

**“WHAT A JOY TO FIND MY GOD AGAIN!
YES, WHAT A GRACE!”**



**Germain
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Life of Love knows and denounces human wretchedness with a penetrating and sometimes wrenching sincerity, sympathizes with weakness and heals it.

Life of Love is light, newness, energy, regeneration, salvation. That is why it gives birth to a specific form of new life. *Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you may judge what is God’s will, what is good, pleasing and perfect,*” Saint Paul tells us (Rom 12:2).

In *Life of Love* we see a soul (Marie-Paule) that is really submissive to the will of God in all it thinks, desires and loves. It is always ready to change its manner of acting upon the slightest indication of divine will. We also learn that God’s will is manifested through events, that is to say, in the joys and the trials of all kinds, the illnesses, the afflictions, the consolations, the births and the bereavements. We understand as well that, throughout her entire life and still today, Marie-Paule has had to walk in pure faith.

We discover in it that Marie-Paule sees God alone in all things. Whether illness strikes, or there is spiritual aridity, or amid all the vexations of this life, etc. she does not let any of it upset her nor does she criticize, because she rises above all these events in order to see God who guides everything for His greater glory and the welfare of souls.

To reach that point, Marie-Paule needed to acquire two main virtues, namely, humility and obedience, both of which are absolutely necessary in order to accomplish God’s will in all things, and she did so by silencing her nature, the vexations, humiliations and tribulations of the body and soul.

Saint Bernard said: *“The beginner, prompted by faith and fear, bears the cross of Christ patiently; the one who is progressing, prompted by experience, carries it willingly; while the one who is consummate in charity or perfection embraces it with ardor.”* Consummate in charity, Marie-Paule has embraced and still embraces the cross every day of her life. Not only does she embrace it, but she lets herself be crucified upon it.

Did not Marie-Paule make her own this prayer by Saint Francis of Sales: *“My God, I desire nothing in this world except you and your holy will. I have the greatest desire to grow in your love and in all the virtues, and to do this, I want to faithfully accomplish your signified will. But for all those things which depend upon you and not upon me, I confidently place myself in your hands and hold myself in readiness, in a simple and filial waiting, to do anything you wish. I desire nothing, I ask for nothing, I refuse nothing. I accept everything. The only thing I desire is to let you lead me as you wish and*

to acquiesce with love to your every wish. Amen.”

What we remark in Marie-Paule is her simplicity, her joy and her peace. Father Saint-Jure explains well this state of a soul submissive to God’s will: “*The souls that follow this way enjoy an inalterable calmness and spend their life in a peace that they alone can understand and which cannot be found elsewhere on earth... In fact, can we conceive of a more blessed state than the state in which the soul is carried, rests, or falls asleep like a child in the loving and almighty arms of divine Providence?*” (P. Richer-M., O.F.M., *Toute la messe vécue*, p. 509)

We have not finished discovering or understanding all the treasures contained in the volumes of *Life of Love*. A heartfelt thanks to Marc Bosquart for having partially raised the veil covering them.

I am one of those who owe their return to the practice of religion to the reading of *Life of Love*, a return that occurred after having been away from it for almost fifteen years. What a joy to find my God again!... Yes, what a grace!

Thank you, Mother Paul-Marie, for having accepted to live this *Life of Love* and to write it for the greater good of souls. Through your writings and your example, you have taught us to love God, the Church, and the sacraments, more particularly confession and the Eucharist.

Lac-Etchemin, June 26, 2005

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