Our Lady of Akita

 Warns the World Of Coming Chastisement

By Daniel P. McGivern

One of the most important appearances of the Blessed Virgin Mary took place in 1973 to Sister Agnes Sasagawa in a convent in Akita, Japan.

Historically, dozens of Christians were martyred, burned at the stake like St. Joan of Arc, at Akita in a Christian persecution in 1624.

Sister Agnes, although she was totally deaf, received a letter in May, 1973 from the Handmaids of the Eucharist, asking her to join their order and live at the convent.

That year of 1973 was miraculous indeed! A month after joining, sister saw brilliant lights coming from the chapel’s tabernacle. She prayed prostrate, lying on the floor, before the Lord in the tabernacle. Then she saw angels in the mysterious brilliant light.

Her guardian angel then appeared to her, the first of many visits, on June 29, Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. A day later, on the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Sister Agnes was supernaturally given two red scratches in the palm of her hand, in the form of a cross. The wound was very painful, particularly on Thursday nights and on Fridays. As we all know, Our Lord’s agony began on Thursday night, and he was scourged and crucified on Friday.

On July 5, 1973, Sister Agnes’ guardian angel appeared to her and beckoned her toward the chapel and then disappeared. After bowing toward the altar, she turned toward the statue of Mary, made from hard, dry wood. The wooden statue came to life and Mary spoke to her. Sister Agnes prostrated herself. The voice of Our Lady was a voice of indescribable beauty which struck Sister Agnes’ totally deaf ears.

Our Lady’s first words were: “My daughter, my novice, you have obeyed me well in abandoning all to follow me. Is the infirmity of your ears painful? Your deafness will be healed, for sure. Be patient. It is the last trial. Does the wound of your hand cause you to suffer? Pray in reparation for the sins of men. Each person in this community is my irreplaceable daughter. Do you say well the prayer of the Handmaids of the Eucharist? Then, let us pray it together.”

Then Our Lady instructed that the daily prayer of the Handmaids of the Eucharist be changed to add one word “truly”. Then Sister Agnes, her guardian angel and the Blessed Virgin Mary prayed this new version of the prayer.

“Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, truly present in Holy Eucharist, I consecrate my body and soul to be entirely one with Your Heart, being sacrificed at every instant on all the altars of the world and giving praise to the Father pleading for the coming of His Kingdom.

“Please receive this humble offering of myself. Use me as You will for the glory of the Father and the salvation of souls.

“Most Holy Mother of God, never let me be separated from your Divine Son. Please defend and protect me as your special child. Amen.”

On the same day, sister’s guardian angel actually said to her what all of our guardian angels really do. “I am the one who is with you and who watches over you.”

Bishop John Ito spoke to Sister Agnes on July 24 when she related all she saw and heard. He inspected the wound in her hand. Later, the same wound appeared in the hand of the statue and bled from it as well.

Her guardian angel told her on July 26, “Carefully engrave in the depth of your heart the thought of the blood of Mary. The blood shed by Mary has a profound meaning. This precious blood was shed to ask your conversion, to ask for peace, in reparation for the ingratitude and the outrages towards the Lord. As with devotion to the Sacred Heart, apply yourself to devotion to the Most Precious Blood. Pray in reparation for all men. Say to your superior that the blood is shed today for the last time. Your pain also ends today. Tell them what happened today. He will understand all immediately. And you, observe his directions.”

On the First Friday of August, 1973, August 3rd, the Virgin Mary made the second of her three appearances to Sister Agnes and said, “Many men in this world afflict the Lord. I desire souls to console Him so that the anger of the Heavenly Father. I wish, with my Son, for souls who will repair by their suffering and their poverty for the sinners and ingrates.

“In order that the world might know His anger, the Heavenly Father is preparing to inflict a great chastisement on all mankind. With my Son, I have intervened so many times to appease the wrath of the Father. I have prevented the coming of calamities by offering Him the sufferings of the Son on the Cross, His Precious Blood, and beloved souls who console Him forming a cohort of victim souls. Prayer, penance and courageous sacrifices can soften the Father’s anger. I desire this also from your community...that it love poverty, that it sanctify itself and pray in reparation for the ingratitude and outrages of so many men.”

Later, Sister Agnes experienced physical attacks of the devil, seizing her by the shoulders as she tried to go into the chapel at the convent.

Then, the wooden statue in the chapel began to perspire. Five of the sisters, with great care and devotion, sponged the perspiration with cottons, which then had a most subtle, delightful fragrance. On the feast of the Guardian Angels, October 2, 1973, Sister Agnes...
saw the guardian angels of all of her sisters and Bishop Ito in the convent chapel. All guardian angels knelt in prayer around the altar. They were all enveloped in a sort of white light.

Bishop Ito was saying Mass for the nuns.

The third message, the final appearance of Our Lady, took place on October 13, 1973—the 56th anniversary of Our Lady’s last appearance in Fatima, Portugal, the anniversary of the great miracle of the sun witnessed by 70,000 at Fatima that day.

This message is of great importance to the world. Our Lady said, “As I told you, if men do not repent and better themselves, the Father will inflict a terrible punishment on all humanity. It will be a punishment greater than the deluge, such as one will never have seen before. Fire will fall from the sky and will wipe out a great part of humanity, the good as well as the bad, sparing neither priests nor faithful. The survivors will find themselves so desolate that they will envy the dead. The only arms which will remain for you will be the Rosary and the Sign left by my Son. Each day recite the prayers of the Rosary. With the Rosary, pray for the Pope, the bishops and the priests.”

“The work of the devil will infiltrate even into the Church in such a way that one will see cardinals opposing cardinals, bishops against other bishops. The priests who venerate me will be scorned and opposed by their confreres...churches and altars sacked. The Church will be full of those who accept compromises and the demon will press many priests and consecrated souls to leave the service of the Lord.”

“The demon will be especially implacable against souls consecrated to God. The thought of the loss of so many souls is the cause of my sadness. If sins increase in number and gravity, there will be no longer pardon for them.”

“With courage, speak to your superior. He will know how to encourage each one of you to pray and to accomplish works of reparation.”

“Pray very much the prayers of the Rosary. I alone am able still to save you from the calamities which approach. Those who place their confidence in me will be saved.”

Exactly one year later, October 13, 1974, as told to her by her guardian angel, Sister Agnes’ deafness was cured—for a time, as was also told to her. This first healing lasted only five months and then sister was deaf again in both ears.

The next miracle was the weeping of the statue, so that everyone could see it weep. This lasted from January 4, 1975, until September 15 (Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows) 1981—a total of 101 occasions on which the statue wept during these years.

Tears were collected and scientifically examined, along with the blood collected earlier from the statue’s hand. The report—human tears, human blood. The sculptor of the statue was called in and he explained that the statue was made from dry, hard wood. The tears were a mystery to him. He also pointed out that the expression of the Blessed Mother’s face was different from the one he carved.

Regarding the weeping of the Blessed Virgin’s statue, Sister Agnes’ guardian angel said, “Do not be so surprised to see the Blessed Virgin weeping. She weeps because she wishes the conversion of the greatest number; she desires that souls be consecrated to Jesus and to the Father by her intercession.”

On May 1, 1976, the Feast of St. Joseph, sister’s guardian angel said, “You must not forget these words. The Blessed Virgin prays continually for the conversion of the greatest number and weeps, hoping to lead to Jesus and to the Father souls offered to Them by her intercession. For this intention, and to overcome exterior obstacles, achieve interior unity, form a single heart. Let believers lead a life more worthy of believers. Pray with a new heart.”

On the last day the statue wept, the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, September 15, 1981, Sister’s guardian angel spoke to her about the 101 weepings which came to an end on this date.

“There is a meaning to the figure one hundred and one. This signifies that sin came into the world by a woman and it is also by a woman that salvation came to the world. The zero between the two signifies the Eternal God Who is from all eternity until eternity. The first one represents Eve and the last the Virgin Mary.”

The angel also said, “People ask a miracle greater than the tears; there will be no more.”

Then, her guardian angel told her the moment of the permanent cure of her total deafness had arrived, as promised.

“Your ears will be definitely cured during this month consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. They will be cured as the last time by Him Who is really present in the Eucharist. Those who will believe in this sign will receive many graces. There will be those who oppose, but you will have nothing to fear.”

On Pentecost Sunday, May 30, 1982, her ears were healed permanently. May 30 was also the vigil of the Feast of the Visitation of Mary.

In his pastoral letter dated April 22, 1984, Bishop John Ito, the ordinary of the diocese, wrote: “I authorize throughout the entire diocese of which I am charged, the veneration of the Holy Mother of Akita.”

Four years later, in 1988, he met with Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger in Rome. Many have called Our Lady of Akita’s messages a continuation of Our Lady of Fatima, pointing out that she chose October 13 for her last message in both Akita, Japan and Fatima, Portugal.