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Experiencing moments of agony and constantly getting up again to bounce back to Love, there you have one aspect of the mystery of Marie-Paule's life, she who was called to regenerate humanity through her infinite love. Thus, in the "new Eucharist", an emanation of her entire being, she passed on to us the upsurge of her love dedicated to winning over souls.

Winning Over Souls Through the Interior Life

In *Life of Love*, Raoul Auclair wrote: "Who, then, in the midst of the incredible noise [the din of the world], still hears the soft voice of Mary telling us the secret of the Times?", adding that we are the ones who should "bring Mary's voice to listeners of good will." (*Life of Love* XIII, p. 131)

Usually, when we are revealing a secret, do we not ask the person who is listening to come closer and pay attention? And does not the person who is delivering a message choose to speak to those who are most attentive?

That is how Mary addresses herself to her children to communicate what she wants to accomplish.

Like God himself, she relies on the love existing between herself and the soul to whom she is revealing her divine intentions. In fact, Marie-Paule wrote: "In order thoroughly to stabilize and have His project of love accepted, God inspires here and there new areas of knowledge which, even amid the pitiless attacks, draw the little ones whose hearts are open to His action." (*The Hosanna of Life*, p. 96)

For example, let us think of the three shepherd children at Fatima who, in the purity of their souls, were attentive to Mary who was asking for the conversion of hearts, the recourse to prayer and especially the rosary, the sense of responsibility towards others and that there be reparation. Could they have been deaf to the Lady who, in this way, was teaching them the means of saving humanity? By opening their hearts, they learned "at Mary's school" and they placed them-

Winning Over Souls

selves in her service by adopting the spirit of sacrifice that is indispensable if we want to motivate souls to respect God's laws and travel along the path of holiness.

That is how Mary passes where she wants, always seeking souls available to act as co-redemptive souls at her side. And it was by means of such a constant "heart-to-heart" with Mary that Marie-Paule was able to reach the point of being perfectly united with the Divinity and became "light in the Light"



However, God leaves the soul free, to the point of giving it all the "space" it needs to radiate the divine light and lead other souls to Him. Here, Marie-Paule's attitude was exemplary because she put all her freedom in the service of God, and it was by serving others that she remained united with Him who is in the heart of all souls. Is that not the very basis of love?

It is for the greater good of her children that Mary trains them to fight on different battlefields and amid temptations, because in order to be victorious, one must gain experience. We must practise fighting in order to increase our "spiritual endurance", so that, with every blow in keeping with the ordeal, we acquire more love, more strength and more faith.

The Lord progressively urges the soul to be more attentive to His voice, so as to "enter into Him as into a deep forest where silence full of mystery thrills in the depths of [its] being." (Gabrielle Bossis, *Him and I*, October 13, 1949, p. 322) For, entering into Him is also to enable Mary

to become our best ally. In her maternal thoughtfulness, does she not have the "first aid kit" adapted to our wounds with a view to winning over the souls she gave us to defend? What she asks of us in our time is that we allow her to push the boat of our life "into the deep waters", towards the unfathomable depths of the interior life, (Sister Faustina Kowalska, *Diary*, no. 55) so as to collaborate with Her in the conversion of all of humanity.

God's Unconditional Love

"I want you to become like a knight experienced in battle, who can give orders to others amid the exploding shells. In the same way, my child, you should know how to master yourself amid the greatest difficulties, and let nothing drive you away from Me, not even your falls," Jesus said to Sr. Faustina Kowalska in a particularly trying time of her life. (*Id.*, no. 1823)

Could we not draw a parallel with those words and God's Love, that interior armour protecting the Paulians amid the affronts, the injustices and the blows, whereas they are called upon to "react" to all those things with extreme kindness, as Marie-Paule did during her entire life? With every blow accepted out of love of souls, this can bring about a renewed love, a strengthening of the faith and the strength to persevere.

Thus, as soon as a soul prays, were it only to recite a *Glory Be to the Father*, the Lord, the King of mercy, "makes use" of this prayer to support a conversion, change the attitude of a leader, contribute to pacifying a people, make God live within souls or calm a dying person. All things a little prayer can do when divine mercy "makes use" of it!

God's unconditional love for all the peoples on earth will always go well beyond the limitations of human reason. That is why everything will be so very different in the millennium of love that is coming, when Marie-Paule will take all of humanity in her arms and raise it in an upsurge of saving Love, which, as His Holiness John Paul II wrote, "[will] always [be] greater than any sin". (John Paul II, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, p. 58) ■