



# Star of the Stormy Sea

Quarterly Newsletter of the Apostolate of Our Lady of Good Success Winter 2022 [262-567-0920]

**“... When your souls suffer temptations and are immersed in grief ...turn to her with confidence and say: *‘Star of the stormy sea of my mortal life, may your light shine upon me so that I do not stray from the path that leads me to heaven.’*”**

(Taken from “The Testament of Mother Mariana de Jesus Torres” January 16th, 1635)



## **TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APOSTOLATE OF OUR LADY OF GOOD SUCCESS - NOVEMBER 2022**

**“...This devotion will work prodigies in the spiritual as well as temporal spheres, because it is the will of God to reserve this invocation and knowledge of your life for that century, when the corruption of customs will be almost general and the precious light of Faith almost extinguished”**

Dear Friends,

Over twenty years ago, I read “Prophecies for Our Times” by Dr. Marian Horvat. It made a deep impression on me, and it changed the course of our family life and vocation ever since. I will not dwell on those twenty years which were full of much grace and adventures with Our Lady. Of

course, we know anything worthwhile will have its own set of crosses to deal with but all and all, we hope that our work has borne good fruit and that one-day when our work is done, God and Our Lady will let us know that we did Their will.

The past several months have been fraught with much sadness and pain. Our sister-in-law, Lisa, was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer in the bone. Please remember Lisa. Then started in with our own crosses of various kinds. My particular cross has lasted for almost 2 months. I herniated a disc that will not heal-I keep reinjuring it and I am currently typing with one of those desks that one can adjust to stand and type. Never thought I would need it, but I do! Then my husband, Dan became sick and was diagnosed with shingles, and it had gone to his left eye. Currently, he is recuperating and we just ask for prayers so he doesn't lose his eye or his vision! And so, if we have been negligent in getting any packages to you or responding to you, I hope you can forgive us. Just be patient and

persistent in calling us and we will eventually get to you. **We are accepting donations and prayer intentions for the annual fundraiser Our Lady of Good Success feast day on Feb. 2 for our work and for the good sisters in Quito.**

I have written the article below on the connection and correlation of the devotion of Our Lady of Good Success with that of Holy Face of Jesus. The complete 22-page article will be available in print. Just call and ask for it: Apostolate of Our Lady of Good Success 262-567-0920. Part 1:

### **“Behold I Send My Angel and He Shall Prepare the Way before My Face”**

[From the Epistle on The Presentation and Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Candlemas Day- February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Malachias 3, 1]

By Kathleen Heckenkamp

In discovering the devotion to Our Lady of Good Success, upon traveling to Quito in 2000 and in the subsequent visits, I



encountered another devotion that has connections to the Conceptionist and the Carmelite orders at their heart- that of the devotion to the Holy Face. I was immediately drawn by the two images of the Holy Face- one of the Veil in the Carmelite Monastery and one of the Shroud in the Conceptionist Monastery. It is due to their presence there and the devotion of my father to the Shroud and my brother-in-law's devotion to the the Holy Face that eventually led me to not only studying their origins in these monastic orders and begin my own devotions to the Holy Face but then, some years later to spread it.

In this article I wish to support the connections between the devotion of Our Lady of Good Success and the Holy Face by the following points:

- Our Lady, Mother Mariana de Jesus Torres and Sr. Marie St. Peter were all victim souls for our time.
- The Presentation and its connections to these two devotions have reparation for the grave sin of **blasphemy** at its core.
- These devotions show that the grave sins of **blasphemy**, heresy, and impurity most especially committed by religious souls cause grievous wounds in the hearts of Our Lord and Our Lady. Thus, not only was Our Lady's heart was pierced with a sword at the Presentation, but the victim souls of Mother Mariana and Sr. Marie St. Peter were wounded in a similar manner.
- These devotions to honor Our Lord and Our Lady with the feast of Candlemas, Our Lady of Good Success and the Holy Face are pleasing to God as they are meant to be used to make reparation for the sins of **blasphemy**, heresy and impurity. Thus, with these weapons along with the rosary, we can effectively wage war against the enemies of God and the Church. These devotions are directed toward the positive outcome of the eventual Triumph of the Church. Therefore, we must not only take care to instill these devotions in ourselves and our children but also spread it to others to help give consolation and strength in these times.

### **Historical and Biblical Account of the Feast Day of the Presentation of Our Lord and the Purification of Our Lady also known as Candlemas Day.**

**The Feast of Our Lady of Good Success on February 2 which is the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple/ Purification of Our Lady and also known as Candlemas day** is known as the official day in which Our Lord was presented to His Heavenly Father as a sacrifice for the sins of men and secondly to Humanity via the arms of Our Lady placing Her Son in the adoring arms of Simeon and the rejoicing of the voice of Anna the Prophetess for the arrival of the Messiah. As it is articulated in the *Antiphon for the Feast of Candlemas*:

**“Adorn thy bridal-chamber, O Sion, and welcome Christ the King: embrace Mary for she who is the very gate of heaven, bringeth to thee the glorious King of the new light. Remaining ever a Virgin in her arms she bears her Son begotten before the day-star, whom Simeon receiving into his arms, declared unto all the peoples to be the Lord of life and of death, and the Saviour of the world.”<sup>1</sup>**



In the *“Mystical City of God Volume II – The Incarnation”* by Sr. Maria de Agreda, we learn about that magnificent day in which the Holy Family processed to the temple with these beautiful words: *“On the next morning, the Sun of heaven being now ready to issue from its purest dawning, the Virgin Mary, on whose arms He*

reclined, and being about to rise up in full view of the world, the heavenly Lady, having provided the turtle-dove and two candles, wrapped Him in swaddling-clothes and betook Herself with saint Joseph from their lodging to the temple. The holy angels, who had come with them from Bethlehem, again formed in procession in corporeal and most beautiful forms, just as has been said concerning the journey of the preceding day. On this occasion however the holy spirits added many other hymns of the sweetest and most entrancing harmony in honor of the infant God, which were heard only by the most pure Mary. **Besides the ten thousand, who had formed the procession on the previous day, in numerable others descended from heaven, who, accompanied by those that bore the shields of the holy name of Jesus, formed the guard of honor of the incarnate Word on the occasion of his presentation.**"<sup>2</sup>



Thus, we can observe that on this day that Our Infant King for the first time in history was publicly presented to the world as Its savior. His Sweet Countenance was observed by all and revered, venerated and adored by the prophets, Simeon and Anna along with Mary and Joseph in the temple. He was recognized as the long-awaited Messiah. Secondly, we can see a significant angelic demonstration in Defense of the Holy Name of Jesus, the Infant King and Savior of the World, by the Heavenly Hosts in the form of a shielding spiritual army. Perhaps only the Holy Mother of God was aware of this spiritual army but nonetheless it is written that there was in fact one present. When I read the account of the fourteen thousand angels and some even carrying **the shields of the holy name of Jesus, forming the guard of honor of the incarnate Word,** I could not help but recalled the words: **"Who is she that cometh forth as the morning**

**rising, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, terrible as an army set in array?"** [Canticles (Song of Solomon) 6:9] Was it not most appropriate for this woman to have an army of angels accompanying her and her Child to the temple?

In the Gospel of the Feast of Candlemas, it is also written in Luke 2, 22-32:

**"And behold there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Ghost was in him: and he had received an answer from the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. And he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when His parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, he also took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said: Now Thou dost dismiss Thy servant, O Lord, according to Thy word in peace; **because my eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples; a light to the revelation of the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.**"<sup>3</sup>**

As we meditate on these words, we can ascertain that with the words "see" and "had seen" there is a special grace that the Holy Ghost promised Simeon. He had prayed to "see" the Savior and that he did! Therefore, he asked, and he received the gift to "see" but he also received more than that.

Mary of Agreda continues and gives proof to the public presentation/manifestation of the Infant King- Messiah: ***"Simeon, addressing himself to the most holy Mother of the Infant Jesus, then added: 'Behold this Child is set for the fall and for the resurrection of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be contradicted. And thy own soul a sword shall pierce, that out of many hearts thoughts may be revealed.' Thus saint Simeon: and being a priest he gave his blessing to the happy parents of the Child. Then also the prophetess Anne acknowledged the incarnate Word, and full of the Holy Ghost, she spoke of the mysteries of the Messiah to many, who were expecting the***

**redemption of Israel. By these two holy old people public testimony of the coming of the Redeemer was given to the world.”<sup>4</sup>**

Thus, one can see that this feast not only **honors the Name of Jesus** but it also **reveres the gentle and most pure and Holy Infant Face of Jesus Christ** that Simeon and Anna prayed to behold before they died.

There is yet another mystical aspect to this historical event that we celebrate on Candlemas which was explained by **St Alphonsus de Ligouri**. *It is the premise that Our Lady acted as a victim soul or Co-Redemptrix officially beginning at the Presentation when Simeon pronounces these words: “And thy own soul a sword shall pierce, that, out of many hearts, thoughts may be revealed.” [Luke 2:35]*

Saint Alphonsus writes in **“The Glories of Mary”**:

*“Thus, Mary not only offered her Son to death in the Temple, but she renewed that offering every moment of her life for she revealed to St Bridget that the sorrow announced to her by the holy Simeon never left her heart until her Assumption into heaven. In the Presentation how much more deeply did she submit to God’s will and repeat ‘Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to me according to Thy word’” (Luke 1:38)*

St Alphonsus goes onto say: **“The wills of Christ and Mary were then united, so that both offered the same holocaust; she thereby producing with Him the same effect, the salvation of the world.”<sup>5</sup>**

**[End of Part 1. To be continued... For the complete article contact the Apostolate of Our Lady of Good Success 262-567-0920]. Thank you! 😊**



## **PLEDGE TO OUR LADY OF GOOD SUCCESS**

(This was the first prayer composed for the Apostolate over twenty years ago- to be said every day-if possible. Remember that She in a marvelous way will dethrone the accursed devil and cast him into Hell!)

Our Lady of Good Success, our most amiable Queen and our most dedicated Mother,

I pledge to thee today and every day of my life my love and devotion.

I offer thee my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of each and every day in reparation for the sins of this most lamentable era, in particular the sins of blasphemy, heresy and

impurity which has caused thee and thy Most Beloved Son, Jesus Christ so much anguish and sorrow.

I beg your intercession before the Most Holy Trinity to grant us the full restoration to the Catholic Church. Grant to us through thy Most Beloved Son the grace to persevere in these times and to aid in spreading this devotion.

I ask most humbly for thy guidance to direct me according to my state in life and the grace to do the will of God in all that I do.

I ask thee to hear the prayers and special petitions of the members of this Apostolate as well. I wish to be thine in time and in eternity! Amen.

**PLEASE DO REMEMBER US AND OUR WORK IN YOUR PRAYERS! WE NEED THEM! If you can send a donation, this would help us to keep going!**

**Apostolate of Our Lady of Good Success 1288 Summit Ave, Ste 107 Oconomowoc., WI 53066 phone: 262-567-0920 [www.ourladyofgoodsuccess.com](http://www.ourladyofgoodsuccess.com)**