



# MARY'S HELPERS, INC.

# News

No.36 Vol. 01-02 All About Jesus & Mary Jan / Feb 2023

**MEDJUGORJE**  
**January 25, 2023**

"Dear children! Pray with me for peace, because Satan wants war and hatred in hearts and peoples. Therefore, pray and sacrifice your days by fasting and penance, that God may give you peace. The future is at a crossroads, because modern man does not want God. That is why mankind is heading to perdition. You, little children, are my hope. Pray with me, that what I began in Fatima and here may be realized. Be prayer and witness peace in your surroundings, and be people of peace. Thank you for having responded to my call.

**MEDJUGORJE**  
**February 25, 2023**

"Dear children! Keep converting and clothe yourselves in penitential garments and in personal, deep prayer; and in humility, seek peace from the Most High. In this time of grace, Satan wants to seduce you; but you, little children, keep looking at my Son and follow Him towards Calvary in renunciation and fasting. I am with you because the Most High permits me to love you and lead you towards the joy of the heart, in faith which grows for all those who love God above all. Thank you for having responded to my call."



## Meditation on the January 25, 2023 Message

by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

Our Dear Mother calls on her children to join her because Satan wants war. We know this but we are often distracted in our daily lives. We must not only pray, but pray and make sacrifice with specific days of fasting and penance, that God may give us peace. "The future is at a cross road" Mary informs us, meaning, we are near the end of time. Our future relationship with God may be at an end. Decide today to Love God, by praying, fasting, sacrifice, loving thy neighbor or enemy. Mary says, "Little children you are my hope. Pray with me that what I began in Fatima and here may be realized". She chose three Blessed children to pray the Rosary for Peace, to fast and make sacrifice and penance for the conversion of the people of the world. It is there that what Mary began and prayed for may be realized!

Be prayer and witness peace in your surroundings and be people of peace! The message must be handed on from one life to another. We must reflect peace and prayer for the respect of the world, for the earth and show dignity of all its races and nationalities. Our world is sacred and in need of healing. We also need to convert others so they may be healed and love others.

When we are with Mary, God will send the Holy Spirit to heal God's people and the earth.

Love Father AL



## Meditation on the February 25, 2023 Message

by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

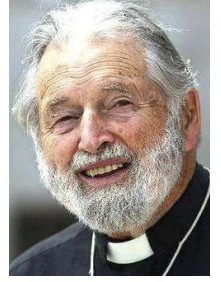
Dear brothers and sisters. Mary's message, 25 of February, comes perfectly placed as we are about to begin Lent. Our life as Catholics is a call to keep converting and clothe ourselves in penitential garments. The Lenten invitation of the Gospel: Turn away from Sin and be faithful to the Gospel and the Traditional admonition, "Remember you are Dust and into Dust you will return!" Calls each of us to Listen to Mary's words and respond to Her call as we have in the past.

We are to respond and live our Lenten Journey in, "personal, deep prayer; and in humility, seek peace from the Most High." We know we live in grace as we share and live Mary's presence. God's gift to us in these trying times as Satan tempts and wants to seduce us.

Mary says, "But you little children, keep looking at my Son and follow Him towards Calvary in renunciation and fasting. Follow Mary as she loves us and leads you toward the joy of the heart in faith which grows for all those who love God above all."

What a wonderful cheer leading message as we begin Lent! I feel so motivated and open to live fasting and praying my Lenten duties which really are not duties but grace of Mary's love motivating us to encounter God's life. Thank you Mary My Mother. Please continue to give us help as the Memorare prayer says, "Remember Oh most blessed Virgin Mary.... And after this Our Exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.....O loving O clement Virgin Mary. That we may be worthy of the promises of Jesus Christ. Love Fr. Al

OUR ANGELS IN HEAVEN Please Pray for Us!



Fr. Peter Mary Rookey, OSM  
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

## 2023 ST. JOSEPH ALTARS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Info correct as of Feb 25, 2023 Please check the Clarion Herald Guide also for updates.

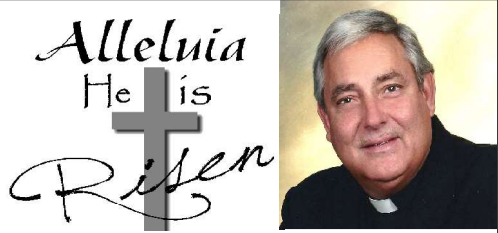
**Arch Chapelle HS** - 8800 Veterans Mem Blvd, Metairie  
Fri Mar 17 - Blessing Noon Viewing Noon - 8pm Rosary 7pm  
Sat Mar 18-Viewing 9am-4pm/Serving Noon with Tupa Tupa  
**Brother Martin HS** - 4401 Elysian Fields, New Orleans, LA  
Sat Mar 18 - Blessing 3pm Viewing 3pm - 8pm  
**Divine Mercy Church** - 4337 Sal Lentini Pkwy, Kenner, LA  
Mon Mar 20- Blessing 9:15 Viewing 9am-6:30pm 504-466-5016  
**Immaculate Conception** - 132 Baronne St, New Orleans  
Fri Mar 17-Viewing 8am-4pm / Sat Mar 18-Viewing 8am-3pm  
Sun Mar 19-Viewing 8am-5pm / Mon Mar 20 View 8am-4pm  
**Holy Cross High School - 1st Floor Admin Bldg**  
5500 Paris Ave., N. O. 504-942-3100  
Friday Mar.17- Blessing 10:30a Viewing 10:30am-Noon  
**Metairie Manor** - 4929 York St, Metairie, LA  
Thu. Mar 16 -9:30am Blessing - Viewing 9:30am-3pm  
Fri. Mar 17 - Viewing 9:30am-3pm  
**New Orleans Catholic Cemetery** - 2220 Washington Ave  
Sat Mar 18- Blessing 10am / Viewing 10am - 2pm  
**Our Lady of the Angels** - 6851 River Road, Waggaman, LA  
Sun Mar 19 -10:30am Mass/Noon Tupa Tupa  
Sun Mar 19 - Viewing/Serving Noon-6pm  
**Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church**-3368 Esplanade,N.O.  
Sat.Mar 18 -10am Blessing followed by Tupa Tupa  
Sat Mar 18-Viewing 10am - 3pm  
Sun Mar 19 - Viewing between Masses until 4pm  
**Our Lady Star of the Sea**-1835 St Roch, New Orleans, LA  
Sat.Mar 18 -9am Blessing/Viewing  
Sun Mar 19 - Mass 10am/Viewing/Serving 11am  
**Mary Gulizio Hennegan** - 1721 Robin St., Marrero, La.  
Park by Recreation Ctr on Belle Terre Rd. 504-481-0427  
Sunday Mar.19-Bless 10am View/Serving Noon-6 pm  
**Mount Carmel Academy** - 7027 Milne Blvd. N.O. La.  
504-288-7626 Friday Mar.17 Bless 7:45am  
View 8:00 am - 5pm Parking available on Milne Blvd

**Nativity of B.V.M.** - Church Hall  
870 Howard Ave, Biloxi, MS 228-374-1717  
Sunday Mar.19 -Viewing 10am-2pm Serving at Noon  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Help** - 504-464-0361  
Larose Center, 1908 Short St., Kenner, La  
Sat Mar 18 - Bless after 9am Mass-View/Serv Noon-4pm  
Sun Mar.19 - View/Serv 10am-2pm  
**Our Lady of Prompt Succor** - 146 4th St. Westwego La  
Mon Mar 20-Blessing following 8am Mass 504-941-9522  
Altar at OLPS School-Meals served from 11am til run out  
**St. Angela Merici** - 901 Beverly Garden Dr, Metairie, LA  
Fri Mar 17 -View 6pm-8pm Rosary 7pm  
Sat Mar 18 - Blessing 10:00am -Tupa-Tupa following  
Sat Mar 18 - View 10am - 7:30pm / Serving 11am-7pm  
**St. Ann Church** - in back/4921 Loveland St, Metairie, LA  
Altar located in St Cecilia Ministry Center behind Shrine.  
Fri Mar 17-Blessing after 8:30am mass/Viewing 3pm-7pm  
Sat Mar 18-Viewing Noon - 6pm 504-455-7071  
Sun Mar 19-Viewing 10:30am-6pm/Serving Noon  
**St. Anthony of Padua** - 234 Angus Dr, Luling, La  
Sat Mar 18- 5pm Blessing  
Sat Mar 18- Viewing 5pm-8pm / Serving 5pm-7pm  
Sun Mar 19-Viewing 6am-6pm / Serving Noon-7pm  
Mon. Mar 20-Viewing 6am-3pm  
**St. Benilde Church** - 1901 Division St, Metairie, LA  
Sun Mar 19 -Blessing 10am Viewing 9am - 5:45pm  
**St Catherine of Siena Rosary Altar Society**  
(Melacon Center) 1643 Metairie Road, Metairie, LA  
Sun Mar 19-Serving 11:30am - 1:30pm/Viewing 9am-6pm  
**St Charles Borromeo Catholic Church**  
13396 River Road, Destrehan, LA (Borromeo Room)  
Sat Mar 18-Viewing 9am-6pm  
Sun Mar19-Viewing 8:30am-2pm

**St. Cletus Catholic Church** -3600 Claire Ave, Gretna, La.  
Fri Mar. 17-Rosary/Bless 6:30pm Viewing 6:30 pm - 8 pm  
Sat Mar. 18-Viewing 11 am-8 pm/Serving 11 am til  
Sun Mar 19-Viewing 9:30am-Noon  
**St. Dominic Church** 775 Harrison Ave, New Orleans  
Viewing 9am - 6pm on Sat, Sun, and Mon  
Mon Mar 20 - Mass 5:30pm  
**St. Francis Xavier** - 444 Metairie Road, Metairie, LA  
Sun Mar 19 - Viewing 9am-4pm (School Auditorium)  
Mon Mar 20 - Mass 8am followed by the Tupa-Tupa  
Archbishop Aymond will visit at 1:15pm  
Mon Mar 20 - Serving 11am-2pm / Viewing 9am-4pm  
**St. Mary's Assumption Church**  
923 Josephine St, NO, LA 504-522-6748  
Sat Mar 18 - Blessing 4pm /Viewing 3 pm - 4 pm  
Sun Mar 19 - Mass 10:30/Devotion til Noon  
**St. Francis Villa** - 10411 Jeff. Hwy, River Ridge, La.  
Sat Mar.19- Blessing 11am/View/Serving 2 pm - 5 pm  
**St. Joseph the Worker Ch.** - 455 Ames Blvd, Marrero, LA  
(Date and Time unavailable)  
**St. Joseph Church and Shrine** - (GYM)  
610 Sixth St., Gretna, La. 504-722-5958  
Sun Mar 19 -Rosary/Prayer Serv. 5pm- Viewing 5pm-7pm  
Mon Mar 20 - Mass 10am in Church with Archbishop Aymond  
followed by Procession to Gym/Blessed Noon  
Mon Mar 20 - Serving Noon til/Viewing Noon-5pm  
**St. Joseph Church** - 1802 Tulane Ave, New Orleans  
Mon Mar 20-Blessing Noon/Viewing 9am-5pm/Serving  
after Mass  
**St Matthew the Apostle Parish** - 10021 Jefferson Hwy,  
River Ridge, LA 504-236-0776  
Sun. Mar 19 -Mass 9am/Viewing 9am-1pm/Blessing 10am

Website: www.maryshelpers.org Email: maryshelpersi97@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



We have heard the question before. What came first the chicken or the egg? With the price of eggs as high as they are these days, another question might just enter your mind-why don't we raise our own chickens then we can have all the eggs we want? But I digress, we do know what came first in our Church's Holy Seasons i.e. Advent, then Christmas, then Lent, then Easter. They follow the Life of Jesus which starts at the crib and ends on The Cross followed by The Resurrection. In each case we are called to prepare ourselves spiritually so that when the event is remembered we know all that is entailed. For example before we receive The Holy Ashes on our forehead we are prepared to go forth and remember The Passion of Christ. Many people just wear a simple cross around the neck and that's ok but to wear that cross with the Corpus of Christ on it doesn't tell half the story, it tells the real and whole story. Once I heard a Priest say there is never a resurrection without a crucifixion first. Jesus knew this all too well when He laid down His Life so that we could truly live. This is why we can never erase His Passion and Death and just dwell on The Resurrection. In the same sense The Jews remember the full story of The Seder Meal when the youngest of the attendees ask The Rabbi why is this night so very special? Then The Rabbi answers with telling the whole story of when their people were in bondage by The Pharaoh in Egypt and how God rescued them to finally live in the Land of Milk and Honey. The Rabbi tells the whole story. So too we as Christians must begin our Lent remembering The Passion of Christ. Then and only then can we celebrate The Resurrection. The answer by the way of what came first the chicken or the egg is an easy one for the Christian to answer. God created the hen to lay the eggs thus the chicken came first. God Bless you-Fr. Paul.

**JOIN US EVERY TUESDAY TO PRAY**  
*at Mary's Helpers in the chapel*  
*at 4512 7th Street, Marrero, LA at NOON*  
*Across from Immaculate Conception Church*  
*If you need Jesus in your life, come pray with us.*



**PREPARE FOR LENT**  
 Praying, Fasting and Charitable Giving are good practices during Lent. We should also ask God every day, "What does my soul need?" or "What makes God happy?"

**THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION**  
**HOUMA MASS EVERY MONTH ON THE 17th**  
*Unless the 17th falls on a Sunday*  
**MAR 17 FRI - 3PM CONFESSION & ROSARY 4PM MASS**  
**APR 17 MON - 3PM CONFESSION & ROSARY 4PM MASS**  
**CELEBRANT: FATHER PAUL BERGERON**  
**JIM BOWIE ROAD IN HOUMA, LA**



**DAYS TO REMEMBER**  
 Mar 4- Upper Room Prayer Cenacle/Houma  
 Mar 12- Begin Daylight Saving Time  
 Mar 17-St Patrick Feast Day  
 Mar 17-Anniversary Mass Houma  
 Mar 19-Feast of St Joseph  
 Mar 25-The Annunciation of Our Lord  
 Apr 1- Upper Room Prayer Cenacle/Houma  
 Apr 2- Palm Sunday  
 Apr 6- Holy Thursday  
 Apr 7- Good Friday  
 Apr 8- Holy Saturday  
 Apr 9-Easter Sunday  
 Apr 16- Divine Mercy Sunday

✠ To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that prisoner was you. Lewis B Smedes

**To RENEW Your 2023 SUBSCRIPTION NOW OR MAKE A DONATION**

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

**JAN / FEB 2023**

**THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!!!**

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

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...

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 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ -  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

*"My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love Thee.  
 I beg Thee forgiveness for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love Thee"*



# The Sword of Saint Michael

Sep 28, 2017 / Written by: [Michael Gorre](#)

## Quis ut Deus? Who is like unto God?

When Saint Michael the Archangel cast Satan and his demons into Hell during the Great Battle in Heaven, the war did not end there. As Satan continues to “prowl about the world, seeking the ruin of souls,” Saint Michael opposes him everywhere.

This enmity is symbolized by a mysterious geographic line called the “**Sword of Saint Michael**,” linking six shrines dedicated to the great Archangel. This line extends northwest to southeast from Skellig Michael in Ireland and ending at the Carmelite Monastery of Stella Maris Haifa, Israel. Some of these shrines were formerly places of pagan devil-worship. Transformed into some of the most sublime monasteries, basilicas and churches, these shrines to Saint Michael represent his victory over the devil and his powerful intercession before the Throne of God.

### Skellig Michael, County Kerry, Ireland

In the sixth century, Irish monks established a monastery on a rock island eight miles off the coast of County Kerry, Ireland. Seeking a place suited to extreme penance, lofty contemplation and acute solitude, the monks lived in stone huts high on the craggy summit of the rock. Only thirteen monks lived on the tiny island at a time, the abbot and twelve monks, symbolizing Our Lord and the Twelve Apostles. Skellig Michael (Michael’s Rock) was a monastery fittingly dedicated to the mightiest archangel.

### Saint Michael’s Mount, Cornwall, England

On the coast of Cornwall in England is the site of another island monastery, Saint Michael’s Mount. Accessible only at low tide, the monastery has attracted countless pilgrims due to an apparition of Saint Michael to local fishermen and the miracles that occurred there.

### Mont Saint Michel, Normandy, France

The most iconic of all the shrines of Saint Michael is Mont Saint Michel on the coast of Normandy, France. In a vision to Saint Aubert, Bishop of Avranches, in the ninth century, the Archangel ordered him to build the shrine on what was formerly a Druid devil-worship site. One of the most sublime examples of Gothic architecture, Mont Saint Michel continues to attract pilgrims and visitors. Each year, on Saint Michael’s feast day, September 29, French paratroopers conduct a parachute jump in honor of their celestial patron.

### Sacra di San Michele, near Turin, Italy

The Sacra di San Michele near Turin, Italy, hangs on a spur of Mount Pirchiriano, commanding a panoramic view of the Val de Susa. Built on top of an ancient pagan settlement and a Roman fortification, this shrine housed a Benedictine monastery starting in the ninth century. Its setting is consistent with the epic location of Saint Michael’s other shrines.

### Monte Sant’Angelo, Mount Gargano, Italy

The most prominent shrine to Saint Michael, one associated with four apparitions of the Archangel, is found in a cave at the top of Monte Gargano. On the spur of Italy, overlooking the Adriatic Sea, the Shrine of Monte Sant’ Angelo sul Gargano is known as the “Celestial Basilica,” having been blessed by the Archangel Michael himself in the fifth century after a series of miraculous events. In the seventeenth century, Saint Michael appeared to Bishop Alfonso Puccinelli and cured townspeople and anyone who devotedly kept stones from the cave marked with a cross and the initials “MA” (Michael Archangel). Many popes, nobles and saints number among the pilgrims who prayed at this shrine. Crusaders on their way to the Holy Land prayed to the Patron of Soldiers and carved numerous crosses on the cave walls.

### Monastery of the Archangel Michael, Island of Symi, Greece

On the island of Symi in Greece lies a monastery dedicated to Saint Michael built in the fifth century over the site of a temple to the pagan god Apollo. A miraculous icon of Saint Michael can be found there as well as a museum full of testimonials of the favors and graces granted through the intercession of Saint Michael, especially to sailors.

### Carmelite Monastery of Stella Maris, Haifa, Israel

All of these shrines point to the Carmelite Monastery of Stella Maris in Haifa, Israel. Situated on Mount Carmel, the monastery has a sweeping view of the Mediterranean Sea and the port city. It is only fitting that the sword line of St. Michael shrines points to a monastery dedicated to the Queen of Angels, Mary Most Holy, at what can be considered the entrance to the Holy Land upon which she and her Divine Son walked.

These are the shrines that make up the “**Sword of Saint Michael**.” They shine on the tops of high, epic places honoring the Archangel whose very name makes the demons tremble and the angels exalt....

“Who is like unto God!”

## Divine Mercy Sunday

Solemn Celebration

April 16, 2023



I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners.

**On that day, the soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.**

Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.

The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depth of tenderness.

**It is My Desire that it be solemnly celebrated, on the first Sunday after Easter.**

Jesus to St Faustina # 699

**Most Rev. Alfred C. Hughes, Celebrant**

Archbishop Emeritus of New Orleans

1:00 Sacrament of Reconciliation

1:30 Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary

2:20 Divine Mercy Chaplet

3:00 Holy Mass

Blessing with First Class Relic of St. Faustina after Mass

## St. Joseph’s Church

1802 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA

# MARY'S HELPERS GIFT SHOP

JAN/FEB 2023

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Rose Crystal 6MM 1 3/4" Crucifix \$69

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

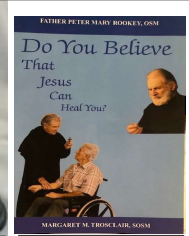


12" OL of Grace w/Halo \$29.99

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Father Rookey's BOOK "Do you Believe that Jesus Can Heal You" \$13



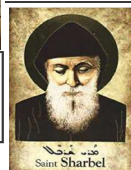
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Padre Pio 12" Statue \$39.99



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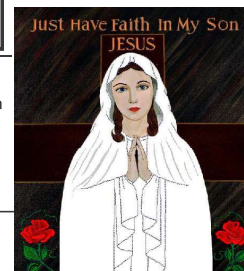
LOUIS SAIA CD Nothing is Impossible With God-Testimony \$10  
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## OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION

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8 x 10 prints Holy Family, or Our Lady of Grace, or St Michael (shown) \$2.00 Unframed \$20.00 Framed

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JAN/FEB 2023

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# 27th ANNIVERSARY MASS

**FR PAUL BERGERON**  
celebrant of the Holy Mass on  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 17th**

At Our Lady of Compassionate Protection Shrine located at 106 Jim Bowie Road, Houma, LA  
The very site of the Apparition of Our Blessed Mother on March 17, 1996 under the title of Our Lady of Compassionate Protection

Confessions & Rosary 3:00 p.m. / Mass 4:00 p.m.  
Louis Saia is experiencing some health issues and will try his best to attend.

### ALL ARE WELCOME...

You are invited to a special event happening in Houma, LA. A place where our Mother Mary appeared to a man that was in need of conversion, Louis Saia. She knew him better than he knew himself. She appeared to him here and changed his life forever. These are the words she spoke to him...

### "JUST HAVE FAITH IN MY SON JESUS"

If only we had one mustard seed of faith and believed that we can be healed by our Lord Jesus, he would answer our prayers.

### "JUST HAVE FAITH!!" Mary said

Since the beginning, 27 years ago, many healings have taken place at this very holy site. Our very own Father Paul Bergeron was healed of stage 4 cancer when prayed upon here. Many other healings have been documented also. And don't forget our Anniversary Mass which is always special with Louis Saia there. Louis has some health issues but says he will do his best to be here. Let's send prayers for his complete recovery.

Come out and pray with us and ask God to help you in your daily struggles. Nothing is impossible with God. Hope to see you there.

"I am the one appointed by the eternal Father to crush the head of the ancient serpent and anything that threatens to devour you.

Say my rosary and bring me a rose and I will take your troubles to my son, Jesus Christ."

### and time again to be a powerful intercessor through whom God desires to reveal his healing touch.

He was a humble and holy hermit whose weaknesses became great strengths in the hand of God.

Charbel was born in 1828 in Lebanon and was raised in a poor shepherd family. As he grew, Charbel was attracted to the hermit's life of the desert and eventually entered the Monastery of St. Maron in Annaya. He was faithful to his duties in religious life and drew closer to God every day. After many years Charbel felt God calling him again to become a hermit and was granted permission to live the rest of his life at a hermitage set on a hill near the monastery.

Charbel died on Christmas Eve at the age of 70, and when his body was later exhumed it was found to be incorrupt. A holy oil was discovered flowing from the tomb, which has since been the source of numerous miracles.

For example, a blind woman from Arizona was healed in 2016 after venerating the relics of St. Charbel. The medical committee investigating the miracle admitted, "We have no medical explanation and therefore believe this to be a miraculous healing through the intercession of St. Charbel."

In France, a baby boy was destined to die, so the family used some oil from St. Charbel's tomb and prayed a novena to St. Charbel for a miraculous healing. According to the family, "The doctors told us that he would sleep more and more and eat less and less. Instead, he was becoming increasingly alert and continued to drink his bottles in small doses. At the end of September, Côme was evaluated again. To our joy and to the astonishment of the doctors, his condition had improved so much that it was determined he would live ... The Blessed Virgin and St. Charbel protected him."

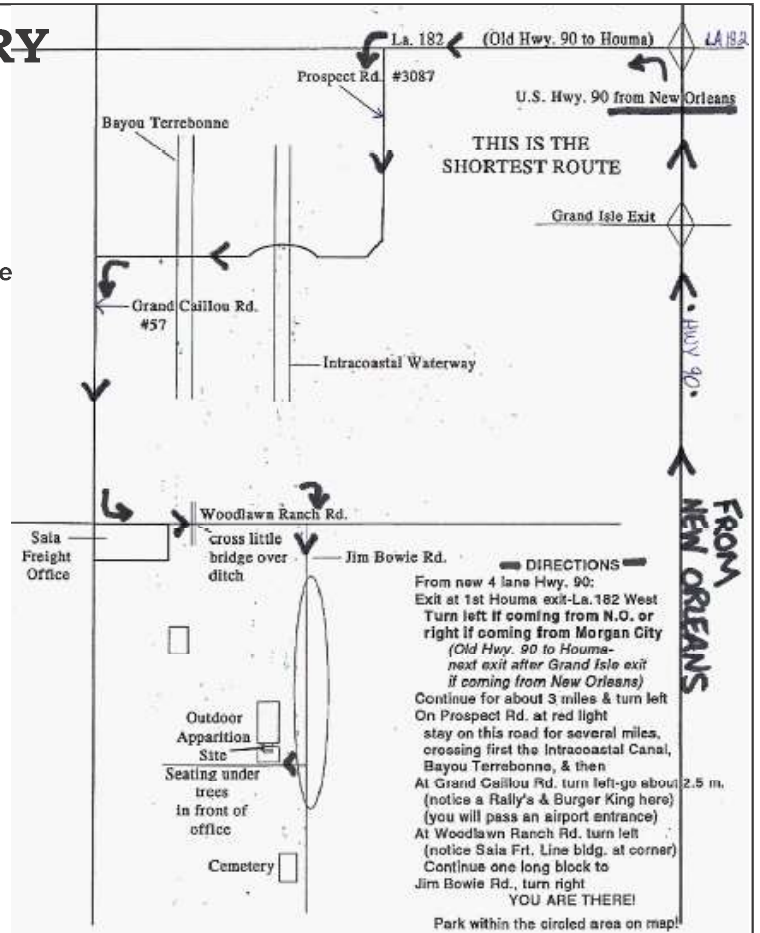
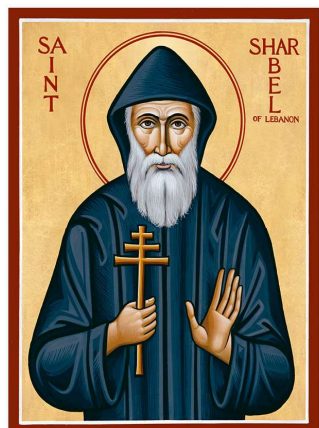
There are many more miracles reported proving that God enjoys working miracles through this humble Lebanese saint.

While we are never "guaranteed" a miracle when praying to God through a saint, the process can often transform our hearts and help us be prepared for whatever plan God has designed.

There is the one novena (usually prayed for nine consecutive days) to St. Charbel that many turn to in their time of need.

*(This powerful novena can be found on Page 7)*

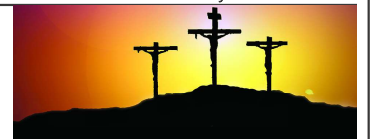
[WWW.FAMILYOFSAINTSCHARBEL.ORG](http://WWW.FAMILYOFSAINTSCHARBEL.ORG)



## The Lebanese saint has become widely known as a miraculous intercessor on countless occasions.

Throughout history God has chosen certain individuals to work stunning miracles that reveal his great power and love for all of humanity. Among them, St. Charbel Makhlof has proven time

**JESUS DIED FOR YOU!  
WHAT ARE YOU  
DOING FOR HIM?**



# The Art of Communication and Dialogue

By Raymond Nader, President of the Family of Saint Sharbel Community  
December 2014

from our experience and all that we have. Similarly, let us allow every person we meet to add a brick to



*Continued from Last Month*

There is a big difference between hearing and listening. We hear a lot of things, but listening

is an art that requires concentrating and understanding what the other wants.

Constructive listening has requirements: I must connect emotionally and empathize with the other and put myself in her shoes if we are to reach a resolution and build each other up.

It is also crucial, when listening, to remove from our minds all prejudice: wait and do not form judgments before the other person finishes talking.

There is a difference, then, between dialogue, conversation, and discussion. Conversation is an exchange of ideas that happens every day and at all times between people. Discussion is a debate over ideas in which only one idea wins: it is an exchange of ideas in order to convince the other. Dialogue is the most important and the foundation of human life: it is a communication that aims to change and build up. Dialogue aims to produce a certain effect, a new birth. To be constructive and fruitful, dialogue must be neither condescending, nor cowed. A constructive dialogue is horizontally level. The Lord Jesus taught with authority, but when dealing with people, he communicated at their level. In today's world a lot of ideas and information reaches us. We must always discern which of it we need, is correct

and beneficial, and ignore the rest. In our conversations, we must think well before we spew words out, for the wrong word can destroy. We must speak carefully, weigh our words, and be clear. We must always check if the other person understands correctly what we are saying, asking, or clarifying. We must listen attentively. We must not react before the other person is finished talking. We must practice listening with patience, calm, and concentration. People use all five senses when they converse, and we should use all these senses constructively.

Every person is unique, and every dialogue must be built on the foundation of love and honesty. No dialogue succeeds without these two virtues.

Let us consider this example: two people are playing tennis. Each of them hits the ball to the other containing a question or a thought. The other hits the balls back containing a question, an answer, or an idea...thrown back and forth until the players become less important than the ball that keeps getting bigger. The goal becomes more important, as do love, sincerity, and creativity. This constitutes true, constructive dialogue that leads to change in the family, society, and humanity.

All this occurs in the presence of Jesus, and, without Jesus, no upbuilding is possible. On this blessed feast, let us re-enter into dialogue with God, so we may be filled by him and start a dialogue with our fellow human. To every person we meet let us add a brick

our structure. But the Lord is the one who raises the building and helps it grow and develop. The spiritual message of this feast is a reminder that Jesus is the foundation, the focus of the feast. He dwells in every needy person and teaches us to reach out to the other in order to reach perfection.

From the experiences of Raymond Nader: "The word is embodied and not a soundwave reverberating in the air. Chisel every word in your mind before you say it, sculpt it in your spirit, smooth it out in your heart, and proffer it as you would lay out a brick in the right place. Disregard words that do not build up. Speak only when your words are deeper and more eloquent than your silence." Prayer: "Lord, you have revealed to us the dimensions of man, the creature you made in your image and likeness. We ask you to send us your Holy Spirit [...] which dwelt on the Virgin Mary and made her Mother of Christ. May this same Holy Spirit descend today upon us all, individuals and couples, and create in our hearts a new person, the creature awaiting to be born in us. Let us repeat with the Virgin Mary: 'I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word.' Then will the Word become flesh and dwell in us, as he dwelt in the womb of the Virgin Mary. Thus, Jesus will be born in our hearts..." Amen. (Fr. Henri Boulad, S.J., from his book, "Toward a better life").

## Saint Charbel Novena

**Lord, infinitely Holy and Glorified in Your Saints, You have inspired Charbel, the saint monk, to lead the perfect life of a hermit. We thank You for granting him the blessing and the strength to detach himself from the world so that the heroism of the monastic virtues of poverty, obedience, and chastity, could triumph in his hermitage. We beseech You to grant us the grace of loving and serving You, following his example. Almighty God, Who has manifested the power of St. Charbel's intercession through his countless miracles and favours, grant us... [Mention your intention here] through his intercession. Amen.**

### 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.

Intention for: \_\_\_\_\_ Living or Deceased

Intention for: \_\_\_\_\_ Living or Deceased

### PREPARE FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE by using THE FIVE STONES OF MEDJUGORJE

Dear Children, I invite you for your individual conversion. This time is for you! Without you, God's plan cannot be realized. Dear Children, Grow day by day closer to God through prayer.

I GIVE YOU THE WEAPONS AGAINST GOLIATH.

HERE ARE YOUR 5 LITTLE STONES:

- 1) Pray the Rosary Daily from your heart
- 2) Receive the Eucharist on Sunday and daily, if possible. Celebrate the Eucharist as you should, to receive his graces.
- 3) Read your bible and let it be visible in your homes to encourage you to read it
- 4) Fast twice a week / Wed & Friday
- 5) Visit Holy Confession at least monthly

**Our Lady is calling YOU!!!**

Saint Charbel's intercession enriched the entire christian people... May he make us understand, in a world largely fascinated by wealth and comfort, the paramount value of poverty, penance and asceticism, to liberate the soul in its ascent to God.

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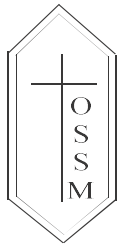
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**Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de enero de 2023**

“¡Queridos hijos! Oren conmigo por la paz, porque Satanás quiere la guerra y el odio en los corazones y en los pueblos. Por eso, oren y sacrifiquen sus días haciendo ayuno y penitencia, para que Dios les dé la paz. El futuro está en una encrucijada, porque el hombre moderno no quiere a Dios. Por ello la humanidad se dirige hacia la perdición. Ustedes, hijitos, son mi esperanza. Oren conmigo para que se haga realidad lo que comencé en Fátima y aquí. Oren y den testimonio de la paz en su entorno, y sean personas de paz. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado.”

**MASS & HEALING SERVICE**

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA

234 Angus Drive, Luling, LA

Father Anthony Odiong

Rosary 5pm Healing Mass 6pm  
followed by prayer over the sick.  
Last Thursdays-Mar 30 / Apr 27

**Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de febrero de 2023**

“¡Queridos hijos! Conviértanse y revístanse de vestiduras penitenciales y de oración personal profunda, y humildemente pidan la paz al Altísimo. En este tiempo de gracia, Satanás quiere seducirlos, pero ustedes, hijitos, miren a mi Hijo y síganlo hacia el Calvario en la renuncia y el ayuno. Estoy con ustedes porque el Altísimo me permite amarlos y conducirlos al gozo del corazón, en la fe que crece en todos los que aman a Dios por encima de todo. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado.”

**OUR LENTEN FASTING**

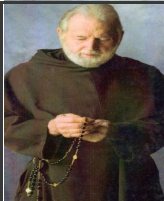
**FAST** from complaints and contemplate simplicity  
**FAST** from pressures and be prayerful  
**FAST** from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy  
**FAST** from selfishness and be compassionate to others  
**FAST** from grudges and be reconciled  
**FAST** from words and be silent so you can listen to others

**PRAYER to ST. JOSEPH Patron of the Family**

St. Joseph, protector of all families, I come to you to intercede for me and to bring my family to Jesus. He was once the Little Child you protected when you took Mary and fled by night into Egypt in order to preserve Him from the slaughter decreed by Herod.

Just as you protected Jesus, I ask you to protect my family from all the evil that roams the world. Please bring my petitions to Jesus, for He will not refuse you. St. Joseph, I know you will not refuse me this favor.

Amen. **St. Joseph, Pray for Us.**



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**MAGNIFICAT**

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**9:30 a.m. - Noon**

Place: Four Columns

Guest:

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