

## *EUCHARISTIC HOUR*

*January 28, 2024*

# **The Divinization of the Soul and the Spiritual Life**

Marie-Paule said to us one day: *“The third millennium is knocking at our door and the world is so far from Christ’s message, so far from wisdom, silence, peace and love. Being the heirs of heaven, we must learn anew how to live for God and in God.”* (*Le Royaume*, no. 134, May-June 1999, p. 12)

Moreover, we now know that the risen ones will have to come and get their physical and psychic bodies here below in order to complete the process of glorification and then the divinization. (cf. *The White Book II*, p. 149) Consequently, it will be necessary that these risen ones be able to find persons advanced along the road to holiness and headed for divinization because that is what the Father wants to share with humanity.

When we stop to think about this briefly, an uneasiness sort of rises up in us... In fact, we know the high level of purification required to elevate ourselves through all the stages of the spiritual life until we reach the glorification of our entire being. So, we have the feeling that we are not equal to the task God expects of us. And this is a danger that awaits us; that is, putting up our own barriers with regard to what God expects of us, by thinking this is impossible. It is really crucial to understand that as long as God’s plan will not have been fully realized, He will continue to provide us with the means and the necessary graces to attain it.

In the *White Book V*, we are given a surprising example of this. In fact, Marie-Paule clearly indicated that something had changed with Father Victor. She said that there was something new in him and she “learned”, *“THAT IS BECAUSE HE IS DIVINIZED.”* (*White Book V*, p. 120) All of us were surprised when we read this passage. When we take a closer look, we see that, as Marie-Paule indicated, *“he had been favored with a special grace which divinized him”.* (*Id.*) Therefore, there is the possibility of being divinized through a special grace. The fact remains though that this raises more questions than answers.

However, one thing is certain: the possibility of divinization is very real and accessible. If Marie-Paule spoke of it and gave us this example, this is because it is possible; always with divine grace of course, since it is specified that it was through the granting of a special grace. And yet, the primary responsibility remains entirely ours, because we must strongly predispose ourselves to this. Then God will give us the means to achieve it. So, this is a source of great hope for us.

And notice that it is quite clear, and Marie-Paule underlined it, faithfulness to the Eucharist is what favored this. Therefore, we have a very important indication to under-

stand how we can favor our progression towards divinization. We must let ourselves be transformed by and in the Eucharist.

Let us remember that union with God was Marie-Paule’s constant goal and desire in all her life of love. She is the perfect example for any soul seeking perfection in the spiritual life. At a very early age, Marie-Paule had already understood that God is not a distant Being, but truly a real Father prepared to do everything so that we may be happy and united with Him.

Obviously, this union is achieved mainly through the love we have for Him; not simply a love expressed through words or pious hopes, but a voluntary love with actions. And the most excellent means of guiding our life is to do the divine will. Full spiritual development will be achieved when the divine seed we received at baptism (which is the point of departure for any life of union with God), will have reached maturity.

With *Life of Love*, we have understood that we must go beyond the three classical stages of the spiritual life, which are the purgative life, the illuminative life and the unitive life. There is the celestial life and we could add that, at the end, there is the divine life. How can we climb up and reach all those stages? The answer is given us both in the Gospel and in our Foundress’ *Life of Love*. The grain of wheat must die in order to bear much fruit. Yes, it is a matter of stripping oneself entirely of self. That is a constant element in the spiritual life.

Progressively, we began working on our interior reform, and each one of us must continue working at it by ridding ourselves of our dominant faults, our tendencies. This interior reform allows us to clear our spiritual conductor, freeing it from everything that prevents us from better perceiving the divine will in our lives. This reform is necessary and, whether or not we like it, it is a part of the real preparation for the Kingdom.

Mother Paul-Marie declared: *“Open to the ‘signs of the times’,... the members of the Army of Mary have for years, through constant striving for interior reform, been making their way, slowly, progressively, along the road to the Kingdom.”* (*Life of Love, Appendix I*, p. 265)

Thus, besides the Eucharist, all kinds of purifications actively serve to reach the Kingdom. Of course, the dimension of love will thrust us even more rapidly along the way, for love has the power to have us bear everything, accept everything, forgive everything and thus make us ascend.

Every time we accept tribulations, vexations, humiliations,

tions out of love, they always become a very strong and privileged means of union with God because they detach us from our "self".

In the Gospel, Jesus was clear when He spoke of the branches that do not bear any fruit. They must be pruned. However, even those that bear fruit are pruned or trimmed. "Every branch that bears fruit, the Father purifies it by trimming it to increase its yield." (cf. Jn 15:2) Thus, the Father wants us to be purified, so, in order to accomplish this, He continues to prune the branches we are, by cutting out everything in us that is not after His Heart.

If we wish to bear an abundance of fruit, we must remain united with God at all costs and travel the route of purification. That is the spiritual program all of us are called to follow. To elevate ourselves rapidly in our spiritual life, we must be motivated by a love that is giving, forgiving and in self-abandonment like Marie-Paule was. Three aspects of love that are essential for union with God to the point of divinization; three forms of divine love Marie-Paule practised totally.

And, in a great simplicity, she explained how all of this worked:

*"The more we give, the more are we joyful;  
the more we give of ourself, the more are we happy;  
the more we pardon, the more we love;  
the more we abandon ourself, the more confident are we."*

(*Le Royaume*, no. 160, March-April 2003, p. 1)

This is a gem of spirituality that can be applied marvel-

ously well in order to live and understand better how all of us are called to give, to give of ourself, to forgive and to abandon ourself. Marie-Paule clearly said:

*"Abandonment to God's will is the key to a rapid spiritual ascent; abandonment to God's will means that we will never give up. To give and to give of oneself always according to His Will!"* (*Le Royaume*, no. 120, July 1, 1997, p. 24)

All of us want to ascend. Well, *Life of Love* is the answer for our generation. We must become used to it..., for everything is in it, and it is given specifically for the souls that want to go forward and reach the Kingdom. We have already read it...; we have to read it again and especially nourish ourselves on it, because a spirit is communicated in it, Marie-Paule's very spirit, the divine spirit because she is now in the Divinity. We must imbue ourselves with that spirit and make it our own. And that is how we can hope to be totally divinized one day and drawn up into one of the honeycombs in the Father's Heart.

In the *White Book*, the Father said to Marie-Paule: *"I DESIRE THAT ALL BE IN MY HEART."* (*White Book 1*, p. 158)

Let us remain confident and ask the Lady of All Peoples that she always come to our aid so that, in her wake, we may intensify our Eucharistic devotion, our personal detachment and our love. May she then open the way so that we may be drawn up one day into the honeycomb reserved for us in the Father's Heart.

**Father Eric Roy**