

The Holy Face of Jesus Newsletter/Video log



Issue 11 December 10th, 2024

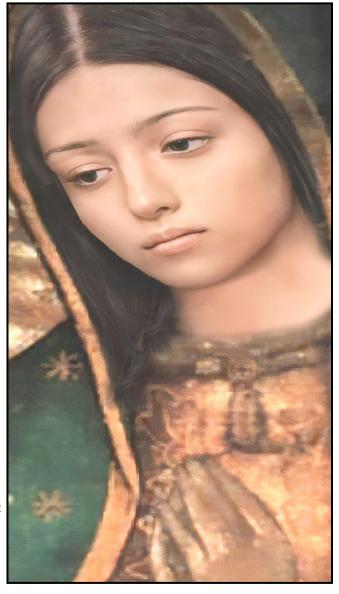
Part 2: The Author of Beauty created her

"Am I not here, I who am your mother?"

Last week we acknowledged how unique Mary's role is in focusing us on the Face of her Son Jesus, a consequence of her immaculacy: Her purity and perpetual virginity focused Mary entirely on seeking the Face of God even before conceiving Jesus.

But the other great reason for her focus on Jesus' Face, is simply that she became His mother, in both His humanity and Divinity. Then given to us at the Cross, she became universal mother to each one of us. She, through her perpetual yes, giving us Jesus, mediates all graces indirectly through Him. 1 Tim. 2: 5-6 specifically states in the Greek NT, that Christ is the first/ primary (*heis*) mediator of grace between God and man. It significantly does not state He is the sole one, (monos in the Greek).

Our Lady appeared in Mexico, in 1531, to St Juan Diego, leaving a miraculous image of herself, on Juan's apron or *tilma*. She is depicted significantly as both virginal in Aztec culture (parted hair having loosely) and pregnant (black waist band) This was recognized as Divine; not made by human hands, *Acheiropoieta* in the Greek, like other



miraculous images such as the Turin Shroud. This was a sign of her mission as at Cana, to mediate God's love for the Aztecs despite the abhorrent practice of human and especially, child sacrifice. *Guadalupe'* the Spanish, 'is derived from from a phrase; "Coatlaxopeuhln," which in Nahuatl, the Aztec language, means; "the one who crushes the serpent." As she told Juan Diego, "I am your merciful Mother, the Mother of all who live in this land and all of mankind. I hear the weeping and sorrows of those who love me, cry to me and have confidence in me, and I will give them consolation and relief." She has no greater desire and mediates her maternal rights over us in order that we turn towards the Face of her Son, as she does, with eyes of love. Yet we know that many see the Blessed Mother not as a gift but an obstacle to Jesus' mission.

They want to separate the Mother from the Son, even resorting to violence, destroying images of her, mistakenly thinking that this blasphemy could be pleasing to God, but it is only pleasing to the devil. When we separate ourselves from Mary, we separate ourselves from Christ and His Holy Face. When we separate ourselves from Mary's spiritual motherhood, we ironically separate ourselves from Jesus' full plan for His salvific mission through her mediation. It is not a coincidence that Our Lady of Guadalupe is patroness of the unborn in the fight against abortion and all oppressed as sung in her Magnificat. When we take Mary out of the picture, we self sabotage, undermining the dignity of the most vulnerable and we desacralize society.

At the council of Ephesus, Mary was called *Theotokus*, Godbearer. The Church fathers named her *the new Eve*, mother



of all who live. She in scripture and in Church approved apparitions, including Guadalupe, is "the woman clothed with the sun" of Revelation 12, against whom satan contends directly and eternally. "Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring—that is those who keep God's commandments and bear witness for Jesus." This scripture is also central to all exorcisms. So, however ardently pro—life some Christians, who complain of Catholic idol worship of Mary or 'Mariolatry,' they unknowingly and tragically, weaken their own cause in the great commission, the spiritual battle, that is not against flesh and blood, but firstly played out in the heavenly places.

In 'The Everlasting Man,' the convert G.K. Chesterton, tells a story from his childhood, which left on him a deep impression. "When I was a boy, a more Puritanical generation, objected to a statue in my parish church representing the Virgin and Child. Aller much controversy, they compromised by taking away the Child. One would think that this was even more corrupted with Mariolatry, unless the mother was (somehow) counted less dangerous when deprived of a sort of weapon (Jesus). But this practical difficulty is also a (wider) parable. You cannot chip away the statue of a mother from all round that of a newborn child. You cannot suspend the new-born child in mid-air; indeed you cannot really have a statue of a newborn child at all. Similarly, you cannot suspend the idea of a newborn child in a void or think of him without thinking of his mother. You cannot visit the child without visiting the mother, you cannot in common human life approach the child except through the mother. If we are to think of Christ in this aspect at all, the other idea (Mary) follows as it is followed in history. (To remove either person), we must either leave Christ out of Christmas, or [the events of] Christmas out of Christ, or we must admit, if only as we admit it in an old picture; that those holy heads are too near together for the haloes not to mingle and cross!"

PRAYER:

Our Lady, you were: "Blessed in Christ Jesus with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places," Eph 1:3, chosen by God from all time to be our universal Mother. So, we ask you Mary, to take us by the hand because it is you who leads us to Jesus and in His will, mediate the crushing of the head of satan and his plans. May we contemplate, together with you Mary, His Holy Face—in His Word, in the Eucharist, and in our neighbor, the vulnerable, the unborn and in this Holy Face devotion. Amen.

Call to Action: HLI Ireland aims to get the Holy Face of Jesus into every parish internationally.

Remember, Jesus told Sr Marie Pierre in Tours in the mid 19th century, that He wanted the Holy Face prayers in EVERY TOWN, where they are "a weapon and a shield" and said: "Woe to those towns that will not make this act of reparation."

Become Familiar: through books, videos and talks. Pray the prayers for your priests to know the Holy Face. Embed the prayers in your parish by praying them all in one go (20 minutes) or pray one a day of the five (4 minute) prayers over five days e.g. Monday to Friday e.g. before or after Mass together.

Organise events: video showings, book clubs, prayer meetings onsite and online.

Partner with Us: become a **HLI Ireland ally** and **a Holy Face missionary** to the world. Our entire operation is expanding, entirely running on God's providence and we invest any surplus back into mission. We are upgrading our website, translating into multiple languages and funding for an international state of the art app to get the Holy Face EVERYWHERE.

Contact us: info@theholyface.com and let us know how we can help you and vice versa.

For an overview of the devotion go to our website right:	Click History & Promises Sundays / holy days at 6pm & Tuesdays at 3.30pm Irish time / GMT on the following social media pages www.facebook.com/theholyface & www.youtube.com/theholyface		
History & Promises of the Holy Face devotion: >>>			
Live international Holy Face prayers weekly: >>> Click right to order medals or			
an array of materials in our prayer packs	<u>Medals</u>	<u>Prayerpac</u>	<u>ks</u>
Donate once off or if possible, monthly, by recurring donations: Click right to pay by card or Paypal	Donate		Paypal
or scan your phone's QR reader to donate: right		Scan to pay	

Do you want to receive the latest issue of this newsletter every Tuesday by email? Then hit subscribe <u>here</u>

Human Life International (H.L.I.) Ireland

For an Ireland where God is First, Life is Sacred and the Family is Cherished Reg. Charity No.: 20029814 CHY11138 20029814

Human Life International Ireland, The Guadalupe Centre, Main Street, Knock, Claremorris, Co.Mayo, F12 K709 Unsubscribe {recipient's email}