

St. Joseph Marian Center

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

Summer Issue 2008



“Holy Family of Nazareth, Pray for Us”

Traveling with Our Lady of Fatima

St. Joseph Marian Center has been busy this spring and summer spreading the message of Our Lady of Fatima to people of all ages, all around the Diocese of Albany. Now more than ever the world needs the instruction and encouragement of the Blessed Mother, who leads us to Her Son through prayer and penance. It is the mission of our ministry to fulfill Her requests and to raise awareness of the presence of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima



in our diocese. With its relic of the Holm oak tree over which the blessed Mother appeared to the three Fatima children in 1917, this statue is truly a jewel of devotion and intercession. Whether it be at parades, rosary rallies, local parishes, schools or

home visitations and enthronements, Our Lady of Fatima is present, inspiring our faith, giving hope to the weary and always



directing our feet to Christ and to heaven.

Invite Our Lady to your parish, home or school by calling Joanne at 355-3897.



Our Lady of Grace Shop

It's more than a shop, it's a ministry! When you visit Our Lady of Grace Gift Shop at 2568 Western Avenue in Guilderland, you'll find solutions for all of your gift-giving needs including weddings, baptisms, graduations, birthdays, anniversaries and more. Choose from Catholic bibles, books, rosaries, statues and many more spiritual and gift items. Celebrate life's important occasions with faith and give a gift that inspires and strengthens the faith of your loved ones. Bring in this newsletter and receive 10% off your purchase.

Thank You to Donors

We extend a sincere thank you to everyone who has donated to our ministry and sent kind notes and letters of support. 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.

Prayer to Mary, Mother of Life Within

O Mary, Mother of Life Within,
All life we entrust to you;
The life of every expectant mother
and the child in her womb;
The life of every human body,
the life of every human soul;
The life of every newborn child
and the life of all grown old.
You held the Lord to your own heart
and drew Him so close in.
So draw us now in all our needs,
O Mother of the Life Within.

Reprinted from The Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima, USA.

Add Us to Your Will

When you are writing or updating your will, please consider remembering the St. Joseph Marian Center and its mission to spread the Gospel of Christ and the messages of Our Lady of Fatima. A bequest made to this non-profit organization is a "lasting treasure."

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.

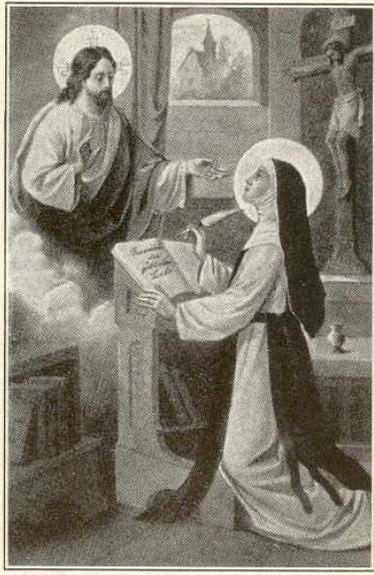
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Albany Diocesan Division of The World Apostolate of Fatima, USA

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

Praying for the Release of Souls in Purgatory



The All Souls Brigade is inviting the public to become active members in their devotional ministry to empty purgatory of souls by means of the Prayer of St. Gertrude the Great, which she was taught by Christ: *“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 and those in my own family. Amen.”

Our Lord told the 12th century Benedictine nun, who spent her cloistered life meditating on the Passion of Christ and doing penance for the reparation of sins, that each time the prayer was recited with devotion 1,000 souls would be released from purgatory into the glory of heaven. This devotion is approved and encouraged by the Church. No human being knows how many souls are in purgatory, however, internet research estimates 106 billion, dating back to 50,000 B.C. earth populations and annual birth rates. The massive number of souls can be mitigated by the faithful who understand that we are united to the Holy Souls through prayer and sacrifice. When these souls are released and enjoying heaven, their gratitude will know no bounds to those who prayed for them!

To join the brigade requires no membership sign up, dues or donations--just a personal commitment to Our Lord to recite the St. Gertrude prayer as often as possible daily and to spread the devotion to others who will also assist in the effort.

Saying “Thank You” for a Lifetime of Devotion

The following are excerpts from two of the many letters received upon the retirement of Ed Breitenbach, founder of St. Joseph Marian Center:

Dear Ed:

I am most grateful to you and your beloved wife for the leadership that you have given to the Center for so many years. Your dedication and devotion to Our Lady has truly been inspirational. Please be assured of my prayers and best wishes for your health in the days ahead. With every best wish, I am

Sincerely,
Howard J. Hubbard
Bishop of Albany



Ed with his beloved Pilgrim Virgin Statue.

Dear Ed:

I could not receive the news (of your retirement) without pausing to say THANK YOU for you and Mildred’s many, many years of dedicated service in spreading the Fatima message. Your tireless efforts and countless miles on the road have deepened our devotion to the Blessed Mother and increased our awareness for the need of repentance and self-sacrifice to save souls. Now you deserve to rest from your labors and enjoy the simple pleasures in life and your family. Well done “good and faithful servant.”

Signed,
A supporter in Hartwick, NY

2008 Schedule of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue

It's been an active year for the St. Joseph Marian Center's Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, and it's not over yet! The response to Our Lady has been very satisfying and we thank the religious, civic and community groups and parishes that have generously invited Her presence at their public functions this spring and summer. Everywhere She goes, Our Lady of Fatima energizes the faith of the people who respond to Her with joy and gratitude. At a recent parade, we literally ran out of rosaries to distribute because so many people were gathering round to request them. We especially give thanks to Our Lady of Fatima for continually opening up new doors to allow us to engage Her people in learning about the messages of Fatima.

Here's a glance at up and coming places where She has been invited in the Capital District. Please note: all dates are subject to change and calendar additions occur frequently. *Please call Joanne at the Center for the latest information at 518.355.3897.*

2008 SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 26: "A Day of Prayer and Healing" with Fr. Clement Machado. Mass, talk and healing service. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. At The Shrine of Our Lady of the Martyrs (Auriesville), 136 Shrine Road, Fultonville. Phone: 518.853.3033 | www.martyrsshine.org

Sunday, August 3: "Annual Marian Pro Life Day" presented by the Community of Secular Carmelites. Rosary for the unborn procession, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction and Mass with Fr. Brian List, SOLT. Brown Scapular induction. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. At The Shrine of Our Lady of the Martyrs (Auriesville).

Friday, August 15, Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, through **Sunday, August 17** At The Shrine of Our Lady of the Martyrs (Auriesville).

Saturday, September 13 - 14: 2008 Marian Eucharistic Conference, "The Cross, Our Source of Healing & Salvation." Presented by Our Lady of Suffrage, Mother of Mercy. 45 North Jefferson Ave., Catskill, NY. For tickets and information, call 518.943.5745.

Saturday, September 20: 70th Annual Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage at The Shrine of Our Lady of the Martyrs (Auriesville). For information, visit www.kofc.org.

Wednesday, October 1: "The Rosary in Different Languages" to kick off the month of the Rosary. At 7 p.m., St. Francis DeSales Church, 1 Maria Drive, Loudonville. Phone: 518.459.6635.

Saturday, October 11: Columbus Day Parade in Albany with the Knights of Columbus.

Also in October: We are scheduling Rosary Processions at area parishes. Please check your parish bulletin, or contact the Center.

Every First Saturday, year-round: Devotions after 9 a.m. Mass at St. Madeleine Sophie's Church, Carman Road, Schenectady (Guilderland).

At LaSalette Shrine in Altamont: The public is welcome to attend Holy Mass on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and on First Fridays, weather permitting. For information, call the Center or LaSalette at 518.861.8159 or visit www.lasalette.org.

Bringing the Blessed Mother to the People

Joe Bonville Dedicates His Time to Fatima's Message



Joe Bonville brings Our Lady of Fatima statues and education to families, schools, parishes and community groups.

How would you like the Blessed Mother to visit your home, your parish, school or community group? Joseph Bonville is here to help. Just like a more famous Joseph, who watched over and cared for Mary during Her earthly travels, this Joseph brings Our Lady of Fatima to the people. His ministry, part of the St. Joseph Marian Center, has been ongoing for more than a decade during which time many in our area have benefited through a closer relationship and understanding of the Mother of God.

Joe met the Breitenbach's in 1994 at the Auriesville shrine and a warm friendship quickly developed. Over the years, Joe has assisted at parades, Masses, and church events of all kinds, while also developing a traveling ministry. He enjoys visiting Catholic schools and religious education classes, particularly for First Holy Communion. Joe offers three smaller statues for home visits, which can last up to a week, giving individuals and families an opportunity for deep reflection and conversion. Experience after experience has shown that the presence of Our Lady of Fatima in parishes, homes and schools promotes a prayerful environment. Joe's visits include a brief presentation of the history and message of Our Lady of Fatima and his inventory of resources, including books, pamphlets, holy

cards, and videos for all ages, available at no charge. Joe has traveled many miles over the years, all at his own expense, out of his strong desire to respond to Mary's call for prayer and conversion.

If you would like to have a seven-day visit of a 24-inch statue, or a one-day visit of our 4-foot statue, please contact Joseph Bonville at 518.785.4483. May God bless Joe as he continues his ministry.

Messages from Fatima, 1917

“I am the Lady of the Rosary”

“Cease offending God”

“Say the Rosary every day...to obtain peace.”

“Sacrifice for sinners” “Make reparation for sins.”

“”Establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart.””



Some of the many resources available to the public.



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

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Words of Wisdom & Truth

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

There's no question that the messages given by Our Lady of Fatima are needed more urgently today than ever. The world needs prayer, penance and reconciliation with God in order to bring about the salvation of souls. One of Mary's most poignant statements revealed that many souls perish because there is no one to pray for them. She urged intercessory prayer to save these unknown souls, those of our loved ones, and our own. But in a society that ignores, despises and even legislatively bans prayer, our sensitivity to "pray without ceasing" can be blunted. How much should we pray? When? In what manner?

Before Our Lady's appearances at Fatima, the three children to whom She would entrust Her messages prayed the Rosary, but lukewarmly. They



would skip parts of the Our Father and Hail Mary and rush to finish. In fact Francisco's lack of proper prayer robbed him of the privilege of hearing the words of Mary during the early apparitions. Our Lady said that all three children would enter heaven, but that Francisco would have to say "many rosaries" before such a blessing would be bestowed on him.

What does that say about our own prayer life? How much should we pray? The answer is tied to our understanding of God's mercy and goodness. The more deeply we see His blessings in our lives, the more deeply, and often, we will pray. As our intimacy with Christ grows, our ability to "pray always" becomes a reality. We would do well to take as our role models the Fatima children who, once instructed by Our Lady, never ceased to draw closer to union with their Creator.