

BRINGING THE CARMELITE SAINTS ALIVE

TWELVE EDITION



IN THIS MONTH OF MARCH, WE WILL BE HIGHLIGHTING SR. MARY OF ST. PETER & OF THE HOLY FAMILY (1816-1848) CARMELITE NUN OF TOURS, FRANCE TO WHOM OUR LORD IMPARTED HIS REVELATIONS ABOUT DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS

“THE GOLDEN ARROW”



“BY MY HOLY FACE YOU WILL WORK WONDERS.” OUR LORD TO SR. MARY OF ST. PETER

Sr. Mary of St. Peter & of The Holy Family was born on October 4, 1816. This date is notable as the anniversary of the death of our Holy Mother, Saint Teresa, and it is also the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, whose name her mother bore. She was baptized in the Church of St. Germain, in the city of Rennes, and given the name of Perrine Frances. Her Father Peter was a locksmith by Trade and married a woman whose name was Frances, a Lady worthy of her piety to such a husband. After the birth of their little girl, Perrine Frances, her mother was in delicate health, she had to entrust her daughter to the care of a wet nurse. Then when she was about a month old, she met with an accident which could have caused her death, had it not been for God's protection.

This good woman, her nurse having gone out awhile, had left her in the cradle. One of her own small children picked her up and undoubtedly, wishing to keep her warm, brought her close to the fireplace. She fell out of the child's arms into the fire, and her face has ever since retained a mark from that burn. When she was four years old she had an attack of scarlet fever which brought her close to death. For about nineteen days she was in grave danger, during which time she could not take any food except a small glass of cider. Her parents who were truly good and pious and devout Catholics taught her the Christian doctrine however Perrine was easily moved to anger and had stubborn traits. She was also proud and full of self-love. To make her realize and correct her many faults, her mother once said in front of her to her father: "Ah, this little girl is surely not our own. I think that she must have been exchanged in the nursery, for it is not possible that a child of ours could be as bad as this little one."

When she was six and a half years old, she was taken to confession and to accuse herself of all her faults. Finally, however, she had managed to win victory over her pride. It happened that a poor beggar used to pass in front of her house almost every day. He was very poorly dressed and often needed a charitable hand to guide him across the street. Her parents had several times suggested to her that she offer the blind man her services, but the very thought seemed repugnant to her. Finally, one day doing great violence to herself, she took the poor blind man by the arm and led him in the right direction. When I returned home it seemed to her that she had, indeed, performed a most heroic deed. Her parents would tell her of instances when our good Mother showered her protection on those who invoked her. Touched by these accounts of Mary's great power she prayed to her to help her also, and she began to improve and soon become better.

At the age of ten and half years old she prepared herself for her First Holy Communion by making a general confession. Through the mercy of God my heart was truly touched by His grace, and she received her Divine Saviour with great fervor. Realizing how greatly she offended Him in her childhood, she now gave herself entirely to Him. That same day she received also the Sacrament of Confirmation and was invested with the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which placed her under the protection of that tender Mother to whom she felt she owed her conversion. Our Divine Saviour, who kept watch over her, wished to purify her soul by interior sufferings and therefore sent her a severe trial, truly calculated to drive pride forever from her heart.

By the time she was twelve years old Our Lord also tried her with another cross in taking to Himself her dear Mother whom she loved very much. She said, "I remember having once heard that like myself, St. Teresa of Avila was only twelve years old also when she lost her mother." Following her example, she begged the Most Blessed Virgin to be her mother, and thus to replace her who died. She added, "The Most Holy Virgin must have granted my petition, for ever since that time I have always felt her maternal protection." Our Lady took her by the hand and led her to Carmel.

Accompanied by her father, she left Rennes on November 11, 1839, it being the feast of St. Martin, her venerable protector. She reached the city of Tours on November 13, which happened to be the Vigil of the great Carmelite observance called the Feast of All the Saints of Carmel, arriving there about five o'clock in the evening. Having embraced my new sisters, the first thing the Reverend Mother did was to lead me before a Statue of Mary, my good Mother, to thank her for admitting me into her holy house of Carmel, and to place myself under her powerful protection. Shortly afterwards it was the hour of recreation, and I was invited to sing a few stanzas of a certain hymn. I needed no coaxing, and since I had sung this hymn repeatedly while awaiting the happy day of my entrance to Carmel, I began as follows:

LET US PRAISE GOD, FOR I AM IN A SHELTER
FOR WHICH I HAVE SIGHED A LONG TIME;
HERE I SHALL LIVE FOR GOD IN TRANQUILLITY
FAR FROM WORLDLY THINGS, FAR FROM WORRY.

Sr. Mary of St. Peter and of The Holy Family was very childlike, Simple, full of Humility, obedient and had this untiring zeal. She was the doorkeeper at her Carmelite House. She would hear all the prayer requests from Visitors. Our Lord gave Sr. Mary of St. Peter many Revelations on the work of Reparation from the years 1843-1847. Our Lord gave Sr. Mary of St. Peter a prayer to make reparation for Blasphemy against His Holy Name:

“THE GOLDEN ARROW PRAYER”
MAY THE MOST HOLY, MOST SACRED,
MOST ADORABLE, MOST INCOMPREHENSIBLE
AND UNUTTERABLE NAME OF GOD
BE ALWAYS PRAISED, BLESSED, LOVED, ADORED AND GLORIFIED,
IN HEAVEN, ON EARTH AND UNDER THE EARTH,
BY ALL THE CREATURES OF GOD,
AND BY THE SACRED HEART OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR. AMEN,

As sin is Blasphemy, it is like a poison arrow continually wounding God's heart. Sr. Mary of St. Peter saw in a vision that this “Golden Arrow” had the power to wound Him delightfully. A prayer of Reparation for Blasphemy and Reparation for the Profanation of Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. The express purpose of this devotion was to make reparation for the blasphemies and outrages of “Revolutionary men” (The Communists) through whom God is allowing the world to be chastised for its unbelief, as well as for the blasphemies of atheists and freethinkers. Specifically, this devotion is the divine tool given by God to defeat Communism, but it is also an instrument given to the individual devotee as a seemingly unailing method of appealing to God in prayer – through adoration of His Holy Face and Name. Our Lord also revealed to her the inseparable connection in Honoring the Holy Name of God through “The Golden Arrow Prayer” and venerating The Holy Face of Jesus. She saw how this brought many graces to stream for the Conversion of Sinners. The Holy Face and the Holy Name are linked together as we can see when

we look upon the connection of Christmas and then eight days later in the naming of Our Lord. What does the Holy Face of our Lord reveal? It reveals the pain of His Sacred Heart, Our sins. The Golden Arrow Prayer helps to repair and console Our Lord with the wound of love to His Heart by praising His Name while Gazing upon His Holy Face.

OFFERING OF THE HOLY FACE OF OUR LORD

JESUS CHRIST TO GOD THE FATHER

IN ORDER TO APPEASE HIS JUSTICE AND

DRAW DOWN MERCY UPON US

ETERNAL FATHER, TURN AWAY YOUR ANGRY GAZE FROM OUR GUILTY PEOPLE WHOSE FACE HAS BECOME UNSIGHTLY IN YOUR EYES. LOOK INSTEAD UPON THE FACE OF YOUR BELOVED SON, FOR THIS IS THE FACE OF HIM IN WHOM YOU ARE WELL PLEASED. WE NOW OFFER YOU THIS HOLY FACE, COVERED WITH SHAME AND DISFIGURED BY BLOODY BRUISES IN REPARATION FOR THE CRIMES OF OUR AGE IN ORDER TO APPEASE YOUR ANGER, JUSTLY PROVOKED AGAINST US. BECAUSE YOUR DIVINE SON, OUR REDEEMER HAS TAKEN UPON HIS HEAD ALL THE SINS OF HIS MEMBERS, THAT THEY MIGHT BE SPARED, WE NOW BEG OF YOU. ETERNAL FATHER, TO GRANT US MERCY. AMEN.

OUR CARMELITE MISSION

MAY WE EMBRACE MARY'S PURITY OF HEART (PURITAS CORDIAS), HELPING US TO PONDER THE LAW OF THE LORD DAY AND NIGHT HELPING US TO BE CONTEMPLATIVES AND TEACHING US TO LISTEN. WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF OUR FATHER AND LEADER, ST. ELIJAH WITH HIS FLAMING ZEAL AND COURAGE. "HIS PROPHET SPIRIT IN COMBATING THE EVILS OF HIS DAY IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF OUR CARMELITE LIFE."

MAY OUR LADY'S MANTLE WRAP YOU ALL WITH HER PRECIOUS LOVE.

ALL THROUGH THE IMMACULATE & SORROWFUL HEART & TEARS OF MARY IN UNION WITH THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS & HIS HOLY FACE, YOUR SISTER IN CARMEL,

LINDA

