

The Assumption

In a world that is often heart-stopping in horror and breath-taking in beauty, but too often scraped down to the bone by those who leak scorn with such soul-sick pride, it is the Blessed Mother, who is so unspeakably gracious with brilliant inspirations that pour into us—if we listen, if we watch for them.

She wears a thousand names, thousands of skin tones, thousands of costumes to represent her being patroness of deserts, mountains, stars, streams, and oceans. If there are more than six billion people on earth, then thereby she comes to us in literally billions of images.

She is the Mother who ascended whole, the Mother who has lived through wars, conquests, conscriptions. The Mother who has been outlawed, done outrage to, squelched, carpet bombed, hidden, stabbed, stripped, burnt, plasticized, and dismissed.

And most of all, she is writ into our very souls. Our longings for her, our desires to know her, to be changed by her, to follow her ways of acute insight, her sheltering ways, her trust in goodness—these are the evidences that she exists, that she continues to live as a huge, not always invisible but palpably felt, force in our world right now.

Credit Richard Rohr. See full reflection: <https://cac.org/our-blessed-mother-2019-06-12/>

Quote

“We are redeemed totally. We are not just set free in our spirits; in our bodies, too, we share in the redemption and freedom of the Lord.”

Richard Rohr: The Great Themes of Scripture, New Testament

Prayer

God, help us to remember that we, like Mary, are merely “handmaids,” instruments, and it took such a woman as this to make the whole pattern glaringly clear. Help us live in our hearts and trust in you, acting beyond our fears like Mary, for she is with us and represents what we can be.

Reflection

How can I live in my heart more and face my fears?