

St. Joseph Marian Center

The Albany Diocesan Division of
THE WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA, U.S.A.

Spring Issue 2008



“Holy Family of Nazareth, Pray for Us”

Easter and the Holy Eucharist

Alleluia! The Lord is Risen! All of us here at the St. Joseph Marian Center send Easter tidings to our readers. May the joy of Easter fill your hearts and soul

As we rejoice in God’s goodness this Easter, let us remember that without the Resurrection there would be no Holy Eucharist. Little did the apostles know at the Last Supper the enormity of Jesus’ actions as He instituted the Holy Eucharist. They could not suspect the price He would have to pay to fulfill God’s plan of salvation. Yet the Church would recognize in its infancy that the resurrected Body of Christ would be ever-present to the faithful in the Eucharist. If the tomb had never been emptied, the tabernacle would never be inhabited by the same Christ in His fullness.

Without the resurrection—a physical, historical and ever-present reality—any communion we would seek with Christ would be limited to a spiritual even nostalgic remembrance of a Passover which happened long ago. The Last Supper would be rendered a well-meaning, symbolic meal and no more. But the glory of the resurrection transfigures the actions of Christ. The Eucharist becomes His most precious gift to the world, a gift that will continue until the end of time, ever-tangible and ever-present with us. The Eucharist is Emmanuel who never leaves us and who continually sustains us! Easter is celebrated at every proper Mass as the fulfillment of God’s covenant. Through His

resurrection, Christ presents to us an outpouring of His eternal life and the opportunity to commune with Him in a way so sublime we can not understand the depths of this mystery.

It is “highly reasonable” to assume that the first person Christ appeared to after His resurrection was his Blessed Mother, even though the scriptures are silent on the subject,* said John Paul II. We can enjoy and meditate on the beautiful image of Mother and Son (photo below) reunited in a way that transcends the familial. She who was the first tabernacle, Who held Him in Her womb and under Her heart, Whose Heart beat next to His, now receives His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity as our representative, once again showing us the path to follow and the manner to imitate. Who more worthy to do so? **General Audience, 5-21-97*



This Easter, seek the Resurrected Christ at the altar where He emerges from the tabernacle just as He emerged from the tomb: in loving triumph!

*Regina coeli, laetare,
Alleluia: Quia quem
meruisti portare, Alleluia;
Resurrexit sicut dixit,
Alleluia: Ora pro nobis
Deum, Alleluia!*

*Queen of Heaven rejoice,
Alleluia: For He whom you
merited to bear, Alleluia; Has
risen as He said, Alleluia;
Pray for us to God, Alleluia!*

Shop with Spirit!

When you have a special gift to shop for be sure to visit Our Lady of Grace Gift Shop at 2568 Western Avenue in Guilderland. This wonderful store is the perfect destination for all of your gift-giving, including Catholic bibles, books, rosaries, statues and many more spiritual and gift items. Celebrate Lent and Easter, First Holy Communions, weddings and baptisms, as well as birthdays, anniversaries and more, with gifts that inspire and strengthen the faith of your loved ones. Make every one of life's celebrations memorable with gifts that truly move the spirit!

Thank You to Donors

We extend a sincere thank you to everyone who has donated to our ministry. With the rising costs of printing and mailing, this newsletter can only continue with reader support. Your contributions make this publication possible! Please consider sending a donation today. Be sure to send your prayer intentions and petitions. They will be placed before the Pilgrim Virgin Statue and kept in our daily rosary.

Lourdes Jubilee Announced

Our Holy Father Benedict XVI has announced the granting of a plenary indulgence for the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Lourdes and the declaration of the Immaculate Conception. The indulgence is granted to faithful who take part in the jubilee year, which began Dec. 8, 2007 and will last through Dec. 8, 2008. The conditions of the indulgence are proper reception of sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer in keeping with the Holy Father's intentions. The faithful must also visit any church, grotto or decorous place where an image of the Virgin of Lourdes is solemnly exposed for pious devotion.

Travel to Rome & Assisi

Our Lady of Suffrage, Mother of Mercy is hosting a Retreat in Rome and Assisi from Nov. 16 -23, 2008, with Retreat Director Fr. Amedeo Guida. Cost is \$1799 per person. Limited to 20 people. Call Evelyn at 518-943-5745 or email to ourladyofsuffrage@yahoo.com.

Our Mission

St. Joseph Marian Center represents the Albany Diocesan Division of The Blue Army, the worldwide apostolate of the faithful, responding to the requests of Our Lady of Fatima. The Mother of Jesus appeared to three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal in 1917 and asked for prayers, penance and reparation for sins, giving us the means to change the world and to turn the hearts of men and women back to God, particularly through daily recitation of the rosary, Eucharistic adoration and a generous acceptance of the duties of our state in life.

St. Joseph Marian Center promotes the lessons of Fatima and the spread of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary through home enthronements, family consecrations and visitations of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima to homes, schools and parishes.

Contact Us

For information, to make a donation, or to request a visit from the Pilgrim Virgin Statue, please contact us:

St. Joseph Marian Center, Inc.

Joanne O'Hara, President
P.O. Box 472, Altamont, N.Y. 12009
Phone: 518.355.3897

Albany Diocesan Division of The World Apostolate of Fatima, USA

Rev. Walter F. Baniak, Spiritual Director
Joanne O'Hara, President
Edward Breitenbach, Vice President
Joseph Bonville, Home Visitation of the
Pilgrim Virgin Statue. 518.785.4483.

Newsletter - Doreen M. Truesdell

St. Joseph Marian Center Welcomes New President Founder Ed Breitenbach Becomes Vice President

St. Joseph Marian Center joyfully welcomes Joanne O'Hara as our new President. Joanne has assumed day-to-day operations of the ministry, including the care of our Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the statue's busy year-round schedule of visits to churches, schools and groups all over the diocese.

Founder Edward Breitenbach will continue to be active by taking on the role of Vice President, remaining an important and inspirational member of our organization.

"Joanne is the answer to prayers," said Ed, who with his wife, Mildred, founded St. Joseph Marian Center in 1978. Millie passed away several years ago. "The responsibilities of the ministry are becoming more and more challenging to me as I get older, and it's time to pass the work on to the next generation."

Joanne, a communicant of St. Madleine Sophie parish in Guilderland, is an active participant in the St. Joseph Marian Center, coordinating First Saturday devotions with our Pilgrim Virgin Statue at her parish each month. She is also active in other area Catholic organizations. Joanne and her family live in Altamont, near the Breitenbach home.

"I am grateful to have this opportunity to serve Jesus through Mary," said Joanne. "It's beyond anything that I prayed for. It is clear that Ed and Millie have founded an important and faithful ministry to spread the message of Our Lady of Fatima's apparitions. I am delighted to continue their fine work."

St. Joseph Marian Center was established 30 years ago by the Breitenbachs. As members of the Board of Directors at the House of Loretto Marian Center in

Cohoes, they were great friends with founder Robert Froehlich. Upon his death in 1978, Mr. Froehlich's parents gave the Pilgrim Virgin Statue to the Breitenbachs. The Pilgrim Virgin Statue has a long and distinguished history. It was originally given by the Bishop of Fatima to Monsignor Harold V. Colgan of New Jersey in 1947. Monsignor Colgan had dedicated his life to Our Lady of Fatima, working to found The

Blue Army, the precursor to the Worldwide Apostolate of Fatima, USA. The statue was a gift in recognition of his work. When Monsignor Colgan died in 1972 he left the statue to Mr. Froehlich.

Ed and Mildred founded the Saint Joseph Marian Center, which is the diocesan representative of The Blue Army, in order to continue to spread the message of Fatima and to encourage prayer and veneration to Our Lady. For three decades, The Center has given presentations,

carried the pilgrim statue in processions, led devotions at area shrines and hosted rosary rallies in answer to Mary's call for prayer and conversion. Unpublicized healings and an increase in devotion have marked the past 30 years, as the St. Joseph Marian Center looks ahead with hope and faith in the future.

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE a visit to your home, prayer group, or church, with the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, please call the Saint Joseph Marian Center at 518-355-3897. If you would like a one-week visit of a smaller statue of Our Lady of Fatima, particularly for families and shut-ins, please call our Home Visitation Chairman, Mr. Joseph Bonville at 518-785-4483.



Ed Breitenbach, at right, with Joanne O'Hara.

Our Lady of Suffrage, Mother of Mercy

presents its 2008

“Marian Eucharistic Conference”

Saturday, September 13 & Sunday, September 14

This Year’s Theme:

“The Cross, Our Source of Healing & Salvation”

Location: 45 North Jefferson Avenue, Catskill, N.Y. 12414

Hours: Saturday, 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. / Sunday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: \$45 per person. Please mail checks to

Our Lady of Suffrage, 81 New Street, Catskill, NY 12414

Be sure to include the name and address of every person coming--you will be mailed back a paid ticket for each person and a map. Conference schedule and food menu will be given out on Saturday, September 15 at the door. Breakfast will be sold both days from 8 to 9 a.m. Religious articles will be for sale during breaks. Music will be provided by Emcee Al Barbarino. Call 518-943-5745 for more information. Our Lady of Fatima statue will be present again this year.

Lodging: Call early- Astoria Motor Court at 518-943-3431 or

The Best Western, Exit 21b, Cossackie at 518-731-8100

Guest Speakers:

Fr. Jose Antonio Fortea - Official exorcist of Alcala de Henres, Madrid, and author of “Interview with an Exorcist.” Specialist in demonology and theology.

Fr. Joseph Iannuzzi - Official exorcist in his diocese of Michigan.

Fr. Amedeo Guida - Diocese of Syracuse, N.Y. Active ministry in deliverance and healing for the past 18 years of his priesthood.

Fr. Christopher Crotty - A priest in the order of the Fathers of Mercy in Auburn, Kentucky. Active in ministry of deliverance and healing.

Fr. Gio Belanich - A priest of the diocese of Newark, N.J. Founder of Croatian Relief Services, and active in Eucharistic healing ministry.

Fr. Anthony Steinacker - Associate Pastor of St. Charles Borromeo parish in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Fr. Tony will be available for confession and counseling.

No cameras or recorders allowed: This conference will be taped and available for purchase.

Mother's Day with Mary

Sunday, May 11, 2008

at the

SHRINE of LaSALETTE

in Altamont, N.Y.

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Join us as we honor our Blessed Mother and unite our prayers for Her intercession.

1:00 p.m. - Consecration of America and
ROSARY PROCESSION

3:00 p.m. - Speaker, Rev. Jeffrey M.
L'Arche, MS, Director, LaSalette Shrine

4:00 p.m. - HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE
MASS & BENEDICTION

The St. Joseph Marian Center's Pilgrim Virgin Statue of the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Fatima will be present for veneration. The statue contains a reliquary with fragments of the holm oak tree over which Our Lady appeared at Fatima.

Please help us to encourage attendance by photocopying this flyer and distributing it wherever possible!



SPRING ISSUE, 2008
St. Joseph Marian Center, Inc.
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Spiritual Director: Rev. Walter F. Baniak

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Visit our website at www.stjosephmariancenter.org

Words of Wisdom & Truth

A Message from Fr. Walter F. Baniak, Spiritual Director, St. Joseph Marian Center

A JOYFUL AND HAPPY EASTER TO ALL!

As we celebrate this life-giving season, which gives us profound hope no matter how dark our world appears, we must give thanks to God for His sublime gift of eternal life in the resurrected Christ! While the spiritual joys of Christmas rest in Emmanuel, God Among Us, the spiritual joys of Easter are the fulfillment of God's every promise to mankind. Only a God of infinite mercy and love could make and keep such a covenant with fallen human beings!

Due to the messages of the Mother of God at Fatima, we know the culmination of God's plan for salvation: Mary's Immaculate Heart will triumph. But in the meantime, She implores us to pray and make reparation for the souls who are choosing to go to

hell, so many of them unwilling to turn their gaze upon the resurrected Lord. It is our task to arouse these souls to change their hearts and minds. In today's culture this can be an overwhelming task, but we must focus on being faithful and leave the victory to God.



This Easter, be thankful for God's presence in our lives in every form: Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. Be thankful of the gift of His Mother as our Mother, to guide us and inspire us to reach heaven. Be thankful of His promise, already fulfilled at the empty tomb--"He is not

here, He is Risen as He promised He would! Do not look for the living among the dead!"

May the Risen Christ and Our Lady of Fatima bless us as we continue our journey home to heaven.