

***“The Message of Our Lady of Champion, Wisconsin”***

This message of our Lady of Champion/of Good Help is **the one** approved apparition of the Blessed Mother in the history of the US. I just came across this apparition in the last few months. It has been kind of a hidden apparition until recent years when the Bp. of Green Bay, Wisconsin formally investigated it, and published a decree on December 8, 2010 saying that it is authentic and worthy of veneration and devotion and something supernatural did occur at Champion with the 28-year-old young woman **Adele Brise** on October 9, 1859. It's a message of our Lady worth reflecting for us in the US and to make a pilgrimage to someday to the Marian Shrine in Champion where many physical and spiritual miracles have occurred over the years.

1. **Our Lady's example in what she is doing to help us sinners:** In October 1859, Adele Brise, a Belgium immigrant whose family had settled in Wisconsin a few years earlier, was on her way to a grist mill 4 miles from Champion and along the way saw a remarkable sight. A lady all in white was standing between two trees, one a maple and the other a hemlock. Adele gazed at the vision frightened and just stood still until the vision disappeared leaving a white cloud after it. She went on to the grist mill and came back and told her parents, and they all wondered if it was a soul from Purgatory who needed prayers. Then a few days later, Adele was on her way to Sunday Mass which was 11 miles one way (*a good reminder for us in 2023: when your Faith is vibrant, you will make any sacrifice to get to Mass however big – a good reminder to us with the Holy Day of Obligation of Ascension Thursday this week*) traveling again past the two trees mentioned before. This time she was not alone but her sister Isabel and a neighbor woman were traveling with her to Mass. When they got in front of those two trees, Adele again saw the Lady in white. She froze in fear and just said, *there is that lady again.* Her two travel mates didn't see the Lady. Again, they all thought it was a poor soul who needed prayers. They waited a few minutes and the vision disappeared. After Mass, Adele went to Confession and told her Pastor about the vision of the Lady in white, and he told her if it happens again to: ask in God's name who it was and what it desired of her. On the way back to her home after Mass, Adele saw for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in a week, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> time that day, the Lady again who was beautiful in white but also now with a yellow sash

around her waist and with a crown of stars around her head, and with long golden wavy hair which fell at her shoulders. Adele could barely look at her as she was so splendidly beautiful with a sweet face. Adele fell on her knees and said: *in God's name who are you and what do you want?* The beautiful lady responded: *I am the Queen of Heaven, who prays for the conversion of sinners, and I wish you to do the same.*

2. **The call from our Lady to all of us to grow in holiness:** Mary the Queen of Heaven goes on to tell Adele, *you received Holy Communion this morning, and that is well. But you must do more. Make a general Confession (asap), and offer Communion for the conversion of sinners. If they do not convert and do penance, my Son will be obliged to punish them.* This is something we can all do, as I have spoke about many times before of the beautiful grace to make of General Confession of our whole life up to this point, schedule an appointment to do so some time soon, as it takes more time than a regular Confession, to get a fresh start with God in light of this mission to help our Lady in Jesus to save souls. Also remember to always offer your Holy Communion for the conversion of hardened sinners - if you are able to receive right now – i.e., do not have mortal sin on your soul and are in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church. Pray daily, esp. the Rosary, for the conversion of hardened sinners to change before it is too late as our Lady also warns us in her famous apparition at Fatima; and especially warn the people who are closest to us - if they are not practicing the Catholic faith at present when they should be.
3. **The personal mission God gives us through our Lady's intercession:** One of Adele's companions asked Adele, *who is it and why can't we see her as you do?* Adele said, *Kneel. The Lady says she is the Queen of Heaven.* And then the Blessed Mother looked at them and said, *blessed are they that believe without seeing.* She then looked at Adele and said, *what are you doing here in idleness ... while your companions are working in the vineyard of My Son?* Adele said with tears in her eyes, *what more can I do?* Our Lady said, *gather the children of this **wild country** (a good description of the US to the present ☺) and teach them what they should know for salvation. Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the Sign of the Cross, and how to properly approach the Sacraments, that is what I wish you to do. **Go and fear nothing, I will help you.*** Adele began to immediately carry out that mission. Will we do the same? God bless you.✠