



MOTHER LOVE

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Peace be with you!

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Are You Truly A Christian Mother?

“Give me truly Christian Mothers and I will renew the face of the earth.” (Pius IX)

Pope Pius IX (now Blessed Pius IX) made this powerful assertion 100 years ago. Jesus Christ Himself might well have said the same thing 2000 years ago. Truly Christian Mothers were always needed but never more needed than now in our culture of death.

What is a Truly Christian Mother? She is a mother who lives always in God’s grace with no unrepented grave sins on her soul. She would never have an abortion! She would not practice contraception. She would be dressed modestly, always suitable for the occasion and she would teach her children to do the same. In her home pornography would be avoided like the plague, as the ruination of the nation.

The Truly Christian Mother will honor, love and respect her husband as the way to teach their children to relate to their parents and to one another. Good manners and courtesy would be the words best to describe the Christian family in their home. Genuine kindness is the goal of their life. This is what the Lord means by charity; and charity begins at home.

A Truly Christian Mother will teach her children to pray, and to pray with them. “Repetition is the mother of study and learning.” The praying need not be long, but it must be regular, every day: morning prayers and night prayers, prayers before and after meals.

Both Mother and Dad must go to Holy Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation. Our Holy Father the Pope recommends confession once a month to keep that sensitivity to God and His expectations. No one should dare to receive Holy Communion with mortal sins on their souls.

And conduct of the children that Jesus Christ would not approve of must be nipped in the bud: selfishness, anger, hatred, envy, gossip, laziness with diligent, reasonable and timely correction.

The family of a Truly Christian Mother must learn to take their meals together whenever possible. By their example and instruction children should learn to eat properly to stay in good health with suitable exercise. Learn to laugh, relax and share with one another. They must be taught to do their fair share of work. Everyone in the family should aim to set 7-8 hours of sleep each day. There is no substitute for sleep.

Christian Mothers must take an interest in their children’s education in religion as in secular studies. If the TV and internet is used selectively, wisely and well, they can be useful tools for instruction. Supervision of the children’s books and music and CDs and DVDs in the home is an absolute necessity.

A good mind in a healthy body with a pure heart must be the goal of every truly Christian Mother for their children. She will teach them what is right and what is wrong, what is to be believed and what is not to be believed and what is acceptable and what is not acceptable, what is blessed by God and what is an abomination before our God.

Motherhood is indeed a full-time job.



In This Year of the Priesthood: Eliza Vaughn: A Model Mother

Eliza Vaughn's story is one in which spiritual motherhood and biological motherhood overlap.

Her family was English, Protestant, and one of the founders of Rolls Royce auto company. She married Col. John Francis Vaughn in 1830 and converted to Catholicism over the protests of her relatives.

She spent an hour daily in silent adoration praying for religious vocations in her family. Of her 14 children, six became priests and four became nuns. She died in 1853 not long after the birth of John, her last child.

Of the six boys who became priests two were Religious, one a Diocesan Priest, one a Bishop, one an Archbishop and one a Cardinal.

John the fourteenth child was ordained a priest by his oldest brother and later became the Auxiliary Bishop of Salford, England. The second oldest brother became Bishop of Sydney, Australia.

Cardinal Herbert Vaughn, the oldest brother (who had ordained the youngest), became the Archbishop of Westminster and Founder of several Religious Communities.

All of this in answer of the prayers of a Mother for vocations in her family.
(Our Sunday Visitor)



Meditation On the Hands of the Sacrament of Matrimony

By Larry and Mary Sue Eck, Father Tom Burr

(Wives take their husbands' hands and hold them in their own.)

These are the hands, young and strong and vibrant with love, that held yours on your wedding day, as he promised to love you all the days of his life.

These are the hands that you placed with expectant joy against your stomach, until he, too, felt his child stir within your womb.

These are the hands that looked so large and clumsy, yet were so gentle as he held your baby for the first time.

These are the hands that worked hard to earn the money for you and your family.

These are the hands that are nicked and bruised from fixing things around the house to make you more comfortable.

These are the hands that have caressed your body through the years to make the passion of love come alive in you.

These are the hands that have countless times wiped tears from your eyes: tears of sorrow and tears of joy.

These are the hands that have comforted you in illness, and held you when fear or grief racked your mind.

These are the hands that have tenderly lifted your chin and brushed your cheek as they raised your face to look into his eyes: eyes that were filled completely with his overwhelming love and desire for you.

(Husbands take their wives' hands and hold them in their own.)

These are the hands that held yours as she gave you her pledge to love you, and accepted your ring on your wedding day.

These are the hands that were smooth and young and carefree then, but are lined and rougher now because of thousands of dishes washed, tons of laundry cleaned, and thousands of meals prepared.

These are the hands that have held each child in tender love, soothing them through illness, disciplining them when naughty, diapering them, dressing them, sewing for them, baking for them, and wringing themselves in worry when trouble came.

These are the hands that are nicked and burned from paring knives, and irons and hot skillets and pans; curling irons too!

These are the hands that massage tension from your neck and back in the evenings, after you've had a long hard day.

These are the hands that held your face and wiped tears from your eyes - in wonder and awe that you would cry for her.

These are the hands that held you in joy and excitement and hope, each time she told you that you were to have another child; that together, with God you had created life.

Perhaps these are the hands that comforted you: when your little six-year-old went to heaven to become a saint or when you were told you could not have a child, and convinced you that together you would co-create new life in other ways.

These are the hands that through the years have caressed your body in the passion of love, to enhance your intimate joy.

Beloved Couples,

These are the hands of the Sacrament of Matrimony. These four hands are your armor and shield against the evils of the world. These four hands are God's plan for renewing His Church. These are the hands that will reach out to the teenager, bring hope to the lonely, teach the engaged the wonders of married love, heal the abused and hurting children of the world. These hands are the hope of a troubled humanity. These are the hands that will change the world.

Why Do People Cohabit Before Marriage?

Maybe they are afraid that the commitment to marriage is too demanding; and they are not quite ready for such a lifelong venture that lasts until death. Maybe they do not trust themselves or their partners. Without trust, true love is impossible. I wonder if they will ever be able to trust each other.

Women see cohabitation as a part of courtship that will hopefully end in marriage. Men see it as an opportunity for sexual satisfaction with no commitment. The sin of cohabitation is called fornication; and the scriptures tell us that God will judge fornicators. (Heb.13/4) Fornication is a poor preparation for marriage, couples probably contracepting all the while. It is a mortal sin!

Once a person is passionately involved in such a relationship, it is not surprising they would marry the devil himself. No wonder so many marriages break up! Passion blinds; marriage is an eye-opener.

Father Angelus M. Shaughnessy, O.F.M. Capuchin

MODESTY: the Prudence of Chastity

Sometimes even in church I feel like I am back in Papua New Guinea, the most primitive country in the world where they don't wear much clothing. When I see how some women dress these warm days, at Sunday's Holy Mass too, some of them look like they're on their way to the beach; others look like they are coming from the beach. Maybe we should not complain too loudly though; at least they are in church to fulfill a serious obligation, unlike the 75% of the Catholic population in the U.S.A. who neglect to come to Mass in any sort of attire. They absent themselves; they have other priorities.

Modesty is the prudence of chastity. Be modest in your dress, in your words, in your behavior if you want to help men acquire and preserve the virtue of purity. Ladies, you can be an angel or a devil to a man. He needs your help to stay in God's grace. It is very difficult for him to do this on his own power. Some day you will be held accountable for what is expected of you. If you want the Lord's blessing, learn to be modest.

©Father Angelus M. Shaughnessy, O.F.M. Capuchin

*Man/Woman's
greatest weakness:
The love of power;
greatest strength:
The power of love.*

She is 103+ Now!

Dear Father Angelus,

I do not have the strength now that I had before. My eyesight is failing and slowing me down; but I can still pray. I am 103. I still lead the Rosary in our chapel on weekdays at 4 o'clock. I will remember you there.

The hobby I have is making winter quilts for the poorest counties in the mountains of Kentucky. I have lots yet to do and I am trying to work the best I can to help others.

God bless you!

Mrs. Nick Boone, Nazareth, KY

The Lord Speaks:

In what so we share with another's need, not what we give, but what we share, for the gift without the giver is bare; who gives himself with his alms feeds three, himself, his hungering neighbor, and Me. James Russell Lowell

Fear or Joy? Your Choice

Man/woman's greatest Fear is that Jesus meant what He said, when He said: "Depart from me!"

Man/woman's greatest Joy is that Jesus meant what He said, when He said: "Come you Blessed! Possess the Kingdom prepared for you!"

Every Christian Mother in the world should have and be using the "Mother Love" prayer book. Therein is the relationship with God and others that we expect our Mother to live by day-by-day.



Mother Love Prayer Book \$15.00

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