

The beauty of Mary



Lourdes, July 16, 1858.

Three months have passed since the last apparition and Bernadette feels a call to go to the grotto. Access is prohibited and closed by a palisade. No one can go there. Bernadette therefore stands in front, far away, on the other side of the river. From there, she sees Mary for the last time on this earth: *“It seemed to me that I was in front of the grotto, at the same distance as the other times, I only saw the Virgin, **never have I seen her so beautiful!**”*

Where does this beauty of Mary come from? It is first of all the splendor that finds its source in the fullness of grace in Her. The Archangel Gabriel calls her the one *full of grace*.

Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort expresses it admirably in these terms: *“God the Father made an assemblage of all the waters, which he named the sea; and he made an assemblage of all his graces, which he called Mary.”*

Yet the scriptures say nothing about Mary's physical beauty. However, they repeatedly suggest it. Thus, many are those who link, for example, the Song of Songs and the beauty of the Beloved with that of Our Lady.

Let us be touched by this beauty. Mary is beautiful because she participates fully in the dazzling beauty of God's love.

We were created in the image of God to love. Let us allow ourselves to be transfigured by the Holy Spirit received on the day of our baptism. Let us ask the Lord to flood us with his Spirit to receive this beauty which is His beauty.

Then, our Teams will be beautiful.

Beautiful with God's beauty.

Beautiful with the beauty of Mary.

Beautiful with this beauty that our world needs so much.

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