



MARY'S HELPERS, INC.

News

No.37 Vol. 03-04 All About Jesus & Mary Mar/Apr 2024

MEDJUGORJE
March 25, 2024
to Marija Pavlovic'

"Dear children!
In this time of grace,
pray with me for the
good to win in you and
around you.

In a special way, little
children, pray united
with Jesus on His Way of
the Cross.

Into your prayers put
this humanity which
wanders without God
and without His love.

Be prayer, be light, and
be witnesses to all those
whom you meet, little
children, so that the
merciful God may have
mercy toward you.

Thank you
for having
responded to
my call. "

MEDJUGORJE
April 25, 2024
to Marija Pavlovic'

"Dear children! I am
with you to tell you
that I love you and
to encourage you to
prayer;
because Satan is
strong and every day
his strength is stronger
through those who
have chosen death and
hatred.

You, little children,
be prayer and my
extended hands of love
for all those who are in
darkness and seek the
light of our God.

Thank you
for having
responded to
my call."

**Meditation on the Mar 25, 2024
Message**

by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

As we begin Holy Week with Palm Sunday we listen to the Passion Gospel narrated. The Church is united in prayer with Jesus on His Way of the Cross. We begin Holy week with our prayers united with Mary for us and around us. We want to surrender our humanity which wanders without God and without His love. Let us listen to Mary's voice and become prayer, light and witnesses to all those whom we meet. So that we have mercy; our merciful God may show mercy toward you!

During this Holy week we reflect on Jesus' love for us! Mary calls on us to believe in this merciful love. It comes to us through Jesus. Let us unite with Jesus to be able to love God and neighbor. The ultimate end is to love the Father united with Jesus. Love Fr. Al

HE BREATHED ON THEM AND SAID TO THEM, RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT
John 20:19-23

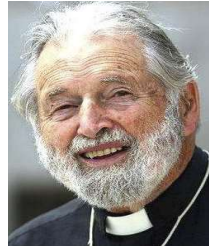
**Meditation on the Apr 25, 2024
Message**

by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

Mary's words encourages us through prayer and love to counter attack Satan's plan to use the media, television and radio with messages and propaganda of death and hatred. Satan wants people to share and spread the message of discouragement, death and hatred. We must be more vocal with words and a message of love and peace of our Lord Jesus. Mary our Mother wants us to, "be prayer and extended hands of love for all those who are in darkness and seek the light of our God." Satan's approach to us is subtle and innocent like. In conversations and news programs he sways us to change our virtues for strong politics and rivalries from moral catholic teaching. You cannot give opposition or even an opinion if you do not know the Catholic position! Therefore study, know and depend on teachings of the Church in the Catholic Catechism. Most importantly live, attend the Mass where your community of Faith lives. You will find food for the soul in the Eucharist

and the preaching of the Word in the Gospel the Good News! Have conversations and prayers about questions and doubts with your Catholic friends, Priest and religious. Pray with Mary and listen to her messages as we surrender each day more to her son Jesus! Love Fr. Al

MARY'S HELPERS SAINTS IN HEAVEN, WE NEED YOUR PRAYERS!



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

**MEDJUGORJE
March 18, 2024
Annual Message to
Mirjana Dragicevic-Soldo**

"Dear children, by the merciful love of God, I am with you. That is why, as a mother, I am calling you to believe in love -- the love that is union with my Son. With love you help others to open their hearts to come to know my Son and to come to love Him. My children, love makes it for my Son to illuminate your hearts with His grace, to grow in you and to give you peace. My children, if you live love, if you live my Son, you will have peace and you will be happy. In love is victory. Thank you."

MARY'S HELPERS DONATIONS CAN NOW BE MADE ONLINE AT www.maryshelpers.org
We really need your prayers, time and talents. Consider Volunteering

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful: and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Pentecost Alleluia

Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Mark 10:13-16

Heavenly Father,

I lift up to you today my mother and all mothers. Bless them with strength to continue to care for their children, with the same bold, selflessness Mary showed Jesus. Help my mother and all mothers feel our gratitude and truly know their impact.



Words from our Pope Francis
"Very often it happens that we do not pray, we don't feel like praying, or many times we pray like parrots, with the mouth, but our heart is not in it. This is the moment to say to the Spirit: "Come, come Holy Spirit, warm my heart. Come and teach me to pray, teach me to look to the Father, to look to the Son. Teach what the path of faith is like. Teach me how to love and, above all, teach me to have an attitude of hope." Pope Francis

Memorials

WILMA CREED GIBSON passed away on April 10, 2024 at the age of 81 years. Wilma, as we all knew her as Willie, was a long term member of Mary's Helpers along with her loving spouse Billie, who I know will miss her dearly. Both Willie and Billie would still come out and help with the newsletter as much as they could. We thank them for their generosity and support over the years. This is how we survive here at Mary's Helpers. Through those who love Jesus and Mary. Rest in Peace Willie.



RONALD J. KNOX passed away on January 29, 2024 at the age of 63 years. Ronald was the son of our long term member Ophelia Lorio Knox who just passed away November 20, 2023. Now mother and son will be together with Jesus and Mary. Rest in Peace Ronald and Ophelia. We will see you again one day.

RAY GERARD HYMEL passed away on February 20, 2024 at the age of 93. Ray and his late wife JoAnn were long term members of Mary's Helpers. They were always ready to help, no matter what was needed. JoAnn went to see her Lord on September 25, 2020. I know JoAnn is happy to see her Ray again. May they both Rest in Peace.

ROBERT ARCHULETA passed away on February 25, 2024 at the age of 88. Robert was a big part of Mary's Helpers also. Him and his wife Caroline were big supporters of Mary's Helpers. Robert worked all his life as a steel fabrication estimator. Now he will be working in heaven for Jesus. Rest in Peace Robert.

HOLY SPIRIT NOVENA

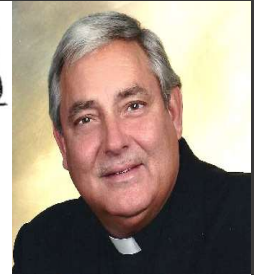
United with Our Lady and the first apostles, who prayed in the upper room, we invite all to pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit prior to Pentecost for ourselves and our leaders.

Holy Spirit Novena begins May 10th
We pray that God would give us a tremendous outpouring of His Holy Spirit in this time so that we can cooperate with God to bring about peace in our lives.

Holy Spirit Novena available online at www.maryshelpers.org or at your local church.

He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away.

A word from **FATHER PAUL BERGERON**



BASKING IN THE LIGHT OF THE RESURRECTION

I am sure everyone had a great Easter. What makes it great is The Resurrection of Jesus. He fulfilled the scriptures by doing so and the promise made to our forefather's was fulfilled. The door, like the stone covering the entrance to the tomb, was opened and gave to us Eternal Life and to put the icing on the cake, sort of to speak, we have The Divine Mercy which gives us a special indulgence to those who do the Novena and make use of The Sacrament of Confession. Let us all never forget the real reason for Easter and to know that through The Lord's Mercy, He always gives us another chance to change and live in His Holy will. Amen Father Paul

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

August 30-September 9, 2024

with **Spiritual Director Father Paul Bergeron**

Assisted by Deacon Bill Betancourt

Register Online at www.81TOURS.COM/PATTI or Call (856) 563-4696 for more information \$500 Deposit with balance due by July 1, 2024 Package \$2,970 (double occupancy)

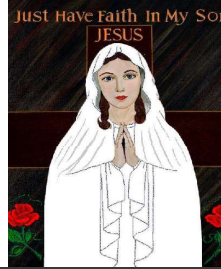
DAYS TO REMEMBER

- May 1-St Joseph the Worker
- May 2-National Day of Prayer
- May 4-Upper Room Prayer Cenacle/Houma
- May 10-Begin Holy Spirit Novena
- May 13-Our Lady of Fatima
- May 12-Mother's Day
The Ascension of the Lord
- May 13-Our Lady of Fatima
- May 17-May Crown of Mary in Houma/OLCP
- May 19-Pentecost Sunday
- May 20-Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
- May 26-The Most Holy Trinity
- May 27-Memorial Day
- May 31-The Visitation of the Blessed Mother
- Jun 1-Upper Room Prayer Cenacle/Houma
- Jun 2-The Body and Blood of Christ
(Corpus Christi)
- Jun 7-Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Jun 8-Immaculate Heart Mary
- Jun 16-Father's Day
- Jun 17-Houma Mass OL of Comp Protection
- Jun 24-Birth of St John the Baptist
- Jun 29-Saint Peter and Paul, Apostles

THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION

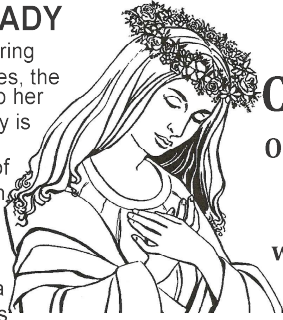
MAY 17 FRI - 3PM PROCESSION & ROSARY ~ 4PM MASS
JUN 17 MON - 3PM CONFESSION & ROSARY ~ 4PM MASS

106 JIM BOWIE ROAD IN HOUMA, LA
CELEBRANT: FATHER PAUL BERGERON



MAY MONTH OF OUR LADY

In addition to the myriad feast days honoring Our Lady under her many titles and virtues, the entire month of May is especially given to her praise. In the words of Pope Paul VI, May is "a month which the piety of the faithful has long dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God ... For this is the month during which Christians, in their churches and their homes, offer the Virgin Mother more fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a greater abundance of God's merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother's throne."



MAY CROWNING OF OUR BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

JOIN US ON FRIDAY, MAY 17th at 3pm when we will have a procession and rosary to honor our Mother Mary at the Shrine of Our Lady of Compassionate Protection 106 Jim Bowie Rd, Houma, LA

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

MAR/APR 2024

Thank You for keeping 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.)

\$20 \$30 \$40 \$50 \$75 \$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



Mary's Helpers would like to take this time to THANK YOU for helping us continue this ministry. We couldn't do it without YOU! MARY QUEEN OF PEACE, PRAY FOR US!

3-Way Indulgence Pardon Crucifix

**FATHER FORGIVE THEM
BEHOLD THE HEART WHICH HAS
SO LOVED MEN**



Granted by His Holiness, Pope Pius X., to the Pious Union of the Pardon Crucifix. The purpose was to obtain pardon of God and to pardon one's neighbor.

In 2016 we began to carry this beautiful crucifix from Italy. We call it the Triple Threat Crucifix because it combines 3 of the most powerful sacramentals of the Church into one piece! Attached to this Indulgence Pardon Crucifix is also a Miraculous Medal and a St Benedict medal!

- 1) Whoever carries on his person the Pardon Crucifix may thereby gain a PARTIAL INDULGENCE once a day
- 2) For devoutly kissing the Crucifix, a PARTIAL INDULGENCE is given each time.
- 3) Saying the following invocations before this Crucifix will gain each time a PARTIAL 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, will gain a PLENARY INDULGENCE on the following feast days: a) The Five Wounds of Our Lord b) The Invention of the Holy Cross c) The Exaltation of the Holy Cross d) The Immaculate Conception e) The Seven Dolours of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

5) At the moment of death, when 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 for pardon of God for his sins, and pardon of their neighbor, will gain a PLENARY INDULGENCE.

(Pontifical Rescript of June 1, 1905, to M.M.the Abbes Lemann)

To the Faithful, who devoutly kiss this Crucifix and gain these precious Indulgences, we recommend to have in view the following intentions: To testify love for Our Lord and the Blessed Virgin; Gratitude towards our Holy Father, the Pope; To beg for the remission of one's sins; The deliverance of souls in purgatory; The return of the nations to the Faith; Forgiveness among Christians; Reconciliation among the members of the Catholic Church. By another Pontifical Rescript on November 14, 1905, His Holiness Pope Pius X, has declared that the Indulgences attached to the Pardon Crucifix are applicable to all the souls in purgatory.

(With Ecclesiastical Sanction January 15, 1907)

Available in our gift shop-See pg 5

This Crucifix needs but the blessing of a priest, with the Sign of the Cross, to secure to it all the Indulgences mentioned above.

"Let us love the Cross and let us remember that we are not alone in carrying it. God is helping us.

And in God who is comforting us, as St. Paul says, we can do anything." St. Gianna

was orphaned at an early age and raised by an uncle. He entered the monastery at the age of 23. After 16 years, St. Charbel felt called to become a hermit. He moved into a hermitage attached to the monastery. After his death at the age of 70, for 45 days, witnesses claimed a white light radiated from his body. He was canonized in 1977.

During his life, St. Charbel warned us that the devil is bent on the destruction of families. By coming to us through the Holy Family, God reinforced the importance of all families. Even among those that are broken up or never even fully formed, they carry the pieces and charism of God's mission to be lived out and prayed about.

Advice to Families

Love is a Radiant Light: The Life & Words of Saint Charbel contains insights from St. Charbel specifically related to families:

Guard your families and keep them from the schemes of the evil one through the presence of God in them. **Protect and keep them through prayer and dialogue through mutual understanding and forgiveness, through honesty and faithfulness, and most importantly, through listening.** Listen to one another with your ears, eyes, hearts, mouths and the palms of your hands, and **keep the roaring of the noise of the world away from your homes** because it is like raging storms and violent waves; once it enters the home, it will sweep away everything and disperse everyone. Preserve the warmth of the family, because the warmth of the whole world cannot make up for it. Every family is a holy family because it is the image of God the Trinity. The corruption of the family means a corruption of the image of God. The family carries the torch of light and passes it from one generation to another so the world may remain lit by the light of the Lord.... The family is the basis of the Lord's plan; and all forces of evil are focusing all their evil on destroying the family because they know that by destroying the family, the foundations of the plan of God will be shaken.

Help Through Our Lady of Fatima

Although St. Charbel died 19 years before Our Lady of Fatima appeared to the three shepherd children, his words were prophetically reflected in the message from heaven in 1917. Cardinal Caffarra had requested prayers from Sr. Lucia (one of the Fatima children, who became a cloistered nun)

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

for the success of Pope St. John Paul II's newly created Pontifical Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family. She wrote him back: "Father, a time will come when the decisive battle between the kingdom of Christ and Satan will be over marriage and the family. And those who will work for the good of the family will experience persecution and tribulation. But do not be afraid, because Our Lady has already crushed his head." St. Charbel called us to pray and to hold fast to the cross as "the center of the universe and the key to heaven." He told us, "A man who prays lives out the mystery of existence, and a man who does not pray scarcely exists." So let us pray.

St. Charbel, pray for us! Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!



Help for Families from St Charbel and Our Lady of Fatima

"Preserve the warmth of the family, because the warmth of the whole world cannot make up for it."

St. Charbel and Our Lady of Fatima [Patti Maquire Armstrong](#)

Blogs March 3, 2020

We need a miracle worker. Always. Of course the power behind every miracle is God, but in his mercy, we can pray for one another so that our prayers expand and grow stronger. "The prayers of the righteous are powerful and effective" (James 5:16). The saints, our cloud of witnesses, will pray for us if we ask. Although intentions of every sort emerge daily, praying for conversions and for families is at the heart of our mission on earth. It boils down to heaven or hell? We can pray to any saint, but those who were united to families while they walked the earth, speak the language of a praying parent in a personal way.

St. Charbel Makhoul (1828-1898) is one of those saints. The humble Maronite hermit and priest from Lebanon left behind advice and inspiration for families. He lived in obscurity, but after his death, the extraordinary phenomena of light coming from his corpse brought multitudes to his tomb. According to the [Saint Charbel](#) website, he performed hundreds of thousands of miracles as a Catholic Maronite monk and hermit and it continued after his death. His miracles have reached across denominational lines and been reported in over 133 countries. St. Maroun's Monastery in Annaya, Mount Lebanon, where his body is entombed, receives hundreds of thousands of letters every year from people who want to share stories of miracles and wonders.

The fifth child of a mule driver and his wife, he

MARY'S HELPERS GIFT SHOP

MAR/APR 2024

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 Sharbel Statue \$32.99



Pray to St Sharbel the miracle worker

Pardon Crucifix (No Medals) \$3.00



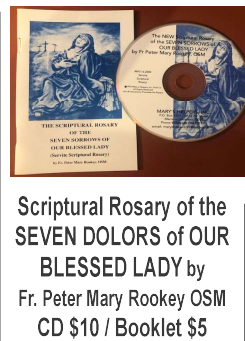
We also have Pardon Crucifix Rosaries in our Gift Shop. Call us.

Laminated Pardon Cross Prayer Cards NOW Available \$1.

Padre Pio 12" Statue \$39.99



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



PIETA Prayer Booklet \$2 Large Print \$4



Beautiful 3-Way Indulgence Pardon Crucifix with Miraculous Medal & St Benedict Medal (article in last month) \$7.00 Made in Italy



5" St Sharbel Statue \$19.99



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



St Sharbel Medals \$1



ST SHARBEL and PADRE PIO BLESSED OIL also available

Glass Candle Holders \$3.00 6 Day Candle Refills (Fits Inside Glass Holders) \$3.75



SCAPULARS with medals \$3.00



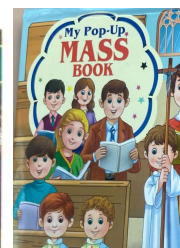
CHILDREN'S BOOKS

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

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



My Pop-Up MASS BOOK by Thomas Donaghy

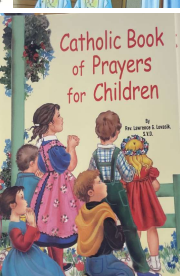


My Pop-Up Mass Book by Thomas Donaghy Has POP UP Pictures \$12.98 Looking for a book for your young one during mass? This is it...

Who Is Jesus? by Kathleen Long Bostrom \$6.50 Do your children know who Jesus is?



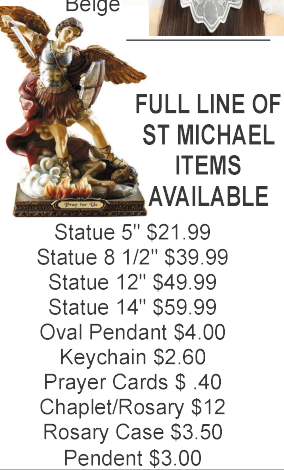
Catholic Book of Prayers for Children by Rev Lawrence Lovasik \$6.50 Teach our children how to pray



BEAUTIFUL CHURCH VEILS ARE HERE Classic \$9.99 Infinity \$12.99 11" Circular \$6.50 White Black Beige



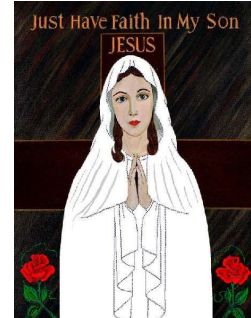
FULL LINE OF ST MICHAEL ITEMS AVAILABLE Statue 5" \$21.99 Statue 8 1/2" \$39.99 Statue 12" \$49.99 Statue 14" \$59.99 Oval Pendant \$4.00 Keychain \$2.60 Prayer Cards \$.40 Chaplet/Rosary \$12 Rosary Case \$3.50 Pendent \$3.00



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



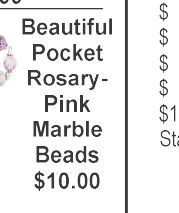
Just Have Faith In My Son JESUS



Beautiful Wooden Cross 15 3/4" H \$29.99



Beautiful Pocket Rosary-Pink Marble Beads \$10.00



Estimated Shipping

\$ 10.00 & Under	ADD \$ 4.00
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Statues 24"	" \$24.00
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" 16"	" \$16.00
" 12"	" \$13.00

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.)

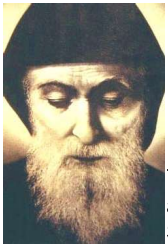
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Marrero, La. 70073
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MAR/APR 2024
Mail in this Sheet with Mail Order or email us at maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net or call us (504) 348-7729

SALES TAX (9.2% Tax Jeff. Parish) \$ _____
Shipping Charges (See Above) \$ _____
Gift of a Donation \$ _____
Total Sale \$ _____



St. Sharbel Makhlof

May 8, 1828 -
December 24, 1898

www.familyofstsharbel.org/testimonies

There are over 26,000 miracles attributed to the intercession of Saint Sharbel Makhlof since his death in 1898. You could say he has a bit of a track record—and he's not slowing down anytime soon.

Testimony of Flossie Morton

I am ashamed of myself for taking so long to write a testimonial of when Saint Sharbel healed my son Bob Morton's eye cancer years ago. I did try to write a 3-page account, but I stopped because I realized it was Father Matthew Hinks that called me when he heard from his mother (Therese Harrington) who was one of my best friends and died a few months ago at the age of 96!!!!

At Therese's funeral, I was able to talk to Father Matthew, and I told him I never finished the testimonial I had been asked to write because I only heard from him how powerful Saint Sharbel was on a phone call after he had heard about my son's illness through his wonderful mother (Therese), who he spoke to every Monday on the phone. (Father Hinks is stationed in Ohio; Therese and I were in Vermont.)

When I [originally] spoke with Fr. Hinks, I asked him how he found out what a powerful Saint Saint Sharbel was. He told me that a woman who attended one of his retreats came up to him after it was over and told him that she had inoperable brain cancer. Fr. Hinks and this woman prayed to Saint Sharbel for God to heal her! Fr. Hinks told me that it was not long at all, maybe

a month or two after he and the sick woman spoke, that this woman came back to where he was and told him that she had proof from her doctors that her brain cancer was healed! He also told me that this woman bought a plane ticket to the country of Lebanon where Saint Sharbel was buried. She walked into the large office near the gravesite of Saint Sharbel and told the people there where she had come from and that she wanted them to know that Saint Sharbel had healed her brain cancer, and of course she showed them all the proof. They told her that they were so happy for her but that her miracle was the 646th in that month!!!!

When I heard this news from Fr. Hinks, I could not wait to look Saint Sharbel up on the internet. Once I did, I contacted the closest office containing Saint Sharbel religious articles, which happened to be in Virginia. I found the address on the internet. My letter was answered with a phone call from a wonderful member of the Family of Saint Sharbel who was in charge of sending religious articles like novena books, beautiful metals, relics, and books about Saint Sharbel's life. I immediately asked him to send me many of the wonderful religious articles.

My prayer life from that moment on was Saint Sharbel only! I gave many of Saint Sharbel's novena books to everyone I knew who would take one. I am positive because of my faith in Saint Sharbel's intercession and all the religious articles I handed out that many other people were healed, also.

The story of my son's healing was wonderful! He woke up one morning and his vision was very blurry. He went to the University of Michigan hospital and saw an eye doctor. The doctor gave him terrible news that he had a rare cancer in his eye that only attacks under 10 people per million! It was called Choroidal Melanoma. I was so worried. I prayed and prayed to Saint Sharbel, and I made sure my son's wife and children had the Sharbel novena books.

My son had two operations on his eye that caused him a lot of pain. At one point, he was given radiation in his eye, and no one was allowed in his room when he came home for fear they would be hurt by the strong radiation! He even had to put his own medication in his eye.

At some point, the doctor said that he would have to send a biopsy of his cancer to a big lab far away to see what level of cancer he had in his eye. The doctor said it would probably take about 6 weeks for him to get the lab report back. It was the longest 6 weeks of my and the rest of his family's lives.

The doctor said that this particular cancer had 3 possible outcomes:

1. That the cancer would spread throughout his body and would not even be helped by chemotherapy! He would have likely died in time.
2. That this cancer would spread a little and Bob would need to take part in many medical trials that could take years to find a medicine that would heal this cancer.
3. That Bob's cancer would never spread, and he would live!

Again, all of us prayed and prayed for Saint Sharbel's intercession. 6 weeks went by and no word. We were all a nervous wreck! Then one afternoon when I was at the grocery store, someone called me on my cell phone and said my son's cancer was number 3!!!! I screamed out loud in the store: "My son will live. Thank you, Saint Sharbel!"



The Life of Mary

Mary returns to Nazareth

St Luke tells us that after Joseph and Mary found Jesus in the temple, "He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them ... and Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and grace before God and men." With these words our guide leaves us; surmise and legend are our only sources for the next 18 years of our Lord's life. Apparently, Jesus followed the trade of Joseph (Mark 6:3). Growing into young manhood, He continued as a master the trade He had long studied as an apprentice in Joseph's workshop; and on the Sabbath he joined his foster father in the synagogue and in visiting the sick and afflicted of the community. Meanwhile, He did not fail to aid Mary in the task of the household.

The death of St Joseph is supposed to have taken place in this period. The oldest legends vary as to the year (from Jesus' 18th year to His 29th), but all of them placed the event before the beginning of Christ's public ministry. Saint Anne, too, is pictured as dying at this time. Jesus and Mary were left alone as the day approached when he was to depart from Nazareth and begin his public life.

Mary finds Jesus in the Temple

Jesus left Nazareth to begin his public mission early in the year 28 (probably in January). By the beginning of March He was again back in Galilee, where He met Mary at a wedding feast in the small village of Cana a few miles north of Nazareth. The gospel does not relate the joyous reunion of mother and son, but St. John tells of Mary's share in Christ's first miracle, which He performed on this occasion. And her request He relieved a shortage of wine at the banquet, turning into wine six great jars of water. The words with which He answered her request sound like a rebuff to us, but His action belies this; moreover, as Saint Augustine remarked, Christ did not come to Cana to teach us to despise our mother.

From Cana Mary went down to Capharnaum with Jesus and His disciples. She probably found Him a lodging there and spent a few weeks arranging the household before she returned to Nazareth. Later she came to Capharnaum with a group of His relatives who wish to dissuade Him from continuing His preaching, though we may be sure she did not share their intention. Perhaps the last time she saw Him at Nazareth was when He came there to preach in the synagogue and was attacked by the villagers, who sought to cast Him from a precipice outside the town. Mary is said to have witnessed this foreshadowing of Christ's passion, praying as she watched from a little hill in the south

of Nazareth.

We hear little more of Mary during our Lord's public life. While relative strangers were welcomed to His company, she lived out her widowhood alone, happily resigned to the fulfillment of his plan.

Our Lord's Passion

Did Jesus and Mary enjoy a last reunion before the beginning of His passion? Perhaps they met at Bethany, at the home of Lazarus and his sisters. Or perhaps the Cenacle, the room of the Last Supper, was the scene of this farewell. Wherever Mary was, because of her intense love and understanding, she shared the agony of her Son as much as any mortal could. With Him she wept and prayed in Gethsemani, suffered at the pillories of Herod and Pilate, and bore the vilest insults of the crowd. Finally, as He began the Way of the Cross, she came to join the throng that was following Him to Golgotha. When they came face to face, says the apocryphal acts of Pilate, Mary swooned out of compassion; this is the subject of the Fourth Station of the Cross. On the reputed sight of the meeting of the Crusaders built the church of St Mary of the Swoon.

The Life of Mary Continued Next Newsletter



TITLES OF MARY

by Kay Winchester Jul 8, 2020

No saint has as many titles as Mary. That is perhaps because, unlike any other saint, she is so very many things to so very many people. Each name we know her by, whether it is related to her role in salvation history, such as Mother of God, or a place in which she has appeared, such as Our Lady of Lourdes, or a way in which she has been present to us, such as Our Lady, Refuge of Sinners, she shines like a jewel possessed of endless facets.

The Church recognizes six "formal" titles for her, which corresponds to Church teaching and dogmas concerning her: Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Our Lady, Queen of Heaven, Immaculate Conception and Assumption. There are others which celebrate a different aspect of who she is. Let's take a look at some of them.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, also known as Our Lady of Perpetual Succor, is based on an icon, painted on wood, that depicts the Mother of God holding the Divine Child while the Archangels Michael and Gabriel are on either side of them, presenting Jesus with the instruments of His Passion. Thought to have been painted in the 13th century, it was brought to Rome in the 15th. Eventually placed under the care of the Redemptorists in 1866, many graces and miracles are credited to devotion to Our Lady under this title. Interestingly, in this icon Mary is not gazing at Jesus, but at us, as if to offer comfort and solace in our sufferings. The feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is June 27.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel is related to both a place and a religious order. Since the 12th

century, hermits on Mount Carmel, located in northern Israel, have had a chapel dedicated to her, and they eventually became known as the Brothers of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. In 1726, devotion to Our Lady under this title became a celebration in the universal Church. Carmelite saints have had a special devotion to her: Saint Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross and St. Theresa of the Child Jesus. The scapular, still worn by many, was said to have been given to St. Simon Stock as a sign of devotion to Mary under this title and a reminder to all to persevere in both prayer and penance. This feast day is celebrated on July 16.

The Assumption of Mary, as a dogma of the Church, is relatively recent. On Nov. 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII solemnized what had been a common belief in the Catholic Church since at least the sixth century. "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory," he said. A holy day of obligation, the Assumption, is celebrated on Aug. 15.

The Queenship of Mary, which is celebrated on Aug. 22, also is a fairly recent commemoration on the Church calendar. Pope Pius XII established this feast in 1954, placing it on the octave day of the Assumption; we are perhaps reminded of it most often when we pray the prayer "Hail Holy Queen." The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven is also the fifth Glorious Mystery of the rosary.

Our Lady of Grace does not have an "official" feast day on the Church calendar, but it is often commemorated on July 2. This title can be understood in a couple of ways; as Jesus' mother, it was Mary who brought Divine Grace into the world. It is also through her powerful intercession that we, too, are granted a multitude of graces. Thus, Mary appears as a loving mother who obtains all that people need for eternal salvation.

Our Lady Queen of Peace, who is also known

as Mother of Peace, actually has two feast days. The universal Church celebrates her on July 9, but in Hawaii and certain other states, she is commemorated on Jan. 24 and is often represented holding a dove and an olive branch. In 1917, during World War I, Pope Benedict XV asked people to pray to Mary under this title for an end to the devastation that was occurring on battlefields throughout the world.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary, whose feast is celebrated on Aug. 22, is closely related to the Sacred Heart. In honoring Jesus' Sacred Heart, we acknowledge His incredible and boundless love for all people, a love which is often ignored or spurned. The heart of Mary, however, is turned instead toward her Son, and is a sign of her love and devotion to God. St. John Eudes (whose feast day is Aug. 19) is particularly known for his devotion to the Sacred Hearts of both Jesus and Mary.

Our Lady of the Angels comes to us from Costa Rica and began with the discovery of a statue only three inches high. A mestizo woman came upon this tiny depiction of Mary along a footpath on the Feast of the Holy Angels, Aug. 2, 1635. She took the image home, but it soon disappeared only to reappear in the place where she originally found it. When the same thing happened five more times, it was determined that Our Lady wanted a shrine built on that spot. In 1935 Pope Pius XI declared the shrine of the Queen of Angels a basilica, and miracles have occurred there ever since.

We have many titles through which we love and honor Mary. Several years ago, however, I heard a homily in which the priest spoke of the greatest title of all, bestowed on her by her beloved Son. It encompasses in one word everything we ever need to know about her.

That title is "Mom."



—Originally published in the Summer 2020 issue of Vermont Catholic magazine titles (good counsel, good death, help of the sick,



THE ARMOR OF GOD

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against demon princes, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Therefore take up the armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and stand in all things perfect. Ephesians 6:12-13

I think a lot of us could use this prayer!

Prayer to Reunite a Broken Family

Lord, we come before you today with heavy hearts and broken spirits. We ask that you would mend the brokenness in our family and provide us with the courage to forgive one another. Help us to come together with love, unity and understanding and bring healing to our broken family. Amen

The most Powerful Prayer for the Souls in Purgatory

St. Bridget's Prayer for Holy Souls

"Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. Amen."

Let's Laugh a Little

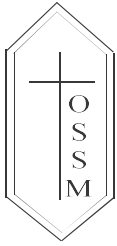
As an atheist walked through the forest, he smiled at the beauty that was all around him and said, "What natural wonders the powers of evolution have created." Just then he heard a rustling near the river. He went to investigate and a seven-foot-tall grizzly bear was tearing down the path toward him.

The man took off like a shot, and when he got up the courage to look back, he saw the bear was catching up fast. He tried with all his strength to pick up the pace, but he tripped and crashed to the ground. As he tried to get up, the bear jumped on his chest and picked up one paw to whack him. The atheist screamed "Oh my God!"

Time stopped! The bear froze. The forest was silent. Even the river stopped moving. As a bright light shone upon the man, a voice boomed from the heavens, "You deny My existence for all of these years, teach others I don't exist and even credit creation to a cosmic accident. Do you expect Me to help you out of this predicament? Am I to count you as a believer?"

The atheist looked directly into the light, "It would be hypocritical of me to suddenly ask You to treat me as a Christian now, but could You perhaps make the bear a Christian?"

"Very well," the voice said. When the light went out, the river ran again and the sounds of the forest resumed. And then the bear dropped its right paw, brought both paws together, bowed its head and spoke: "Lord, for this food that I am about to receive, I am truly thankful."



Servants of Mary
St. Anthony Pucci Community
 Marrero, La
Secular Servites of Louisiana
 May 19 / Jun 16 at
 2 pm Formation 2:30 pm
 Prioreess: Isabel Bertot
 For information call (504) 908-7795

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE
 May 17, 2024-Jul 16, 2024

This will be one of the largest Eucharistic pilgrimages in history. Just as crowds followed Christ throughout his earthly ministry, our nation will process with our Eucharistic Lord over 6,500 miles—through cities, along highways, and past rural towns—on his way to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress.
www.EucharisticRevival.Org
Southern Pilgrimage called Juan Diego Route
 Scheduled to be in New Orleans
 06/07/2024-06/09/2024



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH
 4401 7th St., Marrero LA
 Phone: 504-341-9516
Fr. Stephen Leake, Pastor
 Confession Fri 5:00-5:45pm Sat 2:30-3:30pm
 Sat Vigil 4:00pm Sun 8:00am 10:00am,
 Sun 12:00 (Español), 6pm



Repent, for the kingdom of
 Heaven is close at hand.
 Matthew 3: 1-12

The NEWS is published by Mary's Helpers to help spread the messages of Our Lady all over the country and the world.

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May 19

Pentecost
 Happy Birthday
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 Around the World!
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Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de marzo de 2024

“¡Queridos hijos! En este tiempo de gracia, oren conmigo para que el bien venza en ustedes y a su alrededor. De manera especial, hijitos, oren unidos a Jesús en Su viacruzis. Pongan en sus oraciones a esta humanidad que vaga sin Dios y sin Su amor. Sean oración, sean luz y testigos para todos los que encuentran, hijitos, a fin de que Dios misericordioso tenga misericordia de ustedes. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado.

**Ultimo Mensaje, 18 de marzo de 2024 [O]
 - Aparición anual a Mirjana Soldo**

“¡Queridos hijos, yo estoy con ustedes gracias al amor misericordioso de Dios. Y por eso, como Madre, los invito a creer en el amor, amor que es unión con mi Hijo. Con el amor ayudan a los demás a abrir sus corazones para que conozcan a mi Hijo y lo amen. Hijos míos, el amor hace que mi Hijo ilumine sus corazones con Su gracia, crezca en ustedes y les dé la paz. Hijos míos, si viven el amor, si viven a mi Hijo, tendrán paz y serán felices. En el amor está la victoria. ¡Les doy las gracias!”

Cast yourself into the arms of God and be very sure that if He wants anything of you, He will fit you for the work and give you strength."

MARY'S HELPERS DONATIONS CAN NOW BE DONE ONLINE AT
 www.maryshelpers.org



PERSONAL PRAYER LINE INTENTIONS
 (504) 348-PRAY (7729)

Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de abril de 2024

“¡Queridos hijos! Estoy con ustedes para decirles que los amo, y los animo a orar porque Satanás es fuerte y cada día su fuerza es mayor a través de aquellos que eligieron la muerte y el odio. Ustedes, hijitos, sean oración y mis manos extendidas de amor para todos aquellos que están en tinieblas y buscan la luz de nuestro Dios. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado.”



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! For Families! Our Country

Please pray for Sister Suellen Tennyson, who had to cancel her talk at the May Magnificat. I know our Magnificat group will miss her and hope to have her speak in the near future.



MAGNIFICAT WESTBANK BREAKFAST SATURDAY

9:00 a.m. - Noon
 UPCOMING EVENTS

May 25, 2024-Speaker TBD (@Four Columns)
 August 10, 2024 Assumption-Fr Steve Leake
 November 16, 2024 Presentation of Mary-
 Janice Charbonnet

Advance Ticket Sales Only- \$20
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