



The **PILGRIM**

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November 2002

The PILGRIM is a periodical from the **Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC)**. The **PFMC** is a ministry of lay Catholic Evangelization and Healing through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

A PRAYER



Oh my God, you have created me as Your child. You have called me as Your friend to live in intimate union with You.

Oh God, what purification you call me into to be able to unite me to your infinite protection. You teach me that I must detach from all persons including myself. This can happen only through Your grace and love. Bring me into perfect harmony with Your Will. AMEN

(Kathleen prays from the heart for each issue)

DIOCESAN LIAISON

Bishop DiMarzio has assigned Father E. Joseph Byerley as official liaison between the Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) and the Diocese of Camden. Father Byerley will assist in obtaining the Bishop's notification and permission for speakers and activities coordinated by the PFMC.

The PFMC has been faithful to the Magisterium and all the local Bishops, specifically to Bishop McHugh prior to his relief by Bishop DiMarzio. We are extremely grateful for the assignment of a liaison to the Diocese of Camden. We will work with him to provide good speakers that will provide sound teachings to all those who participate in the activities and events we coordinate.

For the last two years, Father Glenn Hartman has graciously accepted the task to review this periodical

The October and November MESSAGE alleged to be from the GOSPA, Our Lady, Queen of Peace, to an alleged visionary from Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina and their REFLECTION articles will be presented in the December issue of "The PILGRIM" due to schedule constraints.

"The PILGRIM" prior to its printing. Father Glenn will continue with this assignment FROM Bishop DiMarzio in cooperation with Father Byerley.

OVERCOMING BAD FAMILY TRAITS, PRAYER and INTERCESSION for OUR PRESENT and DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS - FATHER JOHN McFADDEN with NORMA and TOM FINNERAN, SATURDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2002

We have all looked at our family traits, and many of them are good and many are bad. When we look at overcoming our bad family traits we can pray in intercession and ask that God heal them by prevention of furthering them within our family members. We use the same principles of Rachael's Vineyard, and praying in intercession for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. It totally encompasses healing of memories, prayer of petition, prayer of thanksgiving and healing prayer. It is wonderful to pray in this manner for all in your family, both past and present and for your future generations. What this day is **NOT** is going to confession for your family members. What it **IS** asking the Lord for help for YOU to change any traits that you may be contributed to bad behaviors.

Father John McFadden will team with Norma and Tom Finneran to provide a day of Recollection and Healing Prayer for your Family Members from 8:30 AM to 5 PM on Saturday, November 30, 2002.

"The PILGRIM" for November 2002 is dedicated to "Mary, The Immaculate Conception." See page 3 for Table of Contents / "IN THIS ISSUE".

The day will include Holy Mass, various talks with workshops, times for Confessions, prayer, refreshments throughout the day, and lunch. Donation offering is \$30.

If you have been praying for members of your family and for healing, you will thoroughly enjoy this very special day with Father John, Norma and Tom.

The day will be limited to 80 registrations. Please see enclosed form. Fill it out and send as soon as possible to PFMC. No walk-ins will be permitted.

It will be held at the PFMC Epiphany House at 61 Cooper Road from 8:30 AM until close at 4:30 P M.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE – FRIDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2002

**PRIESTS, DEACONS, SEMINARIANS, NUNS,
RELIGIOUS IN TRAINING, FRIENDS,
VOLUNTEERS – ALL ARE INVITED.**

We know everyone gets busy during the holidays so we are planning the Christmas Open House at the PFMC NOW!

Please stop by between 4 PM and 7 PM to enjoy a little holiday refreshments in the Upper Room of Epiphany House on Friday, 6 December 2002.

You are always welcome to stop in but this will be a particularly festive time when the manger scene will be set up for the arrival of baby Jesus.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND COME.
BRING THE FAMILY.**

“MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS” – SATURDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2002

Saint John Neumann Parish, Sicklerville, NJ, and the PFMC are co-sponsoring and sharing a day filled with relaxation and fun in Lancaster, PA. We will travel by bus on Saturday, December 14, 2002. Busses leave from and return to the Marshall's parking lot in Voorhees, NJ. We will have prayer, song and videos while traveling.

This is a perfect Christmas present for your spouse, for your children and grandchildren. It is a wonderful gift to give your best friend. And it will truly put you in the spirit of Christmas.

Donation of \$99 includes RT bus, visit to Weaver Nut Company, importers of candies, dried fruits, and nuts, 1 PM Show of the “Miracles of Christmas” at the Sight and Sound Theater, and a full family style dinner at Plain and Fancy Farm. All taxes and gratuities are included.

Please call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 for flyers with reservation forms or see Father Hartman after Holy Mass at Saint John Neumann in Sicklerville.

If you wish us to set up such a bus trip for your prayer group or parish please call (856) 768-9228 or 1-800-788-MARY [6279] and ask for Liz or Kathleen.

“DAUGHTERS of RUTH” WEEKLY MEETINGS on TUESDAYS and WEDNESDAYS

Group I of the “Daughters of Ruth” group therapy for women have resumed their weekly sessions on Tuesdays at 10 AM. This group has been very successful and many healing graces have occurred. This group is now closed to new members.

Group II of the “Daughters of Ruth” group therapy for women meets on Wednesdays from 10 AM to 11:30 AM. This group is still accepting new members.

Irene Atwell, counselor, directs these sessions weekly, and will also make herself available for private counseling to those who desire. If you are at all interested in joining the 2nd group on Wednesdays, please call Irene at (856) 665-0959 or call the staff at the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 or 1-800-788-MARY [6279].

Donations of \$5 per session are requested. Cash or check made out to PFMC will be factored into the PFMC budget with a stipend for Irene.

One leg of the NJ Transit 406 bus route runs north and south on NJ 73 and stops at Cooper Road for those who need public transport to reach the PFMC.

The volunteer Board of Directors and Staff of the PFMC recognize and accept that the final authority regarding the alleged Marian apparitions, locutions and related messages at, and to the recipients from, Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as all other private revelations, rests with the Holy See, to whose judgment we willingly submit. We give total allegiance to our One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church and its Magisterium, particularly Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II.

While those presenters who work with the PFMC are selected for their personal qualifications and commitment to the Church, their comments and presentations are those of individual Catholics and no endorsement by ecclesiastical authority is to be presumed.

DEAN PULCINI TEACHING on the LITURGY on WEDNESDAYS

If you are a CCD teacher or on any Liturgy Committee in your parish, leader or part of a prayer group or just interested in the Holy Mass and Ceremonies of our beautiful Catholic Church, we welcome you to come - just try out a few classes, and we know that you will be drawn to the next one. Classes will help you understand the liturgy so you can explain it to your family, children, grandchildren, members of parish committees, etc. Ask your pastor and bring your whole liturgy committee. Bring your pastor with you! We are especially interested in having husbands and wives, or even high school and college students attend.

Dean Pulcini has been teaching at the PFMC for the last 2 years. Dean has his Masters in Theology, and captivates his students with knowledge of the Church past history and present. He is again teaching in the Upper Room of Epiphany House at the PFMC, this time on the "LITURGY of the CATHOLIC CHURCH". Classes begin promptly at 7:00 PM and conclude around 9:30 PM. We ask for a donation of \$5 per class, but will never turn anyone away who wants to come. The donation is for paying of the PFMC maintenance costs.

Please call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 if you have any questions or need directions. We need your name, address, and phone number.

RETREAT for HEALING after ABORTION, NJ: 8-10 NOVEMBER 2002

If you are suffering after an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus on a Rachel's Vineyard retreat. For more information call Mary Alice at 1-877 HOPE4ME. A retreat will be held in Camden, NJ on November 8, 9, and 10, 2002. For info call or go online at the site indicated below or call (856) 722 4235. All requests are held strictly confidential.

(Mary Alice or www.rachelsvineyard.org)

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LITURGY of the HOURS

What Is It? Can I Learn To Pray It?

For the past 16 months, Pope John Paul II has been encouraging people to pray with the Psalms, and particularly to pray the Liturgy of the Hours.

Many callers and visitors to the PFMC have been asking about the "Liturgy of the Hours" and how to pray it.

The papal audience talks reflect a growing reality: Priests and religious are not the only ones using the breviary for morning and evening prayer.

What's more, convents and monasteries are not the only places where lay people can experience the chanting or recitation of the prayers communally, the way they were designed to be prayed.

The first 23 papal talks, which began in March 2001, were published in book form by the Vatican this summer: the book is available only in Italian.

"It is an encouraging fact that many lay people, both in parishes and in church groups, have learned to value the Liturgy of the Hours," the pope said in the first talk of the series.

The Psalms used in the liturgy, Pope John Paul said, are highly poetic prayers reflecting a full array of human feelings: "joy, recognition, thanksgiving, love, tenderness and enthusiasm, but also intense suffering, sorrow and requests for help or for justice, which sometimes are expressed with anger or imprecation. The whole human being is found in the Psalms."

At Saint Peter's Basilica, like in many cathedrals around the world, everyone is welcome to join in Sunday evening vespers. The Sunday prayer is the only part of the Liturgy of the Hours celebrated in public by the Chapter of Saint Peter's Basilica, the group of priests who minister full time there.

The number of participants changes with the seasons, one of the priests said. As few as 50 people will add their voices to the chants sung entirely in Latin in midwinter, but with spring and summer tourist season, the numbers quadruple, he said

(Catholic Star Herald June, 2002)

WOULD YOU LIKE to LEARN HOW to PRAY the LITURGY of the HOURS? JANUARY 9 and 30, 2002

Would you like to help your spirituality, and pray for the Church and have the Church pray for you daily? This is an opportunity to spend about 3 hours (one and one half hour each week for two weeks) to hear an explanation of this beautiful prayer of the Church, to learn how to use the book, and to have a follow up session to

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see if you have any questions or problems. We will then explore possibly coming together once a month at the PFMC to pray it together.

Father Glenn Hartman will be teaching on how to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. He will meet at the PFMC, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ, for the first session from 7:30 to 8:30 PM on **Thursday, January 9, 2003**, and will meet for the second session from 7:30 to 8:30 PM on **Thursday, January 30, 2003**.

Please mark your calendars. There is no charge for these sessions to help understand how to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. Reservations will be taken by phone **AND WILL CLOSE ON DECEMBER 10TH, 2002** to allow us to order the Liturgy books. It is mandatory that each person attending buy their own Liturgy of the Hours book and guide. We will have them available for \$32 each the night of the first class. Large print is \$35.95. **We will only order enough books and guides for those registered.** If you already have the book, you may bring it. It is not necessary to buy another book.

If you wish to order the set of 4 books, they run \$132. These are the more complete books and require less page turning. They contain the teachings of the early church fathers and the saints oriented to each day of the year as well as the church cycles.

Please call us at (856) 768-9228 if you are interested in coming to these 2 sessions with Father Glenn Hartman and particularly if you need a book.

A THANK YOU to FATHER JOHN HAMPSCH

Nearly 200 faithful sat spellbound from Friday night to Sunday afternoon, 18-20 October 2002 while learning the principles of spiritual warfare. They were given the tools to understand how God works in our lives and how Satan attempts to destroy us in his battle for power. We were all challenged by Father Hampsch to continue to learn, to change our lives, and to share what we have learned with others.

We pray that these teachings will make a difference in the lives of all that heard them. We must all realize that we are in the middle of this battle between good and evil, God's Holy Ones and Satan's Evil Ones. We are constantly getting involved just like the innocent bystanders in a real war. Yet we HAVE A CHOICE to

protect ourselves with the ARMOR of GOD or fall victim to “friendly” fire.

Father John went beyond Saint Augustine’s plea to hate the sin and love the sinner. He helped the attendees to understand the human fault of underestimating the devil’s cunning, and thus becoming fooled by his strategies.

The overwhelming response was “Why don’t we hear some of this excellent teaching and continuous reference to scripture from our pulpits?” Our input is to ask your priests to teach from the pulpit using the Word of God, the Catholic Catechism and the written words from the Church Fathers and the Magisterium.

Within this issue of “The PILGRIM” is an order form that can be used to order audiotapes of each teaching. May we suggest that you order a set for yourself and listen to it with your family members? You always wanted to know what to get your parish priest for Christmas so order a second set of tapes for him. If you think he won’t have time to listen, even in his car, ask him to your home or prayer group to listen and make comment.

HELP US WITH A MONTHLY or ANNUAL DONATION

We do not like to beg for money. We have operated on Divine Providence and private donations for 13 years. We operate the PFMC and all of our programs on donation only. We ask you to remember us in a special way as you pay your bills.

Enclosed in every issue of “The PILGRIM” is a donation slip and envelope. Please place the slip and envelope with your bills or in your checkbook.

With taxes and insurance on the new building and all the other things that are required to operate in a new building, we ask your immediate and continuing help.

We appreciate all those who have been helping with donations but we need more of those on our mailing list to contribute to cover our expenses. You are the hands of Jesus and Our Lady. Your help is important.

We want to thank all of you who have been faithfully supporting the PFMC.

Your donations have meant that we have been able to touch so many people through “The PILGRIM,” retreats and conferences, and other activities at the PFMC. We are **very** grateful for every donation. Actually no donation is small, all the donations add up and help us

tremendously, and we thank you for all your prayers and donations.

You have helped us cover the printing and mailing of “The PILGRIM,” the heat, electricity, copying, water, insurance, and setting up of programs. We are excited with how Our Lady is guiding us for the year of 2002. We cannot do it without you.



We accept DISCOVER/PRIVATE ISSUE, MASTER CARD and VISA for all donations to the PFMC. This includes for books and religious articles, pilgrimages, retreats, and “The PILGRIM”, or the building fund.

Thank you and God bless you,

Kathleen and the Volunteer Staff

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The PFMC is a lay Evangelistic Ministry made up of dedicated Roman Catholics. It is totally dependent upon financial donations. Every person working in the PFMC is a volunteer for Our Lady’s work of converting souls to her Son, Jesus. **WOULD YOU CONSIDER JOINING OUR STAFF?**

1. PARTICIPATE IN MAILING “The PILGRIM” AND OTHER MAILINGS (once a month),
2. BOOKKEEPING,
3. BOOK and RELIGIOUS ARTICLE

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SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE: Father Glenn Hartman, Father John

McFadden, Father Bill McCarthy, MSsA, Father Robert DeGrandis,

SSJ, Father Jim Sauchelli, Father Brendan Williams, Father Joseph

Szolack, as well as many of Mary’s other beloved priests from the

Philadelphia and Newark Archdioceses as well as the Camden,

Harrisburg, Metuchen, Norwich, Pittsburgh, Scranton, Trenton and

Wilmington Dioceses. Father Hartman is reviewing every issue.

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MAINTENANCE PROGRAM (REQUIRES SOME TYPING and COMPUTER SKILLS),

4. ORGANIZATION and DEVELOPMENT of CENTERS MONTHLY PROGRAMS,
5. HOSPITALITY DURING RETREATS,
6. UPKEEP of COMPUTERS and WEB SITE,
7. ADDRESS and INFORMATION MAINTENANCE in MICROSOFT ACCESS,
8. HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS,
9. VOCATION AWARENESS and EUCHARISTIC ADORATION DEVELOPMENT
10. PRO LIFE ACTIVITIES
11. HELPING to ANSWER PHONES,
12. PILGRIMAGE PLANNING and SET UP (TRAVEL BACKGROUND REQUIRED),
13. GIFT ROOM ASSISTING ESPECIALLY for RETREATS and DURING CHRISTMAS and SPECIAL HOLIDAY TIMES.
14. TYPING (KNOWLEDGE of "MICROSOFT WORD" HELPFUL- WE WILL TRAIN YOU).

WE NEED YOUR HANDS, HEART, PRAYERS, AND JUST A LITTLE TIME EACH WEEK OR MONTH. WE NEED YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS.

The PFMC is permanently approved as an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Code Section 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax exempt religious association which can accept tax deductible contributions or donations in relation to its organizational functions.

All our volunteers are Catholic, and none are paid for services except by the graces of Our Lady. These functions include planning and coordinating pilgrimages, organizing and implementing retreats and days of recollection, presentations, humanitarian aid programs to the poor, Catholic Study programs, Bible Study, Rosary making, books, and religious articles.

FATHER BILL McCARTHY to TEACH a TRIDUUM SEMINAR JANUARY 25, 26, AND 27, 2003

The PFMC will host Father Bill McCarthy, M.Ss.A., of My Father's House, www.myfathershouse.com, in a Triduum study of "THE TABERNACLE (OLD TESTAMENT TO NEW TESTAMENT), THE LAMB'S SUPPER, THE 7 COVENANTS OF THE

OLD TESTAMENT AND ONE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, THE EUCHARIST, AND THE SACRAMENTAL SYSTEM".

We can accommodate 80 persons in the Upper Rood of the Epiphany House at 61 Cooper Road in Voorhees, NJ. So please sign up for this wonderful weekend NOW.

The time of this teaching will be from 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturday, 25 January 2003, through Monday, 27 January 2003.

The donation for the three days is planned at \$70 per person and will include a light lunch Saturday, Sunday and Monday. (If anyone knows someone who will donate the lunches for the people on retreat, we could reduce the program to \$45 per person.)

Call the PFMC at (856) 768-9228 for an information sheet and registration form. You may charge this or any other event donation on your Visa, MasterCard, or Discover credit card.

A ONE DAY RETREAT with FATHER ROBERT DeGRANDIS – WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2003

A DAY of PRAYER for FORGIVENESS and HEALING for SEXUALLY, EMOTIONALLY, and PHYSICALLY ABUSED WOMEN

On WEDNESDAY, February 12, 2003, Father Robert DeGrandis will hold a day of prayer, forgiveness, and healing for women who have been abused physically, emotionally, or sexually. Social workers, counselors, crisis pregnancy staff and physicians working in this area are also welcome and encouraged to come.

It will be held at the PFMC, Epiphany House from 8:30 AM and close with Healing Holy Mass at 4 PM.

If you are interested in such a day, please call the PFMC, 1-800-788-MARY [6279] or (856) 768-9228 for more information, and for a registration form. This will be limited to about 50 women.

RETREAT CONFERENCE and 3 DAY EXTENSION, March 14th

through 19th 2003 - MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW

The theme will be **"He must increase; I must decrease."** (John 3:30) [NAB].

The Hilton Hotel, Cherry Hill, NJ will be the site for our 2003 March 14th, 15th, and 16th RETREAT CONFERENCE and the extension March 17th, 18th, and 19th, 2003. Music will be provided by "REFUGE" the Metuchen Diocese Charismatic Prayer Group musicians who play for the New Jersey Charismatic Conference at Seton Hall.

Guest speakers will be Father Bill Halbing, Father Andrew Apostoli, and Father Robert DeGrandis.

Joseph Terelya and his interpreter will be featured before the Concert on Saturday night.

"Hearts Afire" will join Father Michael Semana for the Saturday night concert.

The 3-Day Extension speakers will again be Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol and Father Robert DeGrandis. Our extension theme will be **"INNER HEALING and GIFTS of the HOLY SPIRIT."**

The Hilton Hotel is now accepting room reservations for the 2003 PFMC RETREAT CONFERENCE. Please call 1-800-HILTONS or the Hilton Hotel locally at (856) 665-6666 to make your hotel reservation. Rooms are \$92 per room and will accommodate 2 persons in a king bed or up to 4 persons in two double beds. Cots are also available, but **must be arranged for prior to arrival. Refrigerators in rooms must also be arranged for ahead of time.** You must guarantee your room with a one-night charge on your credit card. Cancellation must be **72 hours prior** to the event. Please request smoking or non-smoking rooms ahead of time, but these are not guaranteed. The Hilton Hotel holds to a first come first served basis on their non-smoking rooms. Blocks of rooms and, where possible, entire floors are either non-smoking or smoking.

Please note that a youth program will be available. With over 120 youth at our last Youth Track, we know that this is an important part of the program. Please register your youth and young adults.

Please note on the registration form if you want the luncheons or dinners available. These will ALL be **full hot meals**, and are well worth every penny. Those who attended had their fill, and raved about the food and atmosphere.

Bishop DiMarzio has given us permission to have daily Holy Mass, 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration, and Confessions available.

Father John McFadden, Father Michael Semana, and others of Mary's Beloved Priests have indicated they will return. The extension will again be with Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol and Father Robert DeGrandis, SSJ.

The green information sheet with registration forms is enclosed. Please make your hotel and PFMC reservations EARLY! Please reserve the weekend of 14-16 March 2003 to be with us and, if possible, join us for Saint Patrick's and Saint Joseph's days during the 3-Day Extension, 17-19 March 2003.

(Kathleen and Keith for All the PFMC Volunteers)

PILGRIMAGE to ASSISI, MEDJUGORJE and ROME

Father Tino will be the spiritual director for a pilgrimage of peace departing March 19th, 2002 and returning on March 27th, 2003.

Fly into Rome and transfer by bus to Assisi for 2 days and one night. Then fly to Split on Croatian Air and spend until the 26th in Medjugorje. Hotel and house accommodations are planned for double occupancy with private bathroom. Single occupancy requires a single supplement. The house in Medjugorje will be just a short walk away from Saint James Church.

You will have a full daily program of prayer, talks, meeting visionaries, as they are available, climbing Cross Mountain and Apparition Hill. You will be in Medjugorje for the Anniversary on March 25th.

On the 26th you will return to Rome where you will tour the Catacombs and the Major Basilicas, visit the Vatican museum and Sistine Chapel, and pray at a private mass in Saint Peters Basilica.

The cost for airfare, hotels, housing, guides, transfers and taxes and ALL BREAKFASTS AND SUPPERS throughout is \$1696 per person. If interested call Kathleen at 856-768-9228 to register.

FATHER McCARTHY to LEAD a RETREAT WEEKEND for

MARRIED COUPLES CHANGED to MAY 16, 17, and 18, 2003

Take the time as a Married Couple to explore the Marriage Covenant, and how the Holy Spirit can and does work in your Lives. Do you want something new in your marriage? Are you seeking something more to fulfill you? Is there something lacking or something you want to celebrate together? Explore with Father Bill the beauty and richness, the mountains and valleys, the joys and tears of the sacrament of Marriage.

We will have special rates for you at the Holiday Inn Express just around the corner from the PFMC. The hours of the Retreat are currently planned to be from **7 PM to 10 PM on FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2003 and 9 AM to 5 PM on SATURDAY and SUNDAY, MAY 17 and 18, 2003. The registration donation is planned at \$80 per couple and includes a delicious lunch each day. We are planning comfortable seating for 40 couples.**

If there is sufficient interest, this retreat weekend for married couples may be moved to a local hotel to accommodate more couples with overnight accommodations available on site. Early registration is requested to assist in making this latter decision.

We hope that you will take advantage of this wonderful weekend and **register early** by calling the PFMC at (856) 768 9228 to register. We accept Visa, MasterCard, and Discover. You may register by mail by sending your check with name, address, and phone number. Information sheets with registration forms will be in future issues of "The PILGRIM."

God bless you.

HUMANITARIAN AID to the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

There will be a Medical Mission from September 27, 2003 to October 11, 2003. If you are a Doctor (especially a specialist or internal medicine) or a nurse, and would like to be part of this mission, please call Fay or Edwina or Kathleen or Liz.

The staff had a wonderful opportunity to bring over medicines, toys, money and books to the Diocese of Puerto Plata.

Now we are establishing through the Diocese of Puerto Plata, a Humanitarian Aid Program and a Medical
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Mission. This program will be directly working with the parishes of the poor and sick. We have three orphanages that we will help, and several clinics and the hospital. We will also be helping with the Seminarian Program.

We have now put in place the ability to continue with aid to this very very poor third world country. After talking with a representative from the office of Bishop Gregorio Nicanor Pena Rodriguez, we are asking our readers for help on a regular basis with the following:

Donations of money to support the seminarians, who are studying English. This money will be used to buy the second edition of English books for them to use. It will also help with buying them English Bibles, and Catechisms, and shipping them there. (\$1000 needed). They also need men's shoes sizes 8, 9, 10, and 11, socks, underwear, and Navy blue or white T-shirts sizes small, medium, and large.

We are collecting little girls white first communion dresses and veils. Attached to each dress should be the owners name and address and a little note to the girl who would be wearing this dress and veil. Often they will get back a note of thank your. If you can attach a new pair of white socks and shoes, this would also be greatly appreciated.

We need medicines to send to the medical clinic that ministers only to the very poor and destitute. Servas de Maria is run by the nuns, and Sister Blanca is in charge of the many demands of the clinics. They need boxes of Vitamins for adults and children (Vitamins A, E, D, K, B1, B2, B6, and B12, Calcium pills, Anacin, Advil, Buffered coated Motrin and Aspirin, Sudafed Sinus, Benadryl, Tums, Cotton Balls, Gauze Bandages, Cortisone cream tubes, triple antibiotic creams, Band Aids – all sizes, Tape, Cough Syrup for adults and for children, Cough lozenges, Alcohol, Pampers and Underpads. They also need toothbrushes and toothpaste.

If you go shopping, would you consider picking up some of these articles and bringing them into the PFMC or sending them to us? We will be making up packages of #70 and mailing them to Sister through the Diocese of Puerto Plata as soon as we get a big box filled. If you know of anyone going to Puerto Plata on vacation and they can carry a suitcase for us, please let us know.

We also have a long list of medications the Sisters can use, but we need to get a doctor involved in getting them. If you are a doctor and reading this, or if you are a representative/sales person from a drug house, would you

please get in contact with Kathleen for a larger list of antibiotics and drugs that are needed.

Since the Bosnian War the PPMC has been involved with many Humanitarian Aid projects. We are quite excited about this particular project, especially since we have seen the true poverty of this country. We ask each of you to look into your hearts and hear God's call to help. We can't do a whole lot, but we sure can make a tiny dent.

Please mail all checks or materials to **PPMC, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043**. Thank you.

VOCATION DEPARTMENT:

NAZARETH HOUSE

A place of discernment and formation for men aspiring to priesthood in the Roman Catholic Church, Nazareth House is located on the campus of Camden Catholic High School in Cherry Hill. The Diocese of Camden has begun a formation program to help young men investigate whether God is calling them to priestly formation.

The mission of Nazareth House is to assist young men between the ages of 18-35 in the discernment and development of the seeds of a priestly vocation. The staff will provide them with the foundation for seminary theologate formation, through a shared community life of prayer and worship; human, spiritual and intellectual development; and pastoral service. It now houses the Office of Vocations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or APPLICATION MATERIALS, CONTACT:

Father Cadmus Mazzarella,
mazzarella@camdendiocese.org,
Director of Vocations, Diocese of Camden,
Nazareth House, 300 Cuthbert Boulevard,
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
(856) 910-4930 or FAX: (856) 662-8917
or visit: <http://www.beapriest.org>

INTERESTED in FORMING A VOCATION AWARENESS PROGRAM in YOUR PARISH?

If you are interested in participating in this very simple program please call the PPMC at (856) 768-9228 and ask for Liz. She will help you with materials and

information. This program is very simple and very effective. We will be working in conjunction with Parish Vocation programs.

ANSWERS TO PRAYER – A PRE CHRISTMAS INCENTIVE FOR ALL TO LEARN FROM

In September 1960, I woke up one morning with six hungry babies and just 75 cents in my pocket. Their father was gone. The boys ranged from three months to seven years; their sister was two. Their Dad had never been much more than a presence they feared. Whenever they heard his tires crunch on the gravel driveway they would scramble to hide under their beds. He did manage to leave \$15 a week to buy groceries.

Now that he had decided to leave, there would be no more beatings, but no food either. If there was a welfare system in effect in southern Indiana at that time, I certainly knew nothing about it. I scrubbed the kids until they looked brand new and then put on my best homemade dress. I loaded them into the rusty old 51 Chevy and drove off to find a job.

The seven of us went to every factory, store and restaurant in our small town. No luck! The kids stayed crammed into the car and tried to be quiet while I tried to convince whomever would listen that I was willing to learn to do anything. I had to have a job. Still no luck. The last place we went to, just a few miles out of town, was an old Root Beer Barrel drive-in that had been converted to a truck stop. It was called the Big Wheel.

An old lady named Granny owned the place and she peeked out of the window from time to time at all those kids. She needed someone on the graveyard shift, 11 at night until seven in the morning. She paid 65 cents an hour

HOLY MASS TIMES

If you ever think you will miss Holy Mass because you don't know the times of Holy Mass in the area that you are going to visit or are currently located, call **1-410-676-6000**.

If you have access to the Internet and don't already have it book marked, type in the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) www.masstimes.org in the white box near the top of your browser. You can find maps to the churches in addition to the times of Holy Mass celebrations.

and I could start that night.

I raced home and called the teenager down the street that baby-sat for people. I bargained with her to come and sleep on my sofa for a dollar a night. She could arrive with her pajamas on and the kids would already be asleep. This seemed like a good arrangement to her, so we made a deal. That night when the little ones and I knelt to say our prayers we all thanked God for finding Mommy a job. And so I started at the Big Wheel.

When I got home in the mornings I woke the baby-sitter up and sent her home with one dollar of my tip money--fully half of what I averaged every night.

As the weeks went by, heating bills added a strain to my meager wage. The tires on the old Chevy had the consistency of penny balloons and began to leak. I had to fill them with air on the way to work and again every morning before I could go home.

One bleak fall morning, I dragged myself to the car to go home and found four tires in the back seat. New tires! There was no note, no nothing, just those beautiful brand new tires. Had angels taken up residence in Indiana? I wondered.

I made a deal with the local service station. In exchange for his mounting the new tires, I would clean up his office. I remember it took me a lot longer to scrub his floor than it did for him to do the tires.

I was now working six nights instead of five and it still wasn't enough. Christmas was coming and I knew there would be no money for toys for the kids. I found a can of red paint and started repairing and painting some old toys. Then I hid them in the basement so there would be something for Santa to deliver on Christmas morning. Clothes were a worry too. I was sewing patches on top of patches on the boys pants and soon they would be too far gone to repair.

On Christmas Eve the usual customers were drinking coffee in the Big Wheel. These were the truckers, Les, Frank, and Jim, and a state trooper named Joe. A few musicians were hanging around after a gig at the Legion and were dropping nickels in the pinball machine. The regulars all just sat around and talked through the wee hours of the morning and then left to get home before the sun came up.

When it was time for me to go home at seven o'clock on Christmas morning I hurried to the car. I was hoping the kids wouldn't wake up before I managed to get home and get the presents from the basement and place them under

The PILGRIM

the tree. (We had cut down a small cedar tree by the side of the road down by the dump.)

It was still dark and I couldn't see much, but there appeared to be some dark shadows in the car--or was that just a trick of the night? Something certainly looked different, but it was hard to tell what.

When I reached the car I peered warily into one of the side windows. Then my jaw dropped in amazement. My old battered Chevy was filled full to the top with boxes of all shapes and sizes. I quickly opened the driver's side door, scrambled inside and knelt in the front facing the back seat.

Reaching back, I pulled off the lid of the top box. Inside was whole lot of little blue jeans, sizes 2-10! I looked inside another box: It was full of shirts to go with the jeans. Then I peeked inside some of the other boxes. There was candy and nuts and bananas and bags of groceries. There was an enormous ham for baking, and canned vegetables and potatoes.

There was pudding and Jell-O and cookies, pie filling and flour. There was a whole bag of laundry supplies and cleaning items. And there were five toy trucks and one beautiful little doll.

As I drove back through empty streets as the sun slowly rose on the most amazing Christmas Day of my life, I was sobbing with gratitude. And I will never forget the joy on the faces of my little ones that precious morning.

Yes, there were angels in Indiana that long-ago December. And they all hung out at the Big Wheel truck stop.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Prayer is one of the best free gifts we receive. There is no cost but a lot of rewards. Let's continue praying for one another.

Father, please bless my friends reading this right now. Lord, show them a new revelation of Your love and power. Holy Spirit, may You minister to their spirit at this very moment. Amen.

PFCMC HELP AT GIFT TIME

A priest we know tells his parishioners to always give a spiritual gift to anyone they know along with their material gift. This is particularly true at

Christmas time but can also apply to birthdays and anniversaries.

Stop in at the PFMC and pick out a spiritual book, a holy card and medal, or a very beautiful statue or rosary. We have a large assortment of children's religious books. Our staff is here to help you. If you are looking for something in particular, ask for Livia. If it is not in the PFMC, then we can possibly order it for you. Thank you.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

1. No institution in history has done more to promote purity, virginity and moral integrity than the Catholic Church.

Jesus Christ established His Church in the midst of the very pagan Roman Empire. And as His Mystical Body, the Catholic Church has taught a no tolerance policy on abortion, pornography, artificial contraception, promiscuity, self-abuse, incest, sodomy, and even deliberately consented to impure thoughts. The Church has always promoted the Gospel of Life, a Legion of Decency and a Catholic School System that has promoted virginity and purity. The Church founded by Christ holds up for everyone Mary the Mother of God as our model of purity, and certain saints such as Saint Cecelia and Saint Maria Goretti, who died maintaining their virginity. The Church has always advocated prayer, frequent confession, modesty in dress, frequent reception of the Eucharist, and the practice of mortification and penance. In all of history, no institution has done more to promote purity, as any fair-minded person would readily admit.

2. There is not another institution in the United States addressing sexual abuse among minors more than the Catholic Church.

Bishop Wilton Gregory, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, stated unequivocally, "I'm very heartened by the professionals who work with both victims and abusers who encourage us in this work, because they tell us there is not another institution in the United States that is doing more to understand and address the horror of sexual abuse of minors."

3. According to the most definitive study by Phillip Jenkins, who is not a Catholic, 0.3 percent of priests are pedophiles.

That percentage is much higher, of course, in the homosexual community per se. And it stays around one percent right across the board for doctors, teachers, coaches, lawyers, newspapermen, firemen, and policemen. To really attack the problem of pedophiles, we have to broaden our scope, therefore, beyond the clergy. Otherwise, we are just reflecting an anti-religious, anti-Christian, anti-Catholic, and anti-Jewish bias. Most clergy in prison for sexual abuse are not Catholic priests; and by far - in fact, very far - the majority of men in prison for sexual abuse of minors are not clergy.

4. By far the greatest sexual abuse among youngsters happens at home where one out of every three girls is abused and at least one out of every six boys.

Any program to correct sexual abuse, therefore, must be focused on the home.

5. Celibacy is not the problem.

Huge sexual abuse problems are found in Mormons, Jehovah Witnesses, Buddhists, Episcopalians, Pentecostals, Congregationalists, Assembly of God and Baptists. The most extreme sexual abuse clergy case in U.S. history involved a Pentecostal minister who molested several hundred boys in the 1980s.

6. The media treatment of the priests' sexual abuse scandal reflects a deeply seated, Anti-Catholic bias.

By and large the treatment has been unfair. Mixed in with truths are half-truths and innuendos. Although it is true that a small percentage of priests and bishops have been at fault, it is definitely not true that the Catholic Church, as a whole, has been at fault. Never before have the media been so guilty of stirring up such wide sweeping religious bigotry and bias.

Zero Tolerance in the New Testament

As Dr. Thomas Drummond has said in the Newsletter for the New Life Institute for Human Development: "One way to judge the rightness of the church's reaction to the media-driven sex scandals of late is to imagine having to live through that reaction over and over again for eternity. Would we look forward to each recurrence with the agreeable satisfaction we experience as we listen repeatedly to a favorite song, or reread a cherished letter written long ago?"

Anti-Catholic Media

“The events of the last few months are about alleged sexual misbehavior by clerics and religious with minors. However, these times are about more than that. They are about anti-Catholic media, profit-driven lawyers, real victims of sexual abuse, and bogus ‘victims’ of sexual abuse. These times are about demanding payment for allegedly stolen sexual favors, about drive-by-litigation that kills people’s reputations long after those shot at have died or repented and made reparation for lapses in judgment and sins committed. These days are about an episcopacy working to find its sea legs, with some grasping at “zero tolerance” to steady themselves. What kind of reaction could we have to this state of affairs that we might look forward to remembering it with a sense of rightness in the event of reliving these day in endless repetition?

Not Primarily About Abuse

“First, the issue is not merely about the protection of children from sexual exploitation. It is also about persecution of the Roman Catholic Church, from within by some of its clergy and ax-grinding constituents, as well as from biased media that covered up the sexual abuse of refugee children by United Nations “peacekeepers” as the Boston scandal was unfolding. The media left the U.N. scandal on the cutting room floor and scapegoat the church in a profitable sexual extravaganza.

Unfair Treatment

“Why is there no Million Victim March on the United Nations headquarters in New York demanding the resignation of Kofi Annan, the Secretary General, for allowing the peacekeepers to rape truly vulnerable homeless children already living in fear for their lives? As prelates answer under oath in depositions about their responsibilities, so too such a march would demand that child abusing peacekeepers be brought before the U.N. International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity: the purpose for the court’s existence. When priests and U.N. peacekeepers abuse children they are obligated to protect, they receive different treatment from the media, the public, politicians, lawyers, prosecutors, and victims of sexual abuse. Apparently, sexual abuse is either heinous or neutral depending on who does it. Zero tolerance is a malleable policy, based in situation ethics, selectively applied for political reasons. It is not a model for church policy.

Anti-Catholic Legislators - Shocking

“When we see actions in federal courts and state legislatures subsequent to the stories of priestly and military sexual abuse of children, the anti-Catholic motivation for the present media and legal bloodbath becomes clear. The Connecticut legislature narrowly defeated a provision that would deputize priests in the police power of the state by suspending the seal of the confessional. In Oregon, a man on trial for his life went to confession, which the prosecutor tapes surreptitiously. It was only the prosecutors’ personal decision not to use the tape that kept it out of the courtroom. By adopting a political policy of zero tolerance, the episcopacy would have to lift the ancient seal of the confessional not a way to regain the moral high ground.

Golden Opportunity

“The benefit to the Church in all of this is a golden opportunity to design a reaction to this current persecution that would renew the church by reestablishing its moral principles, (and zero tolerance is antithetical to those principles), so that it could repeatedly recall with satisfaction, despite criticism from the press, the rightness of its response. This response of the episcopacy would spring, not from public relations, but from the religious depths of the church’s divine nature. Like madmen for God the bishops would run into the marketplace crying, “We seek God! We seek God!” And to reporters who say to them, “You have killed God, and your church is his sepulcher. How will you wipe this blood off of yourselves? What festivals of atonement will you invent?” They must respond by finding refuge in the covenant God and we have made together, so if we have to relive these days again we can rejoice in that decision. And how shall this be done?

The Gospel of Mercy

“First, consider that zero tolerance for sin would be the foundation of a new religion inspired not by the Holy Spirit, but by fear of the press. Zero tolerance for sinners denies the covenant that Yahweh spent thousands of years perfecting with his irascible people. It obliterates the good news of the New Testament that so excited God when instead of continually smiting the Israelites for breaking the contract with him, he promised an eternal covenant that ensured forgiveness to those who repented.

Forgiveness

"I will cleanse them of all the guilt they inherited by sinning against me; all their offenses by which they sinned and rebelled against me, I will forgive (Jer 33:8).

"According to the law almost everything is purified by blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness" (Heb 33:8).

"When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, 'It is finished.' And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit" (Jn 19:30).

Once the blood of God's own son was shed, the covenant was sealed, forgiveness was online and that is the only spin truly available to the episcopacy.

Ordained to Forgive

Bishops, cardinals and popes, all priests, were ordained for forgive sin under the new and eternal covenant (whether the press approves is irrelevant). Zero tolerance for sin and sinners is in serious conflict with that covenant, and a Vatican Council meeting for years, could not reconcile such polarization. Encouraging a corrupt press, (that kept the U.N. scandal from public view), and ambitious prosecutors, by handing over, with no requirement to do so, ignoring Constitution, canonical and legal due process, the names of those who had sinned, repented, and made reparation with full faith in God's word that he would forgive them, is fundamentally at odds with the new covenant, sealed forever with the blood of Christ, between god and his people.

The Covenant of Mercy

"If zero tolerance replaces the covenant of forgiveness, the church may indeed become God's tomb. Ironically, it is no more difficult to be persecuted for protecting the covenant between God and his people than it is to be persecuted by a press exercising a capriccioso anti-Catholicism under a crippled moral standard that y they do not apply to U.N. child rapists.

God's Approval, Not Man's

Having taken refuge in the eternal covenant between God and his people, understanding that forgiveness does not mean approval, practicality requires consideration of the criteria used to select and form priests and religious. In the case of clerical pedophiles and ephebephiles, their gross sexual, psychological and emotional immaturity renders them psychological minors and brings into

question the validity of their ordinations. Were they capable of giving the full and informed consent necessary to receive the sacrament? Could they make such a commitment without the psychological and social development necessary to live the life under its contractual requirements?

Firmly Rooted in the Covenant

"While there may be a place in the church's response for properly directed zero tolerance, it is not properly directed to sin and sinners. Zero tolerance for immaturity in aspirants to priesthood does not violate the New Testament contract with God, nor does zero tolerance for misguided and incompetent evaluations of those aspirants. Zero tolerance for lack of professional development in the ordained, who intervene in the lives of the laity, does not violate the contract with God either.

Mercy Over and Again

"Thus, if our reaction was to become firmly rooted in the nature of the contract with God, and it seducement of forgiveness for the repentant sinner, we will have centered ourselves in faithfulness, and by exercising zero tolerance appropriately, where it should have been exercised all along, we will have protected the people of god form immature, professionally and spiritually unprepared ordained and the havoc they create. Then we could, if need be, relive over and over again this commitment to renewal with a sense of peace, for it reflects the faithfulness of the stewards of the church as they guard the covenant no matter what the press may think about it. At worst, the church will be persecuted for the right reason: its faithfulness to the covenant of the New

PLEASE RESPOND to THIS NOTICE and STAY ON the BULK MAILING LIST

We do need to hear from you in writing at least once a year in order to keep you on our mailing list. Bulk Mail is not required to be returned if the delivery address is incorrect. In Christian charity we do not want delivery to incorrect addresses and waste God's precious resources. There is no "subscription" fee. We do ask for free will donations to support "**The PILGRIM**" and the operations of the **PFMC**.

If you know someone who would enjoy the "**The PILGRIM**," please ask them to contact us at the address printed in the box on page 5 or near the mailing label on the last page.

Testament.”

7. In the American dream, all men are created equal, that is Christian and Jew, Protestant and Catholic, black and white.

Thanks to the Civil War and the recent Civil Rights movement, much of the racial bigotry has been overcome. However, once again, we are met on a great battlefield, testing whether this nation or any nation so conceived and dedicated can long endure.

8. There is no place for bigotry in America.

So if you are Catholic and your notion of Catholicism allows you to be bigoted towards any group, you're not a good Catholic and you're certainly not a good American. The same would hold true of Protestants, Jews, Blacks, Hispanics - in fact, every group. Bias is not Jewish, bigotry is not Christian and neither bias nor bigotry are American.

9. As John Leo pointed out in his article in US News and World Report, March 18, 2002, the news media are damaging their honesty and credibility.

Quoting Bernard Goldberg's book, *Bias*, "the packaging of news reflects an anti-religious, anti-Christian, anti-Catholic, anti-family, anti-decency, and anti-life world view." Tammy Bruce's new book, *The New Thought Police: Inside the Left's Assault on Free Speech and Free Minds*, corroborates both Goldberg and Leo. The American newsroom culture is so strongly pro-choice, pro-homosexual, pro-pornography, and anti-religious that it cannot bring itself to report religious issues fairly.

10. No one abuses children more than the media.

The media back abortion, which to date has killed over 100 million of our children. It backs blatant pornography, sodomy, promiscuity, immorality, and highly-offensive speech. Howard Stern, Jerry Springer and Madonna are darlings of our media. Howard Stern, for example, has had over 3,100 sponsors, some of them being the leading radio and television stations in this country.

Our media is filled with violence, immorality and highly offensive speech. Unfortunately, the media is the number one informant of the youthful souls of our country. It is common knowledge that the newspapers in this country are run by irreligious, atheistic, anti-family, and anti-Christian editorial boards. Abortion, homosexuality and the sexual revolution are widely endorsed, as well as a false feminism that is anti-God, anti-church and anti-life.

11. Thank God for Christian organizations such as Focus on the Family, the Christian Coalition, and the Evangelical and Pentecostal who by and large are pro-God, pro-family and pro-life.

12. For the sake of our children, we need to work toward a "no tolerance" policy of evil policy right across the board.

We need as a nation to get rid of all pornography, all televised promiscuity, all violence, and, of course, all abortion - which is the worst and ultimate form of child abuse. Only with a "no tolerance" policy right across the board by every organization - religious and secular - will we be able to attack the problem of abuse of our children. At present, over 85 percent of all American children are being severely abused in one way or another, mostly by the entertainment, music, theatrical, and media industries who are reaping billions at the expense of the innocence of our children.

**(Father Major William J. McCarthy, M.Ss.A. Retired
Chaplain, United States Air Force Auxiliary, My
Father's House, Moodus, CT)**

INVOCATIONS to the HOLY GHOST

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Third Person of the Most Blessed Trinity, and fill the hearts of the faithful.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Paraclete, Advocate and Comfortor; be such to us, the Faithful.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, New Ambassador from the Godhead after Christ's Ascension, and reconcile us with the Father and the Son.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Spirit of Love from the Father and the Son; fill us with the same Divine love.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Breath of Love between the Father and Son, Eternal kiss between the Father and the Son, catch us up in the same holy kiss and embrace.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Who doest bind us in love and union with the Father and Son, never let us separate from Them.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Life and Love and Fire of our souls, enkindle us forever in Thy Love.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Soul of the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ, be Thou also the Soul of our souls.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Gift of God Sublime, be our Priceless gift, never to be lost.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, AUTHOR AND GIVER OF THY SEVENFOLD GIFTS, give them to us abundantly.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Author and Giver of Thy Twelve Fruits, make us Eternally fruitful with them.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, By Whom Jesus was Conceived in the Blessed Virgin Mary, conceive and bring forth Jesus in our souls.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Who spoke through the Prophets and inspired all Holy in scripture, teach us to relish the Written Word of God.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, instrumental, too, in the Spoken of Tradition, make us revere these teachings with equal relish.

COME, THOU HOLY GHOST, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, and conform our Faith in the Doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

FATHER LAWRENCE BREY

BLESSED OIL AND SALT: WHAT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH SAYS

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "Sacramentals are instituted for the sanctification of certain ministries of the Church, certain states of life, a great variety of circumstances in Christian life, and the use of many things helpful to man. -- They always include a prayer, often accompanied by a specific sign, such as the laying on of hands, the sign of the cross, or the sprinkling of holy water." 1667

"Sacramentals derive from the baptismal priesthood: Every baptized person is called to be a "blessing," and to bless. (1 Pet. 3:9, Lk 6:28, Rom 12:14) Hence lay people may preside at certain blessings. -- Sacramentals do not confer the grace of the Holy Spirit in the way that the sacraments do, but by the Church's prayer, they prepare us to receive grace and dispose us to cooperate with it." 1669-70

"Among sacramental blessings (of persons, meals, objects, and places) comes first. Every blessing praises

God and prays for his gifts. In Christ, Christians are blessed by God the Father with every spiritual blessing. This is why the Church imparts blessings by invoking the name of Jesus, usually while making the holy sign of the cross of Christ." 1671

BASIC INFORMATION

Blessed oil and salt are sacramentals of the Catholic Church for use by lay people as they minister to others through prayer. Lay people bless with oil; priests, and only priests, anoint with oil.

The power in the oil and salt comes from the redemptive acts of Jesus through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. That power is elicited by prayers of intercession, and is then directed through the external signs of oil and salt.

Neither sacramental should be used superstitiously as having self-contained power, but in combination with prayer. The Sacramentals are focus points, funneling one's faith toward Jesus, like a flag is a focus for patriotism.

A priest may use the official prayer from the Roman Ritual to bless oil and salt for lay people.

Using blessed oil never replaces the oil of chrism used by a priest to anoint in SACRAMENT of the Sick and Dying.

HOW TO USE BLESSED OIL

Blessed oil may be used when praying with people for healing; to bless family members, homes, or objects.

The prayer doesn't need to be complicated or fancy. Just ask the person what they would like prayers for, use the oil to make the sign of the cross on their forehead, and pray for God to honor the request. If the person doesn't wish to confide the intention, that's fine; God knows what is in their hearts.

Don't worry about what to say or how to say it; the Lord will guide you. You can pray in tongues, English, or you can say an Our Father or Hail Mary; simply speak what is in your heart, the Holy Spirit will lead. You can end your prayer with an Amen, a Glory Be, or however the Lord inspires you to close.

It is possible to pray with someone who doesn't even believe in God, let alone His ability or willingness to heal, and see miraculous results. All prayers are subject to

God's will; when we intercede for others our will is united with His.

GUIDELINES

Be sure anyone you pray with understands you are not offering or providing them the Sacrament of the Sick; the Sacrament can only be administered by a priest.

Only pray over people who have asked for prayers, either directly or through friends or family members, and keep all names and information shared confidential.

Don't act as a counselor, try to solve anyone's problems or dispense advice. Your ministry is to remain open to the workings of the Holy Spirit, and respond in obedience by sharing what He offers the person seeking healing.

Please use the blessed oil often, don't save it just for times of illness. Parents, grandparents or other primary care providers can bless the children in their lives daily; spouses can bless one another at any time, for any need. Use it on your homes, cars, pets, tools, anything you want the Lord to protect and bless.

HOW TO USE BLESSED SALT

Blessed salt can be sprinkled in one's home, across thresholds and windowsills, around property lines, in cars, school lockers or work sites. It can be used on food, or while cooking.

As you spread the salt pray for the Lord's blessing and protection. The faith of the person using the salt must be Jesus-centered, like the faith of the blind man in John 9; his faith was in Jesus, not in the mud and spittle Jesus used to heal him. Blessed salt is not a new sacramental, but there is new interest in it as an instrument of grace and healing.

**"The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
The Lord turn his face toward you and
give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26**

BLESSING BY A PRIEST

The texts which follow are blessings from the Roman Ritual used for Salt and Oil (not Holy Chrism):

SALT

God's creature, salt, I cast out the demon from you by the living God, by the true God, by the holy God, by God who ordered you to be thrown into the water-springs by Eliseus to heal it of its barrenness. May you be a purified salt, a means of health for those who believe, a medicine for body and soul for all who make use of you. May all evil fancies of the foul fiend, his malice and cunning, be driven afar from the place where you are sprinkled. And let every unclean spirit be repulsed by Him who is coming to judge both the living and the dead and the world by fire. Amen.

Almighty, everlasting God, we humbly appeal to your mercy and goodness to bless this creature, salt, which you have given for mankind's use. May all who use it find a remedy for body and mind. And may everything it touches be freed from uncleanness and any influence of the evil spirit; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OIL

Lord God Almighty, before whom the hosts of angels stand in awe, and whose heavenly service we acknowledge; may it please you to regard favorably and to bless and hallow this creature, oil, which by your power has been pressed from the juice of olives. You have ordained it for anointing the sick, so that, when they are made well, they may give thanks to you, the living and true God. Grant we pray, that those who will use this oil, which we are blessing in your name, may be delivered from all suffering, all infirmity, and all wiles of the enemy. Let it be the means of averting any kind of adversity from man, made in your image and redeemed by the precious blood of your Son, so that he may never again suffer the sting of the ancient serpent; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

These are the literal words from the Roman Rite for the blessing of these two Sacramentals. A careful reading should give everyone a firm understanding of their purpose as intended by our Holy Mother Church, and their power. Their use is NOT superstition; their use IS effective against the forces of evil for believers.

Permission is granted to reproduce and distribute with Blessed Oil and Salt given to others for use in ministry.

**(Prepared by the Maine State Executive Committee for
the Charismatic Renewal of the Diocese of Maine.
Father Richard P. Rice, liaison, Holy Family Parish,
Sanford, ME, 04073; (207) 324-2420.)**

GIFT ROOM OPEN DAILY

Our spiritually nourishing gift room is open 10 AM – 4 PM daily. Come and browse for statues, rosaries, pins, medals, prayer books, prayer cards, holy cards, scapulars, and religious books. Discounts on donations given for large orders. We have a large assortment of wonderful things coming in for Christmas and special occasions.

The PFMC is providing resource services to all Home School families. We hope that if you need any textbooks or research books, that you will call us. A 10% discount will be given to any home school parent that identifies himself or herself as such. Call Livia or Vince for any special orders (856) 768-9228.

A PRAYER

JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD

I am the good shepherd who is willing to die for the sheep. (Jn 10, 11)

Dearest sheep, you are so very precious to my eyes! I would give up all for you. I am preoccupied with your safety and your welfare at every moment.

Never doubt again how so very important you are to me. You know now and forever just how much I love and care for you. Come to me, I will hold and comfort you.

Tell me about your day, confide in me all of your concerns, share with me your joy, your suffering and your hopes. You seem so fragile... but I know you possess the strength necessary to accomplish what it is that you must do.

Do you know why I have called you? Do you not have an idea of all the good that you can accomplish in the name of the Love of your God?

Come my child, little sheep that I love so, I have found you and I shall protect you for as long as you allow me to love you.

France Descoteayx

GRAVE HARM TO DISOBEY – REFUGE IN THE DESERT- A SCRIPTURE STUDY

Then two shall be in the field; one shall be taken and one shall be left.

Volume 13, Number 11 - November 2002

Two women shall be grinding at the mill; one shall be taken and one shall be left. (Matthew 24:40-1; Luke 17:35)

What are we to make of these mysterious texts? There is no official Catholic interpretation of them, as in the case of many of the texts relating to the last times.

Today, we know that a number of the Protestant sects believe that a rapture will carry away certain elect souls somewhat in the manner of Elias, who was translated in a fiery chariot from the earth (IV Kings 2). Catholics do not concern themselves greatly with this text. But all Scripture is inspired by God, and there spoken in the context of the events of the latter times, the times through which we are passing now.

In the verses preceding this text, Our Lord refers to the suddenness, with which the Flood came and destroyed all the people of the world, except of course, Noah and his family. Presumably, then, this text refers to another calamity, come upon the world for its sins, perhaps resembling the Flood in its universal dimensions.

At Fatima, Our Lady spoke of such a universal dimension of various nations, of a world war, a world famine, and a world persecution of the just. If we concede all this, how is a Catholic to interpret this text today?

First, we should expect this text to be fulfilled just before the great chastisement or persecution, which is to come. Just as men are eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, the vengeance of God will strike and destroy them all (Saint Matthew 24:38-39). But just before this, certain elect souls will be “translated”—if we may use term—not to heaven but into a desert place, where they will be nourished for “a time and times and half a time”(Apoc. 12:14).

In chapter twelve of the Apocalypse, we note a reference to a Woman clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet and on her head a crown of twelve stars. (Scholars agree that this woman is a figure of Our Lady and of the Church, the spotless Bride of Christ.) She is confronted by a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns. He waits to devour the child she is about to bear. Saint John tells us this woman flees to a desert place, where she is preserved by God for a thousand, two hundred and sixty days. She is to be given two wings of ‘a great eagle’ that she might fly into the desert. The dragon is clearly powerless to harm the woman. But Saint John tells us, significantly, that he ‘went off to make war on the rest of

her offspring, on those who keep the commandments of God and bear testimony to Jesus' (Apoc. 12:17)

Chapter 13, which follows this, is all about the reign of the Antichrist. And we learn that his reign is to last two and forty months, meaning three and a half years. And we discover, in verse 7, a great victory over the church by the dragon. "And it was given to him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them. And power was given to him over every tribe, and people, and tongue and nation" (Apoc. 13:7).

We have already been told that a woman, a figure of the Church, is to flee into the desert, where she is fed and nourished and protected from the Dragon for three and a half years, the entire time of the reign of Antichrist. And verse 17 of chapter 12 tells us that the dragon, powerless against the Woman, goes off to make war on the rest of her offspring, etc.... And he is successful in this, as indicated in Apoc.13: 7.

We know with certainty that the Church is to face a ferocious worldwide persecution in the climax to the great confrontation between good and evil that is going on the world today. Our Lady warned us that the world would be punished by war, famine and persecution if it did not do penance for its sins and find refuge in the Immaculate Heart of Mary. And this perhaps explains the mystery of the apparent contradictory texts. The answer to the mystery may be as follows:

The Woman

Clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, is that special section of the Church, which is devoted and consecrated to Mary, the Immaculate Mother of God. It comprises all those who have accepted lovingly and wholeheartedly, the consecration to Mary as taught by Saint Louis de Montfort and emphasized so strongly by Our Lady herself at Fatima. These, a relatively small group perhaps, will be translated miraculously to a desert place, where they will be nourished and protected by God for the forty-two months of the reign of Antichrist.

Now it is very clear that this solution to that difficult text (Saint Matthew 24:40-41) will seem to involve too many staggering miracles for some earth-bound minds. But the Apocalyptic prophecies clearly outline a multitude of staggering miracles, as we see. In chapter 13 we find that the Beast will have the power to do great "signs"—that he will have power to make fire come down from Heaven in the sight of men.

We learn that statues of the Beast will speak and, supposedly, address multitudes in far distant countries. And the Beast will recruit and energize the evil men of the world in this dreadful war against all that is of God. And the prophet Daniel tells us that he will think himself able to change times and laws. **"And they shall be delivered into his hand for a time and times and a half time." (Daniel 7:25)**

What does this mean? Will he have power to restore to the aged and decrepit their lost youth, as Mephistopheles did in the dramatic poem by Goethe? Will he have power to impart to some, at least, of his followers the knowledge proper to devils, and mastery of all languages, an exact understanding of all the physical sciences?

Some of the early Christian writers suggested this, telling us that it will not be possible to hide from the Antichrist, that, through his unprecedented preternatural powers, he will be able to locate us in the remotest caves in the highest mountains. Only Our Lady can protect us from this danger. For, as the saints say, where Mary is, the devil is not.

All of this is, of course, conjecture. We are free to believe or not to believe these things.

But if the Antichrist is to be given power to work so many 'signs' and prodigies, is not Our Lady also to be given power to work many wonderful miracles in this time of great peril for the Church? Of course she is. And she will stand by and protect her servants from the cruel claws of the devil, and rescue them if only they will call out to her with humble and contrite hearts. Her Divine Son will give her enormous power to do this, and she will enable her followers to fight against the devil, to dissipate his diabolical counsels, to crush his head, to cause Jesus Christ to triumph.

(THE MARYFAITHFUL September-October 2000)

ONCE UPON A SILENT NIGHT

December wears a shawl of white
And every star is shining bright,

For peace has fallen on the earth

To celebrate the Savior's birth.

Each night is filled with wondrous things

As moonlight spills on angels wings.

Carols ring throughout the earth,

For every soul has felt its worth.
Every heart has felt the glow
Of candlelight and mistletoe.
Every heart is young once more,
Placing wreaths upon each door.
All is calm all is still,
As sleigh bells echo from each hill,
Where wind-swept pines sway to and fro,
Casting purple shadows on the snow.
There seems to be no end in sight
Of joyous music in the night,
Of tinsel trees and frosted panes,
And snowmen wearing candy canes.
December memories shall remain
Despite the snow and wind and rain,
For once upon a silent night,
A savior came... and all was right!

CLAY HARRISON

GREETINGS

May I be no man's enemy, and may I be the friend of
that which is eternal and abides.

May I never quarrel with those nearest me; and if I do,
may I be reconciled quickly.

May I never devise evil against any man, and if any devise
evil against me may I escape uninjured and without the
need of hurting him.

May I love, seek and attain only that which is good.

May I wish for men's happiness and envy none.

May I never rejoice in the ill fortune of one who has
wronged me.

When I have done or said what is wrong, may I never
wait for the rebuke of others, but always rebuke myself
until I make amends.

May I win no victory that harms either me or my
opponents.

May I reconcile friends who are wroth with one another.

May I to the extent of my power, give all needful help to
my friends.

May I never fail a friend in danger.

When visiting those in grief, may I be able by gentle and
healing words to soften their pain.

May I respect myself.

May I always keep tame that which rages within me.

May I accustom myself to be gentle, and never be angry
with people because of circumstances.

May I never discuss who is wicked and what wicked
things he has done; but know good men and follow in
their footsteps.

(GREEK MEDITATION- FOURTH CENTURY B.C)

The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION and the HOLY SOULS

In union with Mary Immaculate, we are called to
merciful intercession for the souls in purgatory.

Growing up, I had a very limited concept of purgatory. I
thought it was all about punishment. It was better than
hell, because the punishment wouldn't last forever, but,
while it lasted, it was pretty much the same. Somehow, I
had developed an "eye-for-an-eye" understanding of
God's justice with little or no understanding of His mercy.
If you're bad, God punishes you; if you're really bad, He
punishes you forever.

My understanding of the Immaculate Conception was
also very limited. I thought "Immaculate Conception"
was just a fancy term for a privilege given to Mary at a
single moment in time--the moment when she was
conceived in her mother's womb.

I had dutifully learned (but not understood) that, when the
rest of us human beings are conceived, we get Original
Sin. No one I knew could even come close to figuring
out what THAT was. All we knew was that we all got it
and Mary didn't. That made her special, but it didn't
really seem to have anything to do with us.

Obviously, there's some truth that can be found in all this.
But there are deeper realities that are obscured by it.

Since we're dealing with mysteries here, we will, of
course, never fully understand, but Church teaching on
both purgatory and the Immaculate Conception is quite

clear and consistent, and various popes and saints have offered significant insights.

What has emerged for me is a whole new way of viewing both of these mysteries, and a way of viewing them together.

REALTY #1: Heaven

“God desires everyone to be saved” (1 Tm 2:4).

The Church teaches that God wants all of us to share in His life of love forever. He excludes no one! But **“Our God is a consuming fire” (Heb 12:29)**. His love is so pure and intense that only the pure can live in it and “see Him as He is, face to face.” Thus, before we can enter heaven we must become pure and holy, like God (*The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1023).

REALTY #2: Hell

“He who does not love remains in Jn 3:14).

If God wants us all to be saved, why does hell exist? Because “we cannot be united with God unless we freely choose to love Him... God predestines no one to go to hell... To die in mortal sin without repenting and accepting God’s merciful love means remaining separated from Him forever by our own free choice.” Hell is thus a state of self-exclusion from communion with God. (*Catechism*, 1033, 1037).

REALTY #3: Purgatory

“...to bring you holy, pure, and faultless into His presence” (Col 1:22).

Purgatory is not a “second chance” to see if you’re worthy of salvation. The souls in purgatory are already destined for heaven. They are the holy souls of those who have died in a state of grace but are not yet perfected, and their “final purification” in “entirely different” from the “punishment” in hell (*Catechism*, 1031, 1054).

As **Pope John Paul II** explains, “God, who is Love, judges through love. It is love that demands purification before man can be made ready for that union with God which is his ultimate vocation and destiny” (*Crossing the Threshold of Hope*).

REALTY #4

“After you have suffered, Christ will perfect you” (1 Pt 5:10).

How do holy souls become purified and perfected to the point that they become holy, like God? Through suffering!

Christ Himself was perfected through suffering (**Heb 2:10**), and Our Lady actively participated in His saving mission, “suffering grievously with her only-begotten Son (*Lumen Gentium*, 58).

We, too, must take up our cross (**Lk 9:23**), and drink the cup of suffering (**Mt 20:22**). We must all go through a “purgatory” of some sort, either in this life or the next.

REALTY #5

Our growth in holiness is a sharing in Mary’s Immaculate relationship with God.

Pope John Paul II explains that Mary was “the first to receive God’s mercy,” and she received it in “a particular and exceptional way, as no other person has” (*Rich in Mercy*, 9). Like us, Mary was redeemed by virtue of Christ’s saving sacrifice, but, by a special gift of mercy, she was redeemed in advance of that sacrifice, “fashioned by the Holy Spirit as a new creature” and “adorned from the first instant of her conception with the radiance of an entirely unique holiness” (*Lumen Gentium*, 56).

What does the “entirely unique holiness” of this “new creature” mean for us in the process of our own growth in holiness?

Mary, herself, gave us the clue at **Lourdes**. When Bernadette asked her who she was, she didn’t describe herself as immaculately conceived; she named herself as the Immaculate Conception. Thus she implies that she is not merely holy, but, by the special indwelling of her Spouse, the Holy Spirit, she is holiness itself.

Mary is the unique dwelling place of the holiness we are all called to share. **Pope Pius IX** says that she is “the only one who has become the dwelling place of all the graces of the Holy Spirit,” and the Catechism tells us that, in her, we recognize the “model and source” of holiness (2030). She perfectly reflects God, and this is what we all must do in order to enter heaven.

One of the examples often used in reference to purgatory is the firing of silver in a furnace to remove all impurities.

The process is not complete until the silversmith can see his reflection in the silver.

Purgatory is the furnace of God's love, in which all the impurities, all the **"wood and straw" (1 Cor 3:12)** of our lives, are burned away until only the "silver" remains--so that we who are created in the image of God can perfectly reflect that image back to Him, just as Mary does. Purgatory is thus a continuing act of God's mercy, whereby, through Our Lady's intercession, we come to share in her immaculateness and are thus made ready for heaven.

REALTY #6

It is through Mary Immaculate that the souls in purgatory are cleansed and released.

Pope John Paul II writes that Mary is "the one who has the deepest knowledge of the mystery of God's mercy," and thus we look to her as the "Mother of Divine Mercy" (*Rich in Mercy*, 9).

The great mercy that God gave to Mary (in creating her as the Immaculate Conception), He also wants to give to us through her intercession. Mary is the Mediatrix of mercy. In her, "the Holy Spirit fulfills the plan of the Father's loving goodness" and brings us, the "objects of God's merciful love, into communion with Christ (*Catechism*, 723).

Theologian **Father Peter Damian Fehlner, FFI**, points out that Mary is created immaculate, preserved from all stain of sin, so that she can serve as Mediatrix of all graces. Thus, she becomes, in effect, the instrument of the Holy Spirit, the instrument of Mercy.

"The ultimate in mercy," **Father Peter** goes on to explain, "is, of course, completing the cleansing of our souls. If we don't complete it on earth, we have to complete it in purgatory. The way we are cleansed on earth is always through the mediation of Our Lady, and if that is true while we are in this vale of tears, it's all the more so when we are in purgatory, where we can no longer take any kind of active initiative. Thus, the basic initiative for freeing souls, for completing their purgation, is precisely that of Our Lady."

What does all this mean for us in practical terms?

It means that we should continuously turn to Mary Immaculate, for ourselves and everyone else, offering her all our prayers, works, and sufferings, and entrusting to

her our own salvation and that of those who have gone before us.

Our prayer for the Holy Souls then becomes a meaningful act of fraternal love which thus also purifies us. As we pray for the hastening of their purification, we also hasten our own.

(**"THE BULLETIN"** Fall, 1995, by Vinny Flynn)

PILGRIMS of FAITH MARIAN CENTER (PFMC)

We are not a church, store or travel agency but have aspects of all three. We operate as a ministry whose volunteers are mostly lay persons professing a belief in Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, through the universal faith and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. We profess allegiance to the Magisterium of that Church led by Pope John Paul II. In a similar fashion as those who approach members of famous families such as the Carters and the Kennedys as well as the British Royal Family through the matriarchs or mothers, we believe that approaching Jesus through his Blessed Virgin Jewish Mother, Mary, may be of benefit in the answering of our prayers.

We operate on donations for all our activities. These activities include retreats and days of recollection at the PFMC where Holy Mass and Adoration take place for the public with Bishop DiMarzio's permission. The PFMC was established based on pilgrimages to Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and other holy places or shrine worthy of pilgrimage. Books, pamphlets and religious articles brought back from pilgrimages were placed on display for others to view and take based on donations. We are NOT a store.

For books, pamphlets and religious articles, we operate like a church pamphlet or bookrack where you make selections and offer a donation based on value posted or received. We have items from our inventory on display at Epiphany House and have produced order forms in the past. See the order forms enclosed in previous issues or loaded on the Internet Web Site, <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>, for a partial listing of items that can be obtained from the PFMC through donations. If you wish to order, please fill out your order request, make out a check or complete the information for use of a credit card and mail to PFMC, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043-4893. If you do not have an

order form, call us at (856) 768-9228 with a FAX number or mailing address and we will send you an order form. If you know what you want and we carry it, you can order over the telephone using your credit card.

Please come and see the PPMC. We know you will enjoy what you see and find a way of helping out.

Thank you and God bless you,

(Kathleen and the Volunteer Staff)

DONATIONS by CHARGE CARD ACCEPTED

We accept DISCOVER/PRIVATE ISSUE (NOVUS), MASTER CARD (CIRRUS) and VISA (PLUS) for all donations to the PPMC. This includes for books and religious articles, pilgrimages, retreats, conferences, seminars, "The PILGRIM," or the building debt retirement fund.

BLESSED OIL

Bottles of oil blessed at Holy Mass in Saint James, Medjugorje and then carried to Vicka's house to be present in the room during an alleged apparition are available from the PPMC. Volunteers transfer the oil to small bottles for you or members of your prayer group to use as a sacramental.

Read the articles in the November and December 1994 issues as well as the Bible readings for the Holy Week Chrism Mass about Blessed Oil and Holy Oil of Gladness. If you no longer have these articles or never received them, you may request copies from the PPMC.

Oil from Medjugorje is a **sacramental** and should be handled as such. It is NOT the same as the oils blessed by the Bishop for official church ceremonies or during administration of the sacraments by a priest. People being signed with oil as a sacramental should not be misled into thinking that use of a sacramental by the laity in any way replaces blessing by a priest, whose Holy Hands are consecrated by the Bishop in the sacrament of Holy Orders.

We request a \$5 donation per small bottle. This covers \$3 for the bottle, packaging and special handling plus \$2 mailing or postage expense.

BULLETIN NOTICES for PPMC AREA EVENTS

Would you be so kind as to copy or cut out one or more of following BULLETIN NOTICES and take them to your Pastor and / or Parish Bulletin Coordinator?

Ask your Pastor and / or Parish Bulletin Coordinator to publish these notices to support the events for which you have an interest. It does wonders when a parishioner asks for a bulletin notice as compared to the thousands of requests that come in from outside the parish. Thanks for your assistance, we really need and appreciate it.

WEDNESDAY 7 PM to 9 PM TEACHING by DEAN PULCINI

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PPMC), A Religious Association, Inc. hosts teaching on Liturgy by Dean Pulcini, Wednesday, 7 PM to 9:15 PM in the Upper Room at Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ.

Call (856) 768-9228 if you need directions.

THURSDAY 2:15 PM to 2:45 PM "Put on the Armor of God" RADIO PROGRAM on WTMR, AM-800

Kathleen and Keith Werner host a weekly program with In His Sign (HIS) Radio Network <http://www.inhissign.com>. This half-hour is sponsored by donations to the Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PPMC), A Religious Association, Inc.

There is prayer, scripture reading, discussion of Ephesians 6: 11-17, and, following announcements, call-in time, discussion with callers, healing prayer and summary. The call-in number is (856) 962-8178.

30 NOVEMBER 2002 - RETREAT with Father John McFadden, Assisted by Norma and Tom Finneran

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PPMC) will host a Day of retreat in the Upper Room of Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043. Father John McFadden, Norma and Tom Finneran, will provide guidance on working with PRAYER AND INTERCESSION FOR OUR FAMILIES.. They have

teamed together for the benefit of many souls over the past several years.

For an information sheet with reservation form visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith> or call (856) 768-9228.

6 DECEMBER 2002 “CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE” at PFMC – 4 to 7 PM

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host a “Christmas Open House” with refreshments in the Upper Room of Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043, on Friday, 6 December 2002 from 4 to 7 PM.

For directions call (856) 768-9228 or visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>.

14 DECEMBER 2002 “MIRACLE of CHRISTMAS” TRIP to LANCASTER, PA

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) in conjunction with Saint John Neumann Parish in Sicklerville is sponsoring a bus trip to “Miracle of Christmas” with a stop for dinner and shopping in Lancaster, PA on Saturday, 14 December 2002. Busses will depart from Marshall’s parking lot at NJ 73 and Cooper Road. The cost is \$99 per person.

For an information sheet with reservation form call (856) 768-9228 or (856) 728-1060.

9 and 30 JANUARY – LEARN HOW TO PRAY THE LITURGY OF THE HOURS

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host two training sessions of the Liturgy of the Hours. These sessions will be held in the Upper Room of Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ on Thursdays, 9 and 30 January 2003.

These sessions will concentrate on the single volume Liturgy of the Hours book with its annual guide. Books are available through the PFMC and must be in hand for the sessions.

The Shorter Version of the Liturgy of the Hours and the four-volume set of books for the Liturgy of the Hours will be briefly discussed.

For more information call (856) 768-9228 or visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>.

25-27 JANUARY 2003, FATHER BILL McCARTHY – TRIDUUM SEMINAR

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host a Triduum seminar study of “THE TABERNACLE (OLD TESTAMENT TO NEW TESTAMENT), THE LAMB’S SUPPER, THE 7 COVENANTS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT AND ONE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, THE EUCHARIST, AND THE SACRAMENTAL SYSTEM” taught by Father Bill McCarthy, M.Ss.A., co-founder of My Father’s House in Moodus, CT.

These sessions will be held from 9 AM to 5 PM in the Upper Room of Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ on Saturday, 25 January 2003 through Monday, 27 January 2003.

For more information call (856) 768-9228 or visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>.

12 FEBRUARY 2003 RETREAT for WOMEN with FATHER ROBERT DeGRANDIS, SSJ

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host a special retreat for women with Father Robert DeGrandis. This retreat will be held in the Upper Room of Epiphany House, 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ on Saturday, 12 February 2003.

It will concentrate on forgiveness, prayer, and healing for those women who have been abused, physically, emotionally, and/or sexually.

For an information sheet with reservation form visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith> or call (856) 768-9228.

2003 RETREAT CONFERENCE

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) 2003 RETREAT CONFERENCE (2003 RC) will be at the Hilton Hotel, Cherry Hill, NJ. The dates are Friday through Sunday, March 14th, 15th, and 16th, 2003.

The 2003 RC theme is **“He must increase; I must decrease.” (John 3:30) [NAB]**.

Father Bill Halbing, Father Andrew Apostoli, CFR, and Father Robert DeGrandis, S.S.J. will be featured speakers. They will speak on "Healing in our Faith."

Father Michael Semana, founder of the "World of Hope Foundation," will return for a concert Saturday evening as well as his very generous work with the youth and young adults in the Youth Track (YT).

Joseph Terelya will speak on Saturday night before the concert via his interpreter.

The Metuchen Diocese Charismatic Music Group "REFUGE" will be back to provide the weekend music. Al Barbarino has agreed to EMCEE for the Weekend and to provide background music for the 3DX. Other musicians including Marty Rotella, "HEARTS AFIRE," "CEDARS in CHRIST," "S'ELAH," and "VOYAGE," have been invited.

Father Robert DeGrandis and his sister Dorothea DeGrandis Sudol will share the seminars and workshops of the 3-Day Extension (3DX) on "Healing of Memories - Inner Healing."

The 3DX will be on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, March 17th, 18th, and 19th, 2003.

Rooms may be booked at the \$92 rate with 1-4 persons in a room for both the 2003 RC and 3DX as well as up to 7 days before or after the events. Rooms have either one King bed or two Double beds. Roll-away beds are available. This rate and availability of additional rooms expires on 2/19/2003. **For Hotel reservations please call NOW: 1-800-HILTONS or locally (856) 665-6666. Please make your reservations with the PFMC and HILTON as soon as possible. Consider this as a Christmas gift.**

For an information sheet with reservation forms visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith> or call (856) 768-9228.

16-18 MAY 2003, RETREAT WEEKEND for MARRIED COUPLES

The Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC) will host a married couples retreat chaired by Father Bill McCarthy, M.Ss.A., co-founder of My Father's House in Moodus, CT. It is planned for the evening of Friday, 16 May 2003, and 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturday, 17 May 2003 and Sunday, 18 May 2003. Donation requested is \$80 per couple.

If there is sufficient early registration interest, this married couples retreat weekend may be moved to a local hotel with overnight accommodations available. Cost of rooms will be kept reasonable. Sign up early to assist us in making this latter decision.

For more information call (856) 768-9228 or visit <http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>.

(Kathleen as well as all the PFMC Volunteer Staff)

WOULD YOU LIKE to SPONSOR a PFMC RADIO PROGRAM?

Every Thursday on WTMR 800 AM from 2:15 PM to 2:30 PM, Keith and Kathleen present a radio program called "*Put on the Armor of God.*" It consists of looking at Ephesians 6:10-17, and using the Bible, Catechism, and Church teachings to evangelize and help you with your prayer life. We need sponsors for this program.

If you are interested in donating to help us we will mention your name on the radio as our sponsor for that week. You may donate in memory of a loved one, and we will mention their name.

Prayer groups can come together and donate for their prayer intentions and we will mention the prayer group and as many of their intentions as time permits.

We thank you for listening, and for your support.

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