

Mother Maria Wisdom



My loyalty was not to any imagined government, but to those whose need of justice was greatest, the people. Red or White, my position is the same—I will act for justice and for the relief of suffering. I will try to love my neighbor.

When you've shared in the worship of the Eucharist, then you've got to go out and live Eucharistically. You've got to live in the world as if the world were like the sacrament itself, carrying the meaning and invitation and challenge and love of God. You've got to live in that sacramental environment, and you have to be yourself a sacramental person, making yourself available to be eaten and drunk by those around you. And that's the "liturgy after the liturgy."

When someone you love has died, the gates have suddenly opened onto eternity, all natural life has trembled and collapsed, yesterday's laws have been abolished, desires have faded, meaning has become meaningless, and another incomprehensible meaning has grown wings on their backs..... Everything flies into the black maw of the fresh grave: hopes, plans, calculations, above all, meaning, the meaning of a whole life. If this is so, then everything has to be reconsidered, everything rejected, seen in its corruptibility and falseness.

The way to God lies through love of people. At the Last Judgment I shall not be asked whether I was successful in my ascetic exercises, nor how many bows and prostrations I made. Instead I shall be asked did I feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick and the prisoners. That is all I shall be asked. About every poor, hungry and imprisoned person the Savior says 'I': 'I was hungry and thirsty, I was sick and in prison.' To think that he puts an equal sign between himself and anyone in need. . . . I always knew it, but now it has somehow penetrated to my sinews. It fills me with awe.

There is no such thing as a Christian problem. If they're coming for the Jews, they're coming for the Christians. Our destiny ought not be separable from that of the Jews, because we are in the same story as they are. So, yes, we ought to wear the yellow star.

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God is incarnate in each person. And we need to accept this awesome revelation of God unconditionally, to venerate the image of God in [our] brother. Only when [we] understand that, will yet another mystery be revealed to [us] -- one that will demand [our] most dedicated efforts...

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*Our God-given freedom calls us to activity and struggle. And it would be a great lie to tell searching souls: "Go to church, because there you will find peace." **The opposite is true.** Go to church, because there you will feel real alarm about your sins, about your perdition, about the world's sins and perdition. There you will feel an unappeasable hunger for Christ's truth. There instead of lukewarm you will become ardent, instead of pacified you will become alarmed, instead of learning the wisdom of this world you will become foolish in Christ.*

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*Under the ground lies my beloved daughter
Above, a glittering night
Heavy have become your fair hands
Your truth I struggle to understand.
Give wings to Gaiana, who has gone,
So that to the heavens she may fly.
Bestow humility upon my heart
That I may accept you and your whole world.*

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No amount of thought will ever result in any greater formulation than the three words, 'Love one another,' so long as it is love to the end and without exceptions.