

The Cross: Two Hearts, One Sacrifice

FR. STANISŁAW GIBZIŃSKI

Westminster Cathedral's Great Cross

There are two sides to the Cross,
like two sides of a tapestry.

The side of suffering and the side of glory,
the unveiling of sin and the manifestation of love,
the tearing apart and the binding together.

One side seen, the other hidden.
The side revealed and the side concealed.
The visible and the veiled,
where love made its dwelling:

the priestly side of Jesus,
the feminine side of Mary,
the Lord and the Woman,
the Gebir and the Gebirah,
the King and the Queen Mother,
each offering, each reigning—
on earth and in heaven,
in every place where love is enthroned.

Two of them,
and one Cross—
not between them,
but uniting them;
the place where love is offered and received,
where the path to heaven is carved in sacrifice.

The Lamb and the Ewe Lamb,
bound in one offering,
one led to slaughter, the other surrendering,
the Victim and the Mother,

the Priest and the Altar,
where flesh and spirit break open
to let grace flood the world.

In the same place, on both sides,
two hearts are pierced—
the Son by the spear, the Mother by the sword.
Love flows inward and outward,
rising to the Father, pouring upon us,
a single offering of mercy and surrender.

A bridge between earth and eternity,
a throne of mercy,
the altar where divinity and humanity embrace,
where Jesus, the Redeemer,
and Mary, the Co-redemptrix, partake in one mission,
giving all they are, all they have,
so that love may triumph beyond death.

A union so deep
it bleeds into fulfillment,
togetherness sealed
where heaven and earth break open.

A heart torn by spear and sorrow,
Jesus - Mary:
Love that bows to death,
only to reign beyond it,
the King and the Queen,
crowned in sorrow,
enthroned in love.

The Cross,
a place where sacrifice and love are woven together,
where two hearts beat as one,
leading us through suffering
into life unending.

Jesus and Mary,
the Incarnate God and the purest humanity,
two bound as one—
in the Annunciation, in life, and on the Cross,
she drinking deeply from the well of love and mercy,
leading all hearts toward the unveiled radiance of the Trinity,
where the dawn of Easter shines upon each one of us, living
and dead.