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All of us are familiar with the expression “the eyes are the mirror or reflection of the soul”. In actual fact, man’s eyes are like an open window. First of all, they are an open window on the outside world from which they receive light and through which there comes much knowledge. However, they are also an open window on man’s inner self. For the contemplation of the wonders of God causes a hymn of thanksgiving to rise up in his heart.

#### WHAT MARIE-PAULE COULD SEE

For certain souls well advanced in the mystical life, and particularly for Marie-Paule, the eyes of others truly became the mirror or reflection of their soul. It happened so very often that Marie-Paule, in looking at a person’s eyes, could tell where this person was in his or her spiritual life. Through the eyes, she could also detect a person’s personality and even the state of his or her health.

Here is what Marie-Paule saw one day in the eyes of a nun and what she said about this in *Life of Love*.

“Some time ago, I visited a nun in the infirmary of the Sisters of Charity. I saw in her eyes many diamonds of different sizes that made their appearance one after the other.... Her eye was like crystal....

“A soul that always remains in a state of grace, is pure crystal in God’s eyes. If it falls but has recourse to confession, it becomes white but not crystal clear. This crystal clarity comes only with living for years in a state of grace.” (*Life of Love* VIII, p. 147)

Likewise, she would say of Father Philippe Roy: “His two eyes are like crystal.” (*Id.*, p. 200)

However, what Marie-Paule saw in people’s eyes was not always that beautiful. Sometimes, she could barely watch television, so much so what she saw there nauseated her. The state of sin in which certain persons were living was not hidden from her.

#### MARIE-PAULE’S EYES

What precedes informs us on what Marie-Paule saw in the eyes of the people around her, but what about her own eyes? Here is what she wrote about this in *Life of Love*.

“In the past I have often been told that my eyes have the look of crystal, limpid, pure, deep, which was a consolation to me. Now, for some days, I have been saying frequently to the Lord, ‘It’s very strange. It seems to me that nobody has made any remarks to me in this respect for a long time. Why?’ This thought keeps coming back to me, and I am asking myself questions....

“Sister Jeanne d’Arc, my bosom friend, as the Lord was pleased to announce her to me several years before I even knew her, has come to lend us a hand. Straight off, she says to me, ‘Marie-Paule, I saw you during the night and you had eyes like suns, brilliant, of a softness...’

# The Lady’s Eyes

“– ‘Ah! it’s you who received this favor,’ I say to her.” (*Id.* XII, pp. 333-334) And Marie-Paule would confide to her the question she had been asking herself.

This grace followed upon another similar one received in 1973 and about which she had written: “After the Elevation, something happens to me. I have the impression of being On-High, on a cross which looks out over the world, and I am observing humanity. My two eyes give me the distinct impression of becoming like two suns, and it seems to me that I possess humanity. It is as if I were in two places at the same time: corporally, I am in my bench, but my soul is On-High, seemingly attached to the cross, and my two ‘sun’ eyes scrutinize humanity.” (*Id.* VIII, p. 458)

#### DIVINE EYES

At that moment in Marie-Paule’s life, her eyes were therefore no longer only of crystal, but they had become like two suns. They were reflecting the purity, the light and the power there was in the depths of her soul. Did not Marthe Robin say of Marie-Paule: “She’s totally lost in Mary, totally hidden in Mary”? (*Id.*, p. 308) Now, Mary is divine and the sun is considered to be a symbol of divinity. So, something divine is what was being reflected in Marie-Paule’s eyes.

In the same line of thought, the Bible contains the following statement from the Book of Sirach or Ecclesiasticus: “[Man] does not understand that the eyes of the Lord, ten thousand times brighter than the sun, observe every step a man takes and peer into hidden corners.” (Sir 23:19)

The same is true of Marie-Paule’s eyes which scrutinize humanity, a humanity that belongs to her since she is the Mother of souls and the Sovereign of the earth. However, what is she looking for with her “sun” eyes?

#### A LOOK OF LOVE

As a loving mother, she is in fact searching for her lost sheep in order to come to their aid. She is also looking for souls open to Love, through which she can make the coming of God’s Kingdom on earth arrive more quickly, souls that are ready to follow in her footsteps in order to ascend all the way to the Father’s Heart. Her gaze, after the example of the Father’s gaze, is not one of judgment, but rather a gaze of mercy and deep love.

In the past, the Hebrews asked God to “look” at His poor servants: “Look, answer me, O Lord, my God!” (Ps 13:4) Today, through His Son and His Daughter, God is still looking at us.

Thus, when we enter into the chapel Spiri-Maria, what do we see in the middle of the sanctuary if not the eyes of Jesus and of the Lady in the host of the Memorial? Their eyes are gazing at us and inviting us to advance towards them. Knowing that a God is looking at us with love, what a grace and what a blessing!

