

2nd Edition

OUR LADY OF AMERICA

The Immaculate Virgin



**A brief overview of the history of the property
where Our Lady first Appeared, September 25-27, 1956,
and the significance of the Apparitions and Messages**

For Diary of Messages, Medals and Prayer Cards go to:
<https://www.ourladyofamerica.org/wordpress/>



**Historical photo of the Kneipp Springs Sanitarium
- convent of the Sisters of the Precious Blood**



The Springs today



Our Lady of America Statue

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*“By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception
O Mary,
deliver us from evil.”*



Sister Mary Ephrem

OUR LADY OF AMERICA

The Immaculate Virgin

It was on the eve of the Feast of the North American Martyrs, September 25, 1956, that Our Lady first Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem. Our Lady Appeared multiple times and in multiple Ways, mainly as Our Lady of America, the Immaculate Virgin. Our Lady made specific Requests, and Promised Heavenly Blessings. The effort of this booklet is to offer to the children of the Mother of God an overview of the history of the property where Our Lady first Appeared, the relevance of the property itself, as well as the significance of the Apparitions and Messages.

From a letter of Sister Mary Ephrem to her confessor, +Archbishop Paul Frances Leibold, the following are the Words of Our Lady and the full description of the initial Apparitions.

“In the fall of 1956, I (Sister Mary Ephrem) was sent to help out at Kneipp Springs, Rome City, Indiana. It was at this place that the official Visits of Our Lady began and the special mission Revealed. This is the account as it was written at that time:

On the eve of the Feast of the North American Martyrs, as I was making the Holy Hour from 7:00 to 8:00, I was conscious of the distinct and special feeling of the Presence of Our Lady. She stood by my side and Spoke to me. I felt rather than saw Her, though I did see a part of Her gown which was white and a small portion of Her blue sash. I was under the impression that She came as Our Lady of Lourdes and She Herself Confirmed this. Our Lady Promised that greater miracles than those Granted in Lourdes and Fatima would be Granted here in America, the United States in particular, if we would do as She Desires.

These are the Words She Spoke to me at this time:

“I am Pleased, My child, with the love and honor My children in America give to Me, especially through My Glorious and Unique Privilege of the Immaculate Conception. I Promise to reward their love by Working through the Power of My Son’s Heart and My Immaculate Heart, miracles of Grace among men. I do not Promise miracles of the body, but of the soul.”

Our Lady emphasized this very much. She is Anxiously Concerned about our inner life. She continued:

“For it is mainly through these miracles of Grace that the Holy Trinity is Glorified among men and Nations. Let America continue and grow in its love for Me and I in Return, in Union with the Heart of My Son, Promise to Work Wonders in her. My child, I Desire that this be known.”

(Sister continues) It was the morning of September 26th of the same year, Feast of the American Martyrs. Mass had just been concluded and thanksgiving over, that is in Community form. There were a few minutes left when suddenly Our Lady Appeared before me, Enveloped in a Soft Glow of Light. I knew with unmistakable certainty that it was She, though She did not Speak immediately. What I noticed was the Smile on Our Lady's Beautiful Countenance and the Lily She held in Her right hand. She wore a white Veil, which reached almost to the waist, also a Mantle and Robe which were of a pure white, not one single decoration of any kind. She wore a High and Brilliant Crown of Gold. Her hair seemed of medium brown, also the eyes. Her feet were bare. I did not always see them as Our Lady stood on Clouds that moved and so sometimes covered Her Blessed feet. She continued to Smile, then I saw Her Heart Appear, encircled with red roses, the Symbol of Suffering as it was revealed to me, and sending forth Flames of Fire. With Her left hand Our Lady seemed to be holding up slightly, the upper part of the Mantle, so that Her Immaculate Heart could be seen. Then Solemnly and Distinctly, in calm yet Majestic Tones I heard the Words:

“I am Our Lady of America. I desire that My children honor Me especially, by the purity of their lives.”

She was so Beautiful and Her Smile held me. But I became conscious of the fact that the Community was leaving the Chapel and I, too, had to go as Obedience directed me. I said to Our Lady, “Please forgive me, Mother, but I do have to go now, else my work will not get finished.” Our Lady understood, but did not leave me. When I entered my room, Our Lady was there waiting for me. Then I noticed the green color of the Lily stem, also that Our Lady wore a white sash or belt around Her waist. It seemed to be made of the same material as the Robe. There were no ends of it to be seen at all and it was narrow, very narrow. As I had to hurry about my tasks, I could not give Our Lady all the attention I longed to, but every now and then I would direct a glance of love towards Her. Our Lady stood there Smiling as I had seen Her in the Chapel. All that day I was conscious of Our Lady's Presence in a Very Special Manner, in a Way that was distinctly new to me. I also saw Her frequently. Our Lady seemed Anxious to impress me with the Truth and Importance of Her Appearance.

During the last half of the Holy Hour, four to five in the afternoon, the Immaculate Virgin Spoke to me at length in these Words:

“My child, I entrust you with the message that you must make known to My children in America. I wish it to be the country dedicated to My

Purity. The Wonders I will Work will be the wonders of the soul. They must have faith and believe firmly in My Love for them. I Desire that they be the children of My Pure Heart. I Desire, through My children of America, to further the cause of faith and purity among peoples and Nations. Let them come to Me with confidence and simplicity, and I, their Mother, will Teach them to become pure Like to My Heart that their own hearts may be more pleasing to the Heart of My Son.”

On September 27th Our Lady again Appeared to me while I was at prayer. She held the world in Her hands. From Her eyes Tears were Flowing upon it as though She Longed to Cleanse it from its guilt. It was then I heard these Words filled with Sorrow and Longing:

“Behold, oh My children, the Tears of your Mother. Shall I Weep in vain? Assuage the Sorrow of My Heart over the ingratitude of sinful men by the love and chasteness of your lives. Will you do this for Me, beloved children, or will you allow your Mother to Weep in vain? I Come to you, oh children of America, as a last resort. I Plead with [you] to listen to My Voice. Cleanse your souls in the Precious Blood of My Son. Live in His Heart, and take Me in that I may Teach you to live in great purity of heart which is so pleasing to God. Be My army of chaste soldiers, ready to fight to the death to preserve the purity of your souls. I am the Immaculate One, Patroness of your Land. Be My faithful children as I have been your Faithful Mother. These are My Words, oh My daughter. Make them known to My children. I Desire to make the whole of America My Shrine by making every heart accessible to the Love of My Son.” (letter of Sister Mary Ephrem to her confessor +Archbishop Paul Frances Leibold dated 2/20/60)

Our Lady confirms Her Identity to Sister Mary Ephrem as that which the U.S. Bishops declared in 1846 by proclaiming Our Lady “The Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States of America”. This title was ratified the following year, 1847, by the Holy See.

Our Lady gave us prayers through the visionary (see Prayers on page 36) including:

***“By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception O Mary,
deliver us from evil.”***

To honor Our Lady of America, we repeat this prayer that She taught Sister Mary Ephrem, with the certain hope that we may be Our Lady of America’s little, faithful children. Furthermore, we pray in the Will of God that Holy Mother Church soon recognize Sister Mildred Mary

Ephrem Neuzil as Servant of God. For it is to this chosen soul and of her confessor, +Archbishop Paul Leibold, that Our Lord spoke thus:

“...through you a great work will be accomplished.”

I AM the Great Sculptor of souls. With hammer and chisel I form them that they may glorify My Father

by their beauty and perfection.

Be pliant in My Hands, oh My two lowly ones,

My priest and My little white dove,

and then will you be formed into My likeness and through you,

I will be formed in souls.”

(Letter from Sr. Mary Ephrem to her confessor Archbishop +Paul Leibold 2/20/54)



Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling

(see page 25)



Sister Mary Ephrem

Born Mildred Marie Neuzil

on August 2, 1916 -

Feast of Our Lady, Queen of the Angels

Entered into Eternity January 10, 2000

Baptism of the Lord and Feast of the Holy Family

As souls visit, either in person or in spirit, the Apparition site of Our Lady of America, may we honor Her there, giving ourselves to Her as Her little children. With the Power and Love of God's Grace, may we, in Our Lady's Hands, become all that God Wants. May Our Lady of America Bless this and all efforts to honor Her and aid the great work of the Divine Mandate given to the children of the United States of America, that is, to lead the world to Peace. May all be for the Glory of God and the good of Holy Mother Church, of all souls, and for Peace throughout the world.

*“By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception O Mary,
deliver us from evil.”*

HISTORY OF THE APPARITION SITE PROPERTY

“Our Lady’s first Visit was at Rome City, Indiana. She Appeared in the Sister’s Chapel on the right, by the steps that lead from there to the public Chapel. Our Lady Appeared saying, “I am Our Lady of America, I desire that My children honor Me especially by the purity of their lives.” (Letter from Sister Mary Ephrem to Sister Charmaine Grilliot, C.P.P.S – Superior General dated 2/17/75)

Our Lady Chose this little soul and this special place to begin what may be known as one of the most important Apparitions, not only for the United States, but for the Church and the world.

The natural springs on the property have a long history of being used for physical health, dating back as early as the Native American inhabitants who were said to have used them for healing and rejuvenation. The earliest recorded accounts of people who visited the springs for their rejuvenating effects came shortly after the establishment of the railroad through Rome City in 1871. A large excursion of people came by the railroad from Fort Wayne on a Sunday in June, 1876 to enjoy amenities Sylvan Lake offered (along the southern edge) including fresh air and fishing, and to visit the mineral springs. An analysis of the mineral qualities of the springs were made in 1876 which revealed levels of iron bicarbonate, calcium carbonate, magnesium, sodium chloride, calcium phosphate and sulphate, sulphur, hydrogen, oxygen, and carbonic gas. ¹

A Catholic priest by the name of Reverend Dominick Duehmig, a native of Germany, was placed in charge of the parish in nearby Avilla in 1867 where he made substantial improvements during the 1870s and further established churches from Angola westward to Bremen in northern Indiana. These included a church in Rome City where he had been visiting parishioners as early as about 1871. Recognizing the potential for a health resort centered on the springs north of Rome City, he first sought to bring refugee sisters of the order of St. Francis of the Sacred Heart to the area to establish a sanitarium. But, being few in number and with limited resources, the sisters instead were established at Avilla. Father Duehmig did not abandon the idea of creating the resort and in 1894, he met Dr. W. G. Geierman, a young physician from St. Joseph, Michigan. Fr. Duehmig convinced Dr. Geierman to purchase the land then owned by E. M. Buker (Buker had celery gardens and a trout hatchery, but found no money in it). The Doctor had been trained by Fr. Sebastian Kneipp in Vienna using water cures for medicinal purposes.

Dr. Geierman developed the Rome City Sanitarium, also called Silver Springs Sanitarium, which opened in 1895 using the Kneipp Water-Cure method of physical healing.



Pictured among many is Dr. Geierman, dated 1911

After some struggling, in 1901 Fr. Duehmig assisted in the purchase of the Rome City Sanitarium by the Sisters of the Precious Blood, who were based out of Ohio. Mother Mary Emma Nunlist, Superior General of the Sisters of the Precious Blood in Ohio, was a patient in 1901 and upon her return to Ohio, she and her council obtained permission from Archbishop William Elder (1819–1904) to purchase the land and facility for \$25,000. By 1902, the sisters began to make substantial improvements which included an addition to the sanitarium building and a physician's house. They renamed the facility Kneipp Springs Sanitarium, in honor of Monsignor Kneipp. Fr. Duehmig himself found the need for rest and became a patient of the sanitarium in 1905, but died at the facility in the same year.

To accommodate the spiritual needs of the sisters, staff, patients and visitors, a chapel was constructed in 1916 (the year Sister Mary

Ephrem was born) with a wing to accommodate more guests between the chapel and sanitarium building.



The chapel, named **‘Our Lady, Mother of Mercy’**, soon took the place of the small Catholic church located in Rome City. This served the needs of

parishioners, offering the Sacrifice of the Mass and administering the Sacraments to all, and to those in the surrounding area. A convent was

also constructed in 1916 on the north side of the chapel to house the increasing number of sisters located in Rome City that helped run the sanitarium.

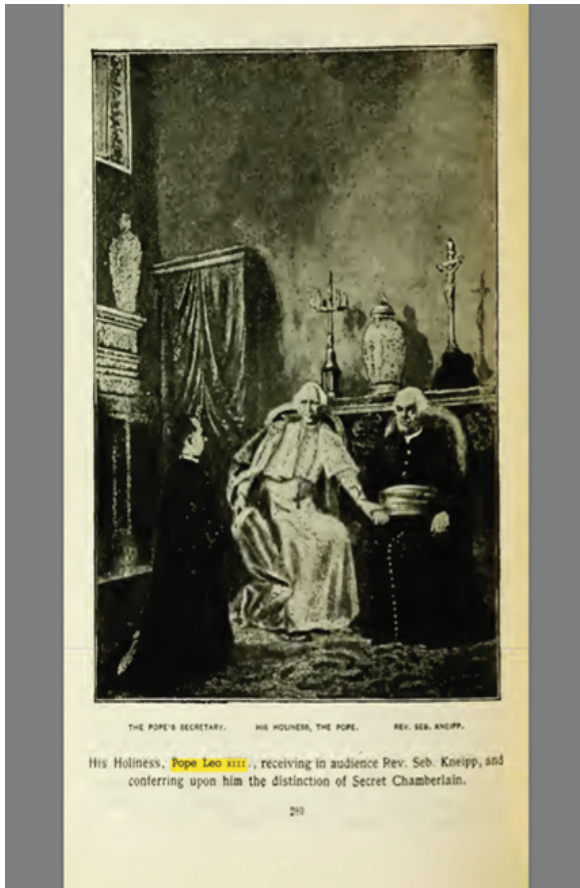
Between 1901 and 1951, the sanitarium administered Kneipp treatments to a yearly average of two thousand guests. The treatments included cold, warm, and hot mineral baths directed toward several chronic diseases as well as functional disorders of major organs. The sisters developed an impressive agricultural complex to support their activities. These buildings and grounds helped in the processing of foodstuffs for the sisters and for patients; a fairly specific diet of fresh products was part of treatment at Kneipp Springs. Additionally, the sisters augmented the terrain with landscape elements to create a restful, meditative environment both for the administration of Kneipp treatments and for general use. The sanitarium buildings and grounds represent the movement of the late 19th and early 20th century to have a place for respite where both spiritual and physical healing could occur.

In 1942, Kneipp Springs affiliated with the Catholic Hospital Association, Indiana Hospital Association, and American Hospital Association, becoming a 125-bed sanitarium. The last significant change to the building occurred in 1964 when the entry area was moved from the east end of the building to the south and was expanded with a new foyer, entry, and enlarged dining hall. Declining interest in the facility led the sisters to close the sanitarium and sell the property to another religious-based organization from Ohio in 1976.



*Rome City, Indiana
2020*

MONSIGNOR SEBASTIAN KNEIPP AND HIS APPROVED METHODS FOR HEALINGS



His Holiness, Pope Leo XIII receiving in audience Reverend Sebastian Kneipp, conferring upon him the distinction of Secret Chamberlain

Sabastian Kneipp, born in 1821 in Bavaria (1821-1897), was a Catholic priest who contracted tuberculosis and claimed to be healed from it by a cold water cure he experimented on himself. He read books from Vincenz Priessnitz (1799–1851), a famous Austrian nature cure proponent of the 19th century, who is often referred to as the ‘Father of Hydrotherapy’. Kneipp’s approach to health and healing was also more complex than that of Priessnitz’. He found that the old use of water treatments was entirely too violent. He added another four elements to his refined hydrotherapeutic treatments: the complementary use of

medicinal herbs, physical exercises and different forms of massage, healthy and balanced nutrition, and regulative therapy to seek inner balance.

When Kneipp was nearly thirty, he entered the Georgianum, a seminary for theological students at Munich. Here he continued his hydrotherapeutic exercises and induced a fellow student to practice them. He was ordained a priest in 1852 and became chaplain successively in Biberach, Boos, and St. George in Augsburg. In 1855 he was made confessor to the nuns at the convent of Wörishofen and assistant in the parish; in 1880 he became the parish priest.

While still a curate he practiced hydrotherapy for the benefit of the poor, and his success in curing their ailments attracted wide attention. People from neighboring parishes began to flock to him; the rich as well as the poor came to be treated, and his fame spread throughout Germany. His little book, *“My Water Cure”*, went through many editions and was translated into many languages, while people from all over Europe began to flock to him. Many of them were greatly benefited. ²

Fr. Kneipp practiced his methods, including cold water therapy baths, botanical treatments, and regimented diet and exercise, with the inhabitants of the German village of Wörishofen where he lived at the monastery. The community became known as a center for spiritual and physical healing.

“Being a priest, the salvation of immortal souls is the first object for which I wish to live and to die. During the last thirty or forty years, however, the care for mortal bodies has absorbed a considerable portion of my time and strength. This work I have never sought after; on the contrary every patient coming to me is (naturally speaking) a burden to me. Only the thought of Him who came down from Heaven to heal all our infirmities, and the remembrance of His Promise: “Blessed are the merciful; for they will obtain Mercy,” and: “Even a cup of cold water given in My Name shall not be unrewarded,” was able to detain me from refusing all petitions, no matter who the petitioner might be...I have had a peculiar affection and care for the poorer classes, the sick farmers who are so often neglected and forsaken, and to them especially I dedicate my little book; therefore the language is plain and clear.” ‘MY WATER CURE’ By Sebastian Kneipp, Secret Chamberlain of the Pope, Parish Priest of Wörishofen. ³

People who visited the community returned to their own countries and carried the practices with them, including America, where Kneipp Societies were founded and later called the Naturopathic Society of

America. It was this therapeutic treatment system that Dr. Geierman, a graduate of Toledo Medical College, and other subsequent doctors and sisters who administered at the sanitarium, would use to treat patients, residents, and vacationers. A diet of less meats, and simple, pure foods was part of the treatment patients received. At the Kneipp Springs Sanitarium, having a farm as part of the complex was both economically and philosophically a sound idea. Groups elsewhere still promote Kneipp's ideas and treatments today. ⁴

Since Father Kneipp lived to be what was then the ripe old age of 76, these frequent immersions would seem to have contributed to his longevity. Later promoted to monsignor by Pope Leo XIII, he went on to devise a number of other forms of therapy - some based on water, others not. As defined in his little book, the Kneipp treatment was 'to overcome causes of disease by wholesome diet, hygienic clothing, and systematic regular exercise,' and by the use of 'baths, packs and compresses and the internal use of teas made from native herbs, grown on sanitarium grounds. ⁵

In the lowlands of the now known Kneipp Springs Sanitarium, were 'twelve magnetic springs ... where the institution claimed 'a great many invalids were annually cured of chronic ailments by drinking waters from these springs.' These twelve magnetic springs and the cures they procured astoundingly point to the 12 Ways Our Lady Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem beginning at this site. Our Lady Chose this site to make use of the natural for the Abundant Supernatural She Intends for the Good of Her children. (12 Ways Our Lady Appeared page 21)

Monsignor Kneipp's treatment was essentially summarized as 'the principals of hydrotherapy - treatment of disease or disability by external application of water - united with simple living, wholesome exercise and regulated rest.'

“Oh, if the poor, agonized, ailing humanity would only come to understand that only in the return to nature, a change of life for the better is possible!” - Monsignor Sebastian Kneipp

Nihil Obstat (Remy Lafort S.T.D. Censor) and the Imprimatur (+John Cardinal Farley, Archbishop of New York) both on October 1, 1910) refer back to the Catholic Encyclopedia Vol.8 New York: Robert Appleton Company 1910

PRECIOUS BLOOD SISTERS AT ROME CITY, INDIANA

Established in 1834 in Switzerland by Mother Maria Anna Brunner, (see Additional Apparitions to Sister Mary Ephrem page 42) a small group of women were inspired by their foundress's devotion. The Sisters of the Precious Blood congregation is now based in Dayton, Ohio. Sisters currently serve in several states in the United States, in Chile and Guatemala. The first Precious Blood Sisters came to the United States in 1844, at the invitation of Bishop John Baptist Purcell of Cincinnati, Ohio to minister to German immigrants.

“Mother Brunner’s example of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament, service to the poor and the needy continue to be our inspiration.”⁶

In 1901, Mother Mary Emma Nunlist, Superior General of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood in Ohio, was a patient at the Rome City Sanitarium.



Upon Mother Nunlist's return to Ohio, she and her council obtained permission from Archbishop William Elder (1819–1904) of Cincinnati, to purchase the land and facility. After many improvements, they renamed the facility 'Kneipp Springs Sanitarium'.

Leading up to the Heavenly events soon to be realized, some very notable happenings took place at this extraordinary place, all involving the Sisters of Precious Blood.

The first occurred in 1912. Bishop Herman Joseph Alerding, 4th Bishop of Fort Wayne, signed his Imprimatur on a mystical writing pertaining to the Mother of God in the very convent of the Sisters of the Precious Blood, at the Kneipp Springs Sanitarium.

The Mystical City of God: Life of the Virgin Mother of God, manifested to Sister Mary of Jesus of Agreda, 1602-1666 Imprimatur H. J. Alerding, Bishop of Fort Wayne. Rome City, Ind., Aug. 24, 1912

This signing occurred 44 years before Our Lady of America's first Apparition to Sister Mary Ephrem. Six months prior, Bishop Alerding sent a letter to the Sisters of the Precious Blood, dated February 26, 1912, acknowledging the prospering of the Sanitarium and that those in favor of enlarging the building, namely Fr. John Frances Noll, were correct in their estimate of the future usefulness of the building. The Bishop gave his blessing, that the usefulness may extend further.

Archbishop John Francis Noll, 5th Bishop of Fort Wayne, held summer residence in the building of the Kneipp Springs Sanitarium, having died 56 days before the first Apparition.

Archbishop Noll was given the title 'Apostle of the Shrine', that is, the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. He chaired the bishops' committee to raise \$7 million to complete the great Church. It was completed in 1959, thanks to his efforts. (Archbishop John Francis Noll - born Jan 25, 1875, died Jul 31, 1956)⁷

The second astonishing event is discovered through a letter written by Sister Mary Ephrem to her confessor, Archbishop Paul Leibold, June 29, 1954. No other facts can be found, with the possible exception of Fort Wayne Diocesan archives, if reported. It pertains to Sister Reporata who joined the Sisters of Precious Blood Cloister (a later branch). She was cured by Our Lady when at Rome City, in the building of the Kneipp Springs Sanitarium before Sister Mary Ephrem arrived.

“Have you ever heard of Sister Reporata, Father? She was an active Dominican who entered the Cloister later on. She was cured by Our Lady when she was at Rome City, Ind. Her life was written by her Spiritual Director, Father Pax or Max C.P.P.S. I don't know if that is his first or last name. He is in eternity now, so I don't guess he'll mind what we call him. I was just able to read a short account of her life. She was a mystic, so it seems. Anyway, when I was stationed at Rome City, I had a rather extraordinary experience which concerned her. I wrote it down on a piece of paper just as it happened. I did this at the request of an older Sister who was deeply interested in me and my spiritual life. This was before I realized that what happened to me did not happen to everyone and so I should have kept still about it...”
(Sister to +PF Leibold 06/29/54)

As Sister clearly states, “*She was cured by Our Lady*”. This is a miracle, drawing attention early on to the place where Our Lady of America Promises more miracles than Lourdes and Fatima.

The third point of interest regards Sister Mary Ephrem herself. After her earliest years with the Sisters of Precious Blood (she entered the

congregation at age 14), she was moved many times around the country to the congregation's different convents. One "stop" was in 1947 at the Kneipp Springs Sanitarium. This was 100 years after Pope Pius IX proclaimed Our Lady as 'Patroness of the United States', under the title of Her Immaculate Conception. This was also the very year of the Apparition in Rome, Italy, Our Lady of Revelation, Who Appeared to Bruno Cornacchiola stating:

"I am the One that is of the Divine Trinity."

"I am the Virgin of the Revelation.

***I am Daughter of the Father, Mother of the Son
And Spouse and Temple of the Holy Spirit."***⁸

The similarities between the messages of Our Lady of Revelation and those of Our Lady of America are profound. Both not only stress conversions but include messages for priests: they were to have a deeper faith in the revealed truths of the Faith, greater obedience to the Teaching Authority of the Church, a vigilant prudence in dealing with people, and a pure and dignified life style.

Often Our Lady combines the spiritual with the natural. True to Mary's Promise, the dirt from the Grotto of Tre Fontane, Rome, Italy (Our Lady of Revelation) has proven to be miraculous. Like the miraculous waters at Lourdes (when Our Lady first Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem, Sister's impression was that She was Our Lady of Lourdes), it continues to work wonders for the welfare of both bodies and souls. It was the miracle of the sun at Fatima that caused many witnesses to experience both the spiritual and the natural, physical healings as well as those of the soul.

Our Lady most assuredly was disposing the visionary, Sister Mary Ephrem, for Her nearing Heavenly Visits to her. As always, Heaven has everything Planned, and one can recognize the Help of Her Hand in the preparations for this select property at Rome City, Indiana, in these times.

After moving to and serving at additional convents, Sister Mary Ephrem returned to the Kneipp Springs Sanitarium shortly before the Apparitions in 1956.

***"By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception O Mary,
deliver us from evil."***

SISTER MARY EPHREM AND ARCHBISHOP LEIBOLD



Sister Mary Ephrem Neuzil
(1916-2000)



Archbishop +Paul Francis Leibold
(1914-1972)

Our Lord and Our Lady have been preparing the Church and the world for souls to recognize and possess the Divine Indwelling. It was to these two chosen souls, Sister Mary Ephrem (Mildred Marie Neuzil) and Archbishop Paul Leibold, that the Messages and Mission of Our Lady of America have been entrusted. The significance of Sister Mary Ephrem, plus the hardships she bore, should be examined by the Church for the hopeful proclamation of Sister Mary Ephrem as Servant of God, to give light into the sublime teachings of the Our Lady of America devotion. For Our Lord Jesus Himself said to Sister Mary Ephrem:

“Ask Me not for a Sign. Wouldst thou be as the Scribes and Pharisees or even as My Apostles, always seeking Signs? What I ask of thee is Faith, that deep, strong Faith that seeks no signs but only Believes. Thou thyself, shall be the Sign, the Sign I will give to the world. A little, white dove, a Sign of Peace, yes, the Reign of Peace in the world.” Jesus to Sister Mary Ephrem July 1955.

And further:

“I ask of him (then Rev. Leibold) what I continue to ask of you, oh bride of My Heart – prayer and penance. As a priest after My Own Heart, I will be with him in all his trials and sorrows. Tell him not to become discouraged at the crosses awaiting him for I, the Great High-Priest go before him carrying the heaviest part of his cross. I seek always the humble and lowly of heart and since I have found

two such, so I have entrusted to them a great Mission, but become not vain, for I have chosen him and you only because of your unworthiness and lack of virtue. Let this thought be with you always, that you may remember that it is I working through you, Who sanctify you for His Glory and the salvation of souls. You are poor instruments in My Hands, but through you a Great Work will be accomplished. I AM the Great Sculptor of souls. With hammer and chisel I form them that they may glorify My Father by their beauty and perfection. Be pliant in My Hands, oh My two lowly ones, My priest and My little white dove, and then will you be formed into My likeness and through you, I will be formed in souls." (Letter from Sr. Mary Ephrem to her confessor Archbishop +Paul Leibold 2/20/54).

A deeper reveal of Sister's experiences shows the ongoing union with Our Lord Jesus, even before the Apparitions at Kneipp Springs:

"Bride of My Heart, do you still wish to suffer all things to give me to souls?" I answered, "Yes, yes, dear Lord, I am poor and wretched and unworthy but you know what is in my heart." Then He said, "My little, white dove, will you then continue to wear the crown of thorns and permit yourself to be nailed to the Cross?" I told Him in the best way I could how much I desired Him to do with me just as He desired. So in this way are my desires wholly united to His." (Sister to Rev. Leibold 8/16/56 – just one month before the Apparition of Our Lady of America)

The Roman Catholic Church and all the world are clearly under attack, as scripture states, *"For our wrestling is not against flesh and blood; but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the world of this darkness, against the spirits of wickedness in the high places"* (Ephesians 6:12).

Mildred Marie Neuzil was born on the Feast of Our Lady, Queen of the Angels August 2, 1916. She was born of Austrian parents, John and Anna Neuzil, in Brooklyn, NY, baptized at Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church, and shortly after moved to Cleveland Ohio. She was Confirmed Dec. 9th, Anniversary of 1st Apparition Our Lady of Guadalupe and Feast of St. Juan Diego. At the age of 14, Mildred entered the active religious congregation of the Sisters of the Precious Blood, a Papal Community, in Dayton Ohio on September 12th, Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary. Three years later Mildred made her first vows as a professed religious. She received the name Sister Mary Ephrem, a name that means "doubly fruitful". She carried out her duties mostly in domestic work and as a kindergarten teacher. She entered into Eternity

January 10, 2000, Baptism of the Lord and Feast of the Holy Family. In 1937, when she was sent to the Chancery in Cincinnati, Ohio, it was there that God gave her a holy priest and later Archbishop to guide her, Rev. Paul Francis Leibold.⁹

The character of Sister Mary Ephrem is well confirmed in this letter to her confessor, written before the Apparitions:

“...My whole longing was to live a life of complete adoration in union with Christ. That which seems to take on the appearances of petition, is simply a desire to put on Christ, that my life of adoration may be the more perfect and thus give greater glory to the Most Holy Trinity” (Letter to her confessor 11/25/54).

With the weight of being the vessel through whom the Mother of God Speaks, Sister attests:

“Your Excellency, often, so often I feel my inadequacy, my wretched unworthiness. More than once I suggested to Our Lady that She choose someone else, someone better fitted for so great a Work. After one of Her visits I said to Her with deep compunction: “Oh Mother, I am not worthy.” She replied, “I do not come to the worthy, My child, but to the lowly and humble of heart.” So in the knowledge of my own nothingness, I am trying to do what I can. You may be sure that the more hidden I can be, the happier it will make me. For if ever I long to remain lost in the shadows it is now. I have not the slightest desire to put myself forward in any way whatsoever. Such a procedure is most abhorrent to me. There is nothing I desire less.” (letter of Sister’s to Archbishop +Karl J. Alter (1885-1997) written March 30, 1960)

Our Lady:

“O My sweet child, when will My Desires be realized? My Immaculate Heart Desires with Great Desire to see the Kingdom of Jesus My Son established in all hearts. Now I have Pleaded with My children to open their hearts to Him, but most are cold and indifferent. Has ever a mother shown more love and interest in her children’s welfare than I have done? O My little one, daughter of My Pure Heart, you must pray with greater fervor and offer yourself with greater love to the Heart of My Son. My Heart, My Immaculate Heart, is the Channel through which the Graces of the Sacred Heart are given to men” (Our Lady on the morning of Feb. 3, 1957).

Additionally, Our Lord Jesus spoke to Sister: ***“...Let My Love, surrounding you and filling you, draw souls to Me in great multitudes. Such is My Will, oh My beloved one. Open then your heart that I may pour into it without ceasing, the Sweet Waters of My Undying and Saving Charity.***

For it is from this Fountain of Life, which Springs forth from My Divine Heart that men will receive Eternal Life. It was to Obtain this for them that I Lived, Suffered and Died.” (March 6, 1957)

Our Lord Speaks of pouring into hearts without ceasing, *the Sweet Waters of His Undying and Saving Charity - the Fountain of Life which Springs forth from His Divine Heart*. This is a reference Our Lord is making to the natural springs on the property where Our Lady of America Appeared just six months before. Again, Our Lady often makes use of the natural with the supernatural.

Sister Mary Ephrem’s confessor became the Archbishop of Cincinnati, Archbishop +Paul F. Leibold, V.G. (1914-1972). Archbishop Leibold maintained a necessary and heartfelt relationship with Sr. Mary Ephrem up to his death. He directed her, supported her, advised and befriended her. He believed wholeheartedly in the Apparitions of Our Lady of America, fulfilling all that Our Lady asked of him as he could. Behind a saint is always a great confessor. Such was the case with Sister Mary Ephrem and her confessor Archbishop Leibold.

He would remain her spiritual director for 32 years, from 1937-1972, when he died. Our Lady, in very clear words to Sister, spoke about Archbishop Leibold:

“Child of My Immaculate Heart, tell My beloved son, your spiritual Father, that My hands are tied. Only he can lose them by making known My Desires and working to carry them out. I am at the mercy of My favored son. See, oh son of My Pure Heart, how I plead with you for release? Will you free Me from My bonds that I may accomplish My Wonders among My beloved children for the Glory of God? What will you do, My son? Your Mother waits.” (Letter of Sister Mary Ephrem to the Most Rev. Paul F. Leibold; April 25, 1957)

Sister Ephrem was in complete obedience to Archbishop Leibold who directed her concerning sanctity in the following manner, as recorded in his letter to Sister on November 8, 1963:

“The basic principle is: perfection is in doing God’s Will; God’s Will is clearly expressed with no doubt in the ordinary things of daily life; when it comes to choosing the extraordinary one is always faced with the doubt, is this God’s or my will acting.

Forget the hair shirts and keep the rule, forget the sensational and do the ordinary sensationally well, stop looking for the extraordinary and accept the ordinary – this is God’s plan of sanctity.”

In another correspondence the Archbishop writes, on Dec. 6, 1956: *‘Doing the Will of God is the key to sanctity “Be ye perfect, as Your Heavenly Father is Perfect” – a command of Christ to be perfect. An object is perfect in so far as it measures up to the ideal of its maker and performs the job for which it was made. We are made to the image and likeness of God, for God’s glory and our eternal sanctification. “This is the Will of God, your sanctification” – it is God’s Will that we be saints; we become saints by doing the Will of God. Doing God’s Will is loving Him – for love seeks union with its object; our union with God cannot be in body nor emotion (He is pure Spirit), it is in that in which we are His image, mind and heart, intellect and will. Therefore, our objective is TO LOVE GOD, which is accomplished by DOING HIS WILL – to reach this objective we must:*

- (1) Seek to KNOW God’s Will*
- (2) accept God’s Will*
- (3) conform to God’s Will – love Him*

On January 25, 1963 Archbishop Leibold gave his Imprimatur on the Prayer to the Indwelling Most Holy Trinity as well as the Prayer to Our Lady of America, Patroness of our Land. Daniel Palarczyk, S.T.D. gave his Nihil Obstat, to both Prayers. Archbishop Leibold also arranged giving a gift of a small ivory statuette of Our Lady of America to Archbishop Luigi Riamondi, the Apostolic Delegate from Washington, DC, with Msgr. Boffa, a personal friend of both, and his own personal secretary, Fr. Francis Lammeier. The statuette was presented about two months after Archbishop Leibold’s death. (Letter from Rev. Lammeier to Sister Mary Ephrem dated 8/13/72)



**Original plaque commissioned
by Archbishop Leibold**

Archbishop Leibold had decided to build a large, outdoor Shrine to Our Lady of America at the New Riegel, Ohio Cloister where Sister lived (and from where the Apparitions continued). That didn’t happen due to his sudden, untimely death on June 1, 1972. The Archbishop was greatly loved and revered by his flock as evidenced by the overflowing crowd that attended his funeral. He is buried in *Gate of Heaven*

Cemetery in Cincinnati. We recall here words of Sister's to Archbishop Leibold in 1958:

“Is not Our Lady the Path that leads to Jesus? Is She not the Gate of Heaven? Oh how our Mother Loves us. How much She Desires our Salvation and Sanctification, and how Ardently She Works for it.”

And on December 2, 1957 Sister wrote:

“The Appearance of Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling is of course a Call to every soul to become pure, living temples of God. Her life was very simple like ours yet in what depths of Holiness She lived. Our Mother spent Her life in Him, the Divine Presence Within Her. It is Her desire that we imitate Her above all in this. For He alone is our sanctification.”

How commonly the faithful recognize a saint before they are acknowledged as such by the Church. In the case of Sister Mary Ephrem and that of her confessor, Archbishop +Paul F. Leibold, we find two souls committed to the Mission entrusted to them. They demonstrated their loyalty in making known to the Church in the United States the Heavenly Mandate of Our Lady of America, the Immaculate Virgin.



“This is the Will of God, your Sanctification.” (1 Thessalonians 4:3)

12 WAYS OUR LADY APPEARED

“And it had a Wall Great and High, having Twelve Gates, and in the Gates Twelve Angels, and Names written thereon, which are the Names of the Twelve Tribes of the children of Israel. And the Wall of the City had Twelve Foundations, and in them, the Twelve Names of the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb.” Rev 21:12,15

Sister to Rev. Leibold, in a letter dated 11/28/56:

“It seems that the dear Mother of God had quite a big task on Her mind. She has been revealing it to me bit by bit. As it is, the very scope of it and its tremendous importance tends to frighten me in such a way that I’ve been tempted more than once to tear everything up, destroy every bit of writing. I’ve tried to convince myself that the whole thing is an illusion, the effects of my imagination and emotions. Yet Father, it is very strange. Whenever I’m about to tear up, destroy what has been written, something deep inside of me tells me I may not, I must not. Something or maybe it is Someone, prevents it every time. Because of all this I have suffered intensely and yet, never have I had such peace, never have I felt Our Lady so close to me and never have I loved her so much as I do now.”

According to the letters of Sister Mary Ephrem to her confessor, Rev. Leibold, between 1956 and 1958 Our Lady Appeared 12 different Ways. This is not to say She Appeared 12 times, but 12 different Ways, most of Who the Church already invokes:

(images are depictions)

1. Our Lady of Lourdes - September 25, 1956 in Rome City, Indiana - On the Eve of the Feast of the North American Martyrs: *“I am Pleased, My child, with the love and honor My children in America give to Me, especially through My Glorious and Unique Privilege of the Immaculate Conception. I Promise to reward their love by Working through the Power of My Son’s Heart and My Immaculate Heart, Miracles of Grace among men. I do not Promise Miracles of the body, but of the soul.”* (Letter 2/20/60)



2. Our Lady of America, The Immaculate Virgin - Sept. 26-27, '56; Oct. 13, '56; Apr. 25, '57; Aug. 22, '57 +more) Sister Mary Ephrem wrote in her letter to her confessor: *"Our Lady's First Visit was at Rome City, Ind. She Appeared in the Sister's Chapel": "I am Our Lady of America, I desire that My children honor Me especially by the purity of their lives."*

"My child, I entrust you with the message that you must make known to My children in America. I wish it to be the country dedicated to My Purity. The Wonders I will Work will be the wonders of the soul. They must have faith and believe firmly in My Love for them. I Desire that they be the children of My Pure Heart. I Desire, through My children of America, to further the cause of faith and purity among peoples and Nations. Let them come to Me with confidence and simplicity, and I, their Mother, will Teach them to become pure Like to My Heart that their own hearts may be more pleasing to the Heart of My Son."

"I Come to you, oh children of America, as a Last Resort. I Plead with you to listen to My Voice. Cleanse your souls in the Precious Blood of My Son. Live in His Heart, and take Me in that I may Teach you to live in great purity of heart which is so pleasing to God. Be My army of chaste soldiers, ready to fight to the death to preserve the purity of your souls. I am the Immaculate One, Patroness of your Land. Be My faithful children as I have been your Faithful Mother." (Letter 2/20/60, plus additional references)



3. Our Lady of The Precious Blood - Letter December 6, 1956

"On another day She Appeared as Our Lady of Precious Blood in a red Cope like Cloak..." In 1901 the Rome City Sanitarium was purchased by the Sisters of the Precious Blood. Mother Mary Emma Nunlist, Superior General of the Sisters of the Precious Blood in Ohio, was a recent sanitarium patient. The Sisters renamed the facility Kneipp Springs Sanitarium, in honor of Monsignor Kneipp. To accommodate the spiritual needs of the sisters, staff, patients and visitors, a chapel was constructed in 1916 (the year Sister Mary Ephrem was born).



4. Our Lady of Perpetual Help - Letter March 1957 “...when still at the Chancery: “Who are you?” She replied, “I am Our Lady of Perpetual Help. I will Help you Always.” After that I never failed to implore Her Aid, under this Title, reminding Her of the Promise She had made — to Help me Always. And Our Lady, you know, Father, wants to Help all Her children. She is most Anxious to do so. But She will not force this Help upon us. We must longingly ask for it and freely accept it.”



5. Our Lady of Grace - Letter April 25, 1957 “I saw Her in the likeness in which She is pictured at times, as Our Lady of Grace. Only She wore a Crown, and in Her right hand She held out a rosary, in Her left a scapular. From these, the rosary and scapular, there came forth, as it were, Darts of Light, like Streaks of Lightning. I was then given to understand, interiorly, that this represented the Graces that souls received through the devout use of these holy instruments of Mary.”



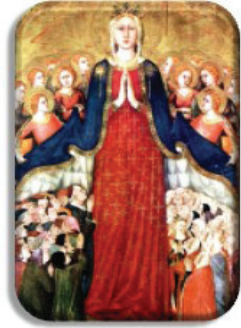
6. Our Lady, Mother of Sorrows - Letter April 25, 1957 “I am indeed the Mother of Sorrows, and it is My children who pierce My Heart. Their lives are filled with vanity and selfishness. They love My Son with their lips but not in their hearts. They refuse to follow Me and My Son along the Way of the Cross, because they have no love. Love gives, love does not count the cost... Oh My children, give Me your hearts, emptied of all self-seeking and sinful pleasures, and I will fill it with Divine Love. I will give you Jesus, to hold in your hearts. He will fill it and then, Jesus will Live in you and Work through you for the Glory of His Father. Oh My children turn your Mother’s Sorrow into Joy. Take the Sword out of My Wounded Heart by doing what I Ask. I Seek only the Glory of My Son and your greater good. Listen to your Mother’s Voice and be the Consolation of My Immaculate Heart.”



7. Our Lady of Mount Carmel - Letter April 25, 1957 *“Shortly after this I saw Her as Our Lady of Mount Carmel. She was holding the Divine Child and both He and His Mother were Wearing a Crown. She was Aiding the souls in Purgatory, especially those who had been faithful in the wearing of Her scapular. At another time, Father, Our Lady presented me with the Lily She was holding, and said to me, “Take it and cherish it. It is the Sign with which I Mark My children.”*”



8. Our Lady, Mother of Mercy - 2nd Sunday after Easter, May 5, 1957 – Pope Saint John Paul II declared the 2nd Sunday after Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday) *“Our Lady Showed Herself to me today: “I am the Mother of Mercy. Under My Mantle I will hide My children. The Justice of God will not reach them if they seek Refuge ‘neath the Protection of My Mercy. My Son gives to Me all those souls who come to Me with Confidence, calling upon My Aid. Their Salvation is in My Hands. I will Obtain for them the Necessary Graces to Save their souls. Come to Me, poor, suffering and frightened ones. I am your Mother. I will not forsake you. Only come to Me with a wholehearted and loving trust. Place your souls into My Keeping. I am that Faithful Mother who never forsakes her children. Honor Me by your confidence and love. This I Desire and ask of you My poor children. Do not deny the Wishes of your Mother.”*”



9. Our Lady, The Queen of Heaven - Feast of the Queenship of Mary, May 31, 1957 *“I am the Queen of Heaven. These Jewels are the Graces with which I Adorn My subjects. My Son Wills that all Grace should come through Me as through a Living Channel. Come to Me, loyal subjects, loving children, that I may Clothe you with the Graces which will enable you to appear more fittingly before My King-Son. Come and receive the Gems of Eternal Life.” “My sweet child, I am indeed a Queen. I can obtain All things for My subjects, as My Intercession is All-Powerful with God. If only they had more confidence in My Power and in the Great Desire I have to Help them.”*”



10. Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling - November 22-23, 1957

“Our Lady Appeared, standing on a globe, Her right foot resting on a crescent moon, the left on the snout of a small fire breathing dragon. She was Dressed all in White and Her hair could be seen through Her transparent Veil which was long enough to half envelope the globe. The Veil was held about Her Head by a Wreath of White Roses, and a White Rose rested on each foot. On Her Breast, the Triangle and the Eye, the symbol of the Divine Indwelling, could be visibly seen. A strong Beam of Light shown from the Divine Presence within Our Lady onto the globe at Her feet. Then halfway around the figure of Our Lady above Her head Appeared a Scroll on which were written in letters of Gold the Words: “All the Glory of the King’s daughter is Within” (Psalm 44) Though it did not appear that Her Lips moved, I heard these words quite plainly: “I am Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling, Handmaid of Him Who Dwells Within.”



11. Our Lady, The Immaculate Conception - April 12, 1958

“I had another of those “experiences” of which you have already heard, Father; many times. Though I had not at that time been thinking of Her, She suddenly appeared at my side. This person was none other than St. Bernadette. She did not come as a Sister but as the little peasant girl who saw “The Lady”. I was transported, somehow, with her, to the Lourdes Grotto in France. We stood a short distance away from it looking up into the niche which was filled with Light. In the midst of this brilliant Light I saw “The Lady” (the Immaculate Conception), so Beautiful, so Glowing, as it were, in Light that I could scarcely see the outline of Her figure. It was Brighter than any light I have ever seen. It was a Light All-Heavenly and Full of Glory. I was transfixed. Then suddenly the figure of Our Lady seemed to dissolve in the Light but the Brilliant Light itself remained.”



12. Our Lady of the Holy Family - March 30, 1958 *“As St. Joseph Promised, Jesus and Mary also came, Jesus had the Appearance of a boy of about fifteen or sixteen years old. It was about the Sanctification of the family and some other matters...” St. Joseph: “I am the Protector of the Church and the home...Let my children honor my Most Pure Heart in a special manner on the First Wednesday of the month by reciting the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary in memory of my life with Jesus and Mary and the Love I bore them, the Sorrow I Suffered with them. Let them receive Holy Communion in union with the love with which I received the Savior for the first time and each time I held Him in my arms. Those who honor me in this way will be consoled by my Presence at their death, and I myself will conduct them Safely into the Presence of Jesus and Mary.”* (Letter April 15, 1958)



“Our Lady came to me in a Special Way in the afternoon of Sept. 12th. She encouraged me and again assured me that She would Keep Her Promise. Almost always when Our Lady comes now, it is as She Appeared Sept. 26, 1956 (Our Lady of America, the Immaculate Virgin). I feel Her Presence with me all the time of course, but on these Special occasions it is more Manifest and the Special Vision accompanies it.” (Sr. Mary Ephrem’s letter to Archbishop +Leibold 9/12/58)



These twelve Apparitions of our Lady, bring to mind the powerful number twelve in Sacred Scripture. Not only does 12 represent the Twelve Tribes of Israel, the Twelve Apostles, the Twelve Gates of the New Jerusalem; the twelve Apparitions of Our Lady represent the culmination of all Our Lady’s Apparitions throughout the centuries. Now She says that, as Our Lady of America, this is her last resort for mankind, Her last hope for the world to embrace Peace and not be subject to Chastisements.

***“By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception O Mary,
deliver us from evil.”***



SUPPORT FOR OUR LADY OF AMERICA AND HER PROMISES

“Tell the Bishops of the United States, My loyal sons, of My Desires and how I wish them to be carried out. Through him who is head over you, make known the Longings of My Immaculate Heart, to establish the Reign of My Divine Son in the hearts of men and thus save them from the scourge of Heaven, both now and hereafter.” - Our Lady to Sister Mary Ephrem January 1957

On May 31, 2007, the Archbishop of St. Louis, now His Eminence Cardinal Raymond Leo Burke, distributed letters to all Bishops of the United States promoting and defending the authenticity of the Apparitions and messages of Our Lady of America:

“Having reviewed the correspondence between Sister Mary Ephrem and her spiritual director of many years, Monsignor Paul F. Leibold, Vicar General of the archdiocese of Cincinnati, who later became the Bishop of Evansville and, then, Archbishop of Cincinnati, it is clear that the devotion, as proposed by Sister Mary Ephrem, received his approbation...What can be concluded canonically is that the devotion was both approved by Archbishop Leibold and, what is more, was actively promoted by him. In addition, over the years, other Bishops have approved the devotion and have participated in public devotion to the Mother of God, under the title of Our Lady of America”¹⁰

A statement made by the Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield, Illinois:

“Pious devotion to the Mother of God under the title of Our Lady of America may continue as approved by the late Archbishop Paul F. Leibold, former Archbishop of Cincinnati. Your prayers in this regard are much appreciated.”

“God is ‘HE WHO IS’, from Everlasting to Everlasting, and as such remains Ever Faithful to Himself and to His Promises.”

- CCC²⁶

“Our Lady of America Promised greater miracles than those granted in Lourdes and Fatima will be granted here in America, the United States in particular, if we do as She Desires.” (Sister Mary Ephrem to

Archbishop Leibold dated 2/2/60) Amazingly, at the site of the initial Apparitions, the Precious Blood Sisters Convent in Rome City, natural, mineral springs run beneath the building and down a small, cascading waterfall to a nearby stream and lake. The sisters at the convent used the waters to treat many of their guests seeking a refuge from the challenges of life based on the methods of Monsignor Kneipp. The Church, through the power of the priesthood and these healing waters, as Our Lady says, will be the instrument of more healings than Lourdes and Fatima. With the daunting challenges of these times, Our Lady has the Remedy, and with clear Words, She is Calling Her children to conversion and healing through Her waters.

Our Lady of America on True Love to Sister Mary Ephrem on 2/3/57: *“My Son, Jesus, asks of souls love, that True Love willing to sacrifice itself for the One loved. Man fears to sacrifice himself because he is selfish. If souls would place themselves into My Keeping, I would Teach them the Way of True Love. If men Truly loved My Son, they would not quarrel with each other and they would have Peace in their own hearts. Peace is from within, not from without. If mankind were at Peace with itself, there would be Peace in the world. Man will only have Peace if he has in his heart that True Love of neighbor that Springs from a whole-hearted love for My Son.”*

“On April 4, 1960, a few minutes before one o’clock in the afternoon, Our Lady came to me with the Request that I write down the following words as the expression of Her further Desires and send them to Your Grace as quickly as possible:



“Tell His Grace, My beloved son, that it is through the medal that he will receive the Sign for which he asks. I ask him to have the medal struck and distributed everywhere, and he will receive not only the one Sign for which he has asked, but many; so many that he will have cause to be greatly astonished...”

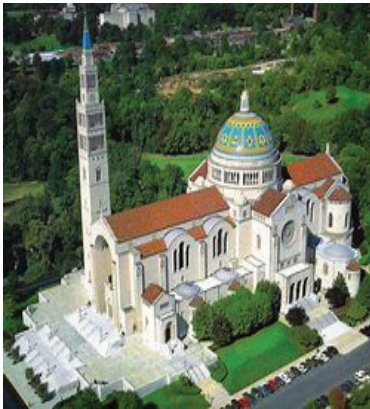
“My child, God works often through little and humble things, and such instruments should never be despised but accepted and used with love and gratitude. It will be through the medal that God’s Will shall be Manifested and Glorified and My Desires carried out even to the very end...I place My Confidence in My faithful sons, the Bishops, who will not fail to take up My Cause and make it bear much fruit for sanctification among so many and countless souls...Send this Word to My beloved son, the Archbishop, and have no fear, sweet child, for I will Keep My Promise, for I am the Ever Faithful Virgin” (Letter of Sr. Mary Ephrem to Archbishop +Alter - 4/13/60).

In the above quoted letter of Sister to Archbishop +Alter:

“Our Lady has asked that a statue be made as she Appeared on the Sept. 26th, 1956 (Pictured on cover – Our Lady of America). After being solemnly carried in procession in the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Wash. D.C., She desires that there it be enshrined in the place of honor and to be venerated there, in a special way as ‘Our Lady of America, the Immaculate Virgin’. It is at this Shrine She has Promised to Work Wonders. She Desires also that a small statue or picture of this same likeness be honored in every home.”

Again, and most significantly, from Cardinal Burke’s 2007 letter:

“A special request of Our Lady of America was that Her statue be placed in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. There is a Providential connection between Sister Mary



Ephrem and the late Archbishop John Francis Noll of the Diocese of Fort Wayne, who is celebrated as the Apostle of the National Shrine. The principal Apparitions of Our Lady of America to Sister Mary Ephrem took place in the chapel of the Precious Blood Sisters Convent in Kneipp Springs Sanitarium, near Rome City, Indiana. Archbishop Noll, who died 1956, maintained a summer residence at the Sanitarium, within a few hundred feet of the place of the Apparitions. While the National

Shrine is the largest Shrine in the world at which there was not a previous Apparition, the private revelation to Sister Mary Ephrem very much confirms the Mission of the National Shrine.”

During his last summer, Archbishop Noll was at the Rome City Sanitarium operated by the Precious Blood Sisters. The property borders Sylvan Lake. This lake is where Archbishop Noll and his extended family would gather year after year. Our Lady Appearing there acknowledges not only the holiness of Archbishop Noll, but also the fruitfulness of this prelate’s work.

The bishops who have a great love of the Blessed Virgin Mary have been warning the people of the United States of the peril of pornography and other immoralities and alternative lifestyles. The antidote to the evils of immorality is the life of purity:

“I am Our Lady of America. I desire that my children honor me, especially by the purity of their lives” - the first words spoken by Our Lady of America, September 26, 1956¹¹

“Our Lady came to me in a Special Way in the afternoon of September 12th. She encouraged me and again assured me that She would Keep Her Promise.” (of more miracles here than Lourdes and Fatima)
(letter to Archbishop +Leibold 9/12/58)

Another Promise to Sister Mary Ephrem from Our Lady was given, February 22, 1972:

“When a picture or statue of Myself as Our Lady of America is placed in the home and honored there, then will My Son Bless His people with Peace. Believe in Me, dear child, believe in Me, My Love will never fail you.”

While Sister Mary Ephrem and Archbishop Paul Leibold are continuing their Mission from Heaven, we the faithful on earth want to complete Our Lady’s Wishes. We benefit from the holiness and wisdom of Sister Mary Ephrem. She wrote to Archbishop Leibold of the necessity of interior prayer. Let’s put into practice what she wrote to Archbishop Leibold:

‘The need for meditation, contemplation, interior prayer is so great that it cannot be stressed enough. We are a surface-minded people for the most part, so it is imperative at last, in this late hour, to seriously look into ourselves and recognize the Glory living within, drawing us to Itself, that Divine Presence, so mysterious, yet so infinitely real, the only Reality into Which and out of Which all others flow and have their birth.

We partake of the Divine Life and this is our sanctity. The Holy Spirit leads each person according to their needs and lights at the moment, but all spirituality has its basis in the Divine Trinity living within us.

Because my body is the temple of God it deserves my profound respect and from this stems my attitude towards others. Body and spirit are so close that what you do to one you do to the other. The spirit must be the stronger as this is where control and discipline have their roots.

Interior prayer, praying, is very simple. We speak to and with God, we listen to whatever He may have to say to us and at other times we just sit, etc., quietly in His Presence and enjoy His Company. To cooperate with Him in His Work in and through us we should get into the habit of consecrating each day to His Honor and Glory.

We must give Him a free hand so that every thought is filled with His Wisdom, every word speaks it and every action is sanctified by it.

As the family is formed by individuals, the result of each member striving to live in the Divine Presence, in this way the family itself will be sanctified. The Father sent His Son to be a member of a family

as an example to all families. The life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph was not an easy one. There were no miracles to make their living more bearable. They were no different than the families around them except in the depth of their love for the Divine Presence within them. It is holy families that will save the Nation, save the world and bring about the peace so long desired. It is indeed late – but there is still time to save our world. Believe that God loves you, believe with all your heart and see what He will do for you – and what you will be able to do for Him and those about you. This is a Divine partnership and nothing save our lack of faith can ever break it. Believe in Him Who lives in you and nothing will be impossible of attainment. What you cannot do He will do, only believe.’

The fulfillment of the Divine Wishes of Our Lord and Our Lady made known to us through Sister Mary Ephrem will be the remedy for Holy Mother Church in these difficult times, and peace in the world, as Our Lady Promised.

Words of Our Lady to the priests - as recorded under the dates of 9/26-27/57:

“My dear daughter, sweet child, write My Words carefully, because they are of the Utmost Importance. I address them to My beloved sons, the priests, dedicated to the most intense and extraordinary imitation of My Son in the perfect carrying on of His Eternal Priesthood. Beloved sons, so cherished and greatly blessed among the sons of men, be careful to uphold the sanctity and dignity of your calling. Let the faithful see in you the favored and especially loved imitators of the Son of God. Be modest in your dress and speech as becomes those of so exalted a vocation. The apparel and manners of a man of the world is not for you, who, though living in the world, must not take on its ways. It is through you that the Grace of the Sacraments is given to souls. Strive then to make yourselves more worthy receptacles to receive these Graces and transmit them in turn to the souls under your care.”

Words of Our Lord to the Priests – 2/22/54:

“Where are your prayers, oh My priests and religious, where are your sacrifices? Do you not know that sinners will not be converted unless prayer and penance call down the Grace of God upon them?

“My Chosen Ones, you in particular are responsible for the souls of poor sinners. It is to you I have entrusted them. As their spiritual fathers and mothers, you must care for them and by your unceasing prayers in their behalf, lead them safely to My Father’s House.

“Oh My Well-beloved ones, you have become selfish and thoughtless. You have forgotten the greatness of your responsibilities. Unless you become saints, there will be no hope for poor sinners, for it is My Wish that through your sacrificial lives, the souls of poor sinners will be saved.”

From John 16:13:

“But when He Comes, the Spirit of Truth, He will Guide you to All Truth. He shall not Speak on His Own, but He shall Speak what He Hears, and shall Declare to you the things that are coming.”

At the Canonization of St. Annibale Maria di Francia, May 16, 2004, Pope Saint John Paul II addressed the Rogationists (congregation St. Annibale founded) of a ***“New and Divine Holiness.”*** ***“Saint Annibale Maria di Francia insisted tirelessly on persevering union with God and union among his brothers: unity, in fact, “is a symbol of the Coming of Christ (John 13:35; 17:21) and is a source of great apostolic power” ...to bring about that “New and Divine” Holiness with which the Holy Spirit wishes to enrich Christians at the dawn of the Third Millennium, in order to “make Christ the Heart of the world”...we must also pray unceasingly to the Lord of the Harvest, that he shall send workers to His Church in order to meet the needs of the New Evangelization” ...May every spiritual child of St. Annibale deepen his knowledge of the gift he has received and enliven it, becoming an increasingly worthy laborer of the Gospel and a shepherd after the Heart of Christ.*** (Vatican, 16 May 1997. IOANNES PAULUS PP. II)

Our Lady is Preparing the Way supernaturally, as Monsignor Kneipp did naturally, to have Her priests heal Her little children in the New Era. This “life” that we share with God is a supernatural Divine life, not only a natural, biological life. This is the “life” that Jesus referred to when He said, ***“I Came so that they might have Life and have it more Abundantly.”*** (John 10:10)

“The Church commonly teaches distinguishing between God’s Presence and His Indwelling. The Indwelling, unlike the Omnipresence, is not natural but super – beyond natural. The Indwelling is not universal but particular, very particular. The Indwelling is not merely the Presence of God in the world but it is the Special Way in which the Holy Trinity Dwells in the souls of those who are in Sanctifying Grace.” Servant of God, Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.¹²

“Our Lady spoke to me about the Divine Indwelling. It was Her Life and She Lived it Perfectly always conscious of His Presence, never

forgetting that all Her Greatness came from within, from Him Who Dwelt there, Working, Loving, and doing Good through Her. This is what Our Lady means when She Speaks of reformation, renewal. It is this about which She is so Concerned, namely Sanctification from within... She seemed anxious to impress me with some idea of the Greatness of this Gift of God to us, namely, His Divine Presence within our souls through Sanctifying Grace.” (Sister August 5, 1957)

The Messages of Our Lady of America through Sister Mary Ephrem are Her final Plea. We must perceive that the world is in a most precarious state. Can we appreciate the desperate Pleas of a Mother to save Her children, as She said to Sister Mary Ephrem:

“Has ever a mother shown more love and interest in her children’s welfare than I have done?”

“Our Blessed Mother has done her best to alter the course of a sinful world, but Her Message has to a large extent miscarried. During the past 43 years since Her Call to penance was heard at Fatima, the Catholic world has not changed for the better. Those Catholics who live Her Message are few and timid, and Mary knows that the Wrath of God is near.” (Letter of Fr John Thilges S.V.D. to whom he calls Venerable Sister Mary Ephrem, March 30, 1960)

It has now been over 100 years since Our Lady of Fatima’s Call to penance. Our Lady of America’s Request of over 65 years ago remains, to have Her Bishops process Her statue into Her Basilica in Washington D.C. and give Her a place of honor there.

“I come to you, O children of America, as a last resort. I Plead with you to listen to My Voice.” (Sister to Rev. Leibold 11/15/56)

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the chapel at Rome City, Indiana, and other places Our Lady Appeared will be places of pilgrimage for the United States and all the people of the world, so that the miracles already begun with the springs may flourish.

In these times of great spiritual suffering and human tragedy, Our Lord and Our Lady are Calling Their little children to a life of purity. We long for this Divine Indwelling of the purity of Jesus and Mary within our souls, allowing God to Reign within, so that True Sanctity may be accomplished for the greatest benefit for the Church and the world.

“The Divine Indwelling should motivate us to respond to the constant illuminations of mind and inspirations of the will which the Holy Trinity, or if you wish, the Holy Spirit Dwelling in our souls is, every moment and the day and night, Giving us. We have a heavy obligation

resting on our supernatural shoulders because of God's Mysterious Indwelling in our souls." Servant of God, Fr. John A. Hardon, S.J.

We have the heroic examples of so many before us, particularly Sister Mary Ephrem, Archbishop Paul Leibold, Archbishop Noll, Monsignor Sebastian Kneipp, the Sisters and so many others administering to the health of mind, body and soul. This is the time for the little children of Our Lady to respond to Her Great Call - priests, religious, lay persons. With this "YES" to Our Lady of America, may our "FIAT" bring about the conversions, healings and miracles through the Love and Efforts of Our Lady of America. May She Triumph in Her Church and in all the world for the Glory of Her Most Beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Quoting Pope Saint John Paul II:

"After my election as Pope, as I became more involved in the problems of the Universal Church, I came to have a similar conviction: On this universal level, if victory comes it will be brought by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Christ will Conquer through Her, because He wants the Church's victories now, and in the future, to be Linked to Her."
(Crossing the Threshold of Hope, pp. 220-221)

Our Lady of America awaits the fulfillment of Her Heavenly Request to the Bishops of the United States to process Her statue in the National Shrine, honoring Her there. With this, and with the cooperation of Her little children to a life of Purity, Our Lord will Grant this Victory through His Most Holy Mother, Our Lady of America. May we receive the last resort of Blessing from Our Lady, thus bringing about the Salvation and Sanctification of souls, families, our country, the Church and the world. Let us pray ardently for this through the chosen one, Sister Mary Ephrem, the little white dove.



Our Lady of America Pleads with us:

“I Plead with you to listen to My Voice. Cleanse your souls in the Precious Blood of My Son. Live in His Heart, and take Me in that I may Teach you to live in great purity of heart which is so Pleasing to God. Be My army of chaste soldiers, ready to fight to the death, to preserve the purity of your souls. I am the Immaculate One, Patroness of your land. Be My faithful children as I have been your Faithful Mother.”
(Sister Mary Ephrem to Rev. Leibold 11/15/56)

***“By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception
O Mary,
deliver us from evil.”***

Prayer to Our Lady of America,

Patroness of our Land

Oh Immaculate Mother, Queen of our country, open our hearts, our homes, and our land to the coming of Jesus, Your Divine Son. With Him, Reign over us, O Heavenly Lady, so Pure and so Bright with the Radiance of God's Light Shining in and about you. Be our Leader against the powers of evil set upon wresting the world of souls, Redeemed at such a Great Cost by the Sufferings of Your Son and of Yourself, in Union with Him, from that same Savior, Who Loves us with Infinite Charity.

We gather about You, O Chaste and Holy Mother, Virgin Immaculate, Patroness of our beloved land, determined to fight under Your Banner of holy purity against the wickedness that would make all the world an abyss of evil, without God and without Your Loving Maternal Care.

We consecrate our hearts, our homes, our land to Your Most Pure Heart, O Great Queen, that the Kingdom of Your Son, our Redeemer and our God, may be firmly established in us.

We ask no Special Sign of You, Sweet Mother, for we believe in Your Great Love for us, and we place in You our entire confidence. We promise to honor You by faith, love, and the purity of our lives according to Your Desire.

Reign over us, then, O Virgin Immaculate, with Your Son Jesus Christ. May His Divine Heart and Your Most Chaste Heart be ever Enthroned and Glorified among us. Use us, Your children of America, as Your instruments of peace among men and nations. Work Your Miracles of Grace in us, so that we may be a glory to the Blessed Trinity, Who Created, Redeemed, and Sanctifies us.

May Your Valiant Spouse, St. Joseph, with the Holy Angels and Saints, assist you and us in "Renewing the face of the earth." Then when our work is over, Come, Holy Immaculate Mother, and as our Victorious Queen, Lead us to the Eternal Kingdom, where Your Son Reigns Forever as King. Amen (200 days)

Written at the Behest of Our Lady, October 5, 1956

by Sister Mary Ephrem

Nihil Obstat: Daniel Pilarczyk, S.T.D.

Imprimatur: +Paul F. Leibold, V.G.

Cincinnati, January 25, 1963

Prayer to the Indwelling Most Holy Trinity

O my Love, my only Good, Most Holy Trinity, I adore You, hidden in the depths of my soul. To You, to Your Honor and Glory, I dedicate my life. May every thought, word and deed of mine be an act of adoration and praise directed towards Your Divine Majesty Enthroned in my heart.

O Father, Infinite Goodness, behold Your child, clothed in the likeness of Your Son. Extend to me Your Arms that I may belong to You forever.

O Son, Divine Lord, made man, crucify me with Yourself that I may become, in union with You, a sacrifice of praise for the Glory of Your Father.

O Holy Spirit, Fire of Everlasting Love, Consume me on the Altar of Divine Charity, that at the end of life, nothing may remain but that which bears the likeness of Christ.

O Blessed Trinity, Worthy of all adoration, I wish to remain in spirit on my knees, to acknowledge forever Your Reign in me and over me, to Your Everlasting Glory.

Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Pure Heart of Saint Joseph, I consecrate my life to Your Adoration and Glory.

At the moment of death, receive me, O my Triune Love, that I may continue my adoration of love through all Eternity.

Amen. (200 days)

Sr. Mildred Mary Neuzil
www.ourladyofamerica.org
Nihil Obstat: Daniel Pilarczyk, S.T.D.
Imprimatur: +Paul F. Leibold, V.G.
Cincinnati, January 25, 1963

Prayer to the Mother of Mercy

Oh Holy Virgin, Mother of Mercy,
Look down in Compassion upon your poor, frightened, children.
We come to you, with fullest confidence, oh Refuge of the afflicted
and distressed. Where shall we fly, or to whom shall we go but to
You, oh Mother of Mercy? Our cause is in Your Hands. Cover
us then, we beseech You, with the Saving Mantle of Your Tender
Compassion. Hide us, under Your Cloak of Loving Care and Pity,
from the Just Punishments of an Angry God. Shield us from the
chastisements, which we, by our many sins and transgressions, have
justly drawn upon ourselves. Be to us, oh Comforter of the lonely
and the sorrowful, a Mother of Mercy, never leaving us either in
life or in death. Under the Mantle of Your Protecting Mercy, oh
Loving Mother, Lead us to the Feet of Your All-Merciful Son, Jesus
Christ, our Lord, to remain there Forever. Amen.

(with ecclesiastical approval) May 15, 1957

*“By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception
O Mary,
deliver us from evil.”*



Additional Apparitions to Sister Mary Ephrem

Sister Mary Ephrem was born August 2, 1916:

Feast of Our Lady, Queen of the Angels.

Confirmed Dec. 9:

Anniversary of 1st Apparition Our Lady of Guadalupe, Feast of St. Juan Diego.

Entered the Convent September 12:

Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary

Entered into Eternity January 10, 2000:

Baptism of the Lord and Feast of the Holy Family



Sister Mary Ephrem to Archbishop +Leibold (6/22/59): “I will try, in my poor way, to explain as briefly as possible, the union that exists between the Apparitions and the Ultimate Goal towards which they all converge, namely, the sanctification of the family through imitation of the Holy Family’s constant awareness and adoration of the Divine Indwelling Presence.”

The Angel of Peace, St. Michael the Archangel – 1954: “Receive the Palm of Victory.” I became suspicious. I couldn’t think of any victory



that I had ever had that deserved such a reward. **“You do not believe me. Will you accept the Cross?”** For me this was more familiar ground. I said, yes, I would accept the Cross. To which he replied, **“Then you will accept the Palm**

and the Sword. With the Sword the Saints conquered themselves, the world and the devil. I am the Angel of Peace. I come to those whose hearts are attuned to the Voice of God. To such as these I remain a Perpetual Light through blinding darkness. I am sent by Him who said, ‘I AM the Light of the world.’” When I came here, Father, I wanted something special to read and somehow couldn’t find what I wanted. So, in the end I chose Joan of Arc. I can see that the Holy Spirit directed me in this. Towards the end of the book, I read that St. Michael is sometimes called the Angel of Peace. I never knew that. Then I understood Who it was that had come to me...**He called me “little maid” and “little Joan”.** He told me the “Big Maid” the “Big Joan”, as he called her had a great battle to fight, but though it was very great, **that which I must fight is yet greater as it is mainly against the powers of evil, and besides the forces against all good are much greater now than they were then.** While in Chapel this morning, Father, a Voice said to me, **“Little white dove of Jesus, I have been sent by Him to defend you from the Powers**

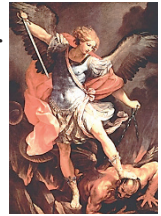


of Evil.” On the Eve of his Feast, the temptation came to me again, that I was being deceived. This thought frightened me, as it always does. At that moment a voice said to me. **“You are not being deceived. You are too simple to be deceived.”** (Letter written to Arb. Leibold - Feast of St. Michael 9.29.55)

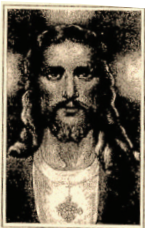


St. Gabriel - Nov. 20, 1955: **“I am the Angel Gabriel. I have come to tell you that Our Lord is Pleased with your effort to do good. He asks that you go to His Mother and learn great purity of heart.”** (Additional encounters with St. Gabriel)

St. Michael the Archangel (Additional) On May 8th, 1957, I was visited by the Archangel Michael who spoke in these forceful words: **“Write! I am Michael, Angel Captain of the Lord God of Hosts. I come to Announce the Coming of the Kingdom, the Kingdom of Peace. The time is at hand. Repent, bestir yourselves, oh sons of men, repent and make ready your hearts that the King may establish His Kingdom within you. Do not delay or the time of Grace will pass and with it the peace you seek. Behold, the Queen of Angels and of men comes before hand to make all things ready for her King-Son. My little sister, the Message is a clear one, there is no doubt. Make it known, do not hesitate. I, Michael, have spoken.”** St. Michael came to me one evening shortly after Our Lady’s visit, holding an immense Flaming Torch. He held it towards me saying: **“My little sister, you must carry this torch through the world.”** (notes 2/2/60) (Additional encounters with St. Michael)



Legions of Angels - Letter April 25, 1957: **“Yesterday morning, Father, after Mass, I saw Our Lady Surrounded by Legions of Angels, at their Head, St. Michael. They were all Clad in Armour and upon each Breastplate was a large Red Cross. They Stood with Drawn Swords in their right hands and in their left a Shield...”** (Additional Angel encounters)



Our Lord Jesus - May 22, 1954: **“My little white dove, if the world is dying, it is because it will not let Me give it Life.” “I AM the Resurrection and the Life, and unless souls seek their life in Me, they will find only death and destruction.” The night of Good Friday, Our Lord came to me and stood by my bed. He was Wearing a Crown of**

Thorns and in His Hands He held another. He looked at me. Then extending it towards me He asked if I would be willing to wear it for His sake. (sketch by Sr. Ephrem)

I answered simply, that, provided He give me the Special Graces to do so, I would be glad to suffer anything for His sake. Then He Explained to me that the suffering would be mainly of the heart, soul and mind. Easter Sunday morning, I was again attacked by the evil spirit in the manner that I explained to you in the ordeal of 1950. These attacks, Father, are extremely painful to me and cause me a great deal of suffering. In the middle of this horror ***Our Lord Appeared before me showing His Burning Heart.*** He Smiled at me and in a most Encouraging manner Thanked me for suffering this for His sake. Just think of it, Father, God thanking His very small creature for simply doing her duty. What Exquisite Manners He has. I was ashamed because I thought of the many times I neglect to thank Him for all His Great Mercy. (Letter to Arb. Leibold 2/18/58) On the morning of Feb. 23, 1958, during Holy Mass, the thought of the lost ones, especially the chosen, grieved me. Then Our Lord Appearing to me at that moment spoke these words to me: ***“Beloved spouse, I Condemn no one. If a soul is Condemned, it has condemned itself.”*** And I knew in my heart that this was so, though my eyes filled with tears. (Letter of Sister to Archbishop Leibold 2/24/58) (Additional mystical encounters with Our Lord)



The Holy Spirit - March 19, 1958: ***“I saw the Holy Spirit in the form of a Dove hovering above his (St. Joseph’s) head. Standing sideways, facing each other, were two Angels, one on the right, the other on the left. Each carried what appeared to be a small pillow in a satin covering, the pillow on the right bearing a gold crown, the one on the left, a gold scepter. The Angels were all white, even their faces and hair. It was a beautiful whiteness that reminded me of the stainlessness of Heaven. Then I heard these words (referring to St. Joseph): “Thus should he be honored whom the King desires to honor.”***



St. Joseph – He Spoke to Sister Mary Ephrem in October 1956, then Appeared to her on March 18 and 19, 1958 (Feast of St. Joseph). On March 30, 1958, the Holy Family Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem. (St. Joseph:) ***“I am the Protector of the Church and the home, as I was the Protector of Christ and His Mother while I lived upon earth. Jesus and Mary desire that***

my Pure Heart, so long hidden and unknown, be now honored in a special way.” “In honoring in a special way my fatherhood, you also honor Jesus and Mary. The Divine Trinity has placed into our keeping the peace of the world.” “The imitation of the Holy Family, my child, of the virtues we practiced in our little home at Nazareth is the way for all souls to that peace which comes from God alone and which none other can give.”



St. Bernadette - “She suddenly appeared at my side. This person was none other than **St. Bernadette**. She did not come as a Sister but as the little peasant girl who saw “The Lady”. I was transported, somehow, with her, to the Lourdes Grotto in France. We stood a short distance away from it looking up into the niche which was filled with Light. In the midst of this brilliant Light, *I saw “The Lady”*, so

Beautiful, so Glowing, as it were, in Light that I could scarcely see the outline of Her Figure. It was Brighter than any light I have ever seen. It was a Light All-Heavenly and Full of Glory. I was transfixed. Then suddenly the figure of Our Lady seemed to dissolve in the Light but the Brilliant Light itself remained. Then I saw a Path, at times it seemed to take the form of steps, leading upwards from the niche where “The Lady” had been standing. Every so often as I gazed at this Luminous Pathway. I caught a glimpse of **Angels**. I was anxious to follow the Path of Light and as I eagerly endeavored to do so, Bernadette held me back. Then I exclaimed, *“But I want to go there.”* The Saint answered, *“No, my sister, it is not yet time for you, but it will be soon.”* (Letter 4/12/58)



Mother Brunner - Foundress of the Sisters of the Precious Blood - June 26, 1958: *“You are their (first Sisters of the Order) crown. In you they will be glorified.”* Later... *Mother Brunner suddenly Appeared... then I saw many Sisters in black surrounding her... they smiled upon me, and oh, the happiness I saw on their faces. It filled me with great joy. I knew, too, at that moment how*

greatly they loved me... Then Mother Brunner spoke to me: “You are my beloved daughter, my glory and my crown. It is not necessary that I be glorified on earth. It is enough that I am glorified in you, my daughter... Long have I prayed both on earth and in Heaven that God would Mark the Community, that through me, so humble an instrument He brought into being, with a very special mission and Grace. My desires have been realized in you, cherished daughter. Truly you are after my own heart. These, my daughters, who dwell with me in the Bosom of God, rejoice with me and give praise to the

Most High for the Glory that will come to the Most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ through you, beloved and privileged daughter... The mother is honored in the daughter... I place the Mantle of my spirit upon you. Spread it over the Community... it must prepare itself for the abundance of Graces God is about to Shower upon it..." (2/2/60)

**12 Ways of Our Lady of America Calendar
Given to Sister Mary Ephrem**

*"Thou thyself, shall be the Sign,
the Sign I will give to the world.
A little, white dove, a Sign of Peace,
yes, the Reign of Peace in the world."*
Jesus to Sister Mary Ephrem July 1955

January - MONTH of the HOLY NAME

- 1 - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Holy Mother of God.
- 2 - Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord (New) The Most Holy Name of Jesus (Trad)
- 9 - The Baptism of the Lord (New)
Feast of the Holy Family (Trad) – *Our Lady of the Holy Family Appeared with the Child Jesus and St. Joseph to Sister Mary Ephrem March 30, 1958*
- 10 - *Sister Mary Ephrem enters Eternity this day, year 2000, with funeral at Our Lady of Consolation Basilica, Carey, Ohio.*
- 22 - Eve of Our Lady's Espousals to St. Joseph.
Day of Prayer for the legal protection of unborn children.
- 23 - Feast of Our Lady's Espousals, approved by Pope Paul III (1546)

February - MONTH of the PASSION of OUR LORD

- 2 - The Presentation of the Lord, aka the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- 7- Our Lady of Grace, Rome (1610) – *Our Lady of Grace Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem 1956; "She wore a Crown, and in Her right hand She held out a rosary, in Her left a scapular. From these, the rosary and scapular, there came forth, as it were, darts of Light, like Streaks of Lightning. I was then given to understand, interiorly, that this represented the Graces that souls received through the devout use of these Holy Instruments of Mary."*

11 - Our Lady of Lourdes, France (1858) – *Our Lady Of Lourdes Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem Sept. 25, 1956.*

Our Lady of America spoke to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1958; “I am the Mother of the Sacred Humanity, and it is My Special Work as Co-Redemptrix of the human race, to Helpsouls reach the Sanctity of the Father in Eternal Union, by showing them how to put on Christ, to imbibe His Spirit, and thus become one with Him...”

18 - St. Bernadette Soubirous (New) – *Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem Feb. 25, 1958;* *“Then I saw a Path, at times it seemed to take the form of Steps, Leading Upwards from the niche where “The Lady” had been standing. Ever so often as I gazed at this Luminous Pathway I caught a glimpse of Angels. I was anxious to follow the Path of Light and as I eagerly endeavored to do so, Bernadette held me back. Then I exclaimed, “But I want to go there.” The Saint answered, “No, my sister, it is not yet time for you, but it will be soon.”*

23 - *Our Lord Jesus Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1958;* *“Beloved spouse, I Condemn no one. If a soul is Condemned, it has condemned itself.”*

Our Lady of America Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1959; *“Our Lady Admonished me to work on the “Message” as soon as possible, so that it might be placed in the hands of the Bishops who would be responsible for its fulfillment. Our Lady Warned me that I must not delay to do this as the time is Now.”*

25 - *Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1958;* *“I was transported, somehow, with her (St. Bernadette) to the Lourdes Grotto in France. We stood a short distance away from it looking up into the niche which was filled with Light. In the midst of this Brilliant Light, I saw “The Lady”, so Beautiful so Glowing, as it were, in Light...It was a Light All-Heavenly and Full of Glory.”*

March - MONTH of ST. JOSEPH

3 - Our Lady of Angels of Toulouse, France – see Aug. 2

11 - *Our Lady of America spoke to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1958;* *“My Holy Spouse has an important part to play in bringing peace to the world.” St. Joseph spoke and Revealed His Heart same day 1958.*

18 - Our Lady of Mercy of Savona

- 19 - Feast of St. Joseph - ***St. Joseph Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem and she saw the Holy Spirit in the form of a Dove above him this day 1958; "Thus should he be Honored whom the King Desires to Honor."***
- 24 - St. Gabriel the Archangel – ***Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem Nov. 20, 1955***
- 25 - The Annunciation
- 30 - ***Our Lady of the Holy Family Appeared with the Child Jesus and St. Joseph to Sister Mary Ephrem his day 1958; "Jesus had the appearance of a boy of about fifteen or sixteen years old. He spoke to me first. It was about the sanctification of the family. Our Lady and St. Joseph also spoke to me concerning the same subject and also about the Divine Indwelling."***

April - MONTH of the HOLY EUCHARIST

- 4 - Our Lady of Grace, Normandy, France – see Feb. 7
- 5 - Apparition of Our Lady to Pope Honorius IV in Confirmation of the Order of Our Lady of Mount Carmel see July 16th
- 5 - Our Lady of Divine Providence, Cussanio, Italy (1856)
- 6 - Our Lady of the Conception, Flanders (1553)
- 8 - Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Trad)
- 16 - Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil
St. Bernadette Soubirous (Trad) – ***Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem Feb. 25, 1958 Our Lord Jesus Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1954; "The night of Good Friday, Our Lord came to me and stood by my bed. He was Wearing a Crown of Thorns and in His Hands He held another. He looked at me. Then extending it towards me He asked if I would be willing to wear it for His sake."***
- 21- Institution of the Confraternity of the Immaculate Conception, Toledo, Spain (1506) – see Feb. 25
- 24 - 2nd Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday
Our Lady of America Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1957 in the morning; "I saw Our Lady surrounded by Legions of Angels, at their head, St. Michael. Our Lady presented me with the Lily She was holding, and said to me, 'Take it and cherish it. It is the Sign with which I Mark My children.'"
Our Lady, Mother of Sorrows Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1957 at night; "I am indeed the Mother of Sorrows, and it is my children who pierce My Heart."

May - MONTH of OUR LADY

- 1 - Our Lady Queen of the May – see May 31 St. Joseph the Workman
– see March 19
- 5 - Our Lady Queen of the Apostles
Our Lady, Mother of Mercy Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1957 – 2 Sunday after Easter that year; *“I am the Mother of Mercy. Under My Mantle I will hide My children. The Justice of God will not reach them if they seek refuge ‘neath the Protection of My Mercy.”*
- 8 - Apparition of St. Michael the Archangel (Hist 525)
Archangel Michael Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1957; *“Write! I am Michael, Angel Captain of the Lord God of Hosts...”* and *“My little sister, you must carry this Torch through the world.” 1958*
Mother’s Day
- 13 - Our Lady of Fatima – see Oct. 13
Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament (Trad)
- 22 - ***Our Lord Jesus Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1954***;
“My little white dove, if the world is dying, it is because it will not let Me give it Life.” “I AM the Resurrection and the Life, and unless souls seek their life in Me, they will find only death and destruction.”
- 28 - Our Lady Queen of the Apostles (Trad)
- 30 - St. Joan of Arc – ***St. Michael called Sister Mary Ephrem “little joan” 1955***
- 31 - Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Elizabeth
Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Trad)
Our Lady Mediatrix of All Graces
Our Lady of All Nations
Our Lady The Queen Of Heaven Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1957; *“Our Lady held in both hands a gold casket which seem to be overflowing with Sparkling Gems of every sort. Her Whole Bearing was Most Queenly and Regal. Yet Her Smile was that of a Loving Queen-Mother, Most Eager and Anxious to Bestow Her Treasures upon her children. Then, She spoke: “I am the Queen of Heaven. These Jewels are the Graces with which I Adorn My subjects. My Son Wills that All Grace should come through Me as through a Living Channel.”*

June - MONTH of the SACRED HEART

- 1- Archbishop Paul F. Leibold enters Eternity this day 1972
- 6 - Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church (New)
- 8 - Mary, Mediatrix of All Graces (Trad)
- 9 - Our Lady, Virgin Mother of Grace
St. Ephrem of Syria, Doctor, who wrote “Prayer of Praise to the Blessed Virgin Mary”
- 12 - Trinity Sunday - *Sister Mary Ephrem was Baptized at Holy Trinity Catholic Church 1916*
- 19 - Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
- 24 - Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (New)
- 25 - Divine Motherhood of Our Lady, declared at the Council of Ephesus in 431 Our Lady Queen of Peace Immaculate Heart of Mary (New)
- 26 - *Mother Brunner – Foundress of the Sisters of the Precious Blood Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem along with many original Sisters this day 1958; “You are their crown. In you they will be glorified... Long have I prayed both on earth and in Heaven that God would Mark the Community, that through me, so humble an instrument He brought into being, with a very special mission and Grace. My desires have been realized in you, cherished daughter.”*
- 27 - Our Lady of Perpetual Help (13th C.) – *Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem Possibly 1956; “I am Our Lady of Perpetual Help. I will help you always.”*

July - MONTH of the MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

Our Lord Jesus to Sister Mary Ephrem: “Ask Me not for a sign. Wouldst thou be as the Scribes and Pharisees or even as My Apostles, always seeking signs? What I ask of thee is Faith, that deep, strong Faith that seeks no Signs but only Believes. **Thou thyself, shall be the Sign, the Sign I will give to the world. A little, white dove, a Sign of Peace, yes, the Reign of Peace in the world.**” July 1955

- 1 - Feast of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Trad)
Our Lady of Precious Blood Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem 1956; Sister Mary Ephrem entered the Order of Sisters of Precious Blood on the Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary, Sept. 12, 1930.
- 2 - Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Elizabeth (Trad)
- 11 to 14 - *Jesus spoke to Sister Mary Ephrem each day 1954; “I AM a Beggar for love...” “Blessed are the homes that honor My Name and the Name of My Father...”*

16 - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Feast of the Brown Scapular (1251)
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem 1956;
“She was holding the Divine Child and both He and His Mother were wearing a Crown. She was Aiding the souls in Purgatory, especially those who had been faithful in the wearing of Her scapular.”

17 - The Humility of the Blessed Virgin

18 - *Jesus spoke “Oh the pride of souls. How they resist My Grace. Oh My Priests, My Religious...” 1959*

**Saturday before the fourth Sunday of July - Mother of Mercy*

August - MONTH of the IMMACULATE HEART of MARY

2 - Our Lady of Angels, Assisi, Italy (13th C.) – ***Our Lady of America surrounded by Legions of Angels Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem April 24, 1957***

Sister Mary Ephrem was born August 2, 1916 in Brooklyn, NY

10 - Institution of the Order of Our Lady of Mercy, Barcelona, Spain (1218)

15 - Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven (Instituted by Pope Leo IV in 847)
Feast of Our Lady of the Divine Will.
Dormition of Our Lady (Eastern Rites)

22 - Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Octave of the Assumption
Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Trad)

Our Lady of America Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1957: “My Immaculate Heart is the Channel through which the Graces of the Sacred Heart are given to men.”

27 - Seven Joys of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Annunciation, Visitation, Birth of Jesus, Adoration of the Magi, Finding in the Temple, Resurrection, Assumption)

September - MONTH of OUR LADY of SORROWS

8 - The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15 B.C.)

12 - The Most Holy Name of Mary

Sister Mary Ephrem entered the Convent September 12, 1930 at the age of fourteen.

15 - Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows (Presentation in the Temple, Flight into Egypt, Loss in the Temple, Way of the Cross, Jesus dying on the Cross, Jesus laid in Her arms, Jesus laid in the Tomb.) ***Our Lady, Mother of Sorrows Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem April 24, 1957***

22 - The Giving of the Name of Mary to Our Lady by St. Ann, Her mother.

25 - *Our Lady of Lourdes Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1956 in the Rome City chapel; Our Lady Promised that greater miracles than those in Lourdes and Fatima would be granted in America, the United States in particular, if we do as She desires.*

26 - Sts. Isaac Jogues, John de Brebeuf and Companions (North American Martyrs) (Trad)
Our Lady of America first Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1956 in the Rome City chapel; “I Desire, through My children of America, to further the cause of faith and purity among peoples and Nations. Let them come to Me with confidence and simplicity, and I, their Mother, will Teach them to become pure Like to My Heart that their own hearts may be more pleasing to the Heart of My Son.”

(Image: Our Lady of America at the North American Shrine 2021.)



Our Lady of America spoke through Sister Mary Ephrem to Her beloved sons, the Priests on the first anniversary of Her apparition 1957.

27 - *Our Lady of America Appeared again In the Rome City chapel this day 1956; “I Come to you, oh children of America, as a Last Resort. I Plead with you to listen to My Voice... Be My army of chaste soldiers, ready to fight to the death to preserve the purity of your souls. I am the Immaculate One, Patroness of your Land. Be My faithful children as I have been your Faithful Mother.”*

29 - Michaelmas Day (Trad) Dedication of the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel.

October - MONTH of the HOLY ROSARY

2 - The Holy Guardian Angels; *Sister Mary Ephrem teaches “the little children to have a great devotion to the Holy Angels, especially their Guardian Angel and St. Michael. We say the rayer to St. Michael every day in the classroom.”*

5 - *Our Lady of America Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1956; “I felt suddenly urged to write a prayer to Our Lady, Patroness of our land...Our Lady came to me. She stood at my*

right side very close to me. Though I did not hear any words, the thoughts came into my mind one after the other, and I wrote without stopping until the prayer was finished.”

7 - Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

Our Lady of America Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1957; “Making the rosary a family prayer is very pleasing to Me.”

11 - Feast of the Divine Maternity of Our Lady.

13 - Our Lady of Fatima, Miracle of the sun.

Our Lady of America Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1956; “Holding a replica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, “This is My Shrine, My daughter, I am very Pleased with it. Tell My children I thank them. Let them finish it quickly and make it a place of pilgrimage. It will be a place of Wonders. I Promise this.”

16 - The Purity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

19 - Sts. Isaac Jogues, John de Brebeuf and Companions (North American Martyrs) (New)

30 - Feast of Christ the King (Trad)

November - MONTH of the HOLY SOULS

15 - ***Our Lady of America Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1956; “She Taught me this little prayer, “By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception, O Mary, deliver us from evil.”***

20 - Christ, King of the Universe (New)

Angel Gabriel Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1955; “I am the Angel Gabriel. I have come to tell you that Our Lord is Pleased with your effort to do good. He asks that you go to His Mother and learn great purity of heart.”

21 - Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (13 B.C.)

22 - ***Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1957; “Our Dear Mother Showed Herself to me in a Special Way...This vision of Herself is Very Important as it Reveals Our Lady as She Really and Truly was the Immaculate Tabernacle of the Indwelling God” “I am Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling, handmaid of Him Who Dwells within.”***

23 - ***Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling Appeared again 1957; “I saw on Her Breast, as though through a Veil, the Triangle and the Eye which is so often depicted as the symbol of the Divine Indwelling... Then halfway round the figure, around the head, appeared a scroll***

and written on it, in letters of Gold the Words: "All the Glory of the King's Daughter is Within."

December - MONTH of the DIVINE INFANCY

- 8 - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patroness of the United States - *Our Lady, The Immaculate Conception Appeared To Sister Mary Ephrem 1958.***
- 9 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin (New) *Sister Mary Ephrem was Confirmed Dec. 9, Anniversary of the 1st Apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe.***
- 11 - Our Lady of Angels, Paris (1212) (Hist)**
- 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, Mexico (1531)**
- 18 - Expectation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Hist)**
- 20 - *Our Lady of America Appeared to Sister Mary Ephrem this day 1959; "O penance, penance, how little My children understand it... See, I Weep, but My children show Me no compassion. They behold the Sword in My Heart, but make no move to withdraw it..."***
- 23 - The Espousals of the Virgin Mary**
- 24 - Chaste Nuptials of Our Lady and St. Joseph Vigil of Christmas Sts. Adam and Eve (Hist)**
- 30 - Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (New) *Our Lady of the Holy Family Appeared with the Child Jesus and St. Joseph to Sister Mary Ephrem March 30, 1958***

***"By Thy Holy and Immaculate Conception,
O Mary deliver us from evil."***

Endnotes

- 1 <https://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/files/hp-kneipp-springs-historic-district.pdf>
- 2 <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/08669b.htm>
- 3 https://archive.org/stream/39002086176469.med.yale.edu/39002086176469.med.yale.edu_djvu.txt
- 4 <https://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/files/hp-kneipp-springs-historic-district.pdf>
- 5 https://www.kpcnews.com/article_97d7c2e7-f547-56c1-9de2-d38fffd1733a.html
- 6 <https://www.preciousbloodsistersdayton.org/about-us/our-foundress/>
- 7 <https://www.ourladyofamerica.org/wordpress/2015/04/18/479/>
- 8 <http://catholictradition.org/Mary/revelation.htm>
- 9 <http://www.mysticsofthechurch.com>
- 10 <https://www.romancatholicman.com/cardinal-burkes-letter-to-the-usccb-on-our-lady-of-america/>
- 11 <https://www.ourladyofamerica.org/wordpress/2015/04/18/479/>
- 12 <https://bookofheaven.org/2016/03/17/divine-attributes-of-god-indwelling-of-the-holy-trinity/>



