OUR LADY AND THE UNITED STATES—YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

A. Our Lady in American History

The Kensington Stone, found in a Minnesota farmer’s field in 1898, contained this message: “We are eight Goths and twenty-two Norwegians on an exploration journey from Vinland. . . . we found ten men red with blood and dead. Ave Maria—save us from evil!” This first-known invocation of Our Lady in the New World was dated in the year 1362—130 years before the arrival of Christopher Columbus. The full name of Columbus’ flagship was Santa María de la Inmaculada Concepción (Holy Mary of the Immaculate Conception), and the names of his three ships spell out a prophetic message: Santa Maria means “Holy Mary,” Pinta means “paint,” and Nina means “girl.” “Holy Mary paints girl” refers to the miraculous event of 1531, when Our Lady “painted” an image of herself on St. Juan Diego’s tilma, or cloak. The greatest river in North America was named “River of the Immaculate Conception” by the French explorer Fr. Jacques Marquette (though it was later renamed the Mississippi). French and Spanish missionaries made many converts among Native Americans, but Catholicism was not welcome in most of the thirteen colonies, Maryland being the exception.

Our Lady may have appeared to George Washington at Valley Forge with an encouraging vision of America’s future during the most trying days of the Revolution. The final battle of the War of 1812 resulted in an overwhelming American victory over British invaders. The women of New Orleans gathered at the convent of the Ursuline Sisters during the battle and prayed before a statue of Our Lady of Prompt Succor; General Andrew Jackson later publicly acknowledged the battle was won through heavenly intervention. On May 13, 1846, the American Catholic bishops formally named the Blessed Virgin Mary as patroness of the United States. In 1849 the bishops informed Pope Pius IX that Catholics in America would be pleased if Mary’s Immaculate Conception was formally declared an article of faith (which indeed happened on December 8, 1854). There are currently fifty-six dioceses in the United States claiming Our Lady as their patroness.

B. Mary’s Warnings to America

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (n. 67) teaches that God can speak to His people by means of private revelations, and Our Lady has allegedly appeared at and given messages in numerous places throughout the world, including several in the United States. Various contemporary messengers claim to have received warnings from Our Lady for America today; a woman known as Kay was allegedly told by her, “These events that are very soon to happen are of a catastrophic magnitude, and are closing in on all sides of your world. It will be America that will suffer the greatest of any nation, because it was your country that was so blessed by God. He bestowed all the riches onto your land so you would never need anything from any other country; you had everything at your disposal to survive. Because of [its] wickedness, greed, lust, and continued sinful ways, America will meet its demise. . . . Your forefathers prayed, toiled, and labored for this once great nation, because they dearly loved this country, and fought in the name of freedom. They prayed not for their own glory or their own personal interests, but prayed to my Divine Son and begged His help for a nation of holiness, justice, peace, strength, and righteousness. Yours was once a prayerful nation who gave public and solemn thanks to God. [Most of] my children of today are no longer giving honor, praise, and glory to my Divine Son, but have decided to follow the evil and sinful ways of your world. . . .”

A visionary known as Elaine claims Our Lady told her that America’s “Day of Judgment” will soon arrive, which will be good news for some and bad news for others. As a nation, our spiritual weakness makes us easy prey for the global elite, who—despite the best efforts of President Trump and millions of patriotic Americans—continue to work toward implementing their long-held plan to take away our nation’s independence and impose a New World Order. Our Lady allegedly warned Elaine, “Chaos roams your land. . . . due to unrepented sin, especially the sins of abortion and euthanasia, [God’s] protection has been lifted, and the angels turn their faces away, afraid to look, their hearts heavy, as they continually pray for your country. . . . You also must pray for your country.”
Elaine allegedly received this message from Our Lady directed to her children in America: “Dearest sons and daughters of Mary, how close you all are held inside this Mother’s Immaculate Heart! Pray the Rosary daily, dear children. Ensure that the Flame of Love from this Heart will spread! Make many daily sacrifices, even little ones, and offer them up—particularly for my priest-sons, who require much prayer. Please pray especially for our Holy Father, the Pope, and for your local pastors. Satan is, even now, seeking to sift souls—especially the priests! He wishes to drag as many to hell as possible, and his attacks are intensifying. Priests require much prayer! Children, my Son’s winning face is in His hand. This is good news for the wheat, but very bad news, indeed, for the chaff. Pray for lukewarm souls to be warmed by the Flames of the Immaculate and Sacred Hearts.”

C. Hastening the Coming Triumph of the Immaculate Heart

Over the centuries various saints and mystics, including Saint Louis de Montfort and Venerable Mary of Agreda, have spoken of the future Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In the 20th century the Italian priest Father Stefano Gobbi claimed Our Lady told him, “You are entering into the time of the Triumph of my Immaculate Heart. You are now close to the Second Pentecost [which will] come like a river of grace and mercy which purify the Church and make her poor and chaste, humble and strong, without a wrinkle, all beautiful, in imitation of your heavenly Mother.” Also, the mystic Sister Natalia of Hungary predicted that the Mother of God “will share all graces with humanity] through the powers she has received. Her mantle will cover the whole earth, her tiara will decorate it. Her Heart will direct the whole world till the arrival of the Last Judgment.”

At Fatima Our Lady announced that, in the end, her Immaculate Heart would triumph and a period of peace would be given to the world—a prophecy obviously not yet fulfilled. All of us are called to be soldiers in her army, for she has promised that she will stand in triumph over Satan, joined by all her children and prayer warriors. To hasten and participate in this coming victory, we should:

--remain in a state of grace (or return to it as quickly as possible through the Sacrament of Confession or Reconciliation), while fulfilling our moral, spiritual, and religious duties;
--attend Mass not only on weekends, but as much as possible at other times, and worthily receive Holy Communion—for this makes it less likely we’ll be overcome by the devil’s temptations or deceptions;
--pray the Rosary each day, as Our Lady has asked, offering it especially for world peace, for our country’s moral and spiritual renewal, and for the conversion of sinners;
--pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet as often as possible, preferably at 3pm (the Hour of Mercy);
--regularly pray the Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel, along with other spiritual warfare prayers, and wear a blessed scapular, and use other sacramentals, including holy water and blessed salt;
--consecrate our homes and families to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and protect our homes by putting crucifixes over doorways and religious images in places of honor;
--keep well-informed about what’s happening in the Church (so as to recognize any attempt to water down the Faith or introduce illegitimate practices—such as changing the words of Consecration), perhaps by reading good Catholic books, magazines, and websites, along with the Catechism;
--pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance in finding like-minded Catholics for fellowship and support;
--maintain a spirit of hope and trust in difficult times, remembering that Jesus has conquered sin and death, and has promised His Mother’s coming victory over Satan; and
--live the Message of Fatima, especially by offering our prayers and sacrifices for sinners’ conversion.

For over 650 years, the Virgin Mary has always had a special love for the New World, and later for the United States of America—and she is not going to abandon or reject us now, even if our nation seems to be rejecting God. However, her ability to help us greatly depends on our degree of openness to the teachings and commandments of her Son. Whether or not the United States passes into the realm of history by stubbornly continuing to rebel against God, or whether it shares in Our Lady’s coming Triumph by a process of repentance and spiritual renewal, is entirely up to us and our fellow citizens. As Our Lady’s children, we must show the world that while we love our country, our primary allegiance is to the Kingdom of God, and that while we’re proud to be Americans, we are especially grateful as Catholics to be members of the One True Church directly established by Jesus.