

**A Europe,
over which the face
of God shines.**

Saint John Paul II



**Hail Mary Empress,
Help of Christians.**

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Saint John Paul II wrote in his post-synod apostolic letter “Ecclesia in Europe” in the year 2003: ‘The Church feels obliged to renew emphatically the message of hope entrusted to her by God and directs again these words to Europe: “The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save thee” (Zeph. 3:17).’ In his explanation the Pope cited the words of Jesus found in the book of Revelations, and he deduced his message from them to waken anew the spiritual vocation that Europe once had: “Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die” (Rev. 3:2).

This ‘call for hope is not based on a utopian ideology, on the contrary, it is the everlasting message of salvation proclaimed by Christ. Using the authority which the Church received from her Lord, she repeats today: Europe of the 3rd millennium, “do not your hands fall limp!” (Zeph. 3:16), do not lose courage. Do not adapt to ways of thinking and living that have no future, because they are not based on the unshakeable certainty of the word of God! ... Turn back! Be yourself! Rediscover your origin! Invigorate your roots! ... Do not be afraid! The Gospel is not against you, but with you! ... Be confident! In the Gospel, which is Jesus, you will find the strong and lasting hope after which you are yearning.’

**‘I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming
down out of heaven from God’ (Rev. 21:2)**

The picture of the new Jerusalem used for the building of the city of man that ‘coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully for her husband’ (Rev. 21:2), and which directly refers to the secret of the Church, is not indifferent... It is a picture that speaks of an eschatological reality: It goes far beyond all a human being can do; it is a present from God, which will come true at the end of time ... It is already present reality.

Trustful devotion to Mary

**'A great sign appeared in heaven:
a woman clothed with the sun, and a crown
of twelve stars on her head' (Rev. 12:1)**

The varied history of the Church is accompanied by signs, which are visible to everyone; but they have to be interpreted. Among these we have the Secret Revelation, the "great wonder" that appeared in heaven and which speaks about the fight between the woman and the dragon. The woman clothed with the sun, in labour pains, can be seen as the Israel of the prophets who brings forth the Messiah 'who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron' (Rev. 12:5; Ps. 2:9). But it also symbolizes the Church, the people of the New Testament, who, although persecuted, are still protected by God. The dragon is 'that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world (Rev. 12:9). It is an unequal fight; the dragon seems to have an advantage, so extreme is his arrogance opposite the defenceless, suffering woman. The real victor, however, will be the child born from the woman. One thing is certain in this fight: The great dragon has already been defeated. 'He was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him' (Rev. 12:9). He was defeated by Christ, the Son of God through His death and resurrection, and by the martyrs through 'the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death' (Rev. 12:11). And although the dragon continues his resistance, one has nothing to fear, because his defeat has already taken place. This certainty inspires the Church on its way; and in the woman and the dragon the Church always sees her own similar history. The woman who gives birth to the son reminds us of the blessed Virgin Mary, above all in the hour when she was overwhelmed by sorrow at the foot of the cross, when she reveals once again the Son as the Conqueror over the Prince of this World. She was entrusted to John, who, for his part, was trusted to her. Thus she became the Mother of the Church. It is for reason of this bond which connects Mary to the Church and the Church to Mary, that we can better understand the secret of the woman. Mary is present in the Church as the Mother of the Redeemer.

She takes a motherly part in the fierce fight against the forces of darkness, which is part of the whole history of mankind. Through this identification within the Church as 'the woman clothed with the sun' (Rev. 12:1), one can say that 'the Church in the blessed Virgin has already reached perfection in which she is without blemish and wrinkles' (Encyclical Redemptoris Mater 47).

The whole Church, therefore, looks up to Mary

The veneration of Mary within the peoples of Europe is fervent and wide-spread, thanks to the many places of pilgrimage scattered over all nations where the veneration of Mary is upheld.

'Church in Europe, continue to look up to Mary and recognize her "active and motherly presence in the various and difficult problems which nowadays accompany the individual, the families and the nations". Recognize also that she is the Help to the Christian people in the never-ending fight between good and bad in order not to fall, or, when "fallen", to "stand up" again.' (Ecclesia in Europe, 106, p.88 ff; 122, p.101f)

'This is the call of alarm for hope at a time when great darkness has come to the whole world and especially to Europe. It is the darkness of many sins which have been committed, justified and not yet confessed. It is the darkness of unbridled egoism and hatred, division and war. It is the darkness of lust and of impurity, of loss of faith and of apostasy and renunciation of the faith. God's law is openly broken, His name and His day violated. "You shall not have any other gods but me." – On the other hand, other false idols are worshipped by many today.

The commandment: "You shall not take the Name of God in vain;" – it sets itself up in opposition by blaspheming God and His Christ in many subtle and diabolical ways, even by reducing His Name indecorously to the level of a brand-name of an object of sale and in the production of sacrilegious films about His life and His divine Person.

The commandment of God: "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath Day;" it transfers the Sunday into a weekend of sports, contests and entertainment. Referring to the commandment: "Honour your father and your mother;" here it opposes the traditional model of family and propagates a new form based on cohabitation, even between homosexuals.

Concerning the commandment: "You shall not kill;" the legitimation of abortion has become widespread. Thus the blood of millions of babies already in their mother's womb has been shed. They have been and still are being killed. Euthanasia has become acceptable, whilst on the other hand the necessary respect towards human life hardly exists any more. Regarding the commandment: "You shall not commit impure acts;" today, almost any form of impurity, including even acts against nature, are justified, praised and propagated. The commandment: "You shall not steal;" – here, theft, violence, kidnapping and robbery are on the increase.

Abuse of God's commandment: "You shall not bear false witness" has led to widespread fraud, lying and deceitfulness. Concerning the commandment: "You shall not desire your neighbour's wife" ... "nor anything that is thy neighbour's." – No amount of trouble is taken to mislead the mind and the heart of people, and even to corrupt their conscience. In this way people are driven along the perverse and wicked road of disobedience to the laws of the Lord. They become submerged in sin, which thus prevents them from receiving the gift of grace and of the life of God.' (Blue Book: The Marian Movement of Priests, 15.9.'89; 3.6.'89)

'Only by the acceptance of the Gospel did Europe become a continent' (John Paul II)

'In the course of history, the Church of Christ in the Occident developed into the only one true Church of Christ, the only one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church that was led by the successors of St. Peter and the bishops together with him. The Occident came into being during the Middle Ages out of the triad Antiquity, Christianity and Teutonicism,' (G. M. Michel: O heilig Herz der Völker, o Vaterland, p. 2) and became a "Renovatio Imperii Romanorum" and a "Christian-Western Empire" idea: 'The personification of the secret of Christ, of the Incarnation. It has to be shown what Christ is: God and Man. In this way something was created which, up until this time, had never existed before: The Holy Empire, a "Sacrum Imperium". The pope personifies the fulness of priesthood; the emperor personifies complete kingship. Papacy and kingship see themselves as the reflection of Christ. Pope and emperor were the two columns of the Empire, and for 1000 years this order has held, although it was frail in many respects'

(Dr. Hans Albert Reul: Warum ein christliches Europa?, Marienfried 1979, p. 4).

'It is no coincidence that the Occident produced the highest culture and civilisation of mankind ever, and that it radiated to all continents. The enormous development out of the small organized area in the West of the Eurasian continent became a blessing, but also a curse for humanity. And it was in this way that Europe became to a certain extent the heart of the nations' (G. M. Michel, p. 2.) and a 'bridgehead for the Gospel in the whole world' (Dr. Hans Albert Reul, p. 4).

'Why did it come to the decline of the Sacrum Imperium, the Holy Roman Empire? The holy prophetess and mystic Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179) had already seen the descent, the weakening and the final downfall of the Roman Empire in her visions, "because they (i.e. the Roman emperors) will become unclean and half-hearted, submissive and impure in their moral standards, conceited and useless", because "then also kings and princes of many countries will desert to the disadvantage of the Roman Empire", and the "domineering attitude and greed (will) blind the hearts of these new princes, making them unwilling neither to act according to the truth they recognize, nor to want to learn about new things with which they are not acquainted". In the apocalyptic visions of the Portuguese Franciscan priest Amadeus Menez (1420-1482) there is also mention of the disobedience of Europe, and especially of Germany, and of the lethargy and corruption of its princes, which will extend those unhappy times. (...) Christian prophesy did not only foresee the downfall of the Holy Roman Empire, it also foresees the reestablishment of a Christian Europe' (G. M. Michel, p. 7).

In Fatima on 13th July, 1917 Mary revealed a special offer of the mercy of God for rescue and help through the worship and consecration to her Immaculate Heart. It was not without reason that Mary appeared here in the most western country of Europe in order to act against the mighty communism in the East. Marianism reaches its political zenith in Fatima. It makes clear there that the rescue of our continent solely depends on whether we do what was said there on 13th July, 1917.

Fatima is the most important offer that God has made to our continent concerning its future and survival”

(† Bishop Rudolph Graber: Ein Bischof spricht über Europa, p. 84).

**‘Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain,
that are ready to die’ (Rev. 3,2)**

‘Europe of the 3rd millennium, “do not your hands fall limp!” (Zeph. 3:16), do not lose courage. Do not adapt to ways of thinking and living that have no future, because they are not based on the unshakeable certainty of the word of God! ... Turn back! Be yourself! Rediscover your origin! Invigorate your roots!’ (Ecclesia in Europa 99)

‘Rediscover your origin! Invigorate your roots!’

Saint John Paul II said on the occasion of the 1200th Centenary Celebration of the Coronation of Emperor Charlemagne on Christmas Day in the year 800 in Rome and about his importance for the religious vocation of Europe: ‘The reform initiated by Charlemagne is also of importance today: Its influence is indeed of much more importance than his work of the unification of the different political realities in those days. The great contribution which Charlemagne achieved regarding the formation of the Continent consists of the great synthesis between the culture of the classical, mainly ancient Rome and the cultures of the Germanic and Celtic peoples. This synthesis has its basis in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, because Europe’s unity was not described from a geographical point of view. Only by the acceptance of the Christian religion did Europe become a Continent. This Continent succeeded over hundreds of years in spreading its values to almost all parts of the world and consequently to be of service to the well-being of humanity. At the same time we should not forget that these ideologies which, in the course of the 20th century, also caused floods of blood and tears, originated from a Europe that wanted to forget its Christian roots.... The great figure of history, Emperor Charlemagne, recollects the Christian roots of Europe. Anyone who looks at this figure will be led into the epoch which, inspite of human limits which are always there, shows an impressive cultural zenith covering almost all areas.

Searching for its identity, Europe should use all its energy to regain that cultural heritage, which Charlemagne left behind and which was preserved for longer than a millennium ... (We should) therefore rediscover those values, in which the deeper "soul" of Europe can be recognized'. (St. Pope John Paul II. on the 1200th Century Celebration of the Coronation of Charlemagne on Christmas Day in 800 in Rome, Orig. dt. O.R. 17.12.2000).

"I was glad when they said unto me: Let us go into the house of the Lord" (Ps. 122:1). For more than 1200 years the happy call of the psalmist finds its vivid Echo in Aachen, when Charlemagne finished the erection of his palace chapel and consecrated it to the Virgin Mary, the Help to the Christians. In the course of time, countless older and younger pilgrims have visited the Cathedral of the Virgin Mary to linger at her statue and to pray for her motherly protection for the Church and for the world.' (Letter from St. Pope John Paul II to Bishop Heinrich Mussinghoff in the year 2000 on the occasion of the 1200th centenary celebration of the erection of Aachen Cathedral).

Europe was born in Aachen Cathedral

'Charlemagne had built this St. Mary's Cathedral with the aim of it representing the new centre of the Empire and at the same time being, to the amazement of the contemporaries, the world wonder of those times. It should express: Mary is the Imperatrix, the Empress of the Empire. The Empire, the core of Europe and Mary, the real sovereign, bears the symbols of the world domination of the Christian West. St. Mary's Cathedral became the German national shrine, in which from 813 till 1531 no less than 37 German emperors and kings were crowned. Several authors are of opinion that Charlemagne wanted to be crowned specifically in this shrine dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in order to receive the crown and sceptre, as it were, out of the hands of Mary. The same thought must have influenced the German emperors and kings when they were crowned here in St. Mary's Cathedral' (R. Graber, 77). The Cathedral is the expression of a great vision: The whole of society wanted to guide Charlemagne to a certain goal: The realization of a Christian-European plan. This plan had and has as a seal the name of the Mother of Christ as "Mary Empress" and "Help to the Christians".

It is the expression of the vision of John the Evangelist: 'And I, John, saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven' (Rev. 21, 2). 'Over the centuries, prayer before Aachen's miraculous image has formed a community of countless people who saw in the Virgin Mary their mediator and advocate, who has a unique position in God's plan of salvation' (August Brecher, *Ave Maria Kaiserin*, 1994, p. 120). In August Brecher's "*Ave Maria Kaiserin*" and his publication "*Das Gnadenbild der Muttergottes im Liebfrauenmünster*", (p. 16ff.), there, selected examples are used to tell of the many miracles that have occurred in the course of Europe's history, both on individual pilgrims and for the salvation of Christianity in Europe in general. Outstanding witnesses of the time are: St. Bernard of Clairvaux, St. Bridget of Sweden, St. Peter Canisius and Bl. Hermann the Lame.

Of special attraction too, were the holy relics: the garment of Mary, the nappies of Jesus, the loincloth of Christ and the cloth in which the body of John the Baptist was wrapped. These relics are shown even today every 7 years in Aachen during the so-called "Heiligtumsfahrten" (pilgrimage to the places of veneration of the sacred relics).



**Christ, the Lord
wants to intervene, and through this prayer to His mother,
who is patroness of the Christian West,
will let His light shine over Europe.**



The miraculous statue in the Cathedral of Aachen

**Hail Mary Empress,
Help of Christians,
pray for the diocese consecrated to you,
especially for the bishop,
all priests and consecrated souls,
and most particularly
for a Christian Europe. Amen.**

**Promise of our Lord Jesus Christ for the prayer
'Hail Mary Empress, Help of Christians'**

'This prayer is precious: The more it is prayed, the more my light will shine over Aachen and Europe. This prayer is like a golden key that opens my and my mother's heart and from there lets the rays of my graces and her intercession come to you. The more often and the more this prayer is prayed, the more the darkness of Europe will give way! For Aachen is and remains the spiritual point from which I will renew the world in Me. And this through my mother, the Help of the whole Christendom, yes, the heavenly empress over the whole world! Say this prayer and let it pray everywhere as often as possible! The world and the church need this prayer from Aachen, this key to light!'

(According to a decree confirmed by Pope Paul VI in 1966, it is allowed to publish texts referring to supernatural apparitions and messages without ecclesiastical approval.)

**Promise of our Lord for this prayer:
'This prayer is like a golden key,
that ... lets the rays of my graces ... come to you'**

Just as the Angelus is a European prayer (R. Graber) which set free the rays of God's grace for the salvation of the Occident (in 1456). The rosary, however, proved be even stronger in this matter. This prayer has shown its true power and effectiveness by preventing the downfall of Christianity in Europe on various occasions, e.g. during the Sea Battle of Lepanto against the Islamic fleet in the year 1571, and again in 1683 short of Vienna against the Islamic army, as well as on many other occasions. 'Only the prayers can successfully vanquish the sword looming over us, and only through a holy way of life can this world be wrested from the executing powers' (Reinhold Schneider).

Promise of our Lord for this prayer:
'This prayer is like a golden key that opens my and my mother's heart and from there lets the rays of my graces and her intercession come to you. ...'

The Immaculate Heart of Mary as “The Holy City”

‘I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven’ (John 21:2). As Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is without sin, the divine Trinity has chosen her as Leader and Conqueror in the terrible struggle against Satan and all evil spirits. Being without sin, Jesus has, therefore, associated her intimately as Mother in His plan of salvation: He has made her the first collaborator in His work of redemption by entrusting her as Daughter to all humanity, that has been redeemed and rescued by Him.

It is for this reason that she is the Mother of Humanity.

It belongs to her vocation as the new Eve and to her task as Mother to bring all humanity back to the perfect unity of life with God, helping us human beings to come to birth and to grow in grace and holiness. It is, therefore, mainly her task to remove the dark shadows of sin and evil from us, from the Church and from humanity, in order to lead us all to the Holy City of purity and love. The light of this Holy City is the very splendor of the Father; the sun which gives warmth is the Immolated Lamb, from whose Heart come forth burning rays of fire and of love; the breath is the exhalation of the Holy Spirit, who gives life and rouses all creatures to their hymn of glory and celestial harmony. This is the task entrusted to the Heavenly Mother. The Holy City must first of all be established in the hearts and the souls, in other words, in the lives of all her children. This happens when people turn away from all the seductions of evil and of the passions, and give place to the love of God, who brings us to live in complete communion with Him. (...)

The Holy City must also shine forth in the Church, purified of all its human weaknesses, set free from the stains of infidelity and apostasy, sanctified by its painful passion and its bloody immolation. The Church will then be all beautiful again, without spot or wrinkle, in the imitation of her immaculate Mother.

In the Church, purified and completely renewed, there will shine forth in all its great power the one and only light of Christ. This light of the Church will be spread by her in every part of the earth. All nations will then hurry to this light, in order to glorify perfectly the Most Holy Trinity.’

(Blue Book of the Marianic Movement: The Holy City, 8.12.1992).

Promise of our Lord for this prayer:

‘... pray for the diocese consecrated to you, especially for the bishop, all priests and consecrated souls ...’

Every diocese in the former “Holy Empire”, the Christian Europe, has been consecrated to the Mother of God; but the prayer for every bishop is so important. This also applies to all those people who have dedicated their lives to God; for the danger of confusion and the lack of discipline, as well as disobedience to the Pope is widespread. It is indeed a prayer for every diocese in Europe. This prayer is precious, because it will let the Church shine bright again, cleansed from all her human weaknesses, freed from the stain of unfaithfulness and apostasy. In imitation of her Immaculate Mother, the Church will spread the light of Christ throughout the world.

The 12 Stars of Europe

‘The history of the European flag began during the Second World War. Paul Lévi, a Belgian of Jewish origin saw, full of fear, the train rolling to the East, on which his compatriots were transported into an uncertain future. With the horror of the war and the Nazis in mind, he made a pledge: If I survive, I will become a Roman Catholic. He survived and he became a Catholic. When the Council of Europe was founded in May, 1949, Lévi became the head of the Cultural Department.

In 1955 the representatives of the Council had a discussion about the European flag. A number of proposals contained a cross similar to that on the Scandinavian flag. This was, however, rejected by the Socialists as being too ideologic, repectively, too Christian. During these months of discussion, Lévi passed a statue of the Mother of God whilst taking a walk. On her head she had a wreath with 12 stars, which shone golden in the sun and under the blue sky (similar to those adorning the frame of the crown on the statue in Aachen). Impressed by this encounter, Lévi went to the Secretary General of the European Council, an Italian and a Chistian Democrat, and suggested to him to take 12 golden stars on a dark blue background as a motive for the European flag. The president was enthusiastic and the suggestion was generally accepted.

Since that time, the golden wreath of Mary, as described by the prophet in the Secret Revelation (12:17), decorates the European flag'

(Hans Jürgen Roth: Haus zweier Welten; 1200 Jahre Aachener Dom, published by the Cathedral Chapter, 1999, p. 231).

'At the beginning of the Holy Scriptures (Gen. 3:15), Mary is announced as the "enemy of Satan", as the one who would attain a complete victory over him. "Enmity I will put between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed. It shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel." At the end of the Holy Scriptures (Rev. 12), Mary is seen as the Woman clothed with the Sun, and who has the task to fight the Red Dragon and his mighty army in order to defeat him, to put him in chains and to push him into his empire of death, so enabling Christ to govern the world alone. Here Mary is announced by the Holy Scriptures in the glory of her maternal royalty as: "A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars". About her head there is, therefore, a crown of twelve stars. The crown is the sign of royalty. It is composed of twelve stars because it becomes the symbol of her maternal and royal presence in the very heart of the people of God.

The twelve stars represent the twelve tribes of Israel, which compose the Chosen People, selected and called by the Lord to prepare for the coming into the world of the Son of God, the Redeemer. As Mary has been selected to be the Mother of the Messiah, it is her purpose of being the fulfillment of the promises, the virginal offspring, the honour and the glory of all the people of Israel. Indeed, the Church praises her with these words: "You are the glory of Jerusalem; you are the joy of Israel; you are the honor of our people." (cf. Jdt.15:9) Here, the tribes of Israel form twelve precious gems of the crown which surround Mary's head, to indicate the function of her maternal royalty.

The twelve stars also signify the twelve Apostles, who are the foundation upon which Christ has founded his Church. Mary was often with the Apostles, to encourage them to follow and to believe in Jesus during the three years of His public mission. In their place, together with John, she stood beneath the Cross at the moment of the crucifixion, of the agony and of the death of her Son Jesus. With them she took part in the joy of His resurrection. At their side, recollected in prayer, she assisted at the glorious moment of Pentecost.

During her earthly life, Mary remained at their side with her prayer and with her motherly presence, to help them, to form them, to encourage them and to urge them to drink the chalice which had been prepared for them by the Heavenly Father. She is thus the Mother and Queen of the Apostles, who surround her head and form twelve luminous stars of her maternal royalty.

Mary is indeed the Mother and Queen of all the Church.

The twelve stars also signify a new reality. Indeed the Apocalypse sees Mary as a “great sign” in heaven: The Woman Clothed with the Sun who does battle with the Dragon and his powerful army of evil. And so the stars about her head indicate those who consecrate themselves to her Immaculate Heart, who form part of her victorious army, and who allow themselves to be guided by her in order to fight this battle and to attain in the end their greatest victory. In this way all her beloved ones and children consecrated to her Immaculate Heart, called to be today apostles of the last times, are the most luminous stars of her royal crown. And so Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is calling us all to form a precious part of her crown and to become the brilliant stars which spread the light, the grace, the holiness, the beauty and the glory of the Heavenly Mother.’ (Blue Book of The Marian Movement of Priests, 8 December 1989).

**Promise of our Lord for this prayer:
‘This prayer is like a golden key,
that opens my ... heart’**

‘The Church cannot live from powers other than from those from which she was born: From blood and water which came from the open side of the Crucified Lord’ (Pope Benedict XVI). ‘The idea of the Church emerging from the Heart of the Lord has to be described dogmatically and historically as the essential “Heart of Jesus” – thought of the early Church. This is the picture of the Holy Church as it appeared in the eyes of early Christianity: As the Virgin Mother, the Queen in golden garment, Mother of the Living, the second Eve who once emerged from the side of her husband; made through the divine power of the blood, which came forth out of the pierced Heart of the Redeemer; filled with the life-giving power of the Holy Ghost, who, as living water, proceeded from the Heart of Jesus.’ (S. Tromp: De nativitate Ecclesiae ex corde Jesu in cruce, p. 489)

'The veneration of the Heart of Jesus expressed itself in thoughts like these in the first centuries of Christianity. The mystery of the Heart of Jesus is summarized in a wonderful depth of comprehension: The Church and the Holy Ghost as the great present of love from the Heart of Jesus. The veneration of the "Holy Side-Wound" arose from the very beginning and inspired more and more pious people of the Middle Ages, thus becoming a great power of spiritualization.' (F. Schwendimann: Herz-Jesu-Verehrung heute? p. 96f.). The "Holy Empire", the Christian West, celebrated on the second Friday after Easter the so-called "Celebration of the Spear". Christians remember the occasion when the soldier's spear pierced the side of Jesus.

A big piece of that spear was included in the spear that with crown, sceptre and imperial orb were counted among the important relics, the insignia of Christian Europe. (cf. Bishop R. Graber, p. 13). The veneration of the Heart of Jesus is, therefore, in direct line with the activities of the Divine Love (e.g. manifestations of Christ to St. Hermann-Joseph of Steinfeld, St. Gertrude of Helfta, St. Peter Canisius) and reaches ritualistic veneration in the Church through St. Margaret Mary Alacoque in the year 1673: "I want to save the world from Satan in these last centuries through veneration towards My heart". († Fr. GR Martin Übelhör: Was Deutschland dem heiligsten Herzen Jesu schuldet, p.11)

Saint John Paul II knew at a very early stage about the form of prayer contained in the message of Jesus to St. Faustyna Kowalska (1905-1938). He proclaimed courageously and insistently the message of the Divine Compassion in spite of numerous difficulties, convinced that people can only find peace when they trustfully turn to the love of God. 'Coming closer to Christ in the secret of his Heart, allows us, in a certain sense, to reach a central point which is at the same time, on a human level, easy to reach: The revelation of the merciful love of the Father. It forms the central contents of the Messianic mission of the Son of Man' (Encyclica about the Divine Compassion: "Dives in misericordia" of 30th November, 1980). The divine mercy reaches Man through the Heart of the crucified Christ: 'Tell them, My daughter, that I am total love and mercy'.

'That is what Jesus will tell St. Faustyna. Christ pours this compassion over humanity by sending the Holy Ghost, who in the Holy Trinity represents the Person of Love. And is not compassion another word for love, understood with regard to her deepest and most tender side;

with regard to her capability of being able to care for all kinds of need, and especially regarding her unlimited ability to forgive?

This message is not new, although it can be seen as a present of special enlightenment which helps us to experience the “Good News” of Easter again, but this time with new intensity, and which is offered to (... the people of) our time as a beam of light’ (Sermon held by St. Pope John Paul II on the occasion of Faustyna’s canonization).

Now Jesus wants to pour out this compassion also through the prayer “Hail Mary Empress, Help of Christians”: ‘This prayer is like a golden key, which opens My ... heart’, most especially for a Christian Europe.

**Hail Mary Empress,
Help of Christians,
pray for the diocese consecrated to you,
especially for the bishop,
all priests and consecrated souls
and most particularly
for a Christian Europe. Amen.**

The rosary is the church’s way of contemplating the mysteries of the life of Jesus Christ. The Mother of God refers to the Rosary Psalter in Lourdes and Fatima. Saint John Paul II added the Luminous Mysteries of the rosary. In addition, there have always been rosary-like prayers that have arisen due to special concerns or needs, according to a particular spirituality. In this time of need, Heaven gives us a new offer of grace through the medal and the rosary of the Patroness of the Christian Occident.



Jesus, I trust in You

Promises for the medal and the rosary to the Patroness of the Christian Occident

‘This medal that can either be worn or attached to the rosary will bring abundant graces to those who do so ... But over Europe – in combination with a special rosary (12 Hail Mary in honour of her crown over Europe) – it will, however, pour out an abundance of light and spiritual well-being’ (promise of our Lord Jesus Christ).

‘After each mystery of the rosary, the “Fatima Prayer” and the “Hail Mary Empress” should be prayed.’

The Fatima Prayer: ‘O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell and lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy.’

Our Lord furthermore promises: ‘Through the medal and through this particular rosary, a change will take place in Europe as in Cana: the Lord will, through the mediation of Mary, turn the water into wine.’

‘The time has come: the rosary prayer with the 12 Hail Mary must be prayed more frequently! It has to be prayed with much more fervour, trust and intensity!

The diabolical terrorist attacks in Europe will multiply; a lot of blood will be shed for the sake of my son’s name!

But I promise you: All those who wear the European rosary and the medal will be especially protected and spared by me, yes, they and their families! Wear the medal and pray the Rosary from Aachen fervently and more often!

Through more intensity, more trust and more fervour in this prayer, abundant graces will come over Europe. Therefore, pray often the prayer “Hail Mary Empress” to receive my protection over you and the continent. There must be more prayer and sacrifice for the Pope and the Church! Take your suffering as reparation for European decay: Night has fallen over Europe! Your prayer will become the light in this darkness’ (promise of Our Lady).





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Published: 11-2020