

## The School of Mary

Mary (the mother of Jesus) taught Jesus while he sat on her lap. Shouldn't we also go to the same School of Mary? *Pope Benedict XVI*



Here at AFM Our School of Mary includes the teachings found in the inspirational writings of Mary Constancio concerning her private revelation about the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of the Queen of Mercy.

While these writings are private revelations that DO NOT enjoy ecclesiastical approbation and are not intended to replace Biblical or Magisterial teachings, please take into account that the Holy Spirit speaks to all of us in private revelations, and we at the Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy believe the teachings found in the School of Mary can bring a new depth and insight into God's love for us. The meditations should be read and listened to in a spirit of prayer and discernment.

*My Beloveds,  
Today my lesson and my grace is about suffering, how to persevere through suffering and how to persevere for the glory of God. My children, suffering has been a product, a fruit, of sin. Before my son's suffering and his death, sin existed as a punishment of disobedience, and its stain could not be removed. Even though forgiveness could come through the sacrifices of bullocks and the sacrifices priests offered up to God for forgiveness, but the stain of sin still remained.*

*Upon my son's suffering and dying, then could suffering be joined with that of my son's, for which redemption of your suffering could then be offered, too, for the glory of God.*

*As you embrace the cross with my son, your sacrifice is accepted and also embraced by God our Father, and this is an acceptable sacrifice that is jubilation in heaven. Many souls, including yours, are given special graces to complete until the end of time, your time here on earth, your time in heaven with us.*

*My children, when you do this intentionally and with joy, there remains with you gratitude for the greater glory of God.*

*My children, my grace for you today (is) that you discover the treasures, which are many in uniting your sacrifice and suffering to my son for his (and our) Father.*

*Each time this happens, it brings my son joy to see our Father's joy. Remember God will not allow more than you can handle. Persevere, Persevere. Thank you again for being here today. 06/03/20*

## Joyful Suffering?

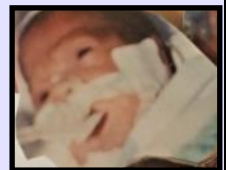
Part 1

During this pandemic so many people have undergone all different kinds of suffering, such as loss of jobs, stress from being home, unexpectedly having to homeschool kids, the list goes on and on.

The blessing of this revelation on suffering helps us to put into perspective that our suffering, when offered to God as a sacrifice in union with Jesus' passion, can be used to bring others closer to God and at times can cause even our own conversion of heart.

Our oldest son, Jaime, has graduated from high school and has begun his discernment to the priesthood by participating in the new pre-seminary program offered here in the Diocese of Lubbock. This has required him to move into a house with the Vocations Director and 2 other young men who are also discerning the priesthood. Please remember them in your prayers as they discern.

After we dropped Jaime off and my emotions began to run amuck, the Lord reminded me that this was not the first time that I had to leave him behind. The Holy Spirit began to remind me what it was like when he was born. Because he was born at 23 weeks gestation, as soon as he was born, he was rushed quickly into the NICU and I didn't even get to see him until several hours later. This was after the doctor told me that Jaime only had a 20% chance of survival.



I thank God that He used my stubbornness at this time, because no matter what risks the doctors told me about the possible future for him, I remained firm in my decision to fight for his life. There was great stress and turmoil during the 5 months that he was in the hospital. The first month of his life I did not get to hold him because his skin was still translucent. I could only cup my hand over him. He had to have heart surgery at 10 days old. Every time I had to leave him, I hesitated, knowing that there was an 80% chance that he would not be alive when I returned.

Some days, it seemed that that was the reality when I arrived, and I was not allowed to see him as he had become a professional at pulling out his breathing tube. I would sit and wait for what felt like an eternity, not knowing what the outcome would be each time. After several surgeries, victories, and setbacks we finally went home, but the next 4 years were equally uncertain, and I spent so many days in fear of losing him.

As I think back to that time and journey through this time of letting go, God is showing me something about who He is. Is God speaking to you in your suffering? Continue with part 2 of this article on page 4 for more on Joyful Suffering and what that means. Meanwhile, ponder a bit on what God may be showing you about suffering. What kind of joy is this?

Article By: Jessica Mendez

## LOOK RETREAT AND SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

**As COVID-19 continues to peak here, we have **CANCELLED ALL OUR RETREATS UNTIL SEPTEMBER**. Our Feast of the Assumption Celebration normally held August 14-15 will not be open to the public this year. See our Retreat Schedule on page 4. We ask forgiveness for any inconvenience, and encourage you to keep connected through our weekly videos on Zoom and on YouTube. Details are listed below.**

**The web link and password to Zoom meetings will be posted on our website at [www.flameofmercy.com](http://www.flameofmercy.com). Just click on the "live broadcast" tab. YouTube videos may be accessed on YouTube.com by searching for Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy. When you subscribe to our channel, you'll be notified of future live videos. We would love to see you there! Our weekly schedule is:**

**Sundays 6 pm CST**

**School of Mary: English: (hosted by Mary Constancio)**

**Tuesdays 10 am CST: (A different host and subject alternates every other week)**

**Spanish Bible Teaching: (hosted by Jessica Mendez) – every other week**

**School of Mary Spanish: (hosted by Mary Constancio) – every other week**

**1st and 3rd Thursday of each Month 7:30 pm CST**

**Women's Spanish Sharing Group 7:30 pm CST: (hosted by Kathy Gloria)**

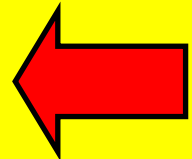
**Fridays 8:30 pm CST**

**Living Faith and Mercy English/Spanish: (hosted by Henry Constancio)**

**2nd & 4th Saturdays 7:30 pm CST**

**Spanish Couples Sharing Group: (hosted by Kathy Gloria)**

**Please remember to connect with us on the Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy Facebook page for daily meditations and news.**



Above: Windows in the loft area are in!

### AFM Activities: July Update

Here at AFM in Shallowater, our summer gardens are underway. The Louis Life Center is moving a little slower, since Manuel Constancio is out for knee replacement surgery, and Isidore and Donna Martinez have taken this time to reconnect at home in Houston. Please keep them in your prayers.

This month Henry and Mary are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. And Jessica and Ralph's son, Jaime, graduated from high school and entered pre-seminary. Please pray for them.

Even as the COVID virus continues in our area, we continue with evangelizing on the internet. See our Social Media update above to tune in!

Our biggest blessing in this time of isolation is the privilege of time with our Blessed Mother in the School of Mary. We are all receiving spiritual renewal during our required break from retreats. Our prayer is that you will be blessed as well when we can be reunited later this year and share what we have been learning, God willing!



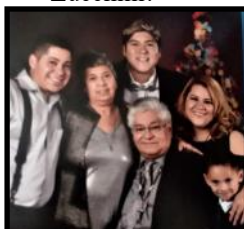
Summer crops growing



Zucchini!



Jaime graduates, enters pre-seminary



Constancio Family

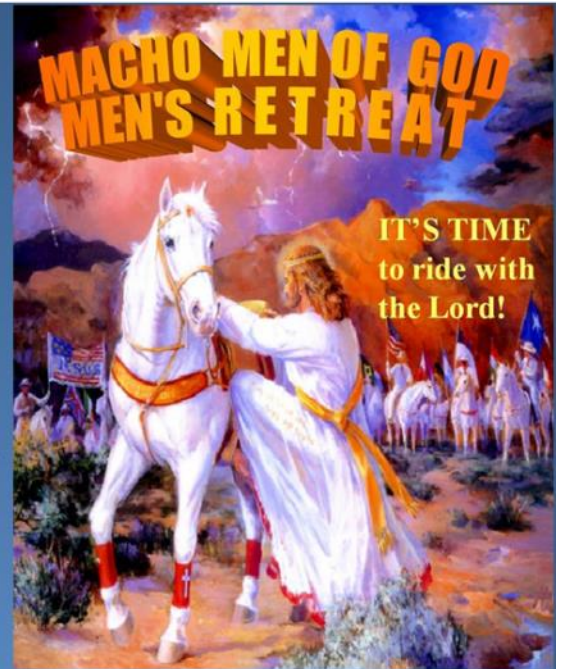
**THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION CELEBRATION NORMALLY HELD AT AFM ON AUGUST 14-15 WILL NOT BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC THIS YEAR.**



## 92<sup>nd</sup> Men's Retreat

**September 4-6, 2020**

- Accepting the Purpose for Who God Created Me to Be
- How to Recognize a Wounded Family & Bring Healing
- Getting out of Desperation
- Is Your Addiction Leading Your Life?
  - Overcoming Your Physical Sickness with God's Mercy
  - Is Your Sickness Running Your Life?
  - Overcoming Addictions
  - Come Experience God's Love



**Join us  
For a weekend  
that will  
change your life!**

## Women of Power Retreat \*An Instrument of God\*

**September 18-20, 2020**

Possible Topics Include:



- What Keeps Me from Being God's Instrument?
- The 3 Pillars of Faith
- An Attitude of Gratitude
- Words that Heal or Destroy
- Healed in Body & Spirit
- How to Forgive & Live Again
- Healing from the Spirit of Grief
- Understanding & Supporting My Husband's Mission in our Family

**Featured Speakers Include:**



Mary Constancio



Jessica Mendez



Brenda Garcia



Corina Constancio



Carolyn Huntzinger



Kathy Gloria

**Joyful Suffering?**

Part 2

In part 1 of this article, I began to share about the revelation that God gave me after dropping off my oldest son, Jaime, at the new pre-seminary house in the Diocese of Lubbock to begin discerning the priesthood. I pray that you have taken time to meditate upon the sufferings that you have endured and what God has done with them.



After the Holy Spirit brought all of this to my mind I heard the whisper in my heart, "I took care of him when he was the most vulnerable, I will take care of him now. My mother also felt sadness when I left to fulfill my mission." Right at that very moment, I felt a tremendous peace and joy come into my heart. I realized that I was getting to join the Blessed Mother, even if only a fraction of what she felt, in her suffering. What greater blessing is there? I could not believe it, I had finally experienced joyful suffering.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, this is not the end of the story. Now I have an opportunity to recall all the suffering and offer it up for Jaime and all of my children to discern the calling that God has for them. What a merciful God we serve, that He would allow us to suffer so that we could have something to offer him! *"Upon my son's suffering and dying, then could suffering be joined with that of my son's, which then redemption of your suffering could be offered, too, for the glory of God. As you embrace the cross with my son, your sacrifice is accepted and also embraced by God our Father, and this is an acceptable sacrifice that is jubilation in heaven...My children, when you do this intentionally and with joy, there remains with you gratitude for the greater glory of God."*

This suffering that I endured, originally came because of the sin of fornication and rebellion, but because of God's great mercy in allowing me to repent of this sin and turn my life to him, this suffering can now be used as a tool of conversion and repentance. Wow! This still brings me to tears of gratitude to know that none of this will go to waste and none of it was for nothing. My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, what suffering have you endured in your lifetime? Whether it was self-inflicted or whether it was caused by someone else, our Blessed Mother Queen of Mercy, our Mama, invites us to embrace this cross and offer it to the Lord. I pray that through this, you too will experience joyful suffering. *"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."* James 1:2-4

Thank you for taking time to read these words, I pray that they are a blessing to you and those around you. May our Blessed Mother wrap you in her mantel and give you grace to offer your sufferings in union with Jesus' to God our Father, that you may encounter joy and gratitude in your journey to Him.

**2020 RETREAT SCHEDULE**

- **DUE TO COVID 19:**
- **RETREATS CANCELLED UNTIL SEPTEMBER!**
- **THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION CELEBRATION NORMALLY HELD AUGUST 14-15 WILL NOT BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC THIS YEAR.**
- **NEXT SCHEDULED RETREATS:**
- **Macho Men of God Retreat September 4-6, 2020**
- **Women of Power Retreat September 18-20, 2020**
- **Self Image Retreat DATE—TO BE CONFIRMED October 23-25**



Retreat Registration Fee: \$175.00

Register online: [www.flameofmercy.com](http://www.flameofmercy.com)Email: [Admin@flameofmercy.com](mailto:Admin@flameofmercy.com),  
or call the office at 806-832-4243

**We are in great need for fasting and prayer for our country and for our families. Please join us in our prayer for unity.**

**PRAYER FOR FAMILY UNITY**

Father in heaven, you know the hearts of your children, how they are so far away from you. I pray for a desire to come close to you. I pray that I may unite with all of those that are praying for salvation of souls, and I pray for the salvation of families.



My dear Mother, I call on your motherly love and mercy to shower upon us so that we may love and be patient and wait on you as you bring my brothers and sisters closer to you. I pray that you remove the cobwebs from eyes and hearts that we may all seek God as one family.

Holy Family, pray for us. Holy Family, strengthen us in faith. Holy Family, shower us with your love that we may be as you. Teach us how to love. Teach us how to persevere. Teach us how to show mercy in action.

In the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord, name above all names, name most favored by God, name of abundant blessing, powerful name of Jesus write this name upon our hearts and souls that we may truly know we are yours.

**Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy Ministries**

The Ambassadors of the Flame of Mercy is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt Christian organization  
P.O. Box 1707  
6927 Hwy. 84  
Shallowater, Texas 79363-1707

E-Mail: [admin@flameofmercy.com](mailto:admin@flameofmercy.com)Website: [www.flameofmercy.com](http://www.flameofmercy.com)