

Most Reverend Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, along with five other bishops from the various locations at which Sister Mildred Neuzil had alleged locutions with or appearances of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, and the guardian angels over America and the United States, was given authority over the apparition and Our Lady's messages around which a cult of devotion has arisen. **A first study was done and Bishop Rhoades issued a Singular Decree on July 29, 2019, signed by all six bishops**, stating that Sister Mildred was found to be honest, humble, morally upright, psychologically sound, and devoted to religious life. Much good fruit has been reported from this devotion, though nothing to date has been declared miraculous. While the revelations as a whole show no doctrinal error, **“the revelation of St. Joseph as ‘co-redeemer’ has never been expressed**

as Catholic doctrine and must, therefore, be seen as ‘error.’” (Mary as co-Redemptrix is not dogma but has been accepted in the Church since its earliest days.)

The study cites a **June 17, 1970** letter of Archbishop Paul F. Leibold, Sister Mildred’s spiritual director for 32 years, saying “**he was unable to make a judgement on the supernatural nature of the visions or apparitions reported by Sister Neuzil.**” We have never seen such a letter, nor does it sound consistent with the tone of the Archbishop’s other letters, nor with the Foreword he wrote for Sister’s Diary back in 1960. The Foreword states: **“These supernatural happenings...included many things that concerned only her own personal spiritual life: special espousals with Christ, designation as the Little White Dove, etc.”** In his **June 18, 1970** letter, the Archbishop told Sister he wrote to Msgr. McDonough at the National Shrine about her and suggested she make a trip to the Shrine to see him. We know Msgr. McDonough went to the cloister in New Riegel, Ohio, and spoke directly to Sister himself. **It is more likely that Archbishop Leibold, who felt out of place amidst the erudition of theologians at Vatican II, did not feel learned enough to make that final decision for the whole Church. The Singular Decree distinguishes between private revelation and religious experience, calling Sister’s experiences subjective inner religious experiences rather than objective external visions and revelations like those of Fatima, Lourdes, and Guadalupe, because there is no sensational objective miracle observed by others here. Bishop Rhoades concluded that “the visions and revelations themselves cannot be said to be of supernatural origin in the sense of objective occurrences (*non constat supernaturalitate*); thus further, I cannot approve or support public devotion or cult.”**

On **May 7, 2020**, however, Bishop Rhoades issued a statement regarding devotion to Our Lady of America, the Immaculate Virgin in which he refers to the devotion as stemming from **a series of private revelations to Sister Mary Ephrem (baptized Mildred Neuzil.)** This is confusing, as in the previous Singular Decree, he made special note of calling Sister’s experiences subjective inner religious experiences rather than **private revelations**. **The statement says Sister reported receiving visions of Our Lady at various locations until 1959, but her diary records visions and locutions until 1984 when Sister asked Our Lady if there would be a nuclear war. Why was so much of Sister’s Diary and Our Lady’s messages excluded from the initial study in this first conclusion?** The messages from 1959 to 1984, apparitions and locutions, address the heresies and false teachings that are demoralizing our society and creating division and confusion within the Church. If Our Lady comes down from heaven to warn us of pending judgement, it is important that we listen to her every word! Our Lady said that evil is enveloping the world but is particularly **focused on America because of the Divine Mandate given to it to lead the world to peace, Christ’s peace.** (Diary, Page 39, February 11, 1981.) **On July 13, 1981, Jesus addressed many of the moral issues of our day, especially the error of calling unnatural acts, done in the name of love, intrinsic rights like any other.**

**“Many unnatural acts are being committed in the name of love. This evil is being disguised and tolerated as an intrinsic right like any other. Even some of My priests and consecrated virgins are being caught up into this web of evil, not realizing its terrible consequences.**

**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.”** (Diary, July 13, 1981, Page 40.)

What unnatural acts are being tolerated as intrinsic rights when they are intrinsically evil? Abortion, infanticide, artificial birth control, suicide, euthanasia, cloning, homosexual marriage, pedophilia, sex trafficking, mutilation of the body, transgender surgeries, etc. Legalizing these intrinsically moral evils is an affront to God and is calling down His judgement upon us and our Nation. We call what is right wrong and what is wrong right.

Bishop Rhoades’ **May 7, 2020** statement attests to Sister’s holiness of life and recalled that various bishops had read Sister’s Diary and allowed public displays of a statue. Father Paul Leibold had placed an imprimatur on Sister’s sketch of the medal in 1961 and on the Prayer to the Immaculate Conception in 1963, had the medal struck and had small images made for the Papal Nuncio, all of which constituted private devotion. Therefore, Bishop Rhoades stated this devotion **may continue as a private devotion**. But then in his statement on **November 3, 2020, the Bishop granted the Our Lady of Mercy Center in Rome City, Indiana, permission to hold all forms of public devotion there**. The name of this place keeps changing! The statement says the devotion is “**recognized by the Catholic Church as an allowed devotion**”. **Does that mean public? For everyone?** Very confusing!

On **December 20, 2020, Msgr. Arthur B. Calkins, a highly recognized Josephologist and Mariologist**, sent an 18-page response to Bishop Rhoades and the five bishops who had signed the conclusion of the study, defending St. Joseph’s role as co-redemptor and the supernatural character of Sister Mildred’s experiences. He said the Bishop’s statement of May 7, 2020 **“is a profoundly flawed document and ought to be withdrawn.”** Ref: <https://www.ourladyofamerica.com/whatsnew/MsgrArthurBCalkinsResponsetotheBishopsStudy.pdf>

**So where does this leave us?** There can be no enthronement of a statue of Our Lady, the Immaculate Virgin, in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. unless this is allowed as public devotion. It cannot become public devotion without **further study with additional experts** in the fields of Mariology, Josephology and mystical theology to resolve the issue on St. Joseph as co-redemptor, the issue of the supernatural nature of Sister Mildred’s experiences, **and study of the whole 48-page Diary of Sister Mildred, the entirety of Our Lady’s messages and warnings (until 1984), and all the letters between Sister and Archbishop Leibold. Full canonical approval of the whole message must be given.** While the Church does not recognize the names of angels that do not appear in the Scriptures, the names of the guardian angels over America and the United States can be deleted while retaining the magnificent messages of protection for America and the United States which they contain. Guardian angels for Nations is a Scriptural truth; hence, that should be no problem.

Let us pray three Hail Mary’s every day in honor of Our Lady’s unique relationship to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, begging her **to speak to the hearts of her beloved sons as she promised, so they will understand** the remedy this apparition offers to deliver us from the evil that is enveloping the world and is focused on America.

**Copyright© Our Lady of America Devotion, Tiffin, Ohio, August 10, 2023,  
in honor of Our Lady’s glorious Assumption.  
All rights reserved.**