



The PILGRIM

Vol. 17, No. 9

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September 2006

The PILGRIM is a periodical from **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

My Dearest Mother Mary, We consecrate this issue of "The PILGRIM" to you in Spiritual Warfare. May all the angels and saints, and particularly Saint Michael come to cover all who will read this edition, and take into their lives a desire of conversion, and of reconciliation.



Bless all your children, for we are all wounded and searching. We enter into your Immaculate Heart to search for the many answers that will bring us to your Son Jesus.

Mother Mary, we love you, and want to come to freedom and to peace in our own lives, and in the lives of our families and friends. In your apron, help all to find the discernment to fight in prayer all sins of evilness, that of darkness. Bring each wounded child into the light of grace and Love. AMEN

A MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE with FATHER JOHN O'LEARY

It is very important, if you wish to visit Medjugorje with Father John and Keith Werner as the **PFMC** Coordinator, that you sign up immediately. The price of \$1699 includes your round trip air, your bus transfers, tour guide, housing in a very lovely home within a few blocks from **Saint James Church**, all breakfasts, suppers, and a full spiritual program.

If you have always wanted this experience, this is the time to go. This is a slow paced and extended pilgrimage you will never forget. If you have ever wanted to do something about your spiritual life, go and experience this beautiful time with **Our Lady, Queen of Peace**. Call us immediately at 856 768 9228 from 10 AM to 5 PM Monday – Friday. Enclosed is a yellow information packet with reservation form for your application. Please fill it out and send it in with FULL double occupancy

package donation. If you wish to room by yourself, include the Single Supplement donation. We will send you confirmation, and sign you up for your airline seat. Come and transform your heart, **Our Lady** awaits you. This may be your last opportunity to visit her shrine in this the 25th Anniversary Year.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR 16 and 17 FEBRUARY 2007 CLARION HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW

The **PFMC** 2007 RETREAT CONFERENCE fast approaches on the last weekend before **Ash Wednesday, 21 February 2007**. It will be held at the **CLARION HOTEL**, Cherry Hill, NJ from **Friday, 16 February through Sunday, 18 February 2007**. It is looking like it will be one that you will never forget. The speakers have all been arranged and the topics under the theme "**but deliver us from the evil one.**" **Matthew 6:13 [NAB]** are ones you would not want to miss.

We have put together a program to teach you about **spiritual warfare, healing and deliverance ministry**. Please review the blue information packet insert and sign up both with the **PFMC** and the **CLARION HOTEL** now, as **PFMC** seats will be limited to 800, and we anticipate a full house using all the rooms in the hotel. Bring a friend or an entire prayer group. We encourage all prayer groups to come. For a full weekend, all will be self contained in the **CLARION HOTEL** with Daily Holy Mass, Confessions, praise and worship, etc.

Father Halbing and the **PFMC** team have worked very hard to set up talks from outstanding and internationally known speakers. They and their topics will make a lasting mark on your spiritual life.

Fill in at least one of the reservation forms in the blue

The August MESSAGE, from **GOSPA, Our Lady, Queen of Peace**, to an alleged visionary from Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina, is presented on page 16 (centerfold page) with REFLECTIONS.

"The PILGRIM" for September 2006 is dedicated to "Our Lady of Charity." See page 3 for Table of Contents or "IN THIS ISSUE . . ."

information packet enclosed and mail it in to us at **61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043**. We are now processing reservation applications for attendance at the **2007 RETREAT CONFERENCE**. Call **(856) 428-2300** or FAX **(856) 354-7662** to make your own room reservations at the **CLARION HOTEL**.

If you would like to distribute some of the **blue** information packets to your prayer group, family, or parish, please contact us at **856 768 9228** from **10 AM to 5 PM Monday – Friday** and we will be glad to provide you with as many as you need. Thank you.

KIDNEY DONOR NEEDED

Debbie Wallace, a member of **Saint Joseph's Parish, Somers Point, NJ**, and a pilgrim to **Medjugorje** on four occasions needs a kidney transplant. She has **blood type A positive** and is suffering from polycystic kidney disease. Her sisters have both been tested and are unable to donate. She is appealing for others to make themselves available for donor screening. Call her at **(609) 601-1489**, the **University of Pennsylvania** at **(800) 789-PENN [7366]** or visit www.pennhealth.com.

SANCTIFYING YOUR VACATION

In the book of Genesis, after six days of hard work, God Our Father judged his work to be good and then rested. In Saint Mark's Gospel, we are told that after much work, Jesus told his apostles to come away by themselves to a lonely place and rest awhile.

Clearly rest, as well as work, in part of God's Divine plan. And in the universal call to holiness, if we are to sanctify our work, it would see fitting that we are to sanctify our rest as well.

In one of his Angelus addresses, Pope John Paul the Great addressed the topic of rest and leisure. He said, "Rest is leaving one's occupation, detaching oneself from the normal toil of the day, the week, and the year. It is important that we do not wander around aimlessly, our time off must not just be empty time."

It would be good to enjoy nature, the mountains, the sea, and the forest. And of course, it should always be desirable for one's leisure time to be filled with something different, a new content that nevertheless

still leads to an encounter with God. We should open the inward eyes of the soul to His presence in the world and incline our inward ear to His word of truth".

Encounter God

Now that summer is here, we should think about how we use our extended leisure time. A vacation should be an opportunity to rejuvenate the mind, the body, and the soul. Hopefully, by taking a break from our routine and demands, we come back to our daily responsibilities with renewed vigor! In order to make the most out of our limited vacation time, we should seek out activities and plans that are noble, life affirming, enriching and, as John Paul the Great put it, "allow us to encounter God".

Going on a pilgrimage is a wonderful way to incorporate a spiritual program with culture, history, relaxation fun into one's vacation.

Many destinations

There are so many beautiful destinations to make a pilgrimage. Many of these places are filled with amazing natural beauty as well as remarkable human masterpieces. There are places so filled with history that you can still see, touch, and walk the ancient streets.

Imagine visiting Rome and the Vatican, where you can see our Holy Father, and the majestic beauty of Saint Peter's Basilica. Or the Holy Land, where you can walk in the footsteps of Our Lord. Imagine going to places like Fatima, Lourdes, Guadalupe, Knock, and Zaragoza where our Blessed Mother appeared. Also think about visiting places such as Siena, Assisi, Loreto, Avila, Segovia and Drogheda, along with many others, where you can view the relics of saints.

There are some advantages to a pilgrimage that include complete travel pre-arrangement (all transition, accommodations, meals and attractions): A Catholic priest often accompanies the tour; a daily spiritual program might be available (Mass, confession, the Rosary, etc.); expert local guides are frequently able to provide cultural and historical background; and a Professional escort can assist with travel issues, language, customs, and many questions.

The reasons for making a pilgrimage are countless. The most obvious would be to grow in love and knowledge of God, His Church, our Blessed Mother,

The volunteer Board of Directors and Staff of the **PFMC** recognize and accept that the final authority regarding the alleged 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 Benedict XVI**.

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.

and the Holy Father. A pilgrimage will also let you experience different cultures and witness the universality of the Church, share time with brothers and sisters in the faith, inspire vocations with the youth, and of course, have the time of your life! –

(by **Juan Landa**, who owns and operates **Relevant Journeys**, a **Catholic Pilgrimage Company** located in the **Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin** excerpted with permission from “**Laywitness**” *July/August 2005*)

THANKS for USING YOUR DONATION ENVELOPES

We have had quite a few of the donation envelopes we insert in every issue of “**The PILGRIM**” returned even in the summer month of **August**. We need this to help us with the tremendous cost of operating the **PFMC**. We went to **summer bi-monthly** issues of “**The PILGRIM**” partly to save cost. We may be in danger of publishing only every **3-4 months** or not at all, if regular support does not increase. Things are so bad with the lack of support and lack of new volunteers that we are considering closing down **PFMC** operations at **61 Cooper Road** in which case we will be forced to stop publishing and bulk mailing “**The PILGRIM**” completely.

The enclosed donation envelope is the primary means of donation support solicitation that we make. We need regular donation support for our operations particularly publishing “**The PILGRIM**” and maintenance of the **PFMC** spaces in the building at **61 Cooper Road** in **Voorhees, NJ**. We ask that if you enjoy “**The PILGRIM**” that you slip this envelope in with your monthly bills, and send us a donation, even if it’s only a few dollars. We count on your help.

Please, this month and all other months, send us what you can. It is important to get this form of evangelization out to as many as possible.

WE COUNT ON YOUR HELP!!!! THANK YOU.

PLEASE MARK YOUR 2006 CALENDARS FOR **PFMC** EVENTS

See **Conference Corner** on *page 31* as well as **Bulletin** and other **Notices** on *pages 30 and 31*.

September 2006

Friday-Sunday, 22-24 September 2006: The **Dominican Retreat House**, **Elkins Park, PA** will hold a **Ladies Retreat** from *about 5 PM, Friday*,

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through about 2 PM, Sunday. The Theme is “**Courage, It is I**” from Mark 6:50. Contact **Fran Huntsinger** (856) 428-2893 or **Fran Calzaretto** (856) 663-4290. See article on *page 30*.

October 2006

Friday-Sunday, 6-8 October 2006: **Catholic Unity Conference**, **Hilton Hotel**, **King of Prussia, PA**. www.inhissign.com or (610) 527-2906. **Father**

Andrew Apostoli, CFR, Father Pablo Straub, CSSR, Susan Tassone, Father John McFadden, Kathleen McCarthy, Bob Valiante.

Friday-Sunday, 13-15 October 2006: Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Diocese of Camden, Wildwood Convention Center, Wildwood, NJ. Monsignor William John Lewis, Father Bill McCarthy, Bob Canton, Linda Schubert, Bob Valiante, M.C. (609) 522-5010. We have been invited to provide the book, pamphlet, and religious article displays for this event. Pray that the volunteers will be able to handle this very long distance transport of our inventory.

Thursday- Friday, 26 October to 3 November 2006: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje via London. See enclosed **yellow** information sheet. We need completed registration forms for all those who have indicated an interest. Please circle the **Destination: Medjugorje via London** and dates **26 October to 3 November 2006** on the **RESERVATION APPLICATION and DONATIONS** form and send it in with your donation as soon as possible. Full payment is due with applications after **26 July 2006**.

PILGRIMAGE to the HOLY LANDS of ISRAEL and JORDAN and EGYPT – DVD AVAILABILITY

Forgive **Keith**, please. He offered to make digital video discs (DVDs) showing the digital pictures taken during this pilgrimage (2 DVDs – Israel and Jordan) and the extension (1 DVD - Egypt). The DVD program has crashed several times and will not seem to work with the large number of digital pictures and movies he worked hours on to organize. He will pursue the effort or return the donations already submitted. These are personal pictures taken by pilgrims and are for the enjoyment of the pilgrims themselves. If you were a pilgrim on this pilgrimage and would like a set of DVDs which can be shown using a normal DVD player and TV, please send your request including name and address along with a minimum donation of **\$10** per DVD desired to the **PFMC 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043-4963**.

There is also a DVD of the **5/27/06** slide presentation made by **Father John Tino**. This DVD is available and has been mailed to those who requested it with a donation for the DVD and mailing. If you wish a copy of this DVD, please send your request including name and address along with a donation of **\$10** to the **PFMC 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043-4963**.

IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Frederick Tan, A Beloved Pilgrim, 7 June 2006

Father Tom Rittenhouse, Pastor, of Saint Peter, Riverside, NJ, 26 June 2006

Father Dave Adams, Associate Pastor, Saint Leo the Great, Lincroft, NJ, 26 June 2006

Please send us death notices, prayer cards, etc. so we can pray for the deceased. We are considering having a special Holy Mass for all the deceased friends of the **PFMC**. We need those death notices or prayer cards.

PROTECTION PRAYER against RETALIATION from EVIL SPIRITS

In the name of Jesus Christ, I wash and seal myself, my family members, my relatives, my friends, (people, pets, etc.), my home, my belongings, (places, things, etc.), into the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ so that I may be protected from any spirit of retaliation and any other evil spirits both now and forever. Amen.

FORGIVENESS - AN ACT OF MERCY

Many believe that lack of forgiveness towards Mothers, and including forgiveness of self, is a major stumbling block to spiritual growth as we traverse the road to personal holiness. Many people harbor anger for years and years and find letting go a real challenge. How difficult it is to forgive others who have hurt us! As we strive to be Christ-like, let us reflect on the words of Saint Faustina, "We resemble God most when we forgive our neighbors" (Diary, 1148). A great example of forgiveness is when Pope John Paul II visited Mohammed Aqqa, his attempted assassin, in prison and forgave him.

Forgiveness is at the heart of the Divine Mercy message. It is an act of mercy towards others and oneself; it is often a condition for physical healing, but is definitely a condition for spiritual progress. Just as God forgives our sins, we are to forgive others of their transgressions. "And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father also who is in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses" (Mk 11:25).

The need for forgiveness is even more apparent in a society with so many ills; one does not have to look

far to see people suffering from the ravages of divorce, violence, addictions, pornography, and more. Think about how many times we pray the Our Father, "And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" (Mt 6:12). We seldom forgive and rarely forget, and yet we pray for God to forgive us as we forgive others. We are living in a time of great mercy, and yet the outpouring of God's mercy cannot be received as long as we have not forgiven those who have offended us. How can we love the God we cannot see, if we cannot love the brother or sister we can see? In refusing to forgive our brothers and sisters, our hearts are closed and the hardness of our hearts makes us impervious to the Father's merciful love; but in confessing our sins, our hearts are opened to His grace (d. Catechism of the Catholic Church, #2840).

How many times has God forgiven us? The image of Divine Mercy symbolizes the Sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation. The great Sacrament of Reconciliation is not to be looked on as a punishment, a time for scolding and flagellation, but rather as a vehicle for great healing. God is always there, ready to forgive. There are no limits to His mercy! Our Lord told Saint Faustina, "Apostle of My mercy, proclaim to the whole world. My unfathomable mercy" (Diary, 1142). His mercy is so great that we will never be able to comprehend it; it is like an ocean that has no bottom. All we have to do is trust in Him and float in the great ocean of mercy. Forgiveness is easier if we can avoid being judgmental. We should not be like the Pharisees, who saw serious faults in others but not in themselves. If only we could be as demanding of ourselves as we are of others! We are all so quick to criticize, condemn, and judge. And yet, how easily we overlook our own serious shortcoming by rationalizing our conduct and defects. "Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?" (Mt 7:3). Reflect on the passage: "He that takes vengeance will suffer vengeance from the Lord, and he will firmly establish his sins. Forgive your neighbor the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray. Does a man harbor anger against another, and yet seek healing from the Lord? Does he have no mercy toward a man like himself, and yet pray for his own sins?" (Sir 281:4).

Many struggle more with forgiveness of self than with forgiveness of others. Think of the millions of addicts who use drugs, alcohol, sex, workaholics, and overeating, gambling and other outlets and live in a world of isolation, shame, and despair. How many of us continually beat up ourselves mentally, almost to the point of exhaustion. We focus on thoughts like "How could I?" and "Why did I do such a thing" and

"What a loser I am!" All the guilt, shame, and self-doubt enters our mind, and we become so deeply troubled that we wonder if God could ever forgive such a miserable soul. Yet, the God of Mercy is ready to forgive and show us mercy. We can find comfort in the words Our Lord spoke to Saint Faustina, "The greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to My mercy" (Diary, 723).

Even souls striving for sanctity stumble and fall, and like the prodigal son, all must come back to the God of Mercy.

Jesus spoke to Saint Faustina regarding a soul striving after perfection:

"You see, My child, what you are of yourself. The cause of your falls is that you rely too much upon yourself and too little on Me. But let this not sadden you so much. You are dealing with the God of mercy, which your misery cannot exhaust. Remember, I did not allot a certain number of pardons. And the soul replied, 'Yes, I know all that, but great temptations assail me, and various doubts awaken within me and, moreover, everything irritates and discourages me.' And Jesus replied, My child, know that the greatest obstacles to holiness are discouragement and an exaggerated anxiety. These will deprive you of the ability to practice virtue. All temptations united together ought not to disturb your inner peace, not even momentarily. Sensitiveness and discouragement are the fruits of self love. Have confidence, My child. Do not lose heart in coming for pardon, for I am always ready to forgive you. As often as you beg for it, you glorify My mercy" (Diary, 1488).

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OFFICE HELP, ASSEMBLY, LABELS and MAILING: Too many wonderful pilgrims and volunteers to mention them all by name.

Consider the story of Saint Mary Magdalene. An accomplished sinner, she initially washed, kissed, and anointed the feet of Jesus out of contrition, and after his death, out of devotion. In spite of her past sins, she loved Jesus very much and stayed with Mother Mary during the crucifixion (In 19:25). It was not Peter, or his beloved disciple John, who was the first to the tomb and who announced the Resurrection. No, it was Mary Magdalene! What great hope that should give us!

We all know the story of the Prodigal Son as told in Luke chapter 5, verses 11-32. Each of us face experiences in life where we have erred and can relate to the sinful son, as well as to our own need for repentance. Knowing the Father as Love and Mercy can bring us much reassurance, for we know He will never reject our pleas for mercy. During our lifetime we are sometimes placed in situations where we have to be humble and ask for forgiveness from a friend. Yet, at other times, we are not the repentant, but more of an innocent bystander. We choose to act like the older brother, upset when the fattened calf was slaughtered and fine robe placed on his younger brother. Anger, envy, and jealousy surface as another gets attention that we feel we deserve. We moan to ourselves, "I never did anything like that, and no calf was ever slaughtered for me." Have you ever looked with disdain on a repentant sinner, lacking any forgiveness in your heart, and wondering why all the attention has not been directed toward you instead? The jealousy of the older brother is so apparent in today's society. We should rejoice when a prodigal son returns, whether he or she is a murderer, a pregnant daughter, an alcoholic, or an arrogant and pride-filled friend. Finally, there are times in our life where we are called to be like the forgiving father-ready to forgive and embrace those who have hurt us. We know what we need to do, but it is so difficult. Forgiveness is an act of the will. It is not a feeling. It does not erase the memories of what happened. But by making the effort to forgive, even if we cannot personally deliver the forgiveness to our neighbor, a slow healing process begins and deep internal wounds begin to heal. We start the long trek on "the long and winding road" to spiritual, psychological, and emotional good health.

Let us strive for that inner peace, for we cannot be at peace if we are angry, anxious, or discouraged. Let us open our hearts to the outpouring of Christ's rays of Merciful Love, for we all want to know Him in a deeper way. We must forgive those who have hurt us, and even ourselves, because this act opens the door to His Divine Mercy. It makes our stony hearts able to absorb the rays of the Son, that is, the rays of Blood and Water coming from His pierced heart.

(Excerpts taken from *Divine Mercy As A Way of Life*, by Dr. Bryan Thatcher, copyright 2000, *Marians of the Immaculate Conception* from "Signs and Wonders of Our Times" Spring 2005)

SPIRITUAL WARFARE PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I love You, I praise You, and I worship You. I thank You for sending Your Son Jesus Who won victory over sin and death for my salvation. I thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit Who empowers me, guides me, and leads me into fullness of life. I thank you for Mary, my Heavenly Mother, who intercedes with the holy angels and saints for me.

Lord Jesus Christ, I place myself at the foot of Your cross and ask You to cover me with Your Precious Blood which pours forth from Your Most Sacred Heart and Your Most Holy Wounds. Cleanse me, my Jesus, in the living water that flows from Your Heart. I ask You to surround me, Lord Jesus, with Your Holy Light.

Heavenly Father, let the healing waters of my baptism now flow back through the maternal and paternal generations to purify my family line of Satan and sin. I come before You, Father, and ask forgiveness for myself, my relatives, and my ancestors, for any calling upon powers that set themselves up in opposition to You or that do not offer true honor to Jesus Christ. In Jesus' Holy Name, I now reclaim any territory that was handed over to Satan and place it under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

By the power of Your Holy Spirit, reveal to me, Father, any people I need to forgive and any areas of unconfessed sin. Reveal aspects of my life that are not pleasing to You, Father, ways that have given or could give Satan a foothold in my life. Father, I give to You any unforgiveness; I give to You my sins; and, I give to You all ways that Satan has a hold of my life. Thank You, for Your forgiveness and Your love.

Lord Jesus, in Your Holy Name, I bind all evil spirits of the air, water, ground, underground, and netherworld. I further bind, in Jesus' Name, any and all emissaries of the satanic headquarters and claim the Precious Blood of Jesus on the air, atmosphere, water, ground and their fruits around us, the underground and the netherworld below.

Heavenly Father, allow Your Son Jesus to come now with the Holy Spirit, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the holy angels and the saints to protect me from all harm and to keep all evil spirits from taking revenge on me in any way.

(Repeat the following sentence three times: once in honor of the Father, once in honor of the Son, and once in honor of the Holy Spirit.)

In the Holy Name of Jesus, I seal myself, my relatives, this room (place, home, church, car, plane, etc...), and all sources of supply in the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ.

(To break and dissolve all satanic seals, repeat the following paragraph three times in honor of the Holy Trinity because satanic seals are placed three times to blaspheme the Holy Trinity.)

In the Holy Name of Jesus, I break and dissolve any and all curses, hexes, spells, snares, traps, lies, obstacles, deceptions, diversions, spiritual influences, evil wishes, evil desires, hereditary seals, known and unknown, and every dysfunction and disease from any source including my mistakes and sins. In Jesus' Name, I sever the transmission of any and all satanic vows, pacts, spiritual bonds, soul ties, and satanic works. In Jesus' Name, I break and dissolve any and all links and effects of links with: astrologers; bohmos; channelers; charters; clairvoyants; crystal healers; crystals; fortune tellers; mediums; the New Age Movement; occult seers; palm, tea leaf, or tarot card readers; psychics; santeros; satanic cults; spirit guides; witches; witchdoctors; and, Voodoo. In Jesus' Name, I dissolve all effects of participation in séances and divination, Ouija boards, horoscopes, occult games of all sorts, and any form of worship that does not offer true honor to Jesus Christ.

Holy Spirit, please reveal to me through word of knowledge any evil spirits that have attached themselves to me in any way. (Pause and wait for words to come to you, such as: anger, arrogance, bitterness, brutality, confusion, cruelty, deception, envy, fear, hatred, insecurity, jealousy, pride, resentment, or terror. Pray the following for each of the spirits revealed.)

In the Name of Jesus, I rebuke you spirit of _____. I command to go directly to Jesus, without manifestation and without harm to me or anyone, so that He can dispose of you according to His Holy Will.

I thank You, Heavenly Father for Your Love. I thank You, Holy Spirit for empowering me to be aggressive against Satan and evil spirits. I thank You, Jesus, for setting me free. I thank You, Mary, for interceding for me with the holy angels and the saints.

Lord Jesus, fill me with charity, compassion, faith, gentleness, hope, humility, joy, kindness, light, love, mercy, modesty, patience, peace, purity, security, tranquility, trust, truth, understanding, and wisdom. Help me to walk in Your Light and Truth, illuminated

by the Holy Spirit so that together we may praise, honor, and glorify Our Father in time and in eternity. For You, Lord Jesus, are, **"...the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6 NAB)**, and You **"...have come that we might have life and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10 JB)**.

"God indeed is my savior; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and courage is the Lord, and he has been my savior" (Isaiah 12:2 JB).

Amen. Alleluia. Amen.

<http://www.domestic-church.com/CONTENT.DCC/19980901/SCRMNTL/WARFARE.HTM> by Father Robert DeGrandis, S.S.J.)

SCRIPTURE RELATED to DELIVERANCE and HEALING

MATTHEW 8: 16-17

16 That evening they brought to him many who were possessed with demons; and he cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick. 17 This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."

MARK 1: 32-39

32 That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. 33 And the whole city was gathered together about the door. 34 And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast

THE POWER of SCRIPTURE

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services when she was startled by an intruder.

She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled, **STOP! Acts 2:38! (Repent and be baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven.)**

The burglar stopped in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done.

As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture to you."

"Scripture?" replied the burglar. "She said she had an **Ax** and **Two 38's!**"

Terzmaster2@aol.com Mon 8/7/2006

out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. 35 And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed. 36 And Simon and those who were with him pursued him, 37 and they found him and said to him, "Every one is searching for you." 38 And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also; for that is why I came out." 39 And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

LUKE 4: 40-41

40 Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to him; and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. 41 And demons also came out of many, crying, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them, and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

MATTHEW 8: 28-34

28 And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way. 29 And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" 30 Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. 31 And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." 32 And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. 33 The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. (Picture) 34 And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood.

MARK 5: 1-20

1 They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. 2 And when he had come out of the boat, there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 who lived among the tombs; and no one could bind him any more, even with a chain; 4 for he had often been bound with fetters and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the fetters he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. 5 Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out, and bruising himself with stones. 6 And when he

saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped him; 7 and crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." 8 For he had said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" 9 And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." 10 And he begged him eagerly not to send them out of the country. 11 Now a great herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; 12 and they begged him, "Send us to the swine, let us enter them." 13 So he gave them leave. And the unclean spirits came out, and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea. 14 The herdsmen fled, and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. 15 And they came to Jesus, and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. 16 And those who had seen it told what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine. 17 And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their neighborhood. 18 And as he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 But he refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and all men marveled.

MATTHEW 17: 14-21

14 But the Pharisees went out and took counsel against him, how to destroy him. 15 Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. And many followed him, and he healed them all, 16 and ordered them not to make him known. 17 This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: 18 "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he shall proclaim justice to the Gentiles. 19 He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will any one hear his voice in the streets; 20 he will not break a bruised reed or quench a smoldering wick, till he brings justice to victory; 21 and in his name will the Gentiles hope."

MARK 9: 14-29

14 And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd about them, and scribes arguing with them. 15 And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed,

and ran up to him and greeted him. 16 And he asked them, "What are you discussing with them?" 17 And one of the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; 18 and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." 19 And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." 20 And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. 21 And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. 22 And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." 23 And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" 25 And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." 26 And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. (Picture) 28 And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" 29 And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting."

LUKE 9: 37-43

37 On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. 38 And behold, a man from the crowd cried, "Teacher, I beg you to look upon my son, for he is my only child; 39 and behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out; it convulses him till he foams, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him. 40 And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." 41 Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." 42 While he was coming, the demon tore him and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. 43 And all were astonished at the majesty of God

LUKE 6: 17-19

17 And he came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; 18 and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. 19 And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came forth from him and healed them all.

LUKE 7: 20-23

20 And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?'" 21 In that hour he cured many of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many that were blind he bestowed sight. 22 And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. 23 And blessed is he who takes no offense at me." (Picture)

LUKE 8: 1-3

1 Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, 2 and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, 3 and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

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LUKE 11: 24-26

24 “When the unclean spirit has gone out of a man, he passes through waterless places seeking rest; and finding none he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ **25** And when he comes he finds it swept and put in order. **26** Then he goes and brings seven other spirits more evil than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first.”

ACTS 5:14-16

14 And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women, **15** so that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. **16** The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

1 TIMOTHY 4: 1-5

1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by giving heed to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons, **2** through the pretensions of liars whose consciences are seared, **3** who forbid marriage and enjoin abstinence from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. **4** For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving; **5** for then it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

REVELATION 16: 12-14

12 The sixth angel poured his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east. **13** And I saw, issuing from the mouth of the dragon and from the mouth of the beast and from the mouth of the false prophet, three foul spirits like frogs; **14** for they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty.

<http://www.mdep.org/exorcism7.html>

PRAYER for TRUTH and against DECEPTION

My Lord I commit myself totally to Your Will. In all deception of past relationships, Jezebel

spirits, and deceptive spirits, open my eyes and my heart to Your Truth.

I command in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ that all deceiving spirits depart from me and I reject and renounce all their counterfeit gifts.

Lord, bless me and those closest to me who try to show me the truth, to help my soul and heart get out of the pain of discovery. I wish to grow in truth and be blessed that my life may edify Your Holy Name.

Amen.

THE NAME of JESUS' FATHER

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, “What was Jesus’ mother’s name?”

One child answered, “Mary.”

The teacher then asked, “Who knows what Jesus’ father’s name was?”

A little kid said, “Verge.”

Confused, the teacher asked, “Where did you get that from?”

The kid said, “Well, you know, they are always talking about Verge n Mary.”

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HISTORY of OUR LADY of CHARITY

A beautiful image of the Mother of Christ appeared floating on the waters in the Nipe Bay at the beginning of the XVIIth Century.

The image was seen by three peasant boys at dawn, three days after a storm had passed by. The young men had gone out to collect salt and found the image floating on a small board with an inscription saying: “I am the Virgin of Charity”.

They picked up the image and carried her back to the village of Barajaguas where they lived. Some years later the image of Our Lady was moved to the parish in el Cobre. From both places, the image used to disappear for a few days and then return again. A girl named Apolonia said that she could see her on the mountain of el Cobre. Everyone in the village was concerned with these events.

One night after the people had finished praying, they saw a beautiful bright light shine on the mountain. It was then decided to build a small chapel and the

image was transferred to that location. She has remained there ever since, known as the National Shrine of Our Lady of Charity in el Cobre, Cuba.

On May 10, 1916, Pope Benedict XV proclaimed Our Lady of Charity "Patroness of Cuba". On January 24, 1998 during his pastoral visit to the island, Pope John Paul II personally venerated and crowned the holy image.

From the very beginning, Mary the Mother of the Lord was honored in Cuba with the beautiful title of: "Our Lady of Charity." The faithful have permanently sought her intercession and implored her protection in all their needs and in times of danger.

(no source given for above article but its content may be verified at <http://www.catholic-forum.com/SAINTS/mary0006.htm>)

A SPIRITUAL WARFARE PRAYER

Father we love you, Father we give you glory and honor, we lift our hands and praise you Father, we adore you for you are our great I AM.

Father we lift this child to you in the Name of Jesus.

Father we ask that you place good godly people around them that can help them to walk in the deliverance you are giving _____ in the Name of Jesus.

Father give _____ a hunger and thirst for you in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out idolatry in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out depression in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out rejection in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out grief in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out unholy soul ties in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out fear and torment in the Name of Jesus

Father cast out insecurity in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out fantasy lust in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out fear of rejection in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out self accusation and self hate in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out compulsive confession in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out suspicion and distrust in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out rebellion and accusation toward others in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out selfishness in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out self deception, self delusion and self seduction in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out pride in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out control in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out unforgiveness, resentment, violence, anger, bitterness, hopelessness, suicide, guilt, shame, frustration, vanity, perfection, unfairness, shyness, loneliness, sensitiveness, nervousness, tension and all kinds of fear in the Name of Jesus.

Father cast out paranoid in the Name of Jesus.

Father heal _____ from the top of their head to the heels of their feet in the Name of Jesus.

Father you said in your word that you would give us a right mind, Father give _____ a right mind, one that is stayed on you, Father line up their emotions with your word in the Name of Jesus.

Father you said that you lead the captive free, Father you said that you came that we might have life and that more abundantly, Father make _____ free through Christ Jesus.

Father even the man that had the legions of demons in him, once he was set free from the demons went and became an evangelist for you Lord even to the leading of a whole city to you Father.

Father we loose this prayer in Heaven in the promise given by you, that we can do this in and through the authority and power given to all Christians by our your word. **[Mark 16:17a. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils;...{KJV}] [Matthew 16. 19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven...{KJV}]**

Send your Holy Spirit upon _____, body, mind, soul, and spirit, in the Name of Jesus.

Father you do what _____ can not do, Father give _____ the deliverance that only you can do, Father you are our I AM and we look to you in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

(<http://www.ilovejesus.com/worship/swpw/intercession.html#prayer1>)

SAINT MICHAEL, ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts by the

power of God cast into Hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl around the world seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

KIDS IN CHURCH

3-year-old Reese: "Our Father, Who does art in Heaven, Harold is His name. Amen."

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied,

"That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home and I wanted to stay with you guys."

I had been teaching my three year old daughter Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer, for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo.

I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer:

"Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us from E-mail."

One particular four year old prayed,

"And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on their way to the church service,

"And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?"

One bright little girl replied,

"Because people are sleeping."

Six-year-old Angie and her four year old brother, Joel, were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had enough.

"You're not supposed to talk out loud in church."

"Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked.

Angie pointed to the back of the church and said,

"See those two men standing by the door?"

They're hushers."

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson.

"If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'"

Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

A father was at the beach with his children when the four year old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand.

"Daddy, what happened to him?" the son asked.

"He died and went to Heaven," the Dad replied.

The boy thought a moment and then said,

"Did God throw him back down?"

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six year old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied.

"Just say what you hear Mommy say," the wife answered.

The daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"

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SPIRITUAL WARFARE PRAYER AGAINST WITCHCRAFT

In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, I come against the prince-ruling spirit and all spirit guides. I come through the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, in the name of Jesus. I paralyze you and silence you, forbidding you from influencing or strengthening them (the witch or witches) in the name of Jesus, right now!

We are destroying your very works: the spirits of hate, bitterness and murder, spirits of envy and jealousy, spirits of wizardry, sorcery and all your co-

spirits, your works, your powers, your influences are destroyed in the name of Jesus!

I paralyze you, all, right now. You will not be able to use this soul any longer against the church (or, a particular person), in the name of Jesus.

I come against the spirit of blindness, binding the spirits of bondage and heaviness, fear and hate.

I pray, Lord, that you will open their eyes so they can see the glory of Jesus. Open their hearts so that they can hear your voice. Break the yokes in their lives and give them liberty in their souls that they may be free to repent. Show them every evil work and every evil deed they're guilty of, and Lord Jesus, convict their hearts unto repentance. Bring these souls out of darkness; save these souls so that you may have the glory.

Satan, I silence you in the name of Jesus, binding all your interference. You will not interfere with these souls and they will have their own free will choice so as to make up their own minds if they want to repent. They will do it without your interference. Also, Lord Jesus, I pray that you will release warring angels to wage war against these demonic activities, and will send ministering spirits to minister to their souls."

Amen.

PRAYER of ANTI-WITCHCRAFT

Father, in JESUS Name, I break and loose myself from all witchcraft curses and demons being sent to me and my family.

As your war club (**Jeremiah 51:20-23**) and weapons of war, I break in pieces the walls of protection that the Satanists and witches have put up and I send the curses and demons back to them to do to them what the Satanists and witches sent them to do to us (**Exodus 22:18**).

I send judgment, fire, burning, destruction and death to the Satanists and witches sending anything our way, in JESUS Name. I heap coals from the altar of God upon their foreheads in JESUS Name.

I cover myself and my family in the Blood of JESUS and ask for warring angels to be placed around us for protection. I break and loose us from psychic power, thoughts and prayers. I break and loose us from words spoken in hurt, anger, sorrow, or bitterness. I break and loose us from the power of incense and candles being burned on our behalf. I break and loose us from ungodly intercessory prayers in JESUS Name.

Amen.

A DREAM COME TRUE

In Mary, the Mother of God, Jesus has given us a mother who surpasses all others.

The Blessed Virgin Mary is the mother of our dreams, especially during Advent and Christmastime.

Ever since my conversion to Catholicism in 1992, I have felt that Mary, as my spiritual mother, helps me prepare for Christmas. Often in late Advent, my life is hectic, especially now that I am a priest and have to prepare liturgies, homilies, and various other seasonal events for Jesus' birthday.

Yet, even in the midst of the business, I have always found the time to contemplate the Divine Child in the womb of Mary as they make their way to Bethlehem. What a wonder! Imagine: Jesus is living in Mary and she can feel His every heartbeat, move and turn. What a joy it would have been to hear Mary sing a sweet lullaby to her Divine Son growing within her body. The angels must have been in ecstasy when Our Lady raised her voice in song!

Saint Faustina, too, had a deep understanding of how the Virgin Mary could help her prepare for Christmas. When I first read the *Diary of Saint Faustina*, I was surprised to note the number of times Saint Faustina mentions this very point (see *Diary*, 785, 792, 829, 840, and 1398). Even while being driven through the large city of Krakow in Poland, Saint Faustina reflected deeply on the journey of the Mother and Child to Bethlehem (see *Diary*, 844).

By meditating on the Incarnation of Jesus in the womb of Mary, we glimpse just how much God loves us. God became man, so we could become children of

PRAY to END PORNOGRAPHY

Groups of praying individuals have asked that others join them in praying as many "Our Father" prayers as possible each day with the specific intention of ending the use of pornography throughout the world.

Information is available that places one of the largest pornography operations in downtown **Philadelphia**. We urgently ask for prayers from everyone in the greater **Philadelphia** area.

Pray as often as you can:

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

God. Saint Paul's Epistle to the Galatians sums it up perfectly: "In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman ... that we might receive the adoption of sons" (4:4-5). Christmastime is the season when we celebrate the Incarnation of God's Son "born of a woman." And it is also a time when we contemplate just how special this particular mother is *for us*.

One of my favorite ways of understanding the holiness and beauty of Mary, the Mother of God, comes from an explanation given by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. In his typical storytelling fashion, he invited his audience to imagine they were all-powerful and had the ability to create their own mothers. Seems like a crazy idea, but there is a great point in it.

Okay, so you now have all the power in the universe. I'm quite certain that, with your unlimited power, you would create and fashion a mother who was the kindest, gentlest, most compassionate, most understanding, holiest, and most beautiful woman. What child would not want his mother to have such qualities to the greatest degree?

Well, the point of Archbishop Sheen's story is that, though we do not have the power and ability to create our own mother, Jesus, the Eternal Son of the Father, did! *just* imagine: The Eternal Son knows that He is going to come into the world as a little, adorable baby, so He has to prepare a woman to be His very own mother. What a wonder! How holy and lovely Our Lady, the Mother of God, must be!

From the very beginning of the Church, saints and mystics have tried to capture in writings and paintings the holiness and beauty of the Mother of God. For example, there is the tradition that Saint Luke the Evangelist was an artist and painted many images of Our Lady, trying to capture her holiness and beauty. Also, men like Saint Ephrem the Syrian tried to explain the wonders of the Mother of God through using poetry and hymns.

Saints and scholars in the Middle Ages would devote entire books to the topic of Mary's Divine Motherhood. In all of world history, the most painted woman by far is Mary. And it is precisely her role as Mother of God that we see depicted, for most of these paintings go under the title *Madonna and Child* - the image of Mary intimately holding her Divine Son for us to behold.

So, where do we see the profound preparation that God put into creating His own mother?

It is exactly in the gift of her Immaculate Conception. What the Immaculate Conception means is that Mary is completely pure, without sin, and created to be the

mother of the Son of God. Thus, there is an intimate connection between the Immaculate Conception of Mary and the Christmas mystery.

Interestingly, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8th) *always* occurs in Advent. It is almost as if the Church wants us to remember that Mary's Immaculate Conception is God's way of preparing her to be the worthy Mother of His Divine Son. After all, how could God's most holy Mother have any share in sin?

For her to be in bondage to sin and, at the same time, be the Mother of Jesus would be a contradiction. Mary's entire being points to Jesus. The Immaculate Mother of God is that pure and holy vessel that always leads us deeper and deeper into the saving mystery of the Incarnation of the Son of God.

As if this were not enough, God shows His profound love for us in not keeping this most holy and beautiful of mothers to Himself. On the contrary, Jesus is so good to us and so concerned about our welfare that, at the cross, He gives Mary to us to be our spiritual mother. (See John 19:26-27.) What a gift!

By the very fact that Jesus gave Mary to us as our mother, it is very important that we invite Mary into our spiritual lives. Preparing for Christmas with Mary is an ideal time for us to do this. In giving birth to Jesus, Mary is also giving birth to every human person who will become a brother or sister of Jesus, her first-born Son. This is why Mary is both Mother of God and Mother of the Church; she gives birth to the whole Christ, that is, the Head *Jesus*) and the members of His Mystical Body (the Church).

So, as we prepare for Christmas with Mary, let us desire to become like Mary in her purity and holiness. God desires our hearts, too, to become a resting place for the Baby Jesus. Through Mary's intercession, we can learn how to quiet down our busy lives and make our hearts a manger - even more, a tabernacle - for Jesus. Saint Faustina understood this well when she stated: "O Mother, Virgin, purest of all lilies, your heart was Jesus' first tabernacle on earth" (*Diary*, 161).

By turning to Mary as our spiritual mother and imitating her love of Jesus, may our hearts also become a tabernacle for the Holy Infant this Christmas, especially when we receive Him in Holy Communion.

Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, is Vocation Director and Superior of the Marian House of Studies in Steubenville, OH. His latest book from Marian Press is The Blessed Virgin Mary and Theology of the Body. He recently completed his STL in Mariology from the International Research Institute in Dayton, OH.

COMMAND PRAYER

In the name of Jesus Christ I cut all demons from communication and help from other demons and Satan.

I pray that they will enter into confusion of their own and truly be weakened.

I pray for a strengthening of faith in Christ.

I pray to trust God's Word.

I pray to distinguish between those of Satan and his own and my own thoughts and feelings.

I pray for Godly counsel and help.

I pray for protection by angelic forces to break up every scheme of the enemy.

PROTECTION PRAYER to the HOLY SPIRIT

Oh, Holy Spirit, do not abandon me in these times of difficulty. I know that Satan goes around like a hunter, and he never tires his search to have me fall prey to him. If he is able to strike at my hope then my love fades. And if my love fades, so does my faith. Holy Spirit do not let me surrender my love, my hope, or my faith. Prune me gently, oh Spirit of God, wherever it is necessary, so that I may bear much fruit in my life. Console me, Holy Spirit.

Help me keep, preserve, and protect Your virtues given to me so generously. Never let me tire of searching for these virtues through You. Holy Spirit let me rejoice in You forever. Possess me completely. Protect me always.

Amen.

ENCLOSED ITEMS

In this *September* issue of "*The PILGRIM*" are the following:

A **yellow** information sheet for the **Pilgrimage to Medjugorje and London, Thursday, 26 October 2006, thru Friday, 3 November 2006, \$1699**. The Spiritual Director for this pilgrimage is **Father John O'Leary, Pastor, Our Lady of the Angels, Cape May Court House, NJ**. Call (856) 768-9228 for a packet with registration form or print it from: www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith/2006/06PPM10InfoPacket.pdf.

The PILGRIM, Volume 17, Number 9 – September 2006

A **blue** information sheet for the **16 to 18 FEBRUARY 2007 PFMC RETREAT CONFERENCE**. Theme: "**but deliver us from the evil one.**" (**Matthew 6:13**)[NAB]. Location: **Clarion Hotel, NJ 70 and I-295, Cherry Hill, NJ**. Speakers: **Father Bill Halbing, Francine Schmatz, Neal Lozano, Robert Abel, Moira Noonan, Father John Tino**. Music: **Refuge**. Donation: **\$50 Meal Plan: \$60**. Call (856) 768-9228 for a packet with registration form or print it from: www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith/2007/07RET2.pdf. Please review, fill-out, and mail registration form to **61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043-4963**.

The usual **PFMC** envelope and the new donation coupon explained in the *July 2004* [special financial support appeal letter](#) for the **PFMC**. Please respond if you are able. We need to hear from readers that their addresses are still correct and would love to receive a donation from each reader on a regular basis.

PFMC DISPLAYS and / or PRESENTATIONS



Kathleen and Keith are available to participate in parish or prayer group meetings with witness, and/or videotape or slide presentations, followed by a question and answer session.

The experiences and continuation of the **PFMC** ministries for Our Lady and her Son in this time of manifestation of Our Lord's mercy and graces are shared at no cost. Free will offerings are accepted.

This is especially true for books, tapes, and religious articles, when they are made available in displays at the presentation sites. Recipients are asked to donate at or above the suggested value posted on each article on display. Displays may be set up without a presentation.

The **PFMC** volunteers are willing and have offered to set up displays in parishes for all the weekend Holy Masses. We'll come on **Saturday afternoon** in time (**about 2 hours**) to set up before the **first vigil Holy Mass** and stay through **Sunday afternoon** or **evening** until after the last **Sunday Holy Mass** (Volunteer staff pending).

Displays in parishes are particularly beneficial when good Catholic religious goods or book stores are not convenient to the parishioners.

Ask your pastor if he would allow the **PFMC** volunteers to set up a display in the basement, school cafeteria, or gymnasium, or wherever we could have about **20** large tables with display material on them.

MESSAGE of 8/25/2006 via MARIA PAVLOVIC LUNETTI

Dear children! Also today I call you to pray, pray, pray. Only in prayer will you be near to me and my Son and you will see how short this life is. In your heart a desire for Heaven will be born. Joy will begin to rule in your heart and prayer will begin to flow like a river. In your words there will only be thanksgiving to God for having created you and the desire for holiness will become a reality for you. Thank you for having responded to my call.

(The **PFMC** upholds the final decision of the **Magisterium** of the **Roman Catholic Church** led by the **Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI**, as to the authenticity of messages to alleged visionaries from **Medjugorje**.)

REFLECTION on the MESSAGE of 8/25/2006

SUMMER DELAYS

As with the reflection on the 7/25/06 message, the reflection on the 8/25/06 message has not been posted as we need to start the printing of this issue. It will be included in next month's issue of "The PILGRIM" as the one for the 7/25/06 message on the next page.

ANOTHER REFLECTION on the MESSAGE of 8/25/2006

"Dear children! Also today I call you to pray, pray, pray. Only in prayer will you be near to me and my Son and you will see how short this life is." With these first two sentences of Her message of August 25, 2006, Our Lady is challenging us to pray, to understand the importance of prayer with regards to being near Herself and Jesus, and to realize through prayer one can begin to comprehend the small amount of time that our life will be on this earth.

The call from Our Lady, ***"to pray, pray, pray,"*** is certainly nothing new. However, the fact that this request is part of so many of Our Lady's monthly messages should challenge us to pray more. As we contemplate the necessity of praying in our life, we should ask ourselves am I praying enough. Also, do I make the effort and take the time to spiritually connect with Our Triune God and Our Lady through prayer. We continue to be too busy. People work, work, and work some more. Money and material things are way too important for many folks. People remark that they have little time to pray and worship God, but they seem to find time for their personal entertainment. Have we made God a priority in our life? Are we willing to be near Jesus and Our Lady? Do we realize that our lives can be over in a moment? If our life ended today, would we be prepared to meet

Jesus? Again, praying and embracing the reality of prayer is imperative for each one of us. Let us make a full commitment to pray, and through prayer may we rededicate ourselves to the Eternal Father, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and Our Lady.

"In your heart a desire for Heaven will be born. Joy will begin to rule in your heart and prayer will begin to flow like a river." In these next two sentences of Her message of August 25, 2006, Our Lady describes for us the beautiful impact that praying can have in our lives. As one gives more time to God through prayer, he or she begins to seek out the realities of God's presence. The things of this world become less important while the things of God become part of who we are. We begin to understand the reality of God's grace and the spiritual impact that it has in our lives. Prayer, the Eucharist, the other Sacraments, and sacrifice become more desirous for us as they lead us to God.

During these days, may we contemplate the reality of heaven. To be in the presence of God, Our Lady, and the angels and saints will bring about a perfect happiness. May we prepare ourselves for Jesus and look forward to that time when we are found worthy to come into His Kingdom. However, at this time, we must become more focused upon God and His unconditional love. As we start to experience the peace of God in our lives, then ***"joy will begin to rule in your heart and prayer will begin to flow like a river."***

"In your words there will only be thanksgiving to God for having created you and the desire for holiness will become a reality for you." The beautiful words of Our Lady in this sentence relates to us the reality of one being a fully, committed servant of Jesus who has brought the Lord into the center of his/her life.

May we continue to seek out that process within our lives where we pray often in thanksgiving to the Eternal Father for all of His gracious gifts. May we contemplate God's goodness as we reflect upon our

personal creation, redemption, and sanctification. God's love for us is beyond our comprehension; but with the gift of faith given to us to respond to God's revelation as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we can accept God's grace and thus embrace His unconditional love by bringing that love to all of those around us. This is the road to holiness; it is the way to the kingdom of heaven. It does not begin with money, material goods, power, influence or fame. It starts with prayer and a willingness to pray throughout the day even when we want to do something else. Again, the time to change is now. May we reject the self-seeking fulfillment of this world for the unconditional love of God. This can only happen when we become a devoted prayer warrior of Our Lady: who with a motherly love will lead us through the power of the Holy Spirit to Jesus and the Eternal Father.

I hope you are well. Give my best to all of your families. Enjoy the gift of each day, receiving it graciously from our dear Eternal Father. Be filled with faith. With much hope accept the responsibility of being a disciple of Jesus. We have been called to bring souls to Jesus. As we accept this work of Our Lady, let us carry Jesus' cross with much exuberance and courage. May the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit come upon you and remain with you, forever and ever. Amen.

God's love and prayers always,

Father Ed

(HEdwardChalmers@aol.com, Wednesday, 8/30/2006)

REFLECTION on the MESSAGE of 7/25/06 from Medjugorje

Not available at press time for the *July-August* issue of **"The PILGRIM"** but made available later in *August 2006*.

FIND TIME FOR YOUR SOUL

Dear children! At this time, do not only think of rest for your body but, little children, seek time also for the soul. In silence may the Holy Spirit speak to you and permit Him to convert and change you. I am with you and before God I intercede for each of you. Thank you for having responded to my call.
Message of July 25, 2006

Our Lady is a Mother, and a mother walks with us who are her children, she thinks about us and takes care of us. At this time when many are thinking about

or going on holidays Our Mother Mary invites us to true rest which is necessary for man. After returning from their missionary travels, Jesus said to his disciples: Go for a while in solitude, rest. Man requires rest. Life consists of work and rest. No work, even the hardest, tires a man. The thing that tires a man the most is life without order, various immoderateness and excesses.

Mary knows that man is not only a body but also soul. We deceive ourselves if we think that only the body is tired and that only the body needs rest. We require complete rest. This means it is not enough to just rest the body. Many come back from holidays tired so that they need to rest from their holiday. This happens because man's soul did not rest and was not filled with God's strength. Total rest of the soul, body and spirit is achieved by being in silence and peace. Real and true silence is not the lack of outside noise and sounds. True silence is peace from sin and blame, freedom from dirty and rude words; it is deserting dark thoughts and bad plans. Overall rest is achieved only when we decide to be generous and forgive everyone. When we repent for our sins and decide to live differently.

Jesus invites us: "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I shall rest you". Rest is the prayer of the Holy Spirit to help the soul, that He comes down and consoles our heart, to convert us and change us. Rest occurs in those moments when we are united with God who plans and holds our life in his hands. Rest is actually an encounter with our own soul. That is why we need moments in which we can stop so that our soul can catch up with us and come together with us. Rest is not just not working. Rest is the work of the heart and soul. When resting we allow the spirit to strengthen and fill us. That's why resting on holidays away from God and prayers and the Spirit of the God means returning from holidays even more tired and burdened.

Mother Mary invites us, her children, to find time for our souls and places of silence so that the Holy Spirit may rest in us all that is tired, heal that which is wounded, strengthen what is weak. If we truly love ourselves we will listen to the words and invitation of our Mother Mary who even today does not cease to speak and lovingly calls to us and suffers because of us and for us. Let the Holy Spirit with its light and strength enter our lives so that we may experience true rest and peace which is given to us by God.

Father Ljubo Kurtovic, Medjugorje, 26.7.2006,
(<http://medjugorje.hr.nt4.ims.hr> and e-mails sent out
around 8/16/06)

PRESS BULLETIN – NOW SELECTED “NEWS ARTICLES”

Last Press Bulletin was 217, 12/25/05

We will post selected “NEWS ARTICLES” from the **Medjugorje Web Site** maintained in **Saint James Parish, Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina**.

The 17th International Youth Festival in Medjugorje



The 17th International Youth Festival took place in Medjugorje from August 1 to 6, 2006. This year's theme was, “*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my*

path” (Ps 119 [118]:105), in harmony with the theme, which the Holy Father Benedict XVI gave to the youth for this year's World Youth Day that took place on Palm Sunday in local Churches.

About 30.000 young people from all over the world gathered together in Medjugorje in order to encounter Jesus in Mary's school of peace and joy... They came from all the continents and from the four corners of the earth... flags of about 50 countries were fluttering in the rhythm of the songs...

The 17th Youth Festival began in the evening on August 1, with the Rosary and Holy Mass at the outside altar of St. James' parish church in Medjugorje, and ended on August 6, with the Rosary and Holy mass at dawn around the cross on Cross Mountain. The opening was marked by young people from about 40 countries who, before the beginning of the Eucharistic celebration, greeted in their languages young people from their countries who came for this meeting (Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, the Czech republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Great Britain (England, Scotland, Wales), France (as well as young French from the departments over the ocean - La Reunion in the Indian Ocean and Martinique in the Atlantic Ocean), Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong, Croatia, India, Ireland, Italia, Cameroon, Canada (as well as a group of native Canadians Dene), China, Congo, Korea, Kosovo, Latvia, Leetonia, Lebanon (young Lebanese who live outside of Lebanon), Hungary, Macedonia, Malta, Mexico, Nederland and Dutch islands in the Caribbean), New Zeeland, Germany, Palestine, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, the USA, Slovakia, Slovenia, Voivodina, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine).

The Lebanese, who have been faithful and active participants of the Youth Festival during many years,

could not come this year because of the war. Their absence was felt in a painful way.

On August 1, Mons. Domenico Sigalini, Bishop of Palestrina near Rome, assisted in the opening of the Youth festival. Holy Mass on that first evening was presided by Fr. Ivan Sesar, parish priest, in concelebration with Fr. Slavko Soldo, Herzegovinian Franciscan provincial, and 265 priests. On other evenings, Holy Mass was presided by Fr. Jozo Grbeš, Fr. Sretan Ćurčić, Fr. Mario Knezović, and Fr. Branko Radoš, former parish priest of Medjugorje. On the last evening of the festival, one of the concelebrants of the Eucharistic celebration was Mons. Jérôme Gapangwa Nteziryayo, retired bishop of Uvira (Congo), who has already been several times in Medjugorje.

From August 2 to 5, the programme began with Morning Prayer that was coordinated by Fr. Ljubo Kurtović (psalms, quotations from Holy Father's letter to the youth for the WYD 2006, prayers of the faithful, Bible readings), followed by testimonies (morning and afternoon). The central encounter of each day was the Eucharistic celebration in which, every evening, numberless pilgrims from Medjugorje and from the surroundings joined the youth. Days ended with Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament (August 1), Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament and a Concert of spiritual music (August 2), procession through the parish and whole-night Adoration in silence (August 3), Theatre and musical show by Cenacolo community (August 4), Adoration and singing farewell (August 5). Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was held on Tuesday and on Wednesday evening. After the “Tantum Ergo”, the priest went down to the faithful with the monstrance and blessed the audience. At the end, he gave a solemn Eucharistic benediction. On Wednesday evening, after the Adoration, Taiana Cameron gave a concert of spiritual music. On Thursday evening, there was a procession with the Crucifix through the parish, in which young people were carrying lit candles, flags and names of their countries. The procession was longer than 2 kilometres, and it ended by half-hour adoration at the outside altar, followed by the whole-night silent adoration in the parish church until 7 a.m. On Friday evening, the Cenacolo community gave a theatre and musical show called, “The Light of the world”. On Saturday evening, the last evening of the Festival, in the Universal prayer, young people were praying for the peace in the world. After Mass and Adoration, there was a singing farewell after which young people, praying the Rosary, climbed Cross Mountain where they awaited dawn and assisted the Mass of the Transfiguration at 5 a.m. This Mass was presided by Fr. Ljubo Kurtović

and concelebrated by Fr. Ivan Sesar, parish priest, Fr. Slavko Soldo, Herzegovinian Franciscan provincial and other priests.

Young people are coming to Medjugorje because they want to encounter Jesus through Mary. Thousands of young people also this year went for confession: several hundreds of priests were hearing confession from dawn to late in the night. Hearts freed from burden of sin and purified by prayer were singing and dancing...

Also this year, Radio "Mir" Medjugorje adapted its programme to the Youth festival: it broadcasted live one part of the programme, so that as many local faithful as possible may take part in this exceptional gathering. The entire Youth festival (in German translation) was broadcasted live by "Radio Maria" Austria.

Thanks to the effort of about 20 interpreters and a whole crew of professional technicians, simultaneous translation was done in 16 languages: English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Czech, Slovak, Slovenian, Russian, Romanian, Hungarian, Albanian, Korean, Chinese and Croatian. The entire programme at the main altar was led in Croatian. Languages, which were not simultaneously translated, like Hebrew, Portuguese, Dutch/Flemish, Ukrainian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Creole (La Reunion), Macedonian, Bulgarian, Dene (Canadian Indians), Aramaic and Malayalam (India) were expressed through the prayer of the rosary and the prayers of the faithful.

About hundred young people from the Parish Medjugorje and seven volunteers from Karlovac (Croatia) helped that the Festival may go on in order, peace and joy.

About 90 young people from about 20 countries gathered together in an international choir and orchestra. The Parish Office has put at their disposal the house of prayer "Domus Pacis" where they were lodged, and where they could have their musical rehearsals. The director of this unusual orchestra gathered together for this special occasion was Prof. Martin Pero Boras from Ljubuški.

On the first day of the festival, Mons. Domenico Sigalini, bishop of Palestrina near Rome, gave catechesis to the young people. Other witnesses from different profiles also spoke to young people: priests, religious, lay people. Tajči - Tatjana Cameron, also gave her witness. After a spectacular career on pop scene in Croatia in the beginning of the nineties, she had reoriented her life: today, she is giving concerts of spiritual music in the churches all over the USA, where she found her way to God and where she

settled and founded her family. The Medjugorje visionaries spoke about Our Lady's apparitions. Members of the Cenacolo community spoke about their way from the hell of drugs to the interior freedom in faith.

Also this year, young people came to Medjugorje without knowing who the speakers would be. They came because this is Medjugorje - they came because Our Lady is here. They gathered here in faith and by their desire to live and witness their faith. They were gathered here by a profound desire to participate - with the help of God - in the building of a world that is in proportion to man, according to the example of Christ. They are gathered together by Mary, the Queen of Peace. (8/11/06)

Mons. Jérôme Gapangwa Nteziryayo, Bishop Emeritus of Uvira (Congo), concelebrated Mass on the last evening of the Youth Festival in Medjugorje



This year's Youth Festival in Medjugorje was honoured by the presence of two bishops.

Mons. Domenico Sigalini, Bishop of Palestrina near Rome, assisted in the opening of the

Festival, and gave a catechesis session to the young people on August 2nd.

Mons. Jérôme Gapangwa Nteziryayo, Bishop Emeritus of Uvira (Congo), who has already visited Medjugorje on several occasions, was one of the concelebrants of the evening Eucharistic celebration on August 5th. (8/7/06)

Tatiana Matejaš-Cameron at the Youth Festival in Medjugorje



On Wednesday evening, August 2nd, 2006, Tatiana Matejaš-Cameron gave a concert at the Youth Festival in Medjugorje, and on Thursday morning, August 3rd, she gave

her testimony to the thousands of young people who gathered for the Festival.

This is the first time that Tajči has performed in this region since leaving Croatia in the nineties. She no longer sings pop music, but only spiritual songs and her concerts are thematic: "I believe", "Emmanuel", "I Thirst" and "Let it be". During the last years, Tatiana has given hundreds of concerts all over the USA, where she found her way to God and where she

settled and founded her family. (See: <http://idobelieve.com/>) (8/9/06)

Mons. Domenico Sigalini, Bishop of Palestrina near Rome, on pilgrimage in Medjugorje.



Mons. Domenico Sigalini, Bishop of Palestrina near Rome, spent three days on pilgrimage in Medjugorje. Mons. Sigalini was consecrated Bishop only fifteen months ago. He was the last bishop to be appointed by Pope John Paul II. Before his Episcopal ordination, for ten years he was the delegate for pastoral work with youth. Last summer in Cologne, during the

World Youth Days, he was one of the bishops who gave catechesis in this context.

On August 1st, Mons. Domenico Sigalini assisted in the opening of the 17th International Youth festival in Medjugorje. On the morning of August 2nd, he gave catechesis to the young people. (8/2/06)

Feast of Saint James the apostle, patron of the parish of Medjugorje



On June 25, the parish of Medjugorje celebrated the feast of St. James, its patron saint.

Following tradition, the morning Eucharistic celebration which took place in the park near the parish church was preceded by a procession with the statue of St. James, and the singing of the litanies of All Saints. This year, the honor was given to those

living in the areas of Medjugorje called Sivric, Kozine and Dodig.

Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr. Stanko Dodig, a native of Medjugorje, and concelebrated by Fr. Slavko Soldo the Herzegovinian Franciscan provincial, Fr. Ivan Sesar parish priest of Medjugorje, and about twenty local and foreign priests. In his homily, Fr. Stanko Dodig spoke about St. James, about his role among the Twelve, his activities in the first Church, his martyrdom, and how his example can be applied today. The majority of the faithful who assisted at the Mass were parishioners, joined by some pilgrims. After Mass, in procession and while singing the litanies of All Saints, the statue of St. James was brought back to the church.

The parish of Medjugorje was founded in 1892 and placed under the protection of St. James the apostle. The first parish church was constructed in 1897, and a new church was completed and blessed on January 19, 1969.

St. James the apostle, like his brother John, was the son of Zebedee, a fisherman on the Lake of Galilee, and a friend of Peter and Andrew. Together with them, James first joined the disciples of John the Baptist, and then became a disciple of Jesus and the one who was called to “catch men”. James, as one of the most intimate disciples of Jesus, with Peter and John was present at the resurrection of the daughter of Jairus, and at the Transfiguration of Jesus. He was among those who were with Jesus during his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. James was the first among the apostles to lay down his life for the Gospel, in 43/44 AD under the reign of King Herod Agrippa I.

Since the 9th century, St. James has been venerated in Europe. When Muslims occupied the Holy Land, pilgrims returning from Jerusalem brought his relics to the town of Compostella in Spain, which then became the principal gathering point for all pilgrims who wanted, but could not, visit the Tomb of Jesus. St. James was declared patron of pilgrims. He is presented as a pilgrim, with a baton in his hand, a gourd to keep water, and a shell to drink. (7/28/06)

Bishop from Sri Lanka on pilgrimage in Medjugorje



Mons. Joseph Vianney Fernando, Bishop of the Kandy diocese in Sri Lanka and president of the Bishop's Conference of Sri Lanka came on a five-day pilgrimage to Medjugorje in July 2006. On Friday, July 21, he celebrated Holy Mass in English and gave a homily. He met the Franciscans at the Parish Office and spoke with them about the Medjugorje events. (Interview: preparing) (7/26/06)

The Seventh International Seminar for Married Couples

The seventh International Seminar for Married Couples will be held from the 1st to the 4th November 2006. The theme of the seminar is: **“The family called to forgiveness and holiness”** (“...I invite all of you, little children, that before all else forgive in the family...let your family be a place where holiness is birthed...” from Our Lady's message from 25th January 1996 and 24th of July 1986)

Bring with you: a small FM radio with headphones (for simultaneous translation) and a Bible.

Participation per couple: 40 Euro (€). You may make reservations by e-mail: seminar.marija@medjugorje.hr, or by fax +387-36-651-999. The number of participants is limited because of the available space in the Hall, so we ask you to send your registration as soon as possible, latest by the end of September. All the participants are invited to individually provide their accommodation in Medjugorje. [More information and the program is available on-line <http://212.39.96.6/brpar%20eng06.htm> or from the **PFMC**.]

(<http://medjugorje.hr.nt4.ims.hr/News.aspx>)

SEVEN SORROWS DEVOTION

Prayer Card from Our Lady of the Rosary Library.

Copies of this item available from:
Our Lady of the Rosary Library
11721 Hidden Creek Road
Prospect, KY 40059



Text of the Front: The Blessed Virgin Mary grants seven graces to the souls who honor her daily by saying seven Hail Mary's and meditating on her tears and dolors. The devotion was passed on by St. Bridget.

Text on Back:

HERE ARE THE SEVEN GRACES:

I will grant peace to their families.

They will be enlightened about the divine mysteries.

I will console them in their pains and I will accompany them in their work.

I will give them as much as they ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of my divine Son or the sanctification of their souls.

I will defend them in their spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect them at every instant of their lives.

I will visibly help them at the moment of their death; they will see the face of their Mother.

I have obtained (This Grace) from my divine Son, that those who propagate this devotion to my tears and dolors, will be taken directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness since all their sins will be

forgiven and my Son and I will be their eternal consolation and joy.

Seven Sorrows

The prophecy of Simeon. (Luke 2: 34, 35)

The flight into Egypt. (Matthew 2:13-14)

The loss of the Child Jesus in the temple. (Luke 3: 43-45)

The meeting of Jesus and Mary on the Way of the Cross.

The Crucifixion.

The taking down of the Body of Jesus from the Cross.

The burial of Jesus.

The Hail Mary: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen

(www.olrl.org/pray/)

VOCATIONS DEPARTMENT

If you need vocation information and you do not find it in your local parish or diocese offices, please call **(856) 768-9228**. We will do our best to locate the information you need and send it to you.

PRAYER to BE SAID at the PRIEST'S COMMUNION

O Lord, may Thou find shelter and rest gently within the heart of Thy priest. . . .

Make him, O Lord, a priest according to Thy Heart, meek, humble, zealous, so that all he does will be for Thine honor and glory. Mold him into a man of

HOLY MASS TIMES

If you ever think you will miss Holy Mass because you don't know the times of Holy Mass or the locations of churches in the area that you are going to visit or are currently located, please 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.

prayer and labor, insensible to earthly things, and sensible only to Thy love and to the graces of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Copies of these cards are available from: Our Lady of the Rosary Library 4016 Preston Hwy., Louisville, KY 40213 2 cents each plus \$2.00 P & H in U.S. \$4.00 outside U.S. for each shipment. Visit Our Lady of the Rosary Library on the internet.

[\(www.olrl.org/pray/\)](http://www.olrl.org/pray/)

PRAYER for MISSIONARIES

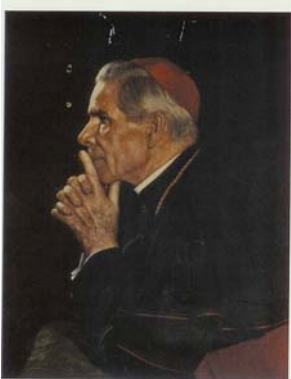


O Jesus, You are the beginning and the end of our life. You wanted Love to be the distinctive sign of your disciples. We entrust to You our missionaries who proclaim Your Gospel throughout the world. Bless their missionary work with Your Grace. Keep them safe from all dangers. Give them strength to bear any suffering for the glory of Your Name, making them worthy servants of Your vineyard. Grant that, through the intercession of Saint Francis Xavier, the great apostle of the East, we too may share in their joys and sufferings, that we may enter with them into Your everlasting Glory. All this we ask through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Photo: Fr. Noel Tomasi, with Congolese Children

(From a Prayer Card by Blessed Guido Maria Conforti Founder of the Xaverian Missionaries, 12 Helene Ct., Wayne, New Jersey 07470)

ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN 1895-1979



Prayer to obtain a favor through the intercession of the Servant of God ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN.

Eternal Father, You alone grant us every blessing in Heaven and on earth, through the redemptive mission of Your Divine Son, Jesus

Christ, and by the working of the Holy Spirit.

If it be according to Your Will, glorify Your servant, ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN, by granting the favor I now request through his prayerful intercession

(mention your request). I make this prayer confidently through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

For information on membership in the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Foundation, or to share any personal knowledge of the Archbishop (letters, photos, life experiences), or to report any spiritual or physical favors granted in his name, please write:

**The Archbishop Sheen Foundation, PO Box 728,
Peoria, IL 61652-0728**

**(From a Prayer Card – IMPRIMATUR Most Rev.
Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C. Bishop of Peoria)**

SIGNS of a PENITENT HEART



“You’re filthy! Wash your hands before supper.”

Those words have been said by myriad mothers to millions of children. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the time when Holy Mother Church reminds her children to clean their souls before the Easter feast.

Wearing ashes, holy and blessed dirt, but dirt nonetheless, on my face is a reminder that my soul needs to be scrubbed clean. Fasting is one means the Church uses to purify its children: a sanctified bristle brush for the Holy Spirit to use. It scourges the soul and helps clean off particularly stubborn sins and faults.

When I receive ashes, the priest traces the sign of the cross on my forehead as a mark of ownership by Christ. Ashes remind me that I have sinned. In biblical times, it was common to do penance by wearing sackcloth and ashes. Ashes also remind me that death comes for all, rubbing mortality in my face: ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

But isn’t wearing ashes just a public display, the kind frowned upon by Our Lord? What about the command, “Wash your face and comb your hair” (see Matthew 6:17), when fasting?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, “Jesus’ call to conversion and penance...does not aim first at outward works, ‘sackcloth and ashes,’ fasting and mortification, but at the conversion of the heart..” (#1430).

But Catholicism is caught up in the corporeal, concrete and sometimes gritty reminders of spiritual truths. This interior dimension is expressed in exterior signs.

What the soul believes, the body expresses. Wearing ashes signifies repentance for sin. Fasting is a reminder from the soul to the body

Chocolate, Romance and Whine

Each year, my family discusses what each person is giving up for Lent. To balance self-denial, my parents emphasized that we also should do something—an extra prayer and a good deed. Fasting is just going hungry. If the emptiness is left void; fasting a way to make room for God. I avoid food to awaken a hunger (Christ, the Bread of Life).

Fasting is a lesson in self discipline. As a child, I often gave up chocolate. Before we were married my husband and I gave up kisses on Fridays and all through Lent. Recently I've given up complaining about dishes and diapers.

These are not bad things that had to forgo (except complaining), but reminders that God is more important than my desires. Rather than bowing to the belly god at the cold shrine of refrigeration, fasting put things in perspective.

Finally, Lenten fasting is an imitation of Jesus, who prepared for his ministry with 40 days of fasting and prayer. When we fast, we draw near to the crucified Christ. We can offer upon hunger to him who said, "I thirst," for the salvation of souls.

Perhaps it shows the wild balance of Catholicism that the greatest feast is preceded by a great fast. We rejoice more fully when joy follows trial, when sweetness follows sacrifice. We value more what is bought with suffering. Lenten fasting is part of the soul's preparation not only for Easter, but also for the heavenly banquet, the everlasting Easter celebration.

Maria Johnson is a former editorial intern with this magazine. She currently resides in Steubenville, Ohio, with her husband, Wayne, and infant son, Patrick. She will be observing Lent cheerfully and chocolate-less.

(from "Saint Anthony Messenger" March, 2006)

PRAYER TO OUR LADY

MEMORARE

Remember, O Most Holy Virgin Mary, that never was it known in any age, that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this same confidence we fly to thy protection.

O Virgin of virgins, our Mother, to thee we come, before thee we stand sinful and sorrowful; despise not, a Mother of the Word Incarnate, our humble petitions, but graciously hear and grant our request.

Amen.

Refuge of sinners, pray for us. Ave Maria.

Comfort of the afflicted, pray for us. Ave Maria.

Help of Christians, pray for us. Ave Maria.

With ecclesiastical approval.

(From a Prayer Card)

WHAT IS LOVE WITHOUT SEX?

Working and living for God often requires love without sex. There is an unexplainable freedom in it, and the liberation from one's passions is a marvelous thing. To be free is a great treasure.

To be sure, the Holy Spirit fills us with His love, and thus, celibacy becomes doable, if not even easy. It is immeasurably preferable than the consequences of sin, which is slavery to one's passions, and the loss and grace of God. It requires that one be in love with "the Greater Good," which is also Jesus.

When I was a little boy, I loved to watch Westerns. Now, looking back, it is clear to me that those movies influenced, and even shaped my future as a missionary for Jesus Christ.

You might ask: What in the world does a missionary and a hero cowboy have in common? Actually, they are not that different. They share a common vision, and their mysticism is realized in similar ways. Most of the Westerns follow a similar story pattern: The hero cowboy is riding towards a town. When he arrives, he finds out that something is wrong. The streets are empty and people are hiding behind their windows. There is a sense of panic in the air as they suspiciously spy on him, watching him as he moves towards the saloon. There, he meets the outlaws that have overpowered the town's people and have killed the sheriff.

One of the outlaws approaches him and challenges him. From the confrontation, it is evident to everyone that the hero cowboy is a tough guy, and unlike many others in the town, he is not easily intimidated.

Then, walking out of the saloon unshaken and composed, the cowboy meets the town folks, and by listening

to them, he slowly learns about their desperate situation. He inspires hope and courage in them, and together they begin to work towards the liberation of the town.

Oftentimes, a local town's woman falls in love with the hero cowboy, and their love story unfolds simultaneously with the work of liberation. Eventually, the long awaited day arrives. Together with the town's people, the cowboy defeats the outlaws and drives them away.

In some Westerns, it is then that the town's people come to thank the hero cowboy, only to find that he is already gone. Only his silhouette on the horizon, against the light of the sunset, can be seen.

In other movies, the hero, cowboy remains just long enough to bid good-bye to the people that he has loved, and for whom he has risked his life. They want him to be their new sheriff, but he refuses. He is neither looking to settle down in the town, or to marry the woman who loves him. He is offered power, money, and love.

What else can a man wish for under the sun? Yet, he refuses it all and does not stay. He is married to adventure and risk, in the name of justice and peace. If he remained in this town, others would not be liberated.

A Universal Love

Like the cowboy, the missionary loves universally. The whole world is his motherland, and humanity is his home. He, hunger's for justice and thirsts for peace, and those are found only in Christ.

For these things, he devotes every moment of his life and stands ready to sacrifice all of it in the face of injustice and misery. Over the course of his entire life, the missionary struggles to love everyone freely, equally, and non-exclusively. His goal is not to belong to anyone person, but to be one with everyone, as a reflection of Christ.

In today's society, which puts so much emphasis on sex, and where masculinity has become a synonym for one's sexual performance, a missionary, like Jesus, brings to the stage a non-erotic way of loving. *In a world where, many people seek sex without love; missionaries strive to love without sex.* And that becomes wonderful!

Although today's society tends to put "sex" on the same level as other physical needs, such as eating and drinking, the right perspective is that sexual intercourse is not so much need of human beings as individual but a need of the human race. survive. Therefore, an individual *does not need* the act of sexual intercourse, to preserve, affirm, or increase: his or her masculinity or femininity.

Happiness Is A Result of Love

No person will ever reach full maturity as a human being if he is not loved unconditionally during his childhood, and then manages to love unconditionally when he becomes an adult. Without this basic psychological maturity, a person cannot find happiness. It is always the consequence of something good (something bad that one does to others.)

Therefore, a person will not attain happiness by acting upon himself. Instead, he has to act for others the more one looks for his own happiness, the less he is likely to find it. When a person starts to look for another's happiness, then he will most certainly find his own, too because, "to live is to love."

A missionary also has his own way to realize the natural vocation of *becoming* a parent. He does *not* do so by bringing more children into the world by procreation, but by raising and educating those who already exist. It can be said of the missionary, what was said of Jesus "He passes through this world doing good."

In his book, *The Prophet*, K. Gibril gives an apt description of a "could well-be" profile of a missionary) "Before departing from the town of Orfalis, a man named Almustafa says: 'We globetrotters, looking for the way of solidarity, do not begin a new day where we have finished the previous one, and no dawn will ever find us in the same place where sunset has left us. '"

(by Fr. George Amaro, IMC, from *The 101 Times* #68, No. 4, Winter, 2005)

THINGS CHILDREN WILL TELL THEIR TEACHERS

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah".

The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?"

The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work.

As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds.

After explaining the commandment to “honor” thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, “Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?”

Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, “Thou shall not kill.”

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, “Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?”

Her mother replied, “Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.”

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, “Momma, how come ALL of grandma’s hairs are white?”

Terzmaster2@aol.com Wed 8/9/2006

A DAILY CONSECRATION to the HOLY SPIRIT



Most Holy Spirit! Receive the consecration that I make of my entire being. From this moment on, come into every area of my life and into each of my actions. You are my Light, my Guide, my Strength and the sole desire of my heart. I abandon myself without reserve to your divine action, and I desire to be ever docile to your inspirations.

Oh Holy Spirit! Transform me with and through Mary, into another Christ Jesus, for the glory of the Father and the salvation of the world. - Amen.

(by the Servant of God Felix de Jesus Rougier, M.Sp.S.
with Ecclesiastical permission, from a prayer card)

SHE’S FASTING

There’s something very honest about ashes, a symbol acknowledging our dependence on God. We were created from dust and will eventually return

to dust. Attendance at Masses on Ash Wednesday is always very high. Receiving ashes is a sacramental action also shared with Episcopalians and Lutherans.

In the Old Testament, when Job saw the inadequacy of his previous thinking about God, he said, “I disown what I have said, and repent in dust and ashes” (42:6). Jesus uses “sackcloth and ashes” as symbols of a person’s desire to repent (Matthew 11:21 and Luke 10:13).

At www.AmericanCatholic.org/Features/Traditions, readers can find a special feature on sacramentals and devotional customs.

(by PAT McCLOSKEY, O.F.M. from Saint Anthony Messenger, March, 2006)

THE HOLY NAME of JESUS, REPEATED with TENDER LOVE IS the HEARTBEAT of the ENTIRE ROSARY

Shouldn’t Christians, some ask, speak openly to Jesus rather than relying on a repetitious formula?

Jesus, though, was not condemning repetitive prayer. Rather, he was criticizing the Gentiles’ practice of reciting endless formulations and divine names in order to say the words that would force the gods to answer their petitions. Magical formulas were not the way to get God to answer prayers. Jesus challenged us to approach our heavenly Father not the way the pagans do their deities but rather in confident trust that “your Father knows what you need before you ask him.” Indeed, he knows what we need better than we do and is providing for those needs even before we realize them ourselves (Matt. 6:25-34).

Moreover, in the very next verse, Jesus gives us a new prayer to recite: the Our Father. Jesus says, “Pray then like this: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name” (Matt. 6:9).

Holy, Holy, Holy

If it were wrong to use repetitive prayers, Jesus certainly would not have done it. Yet in the garden of Gethsemane, he spoke the same prayer three times: “Leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words” (Matt. 26:44). We cannot think of this repetition as anything but heartfelt.

Similarly, in the Old Testament, parts of Psalm 118 are structured around the repeated phrase “His steadfast love endures forever,” and the book of Daniel presents the three men in the fiery furnace

constantly repeating the phrase “Sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever” (Dan. 3;52-88). God looks favorably on their prayers and answers them in their time of need (Ps. 118-21; Dan3-94-95).

In the New Testament, the book of Revelation describes how the very worship of God in heaven includes words of holy praise that are repeated without end. The four living creatures, gathered around God’s throne, “never cease to sing, Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!” (Rev. 4:8). Although trying to manipulate God by vain repetition is always wrong, proper repetitions prayer is very biblical and pleasing to God.

We may wonder why there is so much repetition in the rosary. John Paul II noted that it is similar to the “Jesus Prayer” that people recited for centuries: Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on us” often in rhythm with their breathing. Whispered over and over again, this prayer calms the mind so that we may be more disposed to meet God himself in prayer. It helps us follow the admonition of Psalm 46: 10: “Be still, and know that I am God.”

The succession of Hail Mary’s in the rosary achieves the same purpose. Anyone who prays the rosary knows that the peaceful cadence created by the repetition of the prayers slows down our minds and spirits and focuses our attention so that we can prayerfully reflect on different aspects of Christ’s life.

I Just Called to Say I Love You

On another level, John Paul II encouraged us to think of the repetition of Hail Mary’s within the context of a relationship of love. I may tell my wife “I love you” several times a day. Sometimes I say these words to her as I am going out the door for work in the morning. Other times I whisper them just before we fall asleep at night. On special occasions I may write these words in a card. When we are out to dinner, I may look her in the eyes as I say, “I love you.” Although she has heard me repeat these same words to her thousands of times, never once has she complained, “Stop saying the same thing over and over again!”

In an intimate, personal relationship such as marriage, two people may repeat to each other certain expressions of love, but each time the same words express anew the heartfelt affection the people have for one another. Indeed, repetition is part of the language of love.

We have an intimate, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. By reciting the Hail Mary throughout the rosary, of the entire rosary. We participate over and

over again in the wonder-filled response of Gabriel and Elizabeth to the mystery of Christ. Bead after bead, we ask Mary to pray for us that we may be drawn closer to her Son. And most of all, prayer after prayer, we affectionately speak the name of our Beloved at the very center of each Hail Mary: “Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.” The holy name of Jesus, repeated with tender love, is the heartbeat of the entire rosary.

Edward Sri is an assistant professor of theology at Benedictine College. He is the cofounder (with Curtis Martin) of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) and the author or co-author of several books and articles. He and his wife, Elizabeth, reside in Atchison, Kansas, with their two children.

(from THIS ROCK Catholic Apologetics and Evangelization, March 2006)

GOD OF MIRACLES

God walks upon the rolling sea, His voice heard in the swell and sway, his artistry paints sunlit skies and sunset’s brilliant close of day.

He whispers from the leafy trees and sings to us through tiny birds, and in each tiny plant’s new birth, his resurrection message is heard.

Each flower and tree that blooms anew, each mountain, valley grassy plan, speaks of the One who brings new life, tells us we, too, shall live again.

In days to praise His wondrous ways, a mighty God is seen in part. His awesome power rules the world, yet he can live inside a man’s heart.

(by Helen Gleason from “Joy Within Your Heart”, Salesian Publishing, 2004)

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I come before you, just as I am. I am sorry for my sins, I repent of my sins, please forgive me. In your name, I forgive all others for what they have done against me. I renounce Satan, the evil spirits and all their works. I give you my entire self. Lord Jesus. Now and forever, I invite you into my life Jesus. I accept you as my Lord, God and Savior. Heal me, change me, and strengthen me in body, soul and spirit. Come Lord Jesus, cover me with your precious blood, and fill me with your Holy Spirit, I Love You Lord Jesus. I shall follow you every day of my life. *Arnen* Mary my mother, Queen of Peace, all the Angels and Saints, please help me. *Amen*

(Author Unknown – Prayer Card).

THE HOLY FACE of JESUS



"I firmly wish that my Face reflecting the intimate pains of my Soul, the suffering and love of my Heart, be more honored! Whoever gazes upon me already consoles me" . . . Our Lord to Sister Pierina re: The Medal and the Holy Face

Sister Pierina, a holy nun who died in 1945, in many visions was urged by the Blessed Mother and Jesus Himself to spread the devotion to the Holy Face, in reparation for the many insults Jesus suffered in His Passion, such as to be slapped, spit upon and kissed by Judas, as well as now being dishonored in many ways in the Blessed Sacrament by neglect, sacrileges and profanations. She was given a medal which on one side bore a replica of the Holy Shroud and the inscription: "Illumina, Domine, vultum tuum super nos". (Ps. 66-1 "May, O Lord, the light of Thy countenance shine upon us". On the reverse side was a radiant host with the words: 'Mane nobiscum, Domine'. - "Stay with us, O Lord".

After great difficulties, Sister Pierina obtained permission to have the medal cast. Even the expenses for the casting were miraculously met when she found on her desk an envelope with the exact amount of the bill - 11,200 lire.

The Evil Spirit showed his chagrin and rage at the medals by flinging them down and burning the pictures of the Sacred Face, and beating Sister Pierina savagely.

In 1940, when the Second World War had the world in turmoil, Italy saw a wide distribution of this medal.. Relatives and friends saw that their soldiers, sailors, and aviators were provided with the replica of the Holy Face since the medal was already famous for its miracles and countless spiritual and temporal favors.

In Our Blessed Mother's own word, the medal is a weapon for defense, a shield for courage, a token of love & mercy and which her Divine Son wished to give the world in these troubled days of lust and hatred for God and for His Church. Devilish snares have been set to rob the hearts of men of their faith while evil spreads the world over. Genuine apostles are few. A divine remedy to all these evils will be the adorable Face of her Son, Jesus.

Whoever wears this medal and, if possible, pays a weekly visit to the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday in a spirit of reparation for the outrages received by the Holy Face of Our Blessed Savior during His Passion

and those bestowed on Him every day in the Sacrament of His divine love, will be granted the gift of a strong Faith and the grace to fly to its defense conquering if need be all interior and exterior difficulties. Moreover, they are promised a happy death with special assistance of Christ Himself.

The very first medal of the Holy Face was offered to our glorious Pontiff, Pope Pius XII; then the whole wide world got acquainted with this special object of favors and devotion. It is to be found on land and sea. Never has it been heard that a prisoner of war wearing this badge of salvation has been executed.

Our Blessed Lord also requested that a special feast be instituted to honor His Holy Face on Shrove Tuesday.

Imp.. t J.-C. Chaumont, V.G., February, 1959

PRAYER of SAINT THERESA of JESUS to the HOLY FACE

O Jesus, who in Thy bitter Passion didst become "the most abject of men, a man of sorrows", I venerate Thy Sacred Face whereon there once did shine the beauty and sweetness of the Godhead; but now it has become for me as if it were the face of a leper! Nevertheless, under those disfigured features, I recognize Thy infinite Love and I am consumed with the desire to love Thee and make Thee loved by all men. The tears which well up abundantly in Thy sacred eyes appear to me as so many precious pearls that I love to gather up, in order to purchase the souls of poor sinners by means of their infinite value. O Jesus, who's adorable Face ravishes my heart, I implore Thee to fix deep within me Thy divine image and to set me on fire with Thy Love that I may be found worthy to come to the contemplation of Thy glorious Face in Heaven. Amen.

(500 days indulgence each time.)

(Preces et. Pia Opera, 1938, no 178, p. 119, Holy Face Association, P.O. Box 1000, Station "A", Montreal, Quebec, Canada, HC3 2w9, from a prayer card)

SAINT CATHERINE of SIENA - A MESSAGE

In Our Dear Savior's dialogue with Saint Catherine of Siena, He tells us that nearly all of the evils that are done by souls subject to the priests are the fault of bad pastors, because had they corrected them. . . these evils would not have been. God's demands of us, says Saint Catherine, that, instead of cursing such faithless

priests and prelates, we earnestly pray for them, begging God's mercy and forgiveness, lest they be damned forever in hell. If all of us did this, God promises, "I will have mercy on My Spouse (the Church), reforming her with good and holy pastors then the good pastors will reform her, correcting by force, those under them."

For the greater honor and glory of God and the salvation of souls, please say these prayers daily and distribute these cards to your fellow Catholics.

(From Our Lady of the Rosary Library 4016 Preston Highway, Louisville, KY –Prayer Card)

HOLY HOUR OFFERING

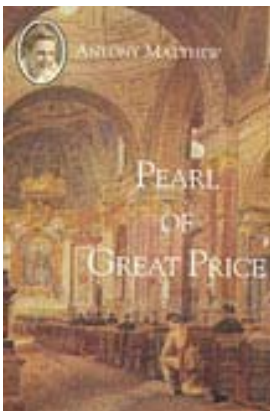
My most sweet Jesus, I desire during this hour to "Watch and pray" with Thee and by the love of my poor heart to console Thee for the bitter sorrow that overwhelmed The in the Garden of Gethsemane. I desire to forget my self and all that concerns me excepting my sins, the foresight of which caused Thee so much suffering in Thy agony, and as I was a cause of sorrow to Thee then, so now I desire to be Thee a consolation.

I offer you this hour of prayer for the holy soul's prisoners of purgatory, for whom Thou didst pray, sweat blood and accept your bitter passion and death. Grant them mercy, Lord, and let our prayers hasten and deepen the process of purification, the growing and adjusting, the journey forward, the yearning and hope which is found in the mystery of redeeming love, I pray for the soul of [name]. If he (she) has any sins to expiate, let the way be easy, the burden light and the glory may that come soon.

Angel of the agony, help me to pass this holy hour and that I may console the Heart of my Jesus and promote His interest throughout the world. Merciful Jesus, hear me as I pray for the Church which waits.

Amen

(Apostles of the Holy Spirit Bulletin, Summer 2006)



ANTONY TYLER

Antony Tyler (pen name: Antony Matthew) wrote *Pearl of Great Price*, he explains to Doug Keck, as a vademecum of sorts to fellow Britons who are being drawn into the Catholic Church. They are, as he was, in great need of help, so to follow the lead of the

merchant who, finding 'a pearl of great price,' sold all that he had to obtain it. *Pearl of Great Price*, not a theological work per se, has as its aim only the goal of helping people "identify the grace of a call from God." There is much practical advice here on what then should be done to embrace the path of conversion, how to handle family difficulties, ways of adjusting to parish life, and the living out of the Christian virtues.

<http://www.ewtn.com/bookmark/>

HELPING the SPIRITUALLY BLIND

Was conversion to the Catholic faith a sudden thing, or did it emerge after years of thought and discussion?

Conversion to Catholicism brought, he says, a widening of his outlook, a sense of fulfillment and recognition of the importance of seeing the whole of life as being of significance to God. "The Church's message is also about loyalty, about steadfastness, not moving swiftly on to the next fad but holding on to what is true-and that's not a message you really get from modern society," he grins. "I also began to understand and this is something that has grown-how wrong it is to see the Church as a sect, or to get fanatical about one aspect of things, such as the liturgy. There is a richness, a depth, a width, in the Catholic faith. It's open, it is meant for everyone. That's why, too, we need-and perhaps this is especially important for converts, who may have arrived after some years of struggle and difficulty in various fields-to foster a sense of real love for the Church and not just to see things in terms of lobbying bishops about this or that, or always murmuring that something is unsatisfactory.

"Curiously, what one finds in exploring Catholicism-during that conversion experience, which can be quite long and drawn-out and involve much questioning-is the Church's openness, the width and breadth of the Catholic faith. I discovered that Catholicism is not narrow-it's extraordinarily wide. That makes it very welcoming, very attractive-and also very intellectually satisfying. It's absolutely not just a narrow set of ideas or statements that you have to accept. It's a whole vision of life, and within it there are so many different strands, so many different ways of looking at things, that it has given rise to a whole magnificent culture, including, of course, the great range of Christian literature and art. "This is something that Catholics do need to keep in mind, because it's an aspect of the Church that is often not seen or is ignored or even misrepresented. The

convert is not looking to join some sort of club or lobby group. He is seeking truth-and he is also seeking to discover this great institution, the Catholic Church, which has played so large a role in history.

"I had had this sense for many years that I was in the wrong branch of Christianity. The Anglican Church in which I had been brought up seemed to me an inadequate response to the greatness of the Christian calling. In making the decision about the Catholic faith, I was helped by a number of people, both Catholic and Anglican, who encouraged me to think more about religion."

In particular, in his journey to the Church, he was helped by Fr. Hugh Thwaites, SJ, a priest who has played a part in many converts' lives. Thwaites is himself a convert whose remarkable life has included a period as a prisoner-of-war of the Japanese followed by many years' service as a Jesuit in London and elsewhere, running an international students' hostel and working in different parishes and with youth projects and the Legion of Mary. "He taught me a lot about the faith, especially about our Lady, and was always ready to answer questions."

Becoming a Catholic meant making a general confession. "I had already been baptized as a child, in the Anglican church-so there was no question of that needing to be done again. But of course there was this matter of going to confession: It was a very moving experience, even a tearful one. It's something very profound and that is as it should be: It's hardly something that can be taken lightly."

In Tyler's case his local Anglican minister was helpful and sympathetic-and some while later found his own way home to the Catholic Church. Tyler was the minister's sponsor at his reception ceremony and was thrilled when he later went on to become a Catholic priest. By that time the Tylers-Mary followed Antony into the Catholic Church some while after his conversion-had founded Fisher Press and were becoming deeply involved in the world of publishing. The name of the press is Tyler's own tribute to a hero of the Catholic faith.

"Bishop John Fisher was the bishop of this diocese. Southward-the area stretching from the southern suburbs of London down to the English Channel coast in Kent], and he was martyred under Henry VIII for his refusal to accept the dissolution of the king's marriage to Catherine of Aragon and to recognize his second marriage to Anne Boleyn. He was a great scholarly figure, and as I live in what was once his diocese, it seemed an appropriate name. And, of course, because of the Gospel 'fishers of men' -there is an element of apostolate in the work we do."

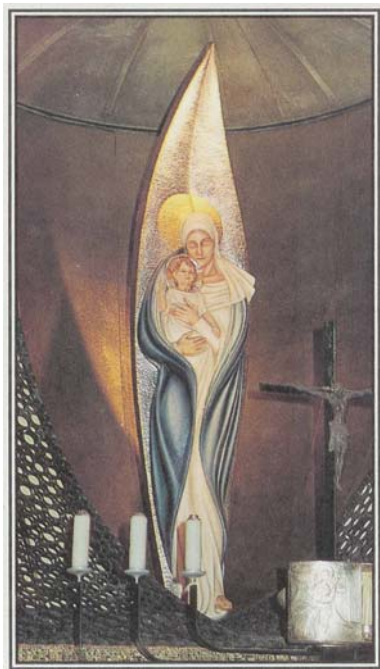
Chesterton and Hilaire Belloc were great influences during his conversion to the Church-and provided an alternative vision of Catholicism to any narrow and Jansenistic version of the faith that can sometimes be presented. It was this large and attractive vision of Catholicism-its joy, its richness, its culture, its sense of welcome that prompted him to go into publishing. "Much of this has been neglected. Catholicism involved the whole of life; it's not just going to Mass. It is challenging and demanding and also very splendid. There's no substitute, in my view, for offering some of the great literature-it is the key to so much."

Current publishing projects include a life of Pope Leo XII-"a much neglected figure, early nineteenth century. He succeeded a very popular pope and has often been regarded as a very strict and austere figure. But it was he who changed things in Rome helped the poor people, stopped having expensive reserved seats at Masses, banned exploitative schemes of money-lending that brought people into debt, inspired a revival of morals after a very lax period, and instituted a magnificent Papal Jubilee Year, which everyone said would be a great flop but was a massive success and gave a whole new joyful impetus to the life of the Church."

Antony's enthusiasm is infectious. As we finish our talk, we have to hurry because the Catholic Writers' Guild meeting is at Saint Etheldreda's, just down the road. He is no longer master, having handed over to a fresh team, but is still a very active member and enthusing about the forthcoming program. The guild, founded by staff on *GK's VWeekly* back in the 1930s, is proud of its history and conscious of the need for Catholics to be active in the media at many levels. Its talks, conferences, social events, and Masses bring together Catholics from different fields, and there is a specific need to involve younger people. Its annual Catholic Young Writer of the Year Award seems to be one way of doing this. We're still chatting away about this as we set off. It will be late tonight when Antony catches the last train out from Charing Cross to rural Kent. The next days bring a meeting at the oratory school-founded by *John* Henry Newman and still thriving, Antony is one of the governors-and also at Farnborough Abbey, where the new Catholic library is to be based. But Kemsing will still be waiting. "Saint Edith is patron saint of the blind-did you know that? Also of the spiritually blind, helping people to open their eyes to God. I like that idea."



Joanna Bogle is a broadcaster and journalist in London, England, where she lives with her husband, James. Their videos on Catholic history,-including History of



NOVENA PRAYERS to OUR LADY of the SNOWS

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come, before thee I

stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

OUR FATHER,

HAIL MARY,

OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS, pray for us,

SAINT JOSEPH, pray for us.

SAINT THERESE, The Little Flower, pray for us,

SAINT EUGENE DE MAZENOD, pray for us.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

(From a prayer Card - The Founder of the Missionary
Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Missionary Oblates of
Mary Immaculate National Shrine of Our Lady of the
Snows Belleville IL 62223-4694)

PILGRIMS OF FAITH MARIAN CENTER (PFMC)

The **PFMC** is not a church, store or travel agency but has aspects of all three. The **PFMC** operates as a non-profit, with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status, religious association and ministry whose volunteers are lay persons professing a belief in Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, as the Only Begotten Son of God the Father, Creator of the Universe.

Most **PFMC** volunteers profess that faith through the apostolic and universal teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Those volunteers who are practicing Roman Catholics profess allegiance to the Magisterium of the Church founded upon the Rock (Kephass / Cephas or Petros depending on original or translation) of Simon bar Jonah and led by his apostolic successor **Pope Benedict XVI**.

The **PFMC** was established in the home of **Keith and Kathleen Werner** based on pilgrimages to **Medjugorje, Bosnia-Herzegovina**, and other holy places or shrines worthy of pilgrimage. Books, pamphlets, and religious articles brought back from pilgrimages were placed on display for others to view and acquire for themselves based on donations. Our displays and inventory bins are quite extensive.

The **PFMC** is directed and operated by volunteers who monitor the donations made for all activities. These activities include coordination of pilgrimages to holy places and shrines, retreats in local retreat centers or hotels, and days of recollection at the **PFMC** as well as the displays, library, and inventory management described in this article.

Operating for many years on a cash only basis, the **PFMC** now accepts **DISCOVER/PRIVATE ISSUE (NOVUS), MASTER CARD (CIRRUS) and VISA (PLUS)** for all transactions requiring donations to the **PFMC**. This includes for books and religious articles, pilgrimages, retreats, conferences, seminars, "**The PILGRIM**," or any of the various funds. We ask that those who use credit cards assist us with the costs associated with their use, about 3%.

The **PFMC** is NOT a store and does not sell anything. We strongly support the use of Catholic stores wherever they are convenient to our readers. For books, pamphlets, and religious articles, the **PFMC** operates like a church pamphlet or book rack where selections are made and donations offered based on value posted or received. Most of the other outlets are operating on a for profit basis. Your gifts from the **PFMC** may be a tax break for you.

The **PFMC** has items from inventory on display at **Epiphany House**. The inventory management volunteers, currently **Vince and Livia Nocella**, are always happy to find something for you.

We need volunteers to help us get the entire inventory available for production of order forms. We eventually want to take pictures and load up a shopping cart program so that Internet users can see

our Inventory on-line. If you have inventory or computer skills we would love to have your help.

If you wish to order, please determine what you want with as much description as possible. 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. If you have an order form, complete it, make out a check or complete the information for use of a credit card, i.e. card type, number, expiration date, and name on card, sign, and mail everything to the **PFMC** at the address shown on the last page.

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

BULLETIN NOTICES FOR **PFMC** AREA EVENTS

Would you be so kind as to copy or cut out the following BULLETIN NOTICES and take them to your Pastor or Parish Bulletin Coordinator? Ask them to publish any portion of the notices to support **PFMC** events for which you have an interest.

Please help get the word out on **PFMC** activities, events, and pilgrimages. Ask your pastor to allow information materials to be put out in church. Please do not put material in your church without obtaining permission from the pastor or his representative.

We are trying to network with other ministries in support of bringing people to Jesus either directly, through Mary, or through her spouse, the Holy Spirit.

Thanks in advance for acting on this special request for Bulletin Notice support.

26 OCTOBER to 3 NOVEMBER 2006 PILGRIMAGE to MEDJUGORJE via LONDON

The Double Occupancy Package Price is \$1699 for MEDJUGORJE and LONDON with Single Supplement of \$250. Father John O'Leary, Pastor, Our Lady of Angels, Cape May Court House, NJ is Spiritual Director. Call (856) 768-9228. See: www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith/2006/06PPM10InfoPacket.pdf.

16 to 18 FEBRUARY 2007 - **PFMC** RETREAT CONFERENCE

Theme: "but deliver us from the evil one." (Matthew 6:13)[NAB]. Location: Clarion Hotel, NJ 70 and I-295, Cherry Hill, NJ. Speakers: Father Bill Halbing, Francine Schmatz, Neal Lozano, Robert Abel, Moira Noonan, Father John Tino. Music: Refuge. Donation: \$50 Meal Plan: \$60. Call (856) 768-9228. Visit the following, review, and print form: www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith/2007/07RET2.pdf fill-out, and mail registration form to 61 Cooper Road, Voorhees, NJ 08043-4963.

Thanks again for anything you can do to post notices in parish bulletins and with local prayer groups.

CONFERENCE CORNER

We need conference or meeting notices no later than the **25th of the month** before the event. The earlier the better so we can make space for it.

Friday-Sunday, 6-8 October 2006: Catholic Unity Conference, Hilton Hotel, King of Prussia, PA. www.inhissign.com or (610) 527-2906. Father Andrew Apostoli and Father Pablo Straub.

Friday-Sunday, 13-15 October 2006: Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Diocese of Camden, Wildwood Convention Center, Wildwood, NJ. Monsignor William John Lewis, Father Bill McCarthy, Bob Canton, Linda Schubert, Bob Valiante, M.C. (609) 522-5010. The **PFMC** will be the book and religious article display for this event.

Friday-Sunday, 16-18 February 2007: PFMC RETREAT CONFERENCE, "but deliver us from the evil one." Clarion Hotel, NJ 70 and I-295, Cherry Hill, NJ. Father Bill Halbing, Francine Schmatz, Neal Lozano, Robert Abel, Moira Noonan, Refuge. See article on *page 4*.

Call (856) 768-9228 for an information packet with registration forms. Reserve rooms with **Clarion Hotel** at (856) 428-2300.

PRAY FOR KEITH'S MOTHER

Approaching her **100th birthday** on **11/7/06**, **Cathryne Werner** is having trouble eating and with infections in self-inflicted wounds on her legs. We pray that the Good Lord will take her from her Purgatory on Earth to be with Him in Heaven.

CALENDARS:

In **September**, the Church celebrates the Feasts of the **Birth of Mary (8)**, the **Exaltation of the Holy Cross (14)** and **Saints Matthew, Apostle (21)** and **Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels (29)**, and the Memorials of **Saints Peter Claver (9)**, **John Chrysostom (13)**, **Pope Cornelius and Cyprian (16)**, **Januarius (19)**, **Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang and Companions (20)**, **Pio of Pietrelcina (23)**, **Vincent de Paul (27)**, and **Jerome (30)** as well as **Our Lady of Sorrows (15)** and the Optional Memorials of the **Most Holy Name of Mary (12)**, and **Saints Cosmas and Damian (26)**, **Wenceslaus (28)**, **Lawrence Ruiz and Companions (28)**.

In **October**, the Church celebrates the Feasts of **Saint Luke, Evangelist (18)** and **Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles (28)**, the Memorials of **Saints Francis of Assisi (4)**, **Teresa of Jesus (15)**, **Ignatius of Antioch (17)**, **Isaac Jogues, John de Brébeuf and Companions (19)**, **Anthony Mary Claret (24)**, as well as **Our Lady of the Rosary (7)**, and the Optional Memorials of **Saints Bruno (6)**, **John Leonardi (9)**, **Denis and Companions (9)**, **Pope Callistus I (14)**, **Hedwig (16)**, **Margaret Mary Alacoque (16)**, **Paul of the Cross (20)**, **John of Capistrano (23)**, **Anthony Mary Claret (24)** as well as **The Guardian Angels (2)**, **Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher (6)**. Church calendars show **Columbus Day (9)**.

AROUND THE **PFMC** AREA

Please review the announcements on **pages 1** through **4**, and on **pages 26** and **27** particularly in **Bulletin Notices** and **Conference Corner**.

Thank you for your support in all we try to do for Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, and His Blessed Virgin Mother, Mary. Visit our web pages for more information. Please help get the word out on **PFMC** activities, events, and pilgrimages. Visit us for the required corporation **Annual Meeting, Sunday, 8/20/06, 3 PM**, with a **Pot Luck Picnic**. Pray for us.

Ask your pastor to post bulletin notices and allow information sheets to be put out in church. Please do not put material in your church without obtaining permission from the pastor or his official and authorized representative.

POPE BENEDICT XVI PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR *September 2006*

Pope Benedict's general prayer intention for the month of **September 2006** is: "That those who use the means of social communication may always do so conscientiously and responsibly."

His mission intention is: "That in mission territories the entire People of God may recognize permanent formation as a personal priority."

<http://www.apostlesofprayer.org/Catalog.htm>

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Pilgrims of Faith Marian Center (PFMC), A Religious Association, Inc.

NON-PROFIT and IRS Code 501(c)(3) TAX EXEMPT

<http://www.geocities.com/pilgrimsfaith>

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(856) 768-9228 FAX: (856) 768-9428

**PRIORITY DATED
RELIGIOUS MATERIAL**

**Mailed early AM,
Friday, 9/8/2006**

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ATCO, NJ
PERMIT NO. 74
NON PROFIT ORG.

PLEASE DO NOT THROW THIS AWAY!!!!

If you do not desire to read "**The PILGRIM**," please give it to a Marian prayer group or return it to sender. If recipient address has changed, please send a change of address.

If there is no time to read it all now, please put it with other reading material in a place where you can read at least an article per day until the next issue arrives. We operate on divine providence and the generous donations of those who can afford to support us. **PRIESTS!** Please note that great HOMILY ideas have come from articles in "**The PILGRIM!**" Pray to the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**.

