



MARY'S HELPERS, INC.

News

No.36 Vol. 11-12 All About Jesus & Mary Nov/Dec 2023

MEDJUGORJE
November 25, 2023
to Marija Pavlovic'

"Dear children!
May this time be interwoven with prayer for peace and good deeds, so that the joy of the expectation of the King of Peace may be felt in your hearts, families and in the world which does not have hope. Thank you for having responded to my call. "

MEDJUGORJE
December 25, 2023
to Marija Pavlovic'

"Dear children! I am carrying my Son Jesus to you to fill your hearts with peace, because He is peace. Little children, seek Jesus in the silence of your heart that He be born anew. The world needs Jesus, therefore seek Him through prayer, because He gives Himself daily to each of you."

Today Our Lady came solemnly dressed with little Jesus in her arms. Jesus extended His hand in a sign of blessing as Our Lady prayed over us in Aramaic.

Meditation on the Nov 25, 2023

Message

by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM



Our Mother Mary has been urging us and praying for our cooperation in our daily lives. We are to pray for peace and good deeds. We are to unite our spiritual expectations to our Lord, the King of Peace, so that His joy will lift up our prayers and deeds.

United in this way to our Lord we can share His joy in our hearts with families and the whole world which are so dearly needed. Every day the news media, commercialism and worldly attitudes want to enslave us to negative thinking, hopelessness and fear. We overcome this through our relationship with Jesus our Lord and Mary; filling us with peace and joy as we pray with good deeds.

We join with families and friends praying daily. We conquer every moment we spend in the Mass and Eucharistic adoration with friends and family. The Christian community is an army of peace and joy in the world.

Pray for peace people, families and nations daily. Keep the spiritual and physical needs of the poor, hungry and the suffering at our gatherings.

Let us join Mary our Mother in our rosary prayers to our intensions of the Pope and the Church and Christians everywhere.

Love Fr. Al

Meditation on the Dec 25, 2023

Message

by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

Our savior carried by Mary is the universal gift from a merciful and compassionate Father. We cannot renew each other, except in Jesus. It begins by accepting the prince of peace and the reconciliation of the world and each of us living this trend of peace at once. We must continue to live this in our hearts.

The New Year has great challenges to peace. We must live united in Jesus and each other.

Love Fr. Al

Eucharistic Revival Year

On Sept 8, 2023 (the feast of the nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary) a reported Eucharistic miracle occurred in a home, in Cincinnati, OH, where the Eucharist began to bleed. It is said there were 150-200 witnesses. The host has been taken to Arch Schnurr in Cincinnati.



Miracle in Luciano, Italy

Other Eucharistic Miracles have occurred like the most famous case that occurred about 1300 years ago in Lanciano, Italy, when a Catholic monk claimed a communion wafer turned to flesh and blood before his eyes.

PRAYER EVERY TUESDAY-noon

JOIN US IN OUR LIL CHAPEL IN MARRERO JUST ONE HOUR OF YOUR TIME FOR GOD at Mary's Helpers

at 4512 7th Street, Marrero, LA Across from Immaculate Conception Church Noon til 1pm

Mary is asking us to Pray! Pray! Pray!



RENEW Your 2024 SUBSCRIPTION

FILL OUT the FORM on Page 3 & SEND IN NOW! YOUR DONATIONS KEEP THIS MINISTRY GOING!

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding.

Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.

Proverbs 3:5-6

ANNUAL APPARITION TO JAKOV ON DECEMBER 25TH

At the last daily apparition to Jakov Colo on September 12th, 1998, Our Lady told him that henceforth he would have one apparition a year, every December 25th, on Christmas Day. This is also how it was this year. The apparition began at 2:20 pm and lasted 6 minutes. Our Lady came with little Jesus in her arms. Through Jakov, Our Lady gave the following message:

Dear children, today with my Son in my arms, I desire to call all of you to pray to the little Jesus for the healing of your heart. Children, often in your hearts sin rules which destroys your life and you can not feel God's presence. That is why, on this day of grace, when grace is spreading throughout the whole world, surrender your life and your heart to the Lord, so that the Lord may heal them with His grace. Only with pure hearts will you be able to experience the birth of Jesus anew in you, and the light of His birth will illuminate your life. I bless you with my motherly blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call.



LET US PRAY FOR OUR PREST

Heavenly Father, grant that our priests be strengthened and healed by the power of the Eucharist they celebrate. May the Word they proclaim give them courage and wisdom. We pray that all those whom they seek to serve may see in them the love and care of Jesus, Our Eternal High Priest, who is Lord for ever and ever. AMEN

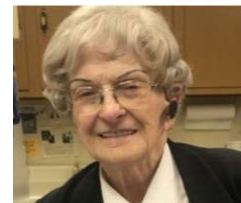
PRAY FOR US! WE NEED YOUR PRAYERS MORE THAN EVER!!



Fr. Peter Mary Rookey, OSSM
Oct. 12, 1916 - Sept. 10, 2014
The Apostle of Compassion



Margaret M. Trosclair
June 19, 1933 - March 14, 2019



Gertrude Gayle Ponseti
Oct 14, 1937-Dec 10, 2019



Thanks to everyone who donated to Mary's Helpers in lieu of flowers for

Jenny Richard's memorial. May Jenny rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her always.

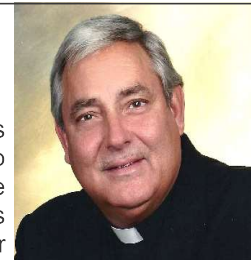


Ophelia Lorio Knox
1930-2023

Heaven seems to have taken another one of Mary's Helpers angels. Ophelia Lorio Knox, 93, died Monday Nov 20, 2023. She will be always remembered for her unwavering dedication to her Lord and our Mother Mary. She was always around when Gayle and Margaret needed her. Now our Lord needs her to come home and she is now resting in his kingdom. May eternal rest grant unto her and let perpetual light shine upon her. May the souls of the faithfully departed, rest in peace. Until we meet again.

Website: www.maryshelpers.org Email: maryshelpers97@bellsouth.net Phone: (504) 348-PRAY (7729)
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1853, Marrero, LA 70073 Physical Address: 4512 7th Street, Marrero, LA 70072

A word from FATHER PAUL BERGERON



I pray everyone's Christmas was a joyful and happy one. As for me I prayed The Holy Christmas Eve Mass outdoors which I have been doing for over forty years now. I don't have a collection or pass a basket because it my gift to family; friends and open to the public. Now the New Year faces us with many possibilities and challenges. We pray to a return of lawfulness and patriotism to our country. It is high time for us to stand up for all the ideals this country was found upon, namely on the Principles of Almighty God. I personally kneel for prayer and stand for the flag. I'm sure many of you share these sentiments. We cannot allow the views of a few to dictate to us how we should act or what we believe. That is why we are called the land of the free and the home of the brave. For all the so called wokeness on the other side, we do not swallow their Communistic or Socialist ideals because we know that doesn't work-it never did-just look at history itself. We will never drink their poisonous kool-aid and always use the mind God gave us to think for ourselves and not follow their reasoning like blind sheep with no faith or direction. This country needs to return to God and His precepts. If anyone is unwilling to do so can leave out of the other border door. To some this may seem to be a little harsh but by God enough is enough! As one politician said—a country without borders isn't a country at all. We must discern what it means to be an American. If others want to join us, let their love and desire of our country lead them to enter in a rightful and lawful way. This is how they should come and not shove their way in unlawfully and God knows their intentions. I pray that in this New Year the ramifications of letting all these people in from the Southern Border without vetting them properly will cause many more 9/11s. In conclusion let me just say that everyone needs to Pray for Peace. May Almighty God grant to us all Peace, Love and Joy in this Year He is allowing us to live—Amen

Love Father Paul

"Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin Mary too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did, and if anyone does not wish to have Mary Immaculate for his mother, he will not have Christ for his brother."

Saint Maximilian Kolbe

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.: John 3:16



Houma Anniversary Mass normally held on March 17 will be celebrated on April 17. Hope to see everyone there.

UPPER ROOM PRAYER CENACLE
106 Jim Bowie Rd
Houma LA
First Saturday at
2pm-3:15pm
NEW HOURS!

DAYS TO REMEMBER

- Jan 1- New Year's Day 2022-Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God
- Jan 6- Upper Room Prayer Cenacle/Houma
- Jan 7-Epiphany of Our Lord
- Jan 8- Baptism of Our Lord
- Jan 17-Houma Mass WED 4pm
- Jan 22-Prayer for Legal Protection of Unborn
- Feb 2-Presentation of Our Lord
- Feb 3- Upper Room Prayer Cenacle/Houma
- Feb 4-Mary's Helpers Anniversary Mass
- Feb 11-Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day
- Feb 14-Ash Wednesday (Fast & Abstinence)
- Feb 17-Houma Mass SAT 11am
- Mar 2- Upper Room Prayer Cenacle/Houma

THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION HOUMA MASS EVERY MONTH ON THE 17th

Unless the 17th falls on a Sunday

JAN 17 WED - 3PM CONFESSION & ROSARY 4PM MASS
FEB 17 SAT - 10AM CONFESSION & ROSARY 11AM MASS
106 JIM BOWIE ROAD IN HOUMA, LA
CELEBRANT: FATHER PAUL BERGERON



As Margaret and Gayle used to say, make sure you put us between the light and gas bill. Thank you and God Bless You!

To RENEW Your 2024 SUBSCRIPTION NOW OR MAKE A DONATION

PLEASE Fill Out The Form Below & Mail to Mary's Helpers, P.O. Box 1853, Marrero, LA 70073

NOV/DEC 2023

Remember WE need YOU to keep this ministry going!!!

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!!!

Please accept my donation to help defray monthly operating costs of Mary's Helpers and to continue to spread Our Lady's messages. (This NEWSletter is made possible through the generosity of your donations.)

\$15 \$25 \$35 \$45 \$55 \$100 Other _____

- * Please send me the monthly Mary's Helpers Newsletter...
- * I already receive the Newsletter...
- * I cannot donate at this time but I still want the Newsletter...
- * Send my Newsletter by Email...
- * I would like to volunteer to help in Mary's Helpers however I can, please contact me...

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

Mail to: Mary's Helpers, Inc. PO Box 1853 Marrero, LA 70073

We at Mary's Helpers want to take this time to THANK YOU our loyal supporters for helping us continue this ministry. We couldn't do it without YOU! May God Bless each and every one of you!!

We wish you a Merry Christmas and the most blessed New Year!

The Pardon Crucifix: The forgotten weapon against the devil

By: Amelia Monroe Carlson

Although few Catholics have ever heard of the Pardon Crucifix, it certainly does not diminish the power it wields over Satan and his evil ones. In fact, it holds just as much power against evil as the Miraculous Medal and the St. Benedict Medal. Sadly, few have heard of it. Let's take a look at what it is and why it has so much power over Satan and his attacks.

First of all, the crucifix causes the devil to shutter. St. Padre Pio, who is known for his battles with Satan, once wrote "the best way to avoid falling is to lean on the cross of Jesus. Never fear the tricks of Satan, because even though they might be vigorous they will never move a soul who keeps itself attached to the Cross. Imagine you have Jesus Christ crucified in your arms and on your breast and kissing his side, say: Behold my hope, behold the living source of my happiness, I will hold you close, O my Jesus, and I will not leave you until you have put me in a place of safety."

Second, the Pardon Crucifix is an important sacramental, although mostly forgotten, which carries indulgences with it.

In short, an indulgence can be gained to remove part of all of the temporal punishment due to sin if certain prayers are said or actions are done. Temporal punishment, according to the Catechism, is the result of an unhealthy attachment to creatures, resulting from venial sin that must be purified on earth or after death. The Church declares indulgences to certain acts and prescribes the criteria which must be met in order to receive the indulgence.

The Pardon Crucifix has rich indulgences attached to it from Pope Pius X. His Holiness issued two statements regarding the Pardon Crucifix. The first, his Pontifical Rescript of June 1905 and the second was Pontifical Rescript dated November 14, 1905. The first prescribes the conditions for the indulgences to be gained and the second **denotes the indulgences can also be applied to souls in purgatory**. It was introduced with great support from Cardinal Pierre-Hector Coullie'

(1829-1912), archbishop of Lyon in 1904 during the Marian Congress of Rome.

Description of the Pardon Crucifix:

The **front** takes us back to Golgotha where Jesus was crucified. It portrays Jesus on the cross with the sign hung above his head reading "Jesus Nazarenus Rex Judaeorum." (Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews) The **back** of the crucifix is centered with the Sacred Heart of Jesus. On the cross beam we see the words of Jesus which were echoed from the cross. "Father forgive them," was one of the seven phrases Jesus said as he hung dying on the cross. Forgiveness lies at the heart of God, flows from the blood of Christ on the cross, and ushers sinners into eternal life with God and the holy angels and saints.

On the **vertical beam** is the second phrase of the crucifix. These words take the individual back to an encounter St. Margaret Mary had with our Lord in 1675 when he spoke to her. "Behold this Heart which has so loved men," were the words Jesus spoke to the French nun and mystic, resulting in her promoting and spreading devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

At the **bottom of the vertical beam**, serving as the anchor, is a depiction of the Blessed Mother. It's the symbol of Our Lady with a star overhead that sits at the foot of the cross. The one who tramples the head of the serpent and was pure from conception to her assumption stands at the foot of the crucifix.

A combination of the forgiveness of Jesus, His Sacred Heart, the sacrifice at Golgotha for the forgiveness of the world's sins, and the Blessed Mother Mary at the foot: **it's no wonder the devil trembles and wants people to forget about the Pardon Crucifix.**

The indulgences: In 1905 indulgences were declared upon the Pardon Crucifix by Pope St. Pius X. His Holiness granted the following:

- 1) Whoever carries on his person the Pardon Crucifix may thereby gain an indulgence.
- 2) For devoutly kissing the Crucifix, an indulgence is gained.
- 3) Whoever says one of the following invocations before this crucifix may gain each



time an indulgence: "Our Father who art in heaven, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." "I beg the Blessed Virgin Mary to pray to the Lord our God for me."

4) Whoever, habitually devout to this Crucifix, will fulfill the necessary conditions of Confession and Holy Communion, may gain a Plenary Indulgence on the following feasts: On the feasts of the Five Wounds of our Lord, the Invention of the Holy Cross, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the Immaculate Conception, and the Seven Sorrows (Dolors) of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

5) Whoever, at the moment of death, fortified with the Sacraments of the Church, or contrite of heart, in the supposition of being unable to receive them, will kiss this Crucifix and ask pardon of God for his sins, and pardon his neighbor, will gain a Plenary Indulgence.

What Satan wants to bury and hide from the world may we bring to the light. Satan wants everyone to forget about the Pardon Crucifix. If he had it his way, everyone would forget about the crucifixion completely. However, let's use the weapons God has given us and fight the evil one with the power that flows forth from the heavenly throne of God. Satan wants death, let's give him life. He wants hatred and anger, let's give him forgiveness. He wants division and resentment, let's give him the Sacred Heart of Christ. He wants to be king, **let's give him the Real King.**

PARDON CRUCIFIXES ARE SOLD AT MARY'S HELPERS GIFT SHOP. CALL 504-348-7729 FOR MORE INFORMATION

BAPTISM OF THE LORD FEAST DAY JAN 8, 2024

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You came to me in my baptism and united me in my fallenness with You in Your divinity. I pray that I will never grow weary of repenting of my sin. I beg for Your mercy and forgiveness and open myself more fully to You, Your Father, and the Holy Spirit.

In the liturgical calendar, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord signifies the end of the Christmas season. The Baptism of the Lord is notable because it marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and confirms his identity as the Son of God.

MASS INTENTIONS REQUEST FORM

If you would like to offer mass intentions for you or your loved ones, living or deceased, please send us this form. We will be glad to offer these intentions up on our 17th of the month mass in Houma
Intentions offered by: _____

Your Name

Prayers for: _____
 Living or Deceased

Prayers for: _____
 Living or Deceased



Pray for Us Oh Holy Mother of God

We want to wish Father Anthony Odiong well on his continued journey to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and Our Mother Mary as he leaves Luling to build 2 more healing chapels. One in Texas and one in Florida. Fr Anthony has taught us so much and he will be truly missed. ♥



MARY'S HELPERS GIFT SHOP

NOV/DEC 2023

STORE Hours are Mon-Fri from 9 am - 3 pm (Closed Wed)

Please remember to add shipping and sales tax where applicable.

To Order: Call Us (504) 348-7729 or Email us at: maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net

12"
St Sharbe
Statue
\$32.99



Pray to St Sharbel the miracle worker

ST SHARBEL or PADRE PIO BLESSED OILS available



St Michael Rosary and Chaplet \$12
Pray for Protection



PIETA Prayer Booklet \$ 2.00



St Michael Statue
14" \$59.99
12" 49.99
8 1/2" \$39.99
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SCAPULARS with medals \$3.00

Marie-Julie Jahenny Purple Scapular \$ 20.00 (House Scapular)



Also Available-Purple Scapular PRAYER CARDS laminated \$2.00

ROSARIES
Tiger Eye - Black Onyx - Pardon Cross Rosaries \$20-\$22



Three Layer Titanium Steel Cross with 23" Chain \$12.00

St Joseph Novena Prayer Card \$.40 (RC182) (other prayer cards avail also)



Joseph and Child 32" tall \$129.00 Item G3-73

CANDLES



Glass Candle Holders \$3.00

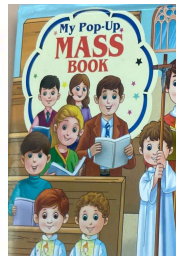
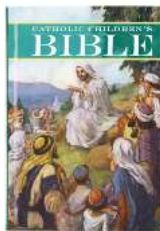


6 Day Candle Refills (Fits Inside Glass Holders) \$3.75
St Joseph Candle \$4.50

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

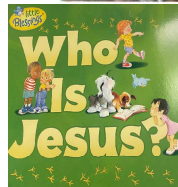
Do we need a memorable gift? Maybe for communion? Who is Jesus? Do we know how to pray? What about the Mass?

Aquinas Kids® Catholic Children's Bible Hardcover \$25 #G1031



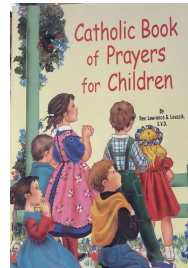
My Pop-Up Mass Book by Thomas Donaghy Has POP UP Pictures \$12.98

Looking for a book for your young one during mass?



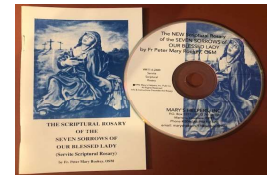
Who Is Jesus? by Kathleen Long Bostrom \$6.50

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Scriptural Rosary of the SEVEN DOLORS of OUR BLESSED LADY by Fr. Peter Mary Rookey OSM CD \$10 / Booklet \$5

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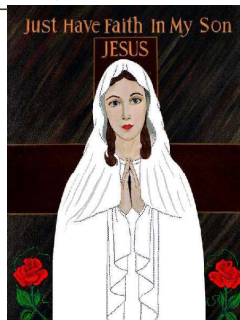
\$ 10.00 & Under	ADD \$ 4.00
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Most items ship in 2-3 days and arrive within one week to your door. (Please Include: Tax, where applicable below & Shipping Charges, shown above.)

OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION

Many Healings from praying to Our Lady
Just have Faith in My Son Jesus

\$.50 each or In Packs of
PRAYER CARDS Qty12 = \$5
4x 2 1/2" Coated Qty25 = \$10
Wallet Size OLCP Qty50 = \$20
PICTURES Unframed/Framed
8X10 OLCP \$ 3 \$ 20
11x14 OLCP \$ 9 \$ 49



Beautiful 8 x 10 prints

Holy Family (shown)
Our Lady of Grace,
St Michael (shown)

\$2.00 Unframed / \$20.00 Framed



MARY'S HELPERS, INC.
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NOV/DEC 2023

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St. Sharbel Makhoul

May 8, 1828 -
December 24, 1898
An Amazing Saint of Miracles

He was known as the "saint inebriated with God." He healed people of physical and spiritual afflictions and even cast out demons. As did Sister Lucia of Fatima, Saint Sharbel prophesied that the devil wants to destroy the family.

Father Antonios Mishimshany, his superior, said of Sharbel, "What God will perform after his death will be sufficient proof of his exemplary behavior in the observance of his vows, to a degree such that we can say that his obedience was angelic, not human."

Saint Sharbel is buried at the Monastery of Saint Maron in Annaye, Lebanon where four million visitors, including both Christians and Muslims, come to honor him and make requests. Four million. On his feast day some of the monks have said that Communion is distributed to some 300,000 people.

Healing Testimony of Randy Yoel Uraha

Mr. Randy Yoel Uraha, born in Baghdad in 1989, belonging to the Chaldean sect, an expatriate in Michigan, USA, working as a driver. While he was driving his mother, he had a severe car accident where his car crashed into a huge tree and was completely wrecked. His mother miraculously survived, but he suffered multiple fractures, the most crucial of which was the fifth vertebra in his neck, which was shattered. He was rushed to Henry Ford Hospital and received care from Dr. Mohammed Mowafak Abdulhak. After X-rays and radiological examinations, the decision was made to perform surgery to replace the shattered

vertebra with an artificial one. The surgery was risky, and there was a high chance of paralysis.

His mother anointed him with the oil of Saint Sharbel and implored his intercession before the Lord Jesus Christ to heal her son and save him from paralysis. He entered the operating room, where the surgery, expected to take several hours, was to occur. Astonishingly, the vertebra spontaneously returned to normal, and the surgery took less than an hour. After the effects of the anesthesia wore off, he was able to walk on his own, much to the doctor's amazement. He was healed from his fractures on July 30, 2022. On November 16, 2022, he came from the USA to thank Saint Sharbel and recorded his miracle, saying, "Thanks to him, I can walk on my legs."

Healing Testimony of the child Maritta Jad Younes

The child, Maritta Jad Younes, born in Tannourine in 2014, is a school student living with her parents in Blat Jbeil. The mother, Sahar Zughab Younes tells about her daughter's health condition. On October 21, 2021, my daughter suffered a severe headache, and the morning of the second day, her body stiffened, and she fainted. We transported her to Our Lady of Succor University Hospital in Jbeil.

Dr. Naim Bassil, a pediatrician, supervised Maritta's treatment. She was treated with four medications, but did not respond to any of them. Father Tony El Khoury happened to be passing

by; he prayed over her and gave her the Extreme Unction. Dr. Naim Bassil called Dr. Hanna Matar, who requested an "MRI".

The result showed that there was a virus in the brain, and it was one of the deadliest viruses that can afflict a patient. Maritta was transferred to the intensive care unit and was in critical condition for 48 hours.

Her mother anointed her from head to toe with oil from Saint Sharbel and asked for his intercession with the Lord Jesus Christ to heal her daughter because it was impossible for her to wake up from her coma. The mother said: "While I was at my home in the evening, I took a picture of Saint Sharbel in my hands and begged him to heal my daughter."

In the morning, of October 26, 2021, they called us from the hospital to inform us that Maritta woke up from her coma, fully conscious, and there were no effects of the disease in her. All that through the intercession of Saint Sharbel and the will of God. At Our Lady of Succor University Hospital Maritta was referred to as "the miracle".

The mother: "I collected all the medical reports and took my daughter, Marietta, to thank Saint Sharbel and recorded the miracle on November 22, 2021."

I received Saint Sharbel's oil from Mrs. Shashoua Ramia and from Mrs. Laila Asaker, whom I deeply thank."

**We will celebrate the
36th ANNIVERSARY
OF MARY'S HELPERS at
Visitation of Our Lady Catholic Church
3500 Ames Blvd, Marrero, LA on SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 4, 2023 at NOON**

**St. Sharbel,
model of patience
and silence
PRAY FOR US!**
Let us pause and be silent
so we can hear his voice...



The Life of Mary Continued The Shepherds and the Three Kings

Mary's Babe was born, as He had been conceived, without violation of her perfect virginity, nor did she suffer the usual pangs of childbirth. This miracle, the Virgin Birth, is to be distinguished from the Immaculate Conception, the doctrine that Mary herself came into existence free from original sin.

On the night of Christ's birth some shepherds were nearby, watching their flocks, when an angel appeared and told them to seek out the newborn Savior; then the sky was full of angels praising God and announcing the peace of Christ. When the vision had vanished, the shepherds made haste and found the prodigy announced by the angels. Entering the drafty refuge of the Holy Family, they offered the Infant King gifts of their poor possessions: a fleece, fresh ewe's milk, a baby lamb.

When the child was eight days old, He was circumcised and given the name Jesus, as the angel Gabriel had directed. And when, after forty days, Mary went to the temple for the right of purification, she and Joseph took Jesus to present Him to the Lord. At the temple a pious old

man named Simeon, who had been assured by God that he would live to see the Messiah, took Jesus in his arms and joyfully acknowledged the promised Savior; but he foresaw a sword of sorrow piercing the heart of Mary. A prophetess, Anna, also approached and praised the Divine Infant.

Meanwhile, the coming of a new Jewish king had been foreseen in the stars by the Magi, seers of the distant Orient. Some of these sought out the new king, following His "star" in the sky. Passing through Jerusalem (where they alarmed Herod with their news), they at last arrived at the house where the Holy Family had settled in Bethlehem. Kneeling before the Infant, they offered gifts of gold and spices.

Flight into Egypt

When the Magi had asked Herod where to find the newborn king of the Jews, he consulted with the wise men of the Jews and was told that the Christ, their promised leader, was to be born in Bethlehem. The king had then sent the sages on their way, asking them to advise him when they found the Child, that he too might come and pay Him homage.

Herod was determined to destroy this presumed threat to his security, and the Magi, being warned of this in a dream, bypassed Jerusalem on their way back to their country. When they failed to return, the king saw himself cheated of his prey and in his

wrath decreed the death of all the boys in Bethlehem under two years of age, for he had determined that the Christ would be no older than this. Again, however, divine intervention defeated Herod's plan. Before the soldiers began butchering the infant boys of Bethlehem, Joseph had escaped with Mary and the child into Egypt, having been warned in a dream by an angel.

Crossing the plain of Sephelah, the Holy Family reached Gaza, then turned south and followed the coast to the Wadi El-Arish, or the river of Egypt, marking the frontier. Once across this stream, there was no further danger of pursuit; and it may well be that the family paused to rest here - a scene that has always appealed to the Christian artists. Legendary is a supposed encounter with the thieves later crucified with Jesus; in the commonest version the good thief protects the Holy Travelers from his heartless companion.

Herod died in the spring of 4 B.C. and Joseph, informed by an angel, returned to Judea. He planned to settle, perhaps, in Bethlehem, but found Herod's cruel son had succeeded him; therefore, following another angelic counsel, he continued north and settled in Nazareth.

Continued Next Newsletter

CHRISTMAS MIRACLE - real story by Stephen on December 20, 2012

This is a real Christmas miracle story, happened in December 1997 in Wisconsin, USA.

A little girl named Sarah had leukemia and was not expected to live to see Christmas. Her brother and grandmother went to the mall to ask Mark Leonard who was a professional Santa Claus to visit the hospital to give Sarah the gift of hope through encouragement and prayer.

A year later Sarah surprised Santa by showing up at the mall where he worked. Here goes the story

A little boy and his grandmother came to see Santa at The Mayfair Mall in Wisconsin. The child climbed up on Santa's lap, holding a picture of a little girl. "Who is this?" – asked Santa, smiling. "Your friend? Your sister?" "Yes, Santa." – he replied.

"My sister, Sarah, who is very sick." – he said sadly.

Santa glanced over at the grandmother who was waiting nearby and saw her dabbing her eyes with a tissue.

"She wanted to come with me to see you, oh, so very much, Santa!" – the child exclaimed. "She misses you." – he added softly. Santa tried to be cheerful and encouraged a smile to the boy's face, asking him what he wanted Santa to bring him for Christmas. When they finished their visit, the grandmother came over to help the child off his lap, and started to say something to Santa, but halted.

"What is it?" – Santa asked warmly. "Well, I know it's really too much to ask you, Santa, but .." – the old woman began, shooing her grandson over to one of Santa's elves to collect the little gift which Santa gave all his young visitors. "The girl in the photograph... my granddaughter well, you see ... she has leukemia and isn't expected to make it even through the holidays." – she said through tear-filled eyes.

"Is there anyway, Santa, any possible way that you could come see Sarah? That's all she's asked for, for Christmas, is to see Santa." Santa blinked and swallowed hard and told the woman to leave information with his elves as to where Sarah was, and he would see what he could do. Santa thought of little else the rest of that afternoon. He knew what he had to do. "What if it were MY child lying in that hospital bed, dying?" – he thought with a sinking heart, "This is the least I can do."

When Santa finished visiting with all the boys and girls that evening, he retrieved from his helper the name of the hospital where Sarah was staying. He asked Rick, the assistant location manager how to get to Children's Hospital. "Why?" – Rick asked, with a puzzled look on his face. Santa relayed to him the conversation with Sarah's grandmother earlier that day. "Common....I'll take you there." – Rick said softly. Rick drove them to the hospital and came inside with Santa.

They found out which room Sarah was in. A pale Rick said he would wait out in the hall. Santa quietly peeked into the room through the half-closed door and saw little Sarah on the bed.

The room was full of what appeared to be her family; there was the grandmother and the girl's brother he had met earlier that day. A woman whom he guessed was Sarah's mother stood by the bed, gently pushing Sarah's thin hair off her forehead. And another woman who he discovered later was Sarah's aunt, sat in a chair near the bed with a weary, sad look on her face. They were talking quietly, and Santa could sense the warmth and closeness of the family, and their love and concern for Sarah.

Taking a deep breath, and forcing a smile on his face, Santa entered the room, bellowing a hearty, "Ho, ho, ho!" "Santa!" – Shrieked little Sarah weakly, as she tried to escape her bed to run to him.

Santa rushed to her side and gave her a warm hug. A child the tender age of his own son — 9 years old — gazed up at him with wonder and excitement. Her skin was pale and her short tresses bore telltale bald patches from the effects of chemotherapy. But all he saw when he looked at her was a pair of huge, blue eyes. His heart melted, and he had to force himself to choke back tears. Though his eyes were riveted upon Sarah's face, he could hear the gasps and quiet sobbing of the women in the room.

As he and Sarah began talking, the family crept quietly to the bedside one by one, squeezing Santa's shoulder or his hand gratefully, and whispering "Thank you" as they gazed sincerely at him with shining eyes. Santa and Sarah talked and talked, and she told him excitedly all the toys she wanted for Christmas, assuring him she'd been a very good girl that year.

As their time together dwindled, Santa felt led in his spirit to pray for Sarah, and asked for permission from the girl's mother. She nodded in agreement and the entire family circled around Sarah's bed, holding hands. Santa looked intensely at Sarah and asked her if she believed in angels, "Oh, yes, Santa... I do!" – she exclaimed. "Well, I'm going to ask that angels watch over you." – he said. Laying one hand on the child's head, Santa closed his eyes and prayed. He asked that God touch little Sarah, and heal her body from this disease. He asked that angels minister to her, watch and keep her. And when he finished praying, still with eyes closed, he started singing, softly, "Silent Night, Holy Night.... all is calm, all is bright..." The family joined in, still holding hands, smiling at Sarah, and crying tears of hope, tears of joy for this moment, as Sarah beamed at them all. When the song ended, Santa sat on the side of the bed again and held Sarah's frail,

small hands in his own.

"Now, Sarah," – he said authoritatively, "you have a job to do, and that is to concentrate on getting well. I want you to have fun playing with your friends this summer, and I expect to see you at my house at Mayfair Mall this time next year!" He knew it was risky proclaiming that to this little girl who had terminal cancer, but he 'had' to. He had to give her the greatest gift he could — not dolls or games or toys — but the gift of **HOPE**. "Yes, Santa!" – Sarah exclaimed, her eyes bright. He leaned down and kissed her on the forehead and left the room.

Out in the hall, the minute Santa's eyes met Rick's, a look passed between them and they wept unashamed. Sarah's mother and grandmother slipped out of the room quickly and rushed to Santa's side to thank him. "My only child is the same age as Sarah." – he explained quietly. "This is the least I could do." They nodded with understanding and hugged him.

One year later, Santa Mark was again back on the set in Milwaukee for his six-week, seasonal job which he so loves to do. Several weeks went by and then one day a child came up to sit on his lap. "Hi, Santa! Remember me?!" "Of course, I do." – Santa proclaimed (as he always does), smiling down at her. After all, the secret to being a 'good' Santa is to always make each child feel as if they are the 'only' child in the world at that moment.

"You came to see me in the hospital last year!" Santa's jaw dropped. Tears immediately sprang in his eyes, and he grabbed this little miracle and held her to his chest. "Sarah!" – he exclaimed. He scarcely recognized her, for her hair was long and silky and her cheeks were rosy — much different from the little girl he had visited just a year before. He looked over and saw Sarah's mother and grandmother in the sidelines smiling and waving and wiping their eyes.

That was the best Christmas ever for Santa Claus.

He had witnessed –and been blessed to be instrumental in bringing about — this miracle of hope. This precious little child was healed. Cancer-free. Alive and well. He silently looked up to Heaven and humbly whispered, "Thank you, Father. 'Tis a very, Merry Christmas!"

By Susan Morton Leonard, Santa's wife
Santa's name: Mark Leonard
or Santa Mark

**LET US HAVE FAITH IN GOD THAT HE
CAN HEAL ALL OF US IN MIND, BODY,
AND SPIRIT. YOU JUST NEED TO
BELIEVE! DO YOU BELIEVE?**



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The Birth of Jesus
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Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de noviembre de 2023
“¡Queridos hijos! Que este tiempo esté entretejido de la oración por la paz y de las buenas obras, para que la alegría de la espera del Rey de la Paz se sienta en sus corazones, en sus familias y en el mundo que no tiene esperanza. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado.”

Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de diciembre de 2023
“¡Queridos hijos! Les traigo a mi Hijo Jesús para que llene sus corazones de paz porque Él es la paz. Hijitos, busquen a Jesús en el silencio de su corazón para que renazca. El mundo necesita de Jesús, por eso, hijitos, búsqenlo en la oración porque Él se da diariamente a cada uno de ustedes.”

Hoy, la Virgen vino vestida de fiesta y con el Niño Jesús en brazos. Jesús extendió su mano en señal de bendición, y la Virgen oró sobre nosotros en lengua aramea.”


2024 YEAR OF PRAYER
In preparation for 2025,
the Jubilee Year



Grace is when
God gives us good things that we don't deserve. Mercy is when He spares us from bad things we deserve. Blessings are when He is generous with both. Truly, we can never run out of reasons to thank Him. God is good all the time.


OUR LENTEN FASTING
FAST from complaints and contemplate simplicity
FAST from pressures and be prayerful
FAST from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy
FAST from selfishness and be compassionate to others
FAST from grudges and be reconciled
FAST from words and be silent so you can listen to others
LENT IS FROM FEB 14 TO MAR 28, 2024

Christ is the way;
remain firm in Christ and follow the way, and do not let anything move you




Merry Christmas
Everyone and We Wish you a Happy & Blessed New Year!
Our SAVIOR is Born!

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