



***The Armor of Faith***  
**Topic Summary: Flame of Love**  
***Part V: Our Lady's Cause***



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## **Introduction**

[Greeting:] → Welcome to “The Armor of Faith,” a show where we hope to bring our listeners closer to the Word of God and the blessings we receive through living in the fullness of the Catholic faith. My name is Doug and I will be your host as we discuss the blessings of the Church Christ built upon Peter.

I am joined today by my panel: [names]

Helen is a lay-Dominican with a love for music ministry. The Dominicans, I always mention, are also known as the Order of Preachers. In addition to being my lovely wife as well as a wonderful blessing, Sharon is a youth and adult formation catechist. We are also blessed to have on our panel, Donna Mae, who is the artist who sculpted the statue of Our Lady of America which was carried by our youth and blessed by Saint John Paul II at the 1993 World Youth Day.

We are also joined by special panel guests from the Flame of Love Movement; John Sullivan, Patti Schwartz, and Lori Brown:

John is the National Spokesperson for the Flame of Love Movement in the US. John left the Church in 1973 but returned to the Catholic Church in 1998 after a study of the Ante-Nicene Fathers. Since then, he has been involved in local catechesis and parochial and diocesan evangelization.

Patti is the National Hispanic director for La Llama de Amor, United States. She taught in the New York public school system for 24 years and received the top model teacher award for New York State by an NBC affiliate. Patti is currently hosting a weekly radio show on The Flame of Love at Radio María Miami and evangelizes the Flame of Love movement to the cities in South Florida.

Lori is the Regional Leader for the Flame of Love Movement in the Midwest and Northern United States. In addition to homeschooling her six children, Lori's been involved in serving Our Lord and Our Lady in teaching and catechetical ministry for over 35 years and has been a speaker at various conferences, diocesan activities, and now is spreading the Flame of Love of Mary's Immaculate Heart wherever Our Lady calls her.

Of course, as everyone knows by now, I am simply here to ask questions because without the person who asks the questions, no questions are asked. I'm sure there is something philosophical in that statement, but I will let someone else ponder that. Anyway, to answer my questions, correct my pronunciation, and make sure I know which century I am talking about is why we have our panelists, so welcome to our panelists as well as to our listeners.

Let us open with a prayer:

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Father, we lift up our hearts in thanks and praise for this opportunity to open and share your Holy Word this day. We pray that You are with us and all our listeners as we share with one another the blessings of faith. We pray You will grant us wisdom and understanding as we seek to learn Your Holy Truth.

Dear Lord, we also lift up the prayers in our prayer basket. You know what is written on each one and you know the hearts of those who offer their thanks and praise as well as their petitions for the blessings of Your great mercy.

We pray especially today for the personal and special intentions which are stirred in many hearts. We join our prayers with all the prayers of mercy and love.

Dear Lord, we also continue to pray that in this time of turmoil, corruption is exposed and truth revealed so the children of Your creation are not deceived by the designs of evil.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.

If you would like to add your prayers to our prayer basket, all you need to do is send us an email at [armoroffaithradio@gmail.com](mailto:armoroffaithradio@gmail.com). We ask that you include the word "prayer" in the subject line so that we will give it priority and ensure we place it in our prayer basket. Just so you know, Sharon and I lift up our prayers with those in the Armor of Faith Radio prayer basket during the course of our daily prayers.

We would like to remind you that we are available through a variety of on-demand services. In addition to [wcatradio.com/armoroffaith](http://wcatradio.com/armoroffaith), we are available through streaming services, such as iHeart Radio, Spreaker, Apple PodCasts, Spotify, and CastBox, among a host of others. Simply search for "Armor of Faith Radio" and select the episode you desire. We will be happy to keep you company wherever you are and wherever you are waiting.

We would also like to ask you to assist us in our evangelization. By sharing the URL for our show, you can help us spread knowledge of our faith. All you need to do is share the URL, [wcatradio.com/armoroffaith](http://wcatradio.com/armoroffaith) via email or social media and tell family and friends as well. Several of the streaming services through which we are available on demand also have share options, so we invite you to join the evangelization and help us spread the good news of the Gospel and our trust in Jesus Christ. You can also help us by selecting the follow or subscribe option associated with the service through which you listen to our show.

## Current Day Commentary:

### *A Healed Femur and Civilization*

I don't remember where I heard this, but an anthropologist by the name of Margaret Mead once related that the first anthropological evidence of civilization was a healed femur. Her reasoning was that the thighbone is a significant weight bearing bone. It is one of the key bones which enables our mobility. If it is broken, a person is unable to walk such that they are unable to hunt or effectively gather food. Additionally, they are unable to run away from or effectively fight predators.

Given that it takes about six weeks for such a bone to heal from a break, Dr. Mead postulated that the only way for someone to survive while the break heals is if there was someone else with them to help take care of them and defend them.

The question we might have is what motivated one person to help another? Something moved them to acts of charity, mercy, and love. Of course, if we really wanted to dive deep into this, we might ask, how many died from broken femurs before someone decided to sacrifice of their own time and means by which to render assistance to enable another to survive?

While Dr. Meade presents a healed femur as the first anthropological evidence of civilization, we must ask ourselves, what is the ongoing evidence? Hopefully, we will recognize it as the moments where we do the will of God, which Saint Faustina reminds us is love and mercy itself.

A healed femur tells us a story, but, of course, not the complete story. It tells us of a moment, but what about OUR moment? Was this sense of charity and assistance a simple accident such that it became part of our society, or is it somehow a part of us? Is there something which guides us to love and mercy?

Our history presents us with any number of examples of what we call neighborly love. It is what Jesus taught through the parable of the Good Samaritan (cf. Luke 10:29-37), but then, even after He revealed the two greatest commandments, to love God and love one another (Matthew 22:36-40), He said He was giving us a new commandment, to love one another as He loves us (John 13:34); and to give us an example of His love for us, He laid down His life for us.

As we ponder these things, we should eventually come to the question, "And where do we fit in the evidence?" What examples of civilization come from us? More importantly what are the examples of what we do to accomplish the love and mercy which God wills? Do we look for such opportunities? When we recognize them, do we respond?

Even with the isolation forced upon us by COVID-19, there are many ministries waiting for hands of help. While politicians flex their muscles of power rather than effective problem solving, we need not abandon love and mercy. We may have to use different tools, we may need to consider different means by which we may help to accomplish the will of God, but if we listen in prayer, if we observe the opportunities before us, our Lord will guide us to the actions He desires by which we can deliver on His call to love one another as He loves us.

## Why Catholics Do What We Do:

### *Catholic Definitions – Part VI: Definition of Christmas*

Since this is the third week of Advent, let us take a look at some history of Christmas. I know that everyone knows what Christmas means. Christmas is the second oldest Feast of the Catholic Church. Easter is the first and most important. Celebrating Christmas has been around for a very long time and over the years has taken on some changes as to its meaning.

Christmas means Christ's Mass. On this solemn night we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. We all know the story of His birth, in a manger alone with his mother, father and various animals.

Over the centuries, other stories have come about to bring us other understandings of this day. For instance, St. Nicholas and his giving gifts to people in poverty. All the merriment of decorating, gift giving, nativities and feasts. Yes the list of traditional ways associated with this holy night goes on and on.

But did you also know that there was a time in history in which practicing, celebrating Christmas was condemned? I'm not talking about today where people have heartburn over public displays of symbols of this season, but a time when people were put into prison and even killed for celebrating Christmas. Christmas was actually outlawed.

How did Catholicism and Christmas survive? People were very clever and found ways to disguise the language and yet still teach the catechism of the Catholic Church. It was as if people were able to share their beliefs in plain sight and yet out of sight and understanding of others.

One of today's favorite Christmas Carols is an example of how people shared their joy of the season without being caught and persecuted. The song is "The Twelve Days of Christmas." This song was made up to express teachings of Catholic faith. It is in code for protecting those who dared to share. Let us look at the disguised words of faith.

In the very first line and throughout the song, you see reference to "my true love." Most people believe this is a love song between a boy and a girl. In reality, this is about Christ. His is the love and it was on this night that He was born.

There are twelve gifts that God has given to each and every Baptized Catholic Christian.

The first gift is a partridge. This little bird is strong and protective. It will sacrifice itself to protect its children. Did not our Lord die for our salvation?

The second gift is two turtle doves; meaning, the Old and the New Testaments of the Bible.

The third gift is three French hens. The hens represent faith, hope and love.

The fourth gift is four calling birds. This is the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The fifth gift is the five gold rings. This is reference to the first five books of the Old Testament. These books tell of God's creation, man's fall into sin, and God's love for His creation by sending a savior.

The sixth gift is six geese a-laying. These are the six days of God creating the world.

The seventh gift is seven swans a-swimming. These swans represent the gifts of the Holy Spirit---Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership and Mercy.

The eighth gift is eight maids a-milking. This would be the eight beatitudes.

The ninth gift is nine ladies dancing. These are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit---Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience (Forbearance), Goodness (Kindness), Mildness, Fidelity, Modesty, and Countenance (Charity).

The tenth gift is ten lords a-leaping. These are the ten commandments; the rules that God gave for us to control our lives.

The eleventh gift is eleven pipers piping. This means the eleven faithful Apostles.

The twelfth gift is twelve drummers drumming. This means the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed. (Reyes)

Now, when you sing this song, remember that this is the catechism of Catholic faith. It has been linked to Christmas because it speaks of gift giving. Enjoy it and sing it all year long.

*Have a blessed week All. Remember, you are loved dearly by God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit and yes, by us as well.*

If you would like to learn more about the Catholic definition of "Christmas," we invite you to follow the links in the reference section of the topic summary for this show. You can obtain the topic summary by visiting <https://wcatradio.com/armoroffaithstudyguides/> and look for episode 177.

## **Discussion:**

As we concluded our last discussion, I mentioned that when we become aware of someone who has interiorly heard the voices of Jesus and Mary in their hearts and minds, we, as they, are led to the question, why me? Why this person? I suggested that we should consider what we are told in 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. It teaches us that we need not concern ourselves with who is blessed, for we are all blessed, simply in different ways. Certainly the one who hears the voices of Jesus and Mary is blessed, but we must consider that it is through the one who hears, we may all hear, so we all are blessed by the gift given to one, for as the fruits of this gift are shared, the

blessings are shared by all who receive the fruits. In other words, it is not the one who hears, but that through the one who hears, we may all hear. Consider this scripture:

(1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

*1 Now in regard to spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be unaware. 2 You know how, when you were pagans, you were constantly attracted and led away to mute idols. 3 Therefore, I tell you that nobody speaking by the spirit of God says, "Jesus be accursed." And no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the holy Spirit.*

*4 There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; 5 there are different forms of service but the same Lord; 6 there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. 7 To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit; 9 to another faith by the same Spirit; to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit; 10 to another mighty deeds; to another prophecy; to another discernment of spirits; to another varieties of tongues; to another interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes.*

When we reflect on this scripture, we must see, whatever gift is bestowed upon us or created within us is a gift of grace from God. The question, then, is not, "Why me," for God has already determined that. The question is, "What can I do with what God has given me to help accomplish His will?" And if we are tempted to believe we are lacking in what we need, then, in prayer, we must ask God to help us know in our hearts what He asks of us and that He will guide us in our actions. We must not allow the evil one to drive our doubt or deceive us to believe we cannot help accomplish the will of God; it is by the grace of God we can help accomplish His will, but it starts with our, "Yes," just as all which has come through Mary began with her, "Yes!"

Elizabeth Kindelmann faced such a question where her "Yes," began a movement to help accomplish a "Cause." The first mention of the "Cause" I found in Elizabeth's diary came during a conversation with Jesus. Elizabeth wrote:

To prepare me, Jesus said, "*A great battle awaits you, but you will conquer in the Sign of the Cross. When you make the Cross, think of the three Divine Persons. Make the Sign of the Cross five times, while thinking of my Five Wounds. Always look at my eyes bathed in blood. Tell everyone all that I tell you. Do not worry about how to make the Cause prevail. Be a good Carmelite. Be humble and refrain your tongue, not saying unneeded words. Do not worry that you can only give me little things.*" (Kindelmann, 18)

**(Question 1:** Jesus tells Elizabeth, "*Do not worry about how to make the Cause prevail....Do not worry that you can only give me little things.*" When I begin a project of any kind, I begin with an assessment; how do I make this effort succeed? When I realize I may not have the resources, and may not have a path by which to gain the necessary resources, I am likely to abandon the effort. Patti, why might we think that Jesus told Elizabeth not to worry of such things and what should we take from these statements as we consider our own endeavors for the Lord?)

- If we do what our Lord asks of us, we place the outcome is in His hands
- We alone may not be able to deliver a result, but the tide changes as hands join
- We do not have the power of God, but we do have the power to share His love
- Many little acts of love are greater than any grand endeavor done without love (cf. 1 Corinthians 13:1-3)
- It is not the grandness of what we do which is important to God, it is the love by which we do it

(1 Corinthians 13:1-3)

*1 If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. 2 And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

– Saint Therese of Lisieux

Remember that nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love.

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The following is the first message of Our Lady to Elizabeth:

On April 13, I asked the Blessed Virgin to engrave his wounds into my heart. My tears flowed. She herself was sobbing. *“There is so much sin in this country (Hungary). Help me. Let us save this country. I will place a beam of light in your hands. This is the Flame of Love of my heart. Add your love to the Flame of Love and pass it to others.”*

I asked, *“Mother, why do you not work miracles like you did at Fatima so people will believe in you?”*

She replied, *“The more miracles I work, the fewer who believe. I asked for the First Saturdays and no one paid attention. ...*

*“I place this new instrument in your hands. Accept it with great understanding because I gaze on Hungary with great sorrow. The twelve priests will be the most worthy to fulfill my request. Take this flame. You are the first to whom I entrust it. It is the Flame of Love of my Heart. First, light your own heart, and then pass it on to others.” ...*

Mary explained, *“With this flame you will light all the hearts in the world. The miracle will be this. This flame will become a fire, and with its shining light, this fire will blind Satan.”*

I made excuses: *“I am not worthy,”* and *“How can I accomplish this?”*

Mary said, *“I will be with you, and I will take you into my heart.”*

She added, *“Take my Son’s petition to Father E.”* (Kindelmann, 19 - 20)

On May 4, Our Blessed Mother spoke,....“You must spread my Cause. Do not be afraid. The Flame is gentle and will arouse no suspicions. The miracle will come forth in your hearts.” On Candlemas (February 2), my chosen workers will hand each other a candle. In this way, the Flame of Love will be a living fire in their hearts. Prepare everything so that it will spread like wildfire.” (Kindelmann, 24)

(**Question 2:** Through these exchanges with Our Lady, we may observe that spreading the Flame of Love is Our Lady's “Cause.” John, as we choose to participate in the Flame of Love Movement, how are we participating in the “Cause?”)

- Lifting our love to God through prayer and ministry
- Encouraging others to lift their love to God through prayer and ministry
- Sharing the Flame of Love from heart to heart so that the Fire blinds Satan
- As we light the Flame of Love within our hearts, we prepare ourselves to light the Flame of Love in the hearts of others
- Through what we do with love, we share the Flame of Love

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The path for Elizabeth was neither simple or easy. As she engaged the priests to which she was sent, she perceived she was not exactly welcomed with open arms. The following are some examples of what Jesus and Mary told Elizabeth as she endured various challenges.

Our Lady promised, “In spite of objections, bad intentions, and obstacles, my Cause will succeed. Always be humble. Only a humble soul can fulfill our Cause.” (Kindelmann, 33)

Our Lady said, “In September, you must begin to spread the Flame of Love even more. Give my message to the bishop. Respond to any question and be humble.” (My confessor did not let me go to the bishop.)

Later, the Lord said, “Record my words the best you can. No need for neatness and spelling. Do nothing that would make you look intelligent. Through your humility, we want to put Our Cause into action.” (Kindelmann, 62)

On January 13, the Lord warned me, “Be careful, Elizabeth. Your soul will be a battleground. Satan will attack your humility. He will make you unsure. He wants to deceive you so you abandon your humble task.” A few hours later, the troubles began. I could not expel these revolting thoughts. I would not have remained stable except that the Lord forewarned me.

On January 15, the Lord said, “Anyone can read my words, but only those who come to me can understand my longing to save souls. Give yourself to this goal. Believe the words, If each Christian saved just one soul, no one would be lost.” Then Our Lady spoke, “I do not want one soul condemned. All must desire the same thing. That is why I place this beam of light, the Flame of Love, in your hands.” (Kindelmann, 69)

On February 17, the Lord said, “*You are really very weak. The world must see that the divine will is manifested through the weak. Experiencing your weakness is no obstacle. The Cause only needs your humility to succeed.*”

(**Question 3:** Lori, we have already spoken about how we may approach the challenges we are given, even if we can only do small things, but here, Jesus and Mary speak of humility. Can you comment as to the importance of humility as we endeavor to do the will of God?)

(Proverbs 11:2)

*When pride comes, disgrace comes; but with the humble is wisdom.*

(Proverbs 29:23)

*Haughtiness brings humiliation, but the humble of spirit acquire honor.*

(Luke 18:14)

*I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”*

(1 Peter 5:5-7)

*Likewise, you younger members, be subject to the presbyters. And all of you, clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for: “God opposes the proud but bestows favor on the humble.” 6 So humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. 7 Cast all your worries upon him because he cares for you.*

## Quotes:

*Saint Therese of Lisieux*

Holiness consists simply in doing God’s will, and being just what God wants us to be.

Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing.

I understood that all we accomplish, however brilliant, is worth nothing without love.

At first sight, it appears easy to do good to souls, to make them love God more, and mold them according to one’s own ideas; but in practice one finds that one can no more do good to souls without God’s help than make the sun shine in the night.

Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love.

Remember that nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love.

## Final Thoughts:

As we discussed, the “Cause” of the Flame of Love is to spread love. The Flame of Love, just like a flame may spread from candle to candle, was given by Our Lady to Elizabeth so it may be passed from heart to heart. Of course, if someone receives the flame, but does not pass it to another heart, it does not spread. Of course, if someone receives the Flame of Love, why would they not want to share it and spread it?

Through the tradition of Easter Vigil Mass, we see the example of passing the flame from the Pascal candle to the candle each person holds. The room begins in darkness, but as the flame is passed from candle to candle, the darkness of the room is extinguished by the growing light of the many candles. This is what is possible for us if we choose to help spread the Flame of Love.

Of course, should we make that choice, we will become a target of Satan. He will do all within his power to dissuade us from this decision. When we consider endeavors, we might be tempted to ask, how could a poor Hungarian woman spread a devotion world wide? The answer is found as souls say, “Yes” to Our Lady's Cause, which is really the Cause of her Son, whose will Saint Faustina reminds us is Love and Mercy itself.

As we reflect on the meaning of the Flame of Love, let us consider the scripture of 1 Corinthians 13:4

(1 Corinthians 13:4

*4 Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, 5 it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, 6 it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. 7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

*8 Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing. 9 For we know partially and we prophesy partially, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things. 12 At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known. 13 So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*

**Wrap Up:** Well, our time has once more come to an end. We hope you will be able to join us next time as we discuss the vision of the Flame of Love movement.

Let us conclude with a prayer: Heavenly Father, we thank you for this opportunity to share the blessings of our trust and faith in You. We pray that as we go our separate ways, You will continue to walk with us and help us to see how we may put on the armor of **truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation**, and the **Word** of the gospel not only for the benefit of our lives, but also the lives of all who cross our path. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

And let us share the Flame of Love Prayer:

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
spread the effect of grace of thy Flame of Love over all of humanity,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

Thank you all and God bless.

**Next Session:** Flame of Love – Part VI: The Vision

### **Why Catholics Do What We Do References:**

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