

THE VOICE OF ROSA MYSTICA

MOTHER OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH
FONTANELLE DI MONTICHIARI - (Brescia)

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of the **Associazione Rosa Mystica - Fontanelle**
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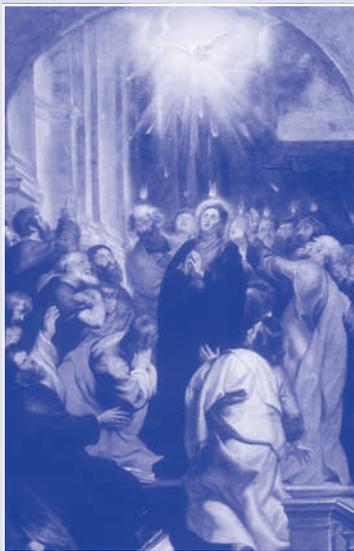
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*Thou, of all consolers best,
Thou, the soul's delightful guest,
Dost refreshing peace bestow.*

*Thou in toil art comfort sweet;
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.*

(Sequence for the solemnity
of Pentecost)

Pentecost: The hour of hope

p. Augusto Drago

Eclipse of hope?

“Come, Spirit of Hope, and fill the sails of our ship, bring us where Your breath leads us! Help us not to be afraid to be conducted by You. Grant us holy courage to leave the shores of our sorrows and our fears, our false certainties, to embrace the «safe» unknown place to where You are leading us!”

Looking at the vast panorama of the social and cultural life of man and – why not – also at the Christian experience itself, we have the sad impression that Hope has been banished from the horizon of human life.

In order to be able to live, man has to hope, despite all the negative situations he has to under-

go. He needs to understand that there is only one *Hope* to which we are all called, namely the hope of our calling. (Ephesians 4:4). We all need to understand that we are continually called by that incessant repetition of the paschal dynamism in our lives as

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Pentecost: the hour of hope

FROM PAGE 1

believers, which is the mystery of Pentecost. It is Easter that enters the story and fills it with Hope. It grants us to help in all our weaknesses and fragility. At this moment, I remember the words of the late Cardinal Suenens:

■ Why am I a person of hope?

Because I believe the Holy Spirit is at work in the Church and in the world, even where His name remains unheard. I am a man of hope, neither for human reasons nor from any natural optimism

■ I am a man of hope.

Because I believe that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Creation. To those who welcome the Holy Spirit, God gives each day fresh liberty, renewed joy and trust.

■ I am a man of hope.

Because I know that the Holy Spirit will never cease to amaze us with surprising and unpredictable actions of His divine designs, all in my favor. To hope is a duty, not a luxury! To hope is not a dream, but to turn dreams into reality.

In addition, the words of the apostle Paul come into my mind, timely as ever for us and for the whole Church:

«We are afflicted, but not crushed, perplexed, but not driven to despair, persecuted but not abandoned, struck but not killed.

We are experiencing trouble on every side, but are not crushed; we are perplexed, but not driven to despair; we are persecuted, but not abandoned; we are knocked down, but not destroyed, always carry-

ing around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For we, who are alive, are constantly being handed over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our mortal body. We therefore are not discouraged (2 Corinthians 4, 7b-11.16a)

At one point the Holy Father, Benedict XVI, in his encyclical «Spe Salvi» (In Hope We Are Saved), tells us about the experience of Cardinal Nguyen Van Thuan. The cardinal was kept prisoner in Vietnam for thirteen years, including nine in total isolation. «During thirteen years in jail, in a situation of seemingly utter hopelessness, the fact that he could listen and speak to God became for him an increasing power of hope, which enabled him, after his release, to become for people all over the world a witness to hope, to that great hope which does not wane even in the nights of solitude». (Spe Salvi, 32).

Therefore, there is always hope; for this purpose the Spirit is given to us. Through Him a rain of hope always comes down on the entire humanity. This hope has a name: Jesus Christ, our Lord, who died

and rose for us. He has His inner strength and dynamics, which is called the Holy Spirit. It has a haven: the heart of the Father who never disappoints His children: «If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!» (Luke 11,13)

Only a person, who feels loved, is able to look with confidence and hope at the present and the future. And we, we are all loved by the Lord; so much loved that we have received the gift of His own life!

Come, Spirit of Hope, and fill the sails of our ship, bring us where your breath leads us! Help us not to be afraid to be conducted by you.

Grant us holy courage to leave the shores of our sorrows and our fears, our false certainties, to embrace the «safe» unknown place to where you are leading us!

Deliver us from the fear of being unnailed from all egoism in order to expand the Love and the fire of Pentecost in our life story and that of others. We cannot change the world, but the passion for the Word, that You infuse into our hearts, can help us to put even a small, but significant stone for the new construction of a better world. Come over us as a flow of optimism, so that no sorrow will overwhelm us, and suffering will not immerse us into the vortex of the abyss and, engulfed by the breath of the Spirit, we will be the witnesses of our God who makes all things new.

Show me great love for those who do not love my Divine Son Jesus Christ! The light of the grace that I brought to the Source is lit with so much love of gratitude towards the Lord. Dear children, responsible children, do not let the intervention of my grace slip into a deep slumber! Do not obstruct the great love that I have to save humanity, but be strong and be fighters against the great dark cloud of atheism. The children of darkness run fast to perdition. Here is my intervention! I want to save the world! I am looking forward for the cooperation of the hearts that love me with prayer, sacrifice and penance.

Mary unties the knots

“Our Lady Mary who unties the knots, this is very comforting news for us who are entangled and choked by so many knots. Your hidden but watchful presence, sometimes in silence, sustains and reassures us. You follow a secret thread, in the depths of our life and with infinite patience you untie the knots of our slavery.”

About pope Bergoglio and his relationship with Mary, there is an episode that perhaps not everyone knows and I think it is worth remembering it. I had learned about it a few years ago, when the news began to circulate about a new Marian devotion, called “Mary, Untier of Knots.” The devotion uses a rather unusual image of the Immaculate Virgin. With a white, red and blue mantle and crowned with stars, the Lady is about to crush the serpent’s head. Her hands instead of being opened downwards, showering rays of grace, are busy untying an entangled ribbon, which at her touch becomes smooth and beautiful as it was before. An angel hands out the knotted ribbon, another picks it up after her maternal intervention. This image struck me: there was nothing new, it was clear. It was an interesting version of that prerogative of the Mother of God to be the “Help of Christians, the “Health of the sick”, a modern vision, so to speak, of her role of all time. It could be esteemed as responsive to the sciences of the psyche used to indicate the tangle that all of us carry in ourselves, the result of many things, from the very limits of human nature tending to sin, to the not always happy experiences we run up against. A tangle that sooner or later takes its toll which needs to be resolved. In a Marian shrine I also found a book: “Novena to Mary who unties the knots”. I learned that a Jesuit priest started this devotion, precisely the Argentinian Jorge Bergoglio, who in 1980 was stunned by the image during his stay in Germany. He brought



with him several reproductions, which he publicized. To be honest, at that time it did not impress me very much. I knew nothing about this Bergoglio. Besides, I distrusted a bit the information presented in the devotional books that, although well-meant, sometimes emphasizes a bit too much, imbuing it with some exaggeration. But when, a few days ago I read an interview made in 2010 with the priest, who in the meantime has become pope Francesco, I had to admit, and with pleasure, that I was wrong. In fact, the devotion to “Mary, who unties knots” has been promoted by pope Bergoglio. This pope, who among other things, for a long time has been a professor of psychology – and maybe for this reason – shows great sensitivity and pastoral capacity. Now the devotion has passed from a strictly local level to the entire world.

Here is the story: the painting, recently attributed to Johann Melchior Schmidter, was made around the year 1700 and was donated to the church of St. Peter am Perlach in Augsburg, Germany. It was offered with gratitude by a grandson of the nobleman Wolfgang Langenmantel

and his wife Sophie Imhoff, who were on the verge of a divorce due to frequent misunderstandings and disagreements. After appeals to the Virgin Mary, they were eventually reconciled. This event happened through the nuns of a nearby monastery and a Jesuit, Jakob Rem. During marriages in their church, the nuns tied a ribbon around the hands of the newlyweds as a symbol of the indissoluble union that was to be accomplished. In this case, however, the ribbon was very knotted in many ways as a symbol of the numerous disagreements of the noble couple. When Fr. Jacob raised it during a solemn celebration before the image of the Virgin in the chapel of the monastery, suddenly all knots were dissolved and at the same time, all grudges were disappearing. Hence, grudges and family tangles, but not only limited to those expressed by the image, which at the time has struck the pope so much that it prompted him to spread the devotion. Herewith one of the prayers that today accompanies the image:

Our Lady Mary who unties the knots, this is a very comforting news for us who are suffocating by so many knots. Your hidden but watchful presence, sometimes in silence, sustains and reassures us.

We feel that you are here, that you become involved in the events of our lives and that you are deeply touched by all our troubles. Nothing is strange to you. Please enter into our troubles, worries, sorrows, disappointments, sufferings, doubts, fear, misery, tragedies. You follow a secret thread in the depths of our life and with infinite patience you untie the knots of our slavery. Most beloved Mother, take care of us like the Child that you carried in your womb, untie all the knots of our home, our marriage, our family, and all the peoples in the whole world.

Rosanna Messori Brichetti

WE HAVE RECEIVED

During the month of May many European, American, Asian, African and Australian pilgrims are coming, and of course also Italians.

These children, going home with a heart full of sweetness and maternal comfort from Mary, our Mother, leave very beautiful testimonials.

We thank all of those who write us and we assure them that their messages will be preserved by us.

We also thank the groups that communicate their programs of fraternal charity for this Year of Faith.

In this issue, we publish pictures of the group in Panama, which is preparing the Congress to be held in October with so much love and effort. We are all invited to pray for the success of this congress.

Panama



Panama



SCHEDULE OF PRAYERS

SCHEDULE DURING SUMMER FROM APRIL 1 UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30

Sunday and holidays:

Vespers 16:00; H. Mass 17:00

Every Day:

H. Rosary: 10:00 - 15:30 - 16:30

Vespers and catechesis 17:00

Saturday and Sunday:

confessor present from 16:00

The 13th of every month MARIAN DAY

– uninterrupted recitation of the Rosary from 15:30

The Sunday after the 13th:

Procession at 16.30 honor of Rosa Mystica;

on return H. Mass at 17:00

Every afternoon at 16:00 there will be a priest for confession or talks. The groups in arrival are requested to inform here at Fontanelle phone +39 030 964111

The peace, grace, mercy, love and joy of the Lord be with us all, in our families, in the Church and in the whole world.

**The editorial staff and the Associazione
Rosa Mystica-Fontanelle**

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