

THEY FORETOLD THE NEW TIMES

Jeannine THIFFAULT-BLANCHETTE

POPE PIUS XII

A number of great figures of the Church, and most notably recent popes, have foretold the new times. Concerning May 31, Pope Pius XII ordered that this date be reserved each year for the renewal of the Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. He likewise solemnly declared in that same document entitled, “*Ad Caeli Reginam*”, that he cherished “*the hope that through such consecration a new era may begin, joyous in Christian peace and in the triumph of religion.*” (Quoted in *Pie XI parle de la consécration à Marie*, p. 16) This “*joyous era*” that is supposed to come through Mary and that Pius XII prophesied, can be none other than the Kingdom foretold by the Lady of All Peoples whose feast falls on May 31. On another occasion Pope Pius XII was quite forthright in evoking that form of the apostolate precisely to which the Oblate-Patriots are, at this time, devoting themselves, without any fanfare, imbuing themselves with the Church’s social doctrine in order to be able to apply it to society. This field did not escape the prophetic spirit of Pius XII who addresses these words to those devoted to the Virgin:

The Virgin Mary could not remain deaf to the cry of her children provided it did not come merely from the lips or was not born of a hasty, transitory resolution, but was the cry issuing from efficacious reforms and necessary renewals on the personal and family, the civic and social, and the national and inter-

national planes.” (*Pius XII parle...*, p. 28)

In the Army of Mary, an ardent love of the Church has always been instilled in us. And this love is manifested concretely in a most impressive fashion by our Witness of Fidelity to the Church and to the Pope, and affirmed by these words, repeated convincingly: “*Long live the Church of Christ! Long live His Holiness the Pope!*” Moreover, Pope Pius XII has made it quite clear that we cannot consider separately, isolated one from the other, those two divine realities, Mary and the Church, realities that are, in his eyes, absolutely indissociable: “*Wherever there is love for the Church, there too is love for Mary. Wherever there is fidelity to the Church, there too is devotion to Mary. One is conditional on and fosters the other,*” he said. (*Pius XII parle...*, p. 34) So the Army of Mary’s apostolic action always finds its place in the prophetic spirit of that great Pontiff Pope Pius XII who, moreover, on two occasions addressed his papal blessing to our Foundress, as *Life of Love* testifies.

POPE PAUL VI

In her last article to appear in *Le Royaume* (“The Kingdom”, no. 172, p. 26), Mother Paul-Marie wrote:

Let us not be afraid, for as long as there will be love on earth hearts will open themselves ever wider to grace, and souls will say:

“Fiat! I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done unto me according to your word!”

Through this statement, Mother Paul-Marie shows herself to be a worthy daughter of the Second Vatican Council when she proposes that we count on the divine sentiment of love to solve every conflict in the Church and on earth. She subscribes faithfully to the thinking of Paul VI who extolled love as being the driving force that was to animate the application of Vatican II, and, more precisely, “*far-reaching love*”, as he insisted: “*The Council is characterized by love, a far-reaching and pressing love, the love that thinks of others before self, the universal love of Christ... The Council will work to lay a bridge to the contemporary world.*” (*Paul VI et la mission de l’Église dans le monde*, p. 22) This “*far-reaching love*” that must animate the Church and of which Paul VI speaks, does not fail to recall this exhortation on the part of the Lady of All Peoples at Amsterdam: “*Once more I warn Rome. Broadly... they must have a broad view, but...*” (Raoul Auclair, *The Lady of All Peoples*, 11th apparition) (In regard to the “*last blow*” dealt us, we understand better now the meaning of the “*but...*”, of the Lady’s hesitation.) This “*far-reaching love...*” – and as Knights of Mary, we understand it better than anyone else – is today coming up against many objectors and many detractors. Continuing along the path of this call to love, of which the Second Vatican Council is the bearer, Paul VI warns the world that they who will be its apostles will have much to suffer:

While other currents of thought or action propose, for the building up of the

city of men, very different principles, such as power, riches, science, competition, self-interest, etc., the Church places love in the forefront. The Council is the solemn act of love for humanity... We know, as a result of bitter and ever-present experience, that this love, and perhaps especially this love, meets with and arouses indifference, opposition, scorn and hostility." (Paul VI et la mission de l'Église..., pp. 40-41)

Through the offering of her "Life of Love" for the Church and for the world, our Foundress has become, fully, the incarnation of Paul VI's spirit, of the conciliar spirit at its purest.

POPE JOHN PAUL II

Pope John Paul II was one of the great prophet popes capable of the "broad view" asked for by the Lady of All Peoples at Amsterdam. As proof of this, as of the inauguration of his vast and marvelous project of the World Youth Days, Pope John Paul II was able to innovate, to open wider its ranks, as he proposed a number of months before his death: "It was the first time in twenty years that the Pope (John Paul II) explicitly invited unbaptized young people separated from the Church to come to Cologne for the W.Y.D." (Zenit, French-language edition, Nov. 23, 2004)

Following in the footsteps of Paul VI who extolled love as the "spark plug" to activate the conciliar principles, Pope John Paul II, in his turn, made love the basic priority for the success of ecumenical dialogue. So, in regard to this latter, love must take first place in any attempts to effect reconciliation with the other religions. Here is what he declared in his homily on New Year's Day 2005:

Overcoming evil with weapons of love becomes the way in which each person can contribute to the peace of all. Christians and believers of different religions are called to walk this path, together with those who accept the universal moral law. (Homily, January 1, 2005, Vatican web site)

In an oratorical style particular to him and with a captivating emphasis, Pope John Paul II, some weeks before his death, constituted himself the herald of the Terrestrial Kingdom, as is borne out by this discourse of his destined for the world of the media on the occasion of the World Communications Day. Obviously, Pope John Paul II launched to the media a passionate appeal to help him bring together all the peoples:

My prayer on this year's World Communications Day is that the men and women of the media will play their part in breaking down the dividing walls of hostility in our world, walls that separate peoples and nations from one another, feeding misunderstanding and mistrust. May they use the resources at their disposal to strengthen the bonds of friendship and love that clearly signal the onset of the Kingdom of God here on earth. (Message for World Communications Day, Vatican web site)

To establish "the Kingdom of God here on earth" clearly means establishing the Terrestrial Kingdom. The pleonasm found in the French text, which literally translates as "here in this world", takes on the value of linguistic emphasis, coming as it does from the Pope's lips. His holy eloquence most certainly cannot be lying. It is surely a matter of a plea on behalf of the Kingdom here below, that Kingdom for which we are laboring with love in the work of the Lady of All Peoples. This urgent call of John Paul II to the media with a view to the building up of the Kingdom likewise confirms that the very title of the paper *Le Royaume* is of heavenly origin. The same holds true for *Radio Amour* or *Radio Love*,

which name assuredly bears the imprint of the divine.

Then again, some months ago, shortly before his death, Pope John Paul II encouraged the building of new churches (while, paradoxically, here in Quebec they are closing them), something that could seem utopian, even unreasoned, in the eyes of some people in this time of dechristianization, not to say of general apostasy:

Pope John Paul II brought up again the importance of supporting the construction of new churches, something he had emphasized on the occasion of the Angelus last Sunday, when he invited Christians to show themselves "generous" in order that "everyone may find a place in which to grow in the faith and in the Christian life." (Zenit, French-language edition), December 17, 2004)

It was by the divine will that the chapel of Spiri-Maria was built. And the beautiful ceremonies that take place there, especially like those held within the context of the triduum of last May 27, 28 and 29, which were of a nature to gladden the heart of Pope John Paul II. In effect, on those days, planned on the theme "The Angels of the Priesthood", little girls and young adolescent girls, attired like little angels, bore, in procession, statuettes of angels which they placed up front on the altar. In regard to this, we learned that in September 2004,

John Paul II asked the faithful to let themselves be "guided" by the holy angels, and he was speaking in particular to the young, the sick and young married couples... "Each of the faithful has at his side an angel as a protector and shepherd to lead him to life." (Saint Basile) As of here below, the Christian life participates, in faith, in the blessed society of angels and men, united in God. (Zenit, French-language edition, September 29, 2004)

All throughout his pontificate John Paul II proved himself a prophet of love and a great apostle of reunification, a phenomenon that will go on even after his death, bringing together about him sworn enemies, both political and religious, as a journalist reported with admiration in commenting on the funeral of the holy Pontiff.

Through his life and death, Pope John Paul II accomplished, within the time of a High Mass, this miracle of religious and lay ecumenism transmitted to all screens and lived in all hearts, there where he left so much love. (Alain Genestre, Zenit, French-language edition, April 14, 2005)

In regard to this, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI made it a point, in his first message to the world, to bring out the ecumenical prophetism of Pope John Paul II who travelled the universe in an effort to bring together "all the peoples":

John Paul II's funeral was a truly extraordinary experience in which, in a certain way, we glimpsed the power of God who, through his Church, wants to make a great family of all the peoples by means of the unifying power of Truth and Love. (V.I.S., April 20, 2005)

In keeping with the spirit of Pope John Paul II of "overcoming evil with weapons of love" and making "a great family of all peoples", there we have the very motives behind the existence of the Community of the Lady of All Peoples.

A WORK OF LOVE

At the very core of all the torment there has risen a temple in which love for the Eucharist, for Mary and for the Pope flourishes, and which has as its name, Spiri-Maria. In spite of all the attempts to thwart its influence, this chapel has become a

bright beacon for the world of today. Conversions are taking place there and fervor is strengthened. It was there that Mother Paul-Marie was informed of the opening of the Terrestrial Kingdom into which we have entered.

And, at the core of that torment that continues to prevail, the time has come to affirm our faith in her who, subjected to every purification, has realized so many "ascensions in her heart", to borrow the beautiful expression of Pius XII, that her co-redemptive passion has been transformed into Eucharist. Now, in the crucifying reality of her mission, the Lord had forewarned her: "You will be alone to the very end..." (Living Stones, p. 144) But it was necessary that it be thus. The banishing of the Messenger only confirms the celestial import of her mission. It was necessary that she mount alone, and alone "to the very end", the steps of her "calvary", as Mary of Nazareth mounted alone the steps of the temple in conformity with the divine plan:

Possessed by the all-powerful Spirit of God, totally ardent, totally love, Mary was led to the temple by the divine Spirit who elevated her above her age and the strength of nature. Though only three years old, she mounted, by herself, the steps of the temple, and God wanted her to walk alone in this way, seeking no support from her mother, to show that it was the divine Spirit alone who was guiding her. (Jean-Jacques Olier, founder of the Sulpicians, quoted in the *Almanach du peuple de Dieu*, 1997, p. 39)

After the example of our divine Mother, Mary, it was thus necessary that our Foundress remain "alone to the very end" of her mission "to show that it was the divine Spirit alone who was guiding her".

In her last article, that takes on the nature of a spiritual will, Mother Paul-Marie declares: "Let us not be afraid, for as long as there will be love on earth hearts will open themselves ever wider to grace..." ("The Kingdom", no. 172, p. 26) In like manner, a saint whom history has eloquently sur-named "soldier of light", Saint Norbert, affirmed, "Fear nothing. That which the Father has planted cannot be uprooted by men."

Jeannine Thiffault-Blanchette

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We wish to express our sincerest condolences to the families who have lost a loved one. Before the reality of death, may Christian hope be a source of comfort and peace.

IN MEMORIAM

- BOUDREAU**, Carl - Petit-de-Grat, N.S.
BROOS DE MEYER, Jaantje - Oud Gastel, Netherlands
COUTURE, Gilberte - Jonquières
D'AMOURS, André - Coaticook
FONTAINE, Cécile - Montreal
GUÈVREMONT, Sister Marie-Jeanette - Hot Springs, Arkansas, U.S.A.
LEDFOURD, Beatrice - Owensboro, Kentucky, U.S.A.
VEZINA, Charles - Pont-Rouge
WEIR, Gloria - Mt. Carmel, Illinois, U.S.A.