

DOMINICANA

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EVER UNFOLDING



LOVE ALWAYS seeks a more profound knowledge of the beloved. Love moves the mind to search every word and action of the beloved for a purer knowledge, a deeper understanding, and a more intimate union with the one loved. The words and actions of others might skip across the consciousness like flat stones across the surface of a pool, but not so the words and actions of the beloved. Just as a diamond would sink to the depth of a pool and make the waters live with its sparkling light and matchless beauty, the smallest gesture or whispered word of the beloved reaches deep into the lover's soul to share its life, its light, and its beauty.

The silence of the Gospels seems to hinder those who would love the Blessed Virgin Mary from an intimate understanding, penetrating embrace, and joyous share in the life, the light, and the beauty of Mary. Yet the Fathers, saints, and theologians of the Church, have found in the Gospels a deeper understanding and more intimate knowledge of Mary. By penetrating the rich depths of every word spoken of Mary by God through His inspired writers of the Old Testament, and by searching the words and actions of Mary recorded in the New Testament, they have exposed the most pure heart of Mary to the loving gaze of all her children.

The Church, the custodian of revelation, has done more. Through the development of doctrine the Church has explicitly defined truths contained, at least implicitly, in the deposit of Faith. Finding many truths about Mary in the Scriptures, Doctrine, and its unbroken Tradition, the Church has by Divine authority infallibly defined these truths for the faithful children of Mary. The Church, supreme lover of Mary on earth, has given us certain knowledge of the wondrous past of Mary, faith in her mystery adorned role in

God's redemptive plan, hope for future happiness through her loving mediation.

By this Marian Year the Church has opened in a special way her treasure of deep understanding and intimate knowledge of Mary to all the faithful. These truths, like so many jewels in a pool of misery, permeate a troubled world with their radiant light and incomparable beauty. The Marian Year is a most appropriate time for those who love Mary to seek a more profound knowledge of their beloved Mother. It is in the spirit of this Marian Year, under the seal of Truth, that DOMINICANA dedicates this issue to those who seek to know Mary in truth, to those who with the Fathers, the saints, and the Church truly love Mary, the Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth.

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