
Two Blueprints.

Every person carries within his heart a blueprint of the one he loves. There is no such thing as "love at first sight;" love is the fulfillment of desire, the realization of a dream. We have within ourselves an ideal made by our thinking, our habits, our experiences and our desires.

A tiny architect works inside the human heart drawing sketches of the ideal love from the people it sees, from the books it reads, from its hopes and day-dreams, in the fond longing that the eye may one day see the ideal. Life becomes satisfying the moment the dream is seen walking, and the person appears as the incarnation of it.

God, too, has within Himself blueprints of everything in the universe which He loves. In His Mind there is an archetypal idea of every flower, bird, and tree. A rose is a rose because it is God's idea of a rose wrapped up in chemicals and tints of life.

But it is not so with persons. God has to have two pictures of us. One is what we are, the other what we ought to be. He has to have these two pictures because in each and every one of us there is some disproportion between the original plan and the way we with our freedom, worked it all out. The image is blurred; we fall short of all God wants us to be.

Here One Blueprint.

Though God has two pictures of us, there is however one person in all humanity of whom He has only one picture, and in whom there is perfect conformity between what He wanted her to be and what she is... and that is His Blessed Mother. The Ideal God had for her--that she is in the flesh. The model and the copy are perfect; she is all that was foreseen, planned and dreamed.

The Immaculate Conception.

God never does anything without exceeding preparation. The two great masterpieces of God are Creation of man and re-creation or Redemption of Man. Creation was made for unfallen men; His Mystical Body for fallen men. Before making man, God made a Garden of delights. In that Paradise of Creation was celebrated the first nuptials of man and woman. . . When man rebelled against heaven, God through the Mystery of His Love planned on re-making or redeeming him.

Before doing so God would make another Garden. This new one would not be of earth, but of flesh; it would be a Garden over whose portals the name of sin would never be written; a Garden in which would grow no weeds of rebellion; a Garden so pure that the Heavenly Father would not blush at sending His Own Son into it; and this "flesh-girt Paradise" was our Blessed Mother. . . In her as a Garden was celebrated the first nuptials of God and man.

The closer one gets to fire the greater the heat; the closer one is to God, the greater the purity. But since no one was ever closer to God than the woman whose human portals He threw open to walk this earth, then no one could have been more pure. This purity we will call the Immaculate Conception, which means that at the first moment of her conception, the Blessed Mother in the womb of her mother Saint Anne was preserved free from the stains of original sin.

(Digest of a radio address by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, D.D.)

Mother Most Pure! Never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection was left unaided.

Prayers: (deceased) brother of Father Herman Reith, C.S.C.; mother of Sr. Verda Clare, C.S.C.; Clarence Verstogen, '27; Homer Couzens. Ill, mother of Ed Schaeckenbach.