

A Gaze that Can Save Us

Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira

Our Lady has eyes of mercy, and a simple gaze from Her can save us. Her gentleness is invariable, her help unlimited; She is ready to help us at any moment, especially in the difficulties of our spiritual life. These are usually of two kinds.

In the first place, in that crisis which could be called classic, when the person feels tempted and therefore hesitant between good and evil, with the possibility of being thrown off the precipice of sin from one moment to the next. It seems quite evident that in these circumstances, Mary is our help in the fullness of the term.

But the Mother of Mercy's solicitude also goes out to those who find themselves in a much graver spiritual predicament, which is expressed in this plea: "My Mother, I, succumbing to the weight of temptation, have not done well. I have sinned. I fear that I will grow accustomed to sin and become brutalized by it. On the other hand, my desire to regenerate myself is immense. I know that I do not deserve your protection, but because You are the Help of all Christians, not only the good, but even the most miserable, I ask you: come and help me. In this case, it is the very fact of having fallen into sin that is raised before

Our Lady as a reason to obtain her help. It is the helpless person who finds in his misfortune the reason for imploring Mary's mercy.

It is in the mission of the Blessed Virgin, it is the profound movement of her maternal Heart, to reconcile sinners with God. For the Mother has kindness, tenderness, indulgence and patience that others do not possess. She then asks her Divine Son for us, and obtains for us a series of graces, a countless number of pardons that we would never have obtained without her intercession.

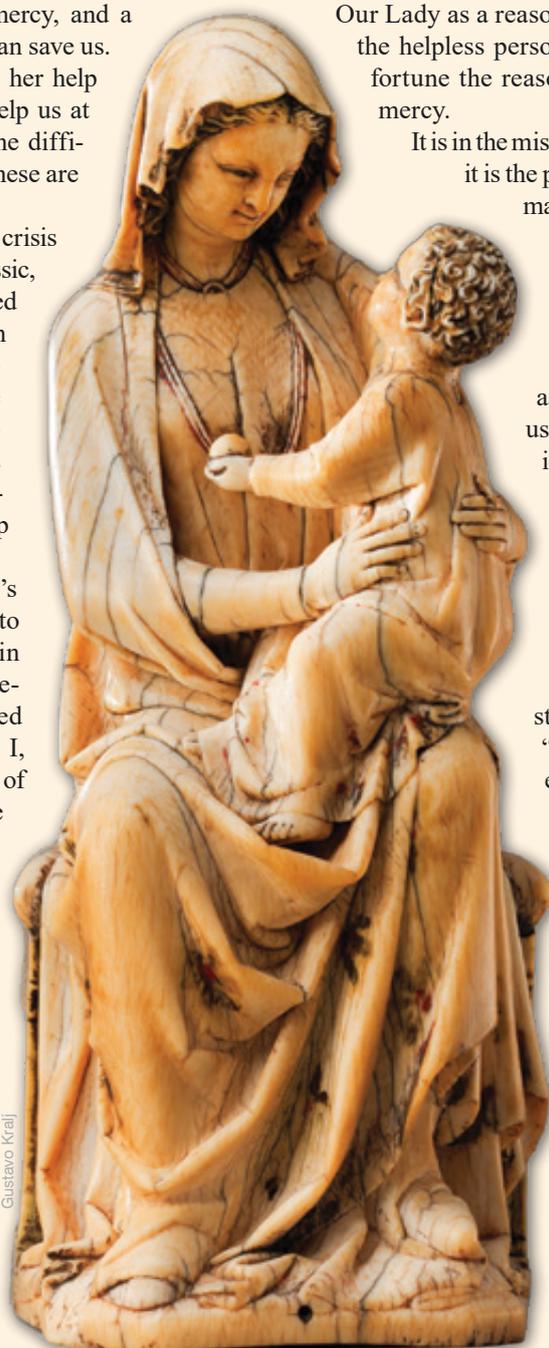
It is therefore with all confidence that we should turn to Her constantly, beseeching Her: "Turn, O Mother, thine eyes of mercy towards us!" ✧

CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA, Plinio.

"Vossos olhos misericordiosos a nós volvei..." ["Turn thy merciful eyes towards us..."] In: *Dr. Plinio*.

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Gustavo Krailj

The Virgin and Child - Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York