

MINISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE

The battle for the Church is a battle for the souls of its priests.

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

“The masterpiece of moral creation and of the omnipotence and the love of God”, wrote Fr. Matteo Crawley, “was without doubt the Immaculate Virgin. She stands apart, unique. The uncreated beauty of Our Lord poured into her soul the goodness and grandeur of God as far as they can be reproduced in a mere creature. ‘Thou art all fair, O Mary!’

But immediately after Mary, comes the priest, the divine masterpiece of grace, of dignity and of power”, especially by his privilege to offer the Holy Mass and to absolve from sins.

It is not surprising then, while going over the various approved apparitions of our heavenly Mother, to notice how much she wants to work with her privileged priests. In this she surely imitates her divine Son whose first objective at the very beginning of His public life, coming out of the 40 days’ fast in the desert, was to gather together his team of apostles, the future twelve pillars of His Church. Let us briefly recall some of these Marian apparitions to prove this and draw conclusions.

At La rue du Bac, in 1830, the Immaculate Mother of God showed St Catherine Labourée the two sides of the medal that will be known

worldwide as the Miraculous Medal, and it is through her confessor, Fr. Aladel, that the medal is made – it reached millions in barely a few years – and distributed.

At the church of Our Lady of Victories, in Paris, a mere 6 years later, on the feast of St Francis Xavier, while in the middle of the Holy Mass, Fr. Desgenettes heard these clear words: “Consecrate your parish to my Immaculate Heart!” His average Sunday mass attendance until then had been between 10 and 15 people, mostly women, in that church which can contain more than 500. A week later, as he is about to perform the consecration requested at the time of vespers, the church miraculously filled up in the afternoon hours and would not cease being one of the greatest Marian shrines of France, until Vatican II.

At Lourdes, Our Lady asked Bernadette to ask Fr. Peyramale to build a church in her honour where pilgrimages could take place. Everyone knows the important role the sacraments have had at the famous grotto. The miraculous source is a faint image of the rivers of graces which have been poured from the blessed grotto.

At Fatima, she wants the Pope along with the bishops of the world to consecrate Russia to her Immacu-

late Heart, but in the conditions of the Five First Saturdays, the priests are obviously needed to hear confession and distribute Holy Communion. Moreover, in what we can deduce with high probability of the Third Secret, the tragedy of the apostasy of nations and in the Church is caused by the clergy. And Fr. Fuentes told Sister Lucy in 1957 that what afflicted the most Her Immaculate Heart as well as the Sacred Heart of Jesus was the fall of religious and priestly souls.

What is then absolutely clear from all the above is that priests are clearly the right-hand men of the Queen of Heaven, just as they were for her Divine Son; that grace normally flows through their consecrated hands, through the sacraments; that since the infernal dragon cannot reach her, the Tower of Ivory, he knows that by getting at the priests, he touches her very Immaculate Heart.

This also puts the work of Archbishop Lefebvre in a completely new light! Isn’t it surprising that we find in the fight against Archbishop Lefebvre the same men who are also fighting or at least not obeying the message of Fatima? Such are Popes Paul VI, John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and priests as Fr. Dhanis S.J.? This last priest is the culprit who, already in 1944 when the Memoirs of Lucy

came out, divided the Fatima message into two which he called Fatima I and Fatima II, the former being the fact of the apparitions, the latter the message containing the vision of hell and the consecration of Russia, which he claims were merely the fruits of Sister Lucy's vivid imagination and readings. The same Fr. Dhanis came to try to convince Archbishop Lefebvre in late June 1976 to offer the new mass for the ordination ceremonies a few days later, on 29th June, and promised him that "all would be resolved between him and Ecône" if he accepted to do so.

As the number of the priests of the Society of St. Pius is rapidly nearing the 600 mark, let us continue to pray Our Lady for vocations, for the priests, young and not so young, sick and healthy, that they may be "found faithful dispensers of the grace of God" (cf. I Cor 4:1-2). Let us also be more and more convinced that Archbishop Lefebvre's priestly work is at the very heart of the Catholic Church and will certainly play a major role when the Immaculate Heart of Mary does triumph, as she has promised.

God bless,

District Superior

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