



MARY'S HELPERS, INC.

News

No.39 Vol. 01-02 All About Jesus & Mary

Jan/Feb 2026

Published March 3, 2026

MEDJUGORJE
January 25, 2026
to Marija Pavlovic'

"Dear children, Today, I am calling you to be prayer and a blessing for all those who have not come to know God's love. Little children, be different from others and be positive people of prayer and love towards God, that with your lives, you may be a sign of God's love to others.

I bless you with my motherly blessing and intercede for each of you before my Son Jesus.

Thank you for having responded to my call."

(With ecclesiastical approval)

MEDJUGORJE
February 25, 2026
to Marija Pavlovic'

"Dear children, In this time of grace, anew, I am calling you to offer your lives to God that He may lead you towards the resurrection through your personal conversion. Little children, God is near to you and heeds your prayers, but you are lulled to sleep, and that is why He sent me to you to awaken you, and that you may shine holiness like a spring flower.

Thank you for having responded to my call."

(With ecclesiastical approval)

**Meditation on the
January 25, 2026 Message
by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM**

Mary calls us in her way of speaking to be living examples of prayer. We accomplish this by committing ourselves to daily praying the rosary and penance. We can love and serve as daily witnesses of God's love. In a world that ignores and even hates God's love and care. We must contradict and show by our lives and being witnesses of real love, service and a dedicated prayer life. We need to be voices that teach and challenge by being a sign of God's love to others; Mary shows us how we should proceed. "I will bless you with my Motherly blessing and intercede for each of you before my Son Jesus. Do you have the spiritual courage to reach out to friends and neighbors and share the good news and the message of Mary, "Pray, Pray, Pray!" Love, Fr Al

*Prayer
changes
things*

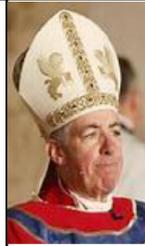
**Meditation on the
February 25, 2026 Message
by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM**

Mary kindly repeats, "this time of grace" is the human condition we are gifted by God to live and move and offer our lives to God! We are traveling towards our resurrection through our personal conversion in our daily surrender to the Lord through prayer and penance. Mary tells us we are lulled to sleep by many conditions. I will suggest examples where you are lulled to sleep and ways we can successfully awaken and return to the Lord.

The first attitude affects all human conditions and the way we behave. The person persevering to love themselves and material goods, hating others because they block their goals or plan. They are lulled away from hearing God's message and Mary's invitation to prayer and conversion.

The person who perseveres through prayer, love and penance corrects their own faults. That person forgives and helps others to share in God's grace and hear the message from Mary - Pray, Pray, Pray!

The person that seeks humility; being humble before God and others can see Mary's life exemplified also by St. Joseph who taught us this attitude his whole life. Let us shine in holiness and persevere in humility and surrender like Mary and Joseph. Love, Fr. Al



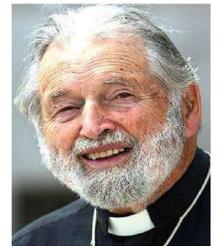
**New
Beginnings**

On Wed Feb 11, 2026, Pope Leo XIV accepted the resignation of Most

Reverend Gregory M Aymond, Archbishop of New Orleans, formally making Most Reverend James F Checchio, JCD, MBA, the 15th Archbishop of New Orleans.

Thank you Archbishop Aymond for many years of loving and faithful service. You have served God's people well and now you can relax and enjoy your senior years. We will miss you greatly and hope to see you around!

Welcome Archbishop Checchio. We are excited that you are here. May your service to the New Orleans diocese be a memorable one in the best way possible. I think you will love it here and we look forward to seeing what God has planned for you and the diocese. May God bless you and guide you to do His will. Welcome.



Fr. Peter Mary Rookey, OSM
Oct. 12, 1916 - Sept. 10, 2014
The Apostle of Compassion



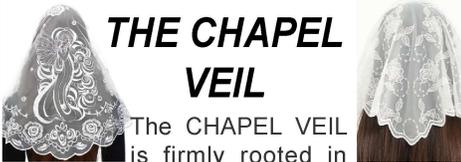
Margaret M. Trosclair
June 19, 1933 - March 14, 2019



Gertrude Gayle Ponseti
Oct 14, 1937-Dec 10, 2019

PRAY FOR US and help us to bring God's people closer to Him.

Beyond its spiritual significance, the chapel veil historically served a practical social function.



**THE CHAPEL
VEIL**

The CHAPEL VEIL is firmly rooted in Scripture, particularly in St. Paul's teaching in 1 Corinthians 11:2-16. St. Paul instructs that "every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head," linking the practice to the created order and the relationship between Christ, man, and woman. The veil is a visible sign of reverence, humility, and acknowledgment of divine authority during worship. It is a sacred symbol, connecting the worshipper to the mystery of Christ and the Church. Veiling is reserved for what is most sacred. The tabernacle, which houses the Blessed Sacrament, is veiled as a sign of reverence for the real presence of Christ. Similarly, the altar and chalice are veiled because they are set apart for holy use. This tradition extends

to women, whose bodies are considered living tabernacles as vessels of life and grace. Just as the Church veils the tabernacle to honor the sacred presence within, so too does the woman veil herself as a sign of her own dignity and the sacredness of her vocation. The veil thus visually expresses that both the tabernacle and the woman are bearers of life and mystery, worthy of reverence and protection. For nearly two millennia, the chapel veil was a universal custom among Christian women. From the earliest Church communities through the Middle Ages and up until the mid-20th century, women covered their heads in church, often wearing lace mantillas or simple veils. The 1917 Code of Canon Law codified this practice, requiring women to have their heads covered during liturgical celebrations. Photographs from pre-Vatican II churches show pews filled with veiled women and girls.

The color of the veil functioned as a visible indicator of a woman's marital status: white veils were worn by unmarried women and virgins, symbolizing purity and availability, while black or darker veils signaled that a woman was married. While the chapel veil largely disappeared in many Western countries after the '60s, it remains vibrant in many Latin American nations and Spain. The mantilla—a beautiful and delicate lace or silk veil worn over the head and shoulders—continues to be a cherished tradition.

In recent years, a quiet revival of the chapel veil has emerged among some Catholic women. The veil is a joyful expression of faith, humility, and feminine dignity. Wearing the veil connects women with centuries of Catholic tradition, Biblical teaching, and serves as a visible sign of women's identity as "living tabernacles."

Chapel Veils available in our gift shop.

Thursday March 19, 2025 is St Joseph's Day.
You can find a list of altars in the New Orleans area at: <https://nolacatholic.org/stjosephaltars>. These altars are beautiful and **your Donations help the less fortunate.**

Our St Joseph Statue adorns the altar at **Mary Hennigan's home at 1721 Robin Dr in Marrero.** This altar is beautiful and is a must see on Thu March 19th. **This year Mary is donating all proceeds to help the family of 4 yr old Braydyn Blanda with his medical bills.**
♥ **Please come out.**



This St Joseph prayer was found in the 50th year of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Say for nine mornings for anything you may desire. It has never been known to fail, so be sure you really want what you ask.

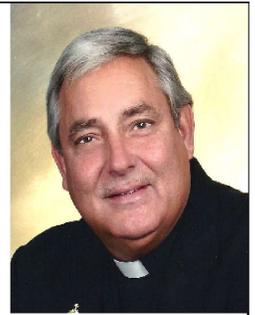
Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interest and desires.

Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him close in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for me! Amen.

From the desk of **FATHER PAUL BERGERON** †



Lent is a time for us to die to self and live for God. When we are experiencing a good Lent, we begin to realize what is most important in our Spiritual lives. St. James said "Faith without good works is a dead faith". Along with giving up something that we really love, we can add doing something good for others. God wants us to reflect His glory by the good works we do. There are so many people that need our help-the elderly; the young people and those who are struggling with physical infirmaries. St. Paul says, "I want to live less of me and more for Christ". So, in the meantime enjoy this beautiful time but focus on the Ashes that were put on your forehead in the form of a Cross and God Bless you. Fr. Paul

Special 30th Anniversary Mass March 17th

THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION

Just Have Faith in My Son JESUS

Come help us celebrate this special time at
106 JIM BOWIE ROAD IN HOUMA, LA

MAR 17 TUE 3PM CONFESSION & ROSARY ~ 4PM MASS

APR 17 FRI 3PM CONFESSION & ROSARY ~ 4PM MASS

CELEBRANT: FATHER PAUL BERGERON



DAYS TO REMEMBER

- Mar 8 - Begin Daylight Saving Time
- Mar 17 -St Patrick Feast Day
- Mar 17-Houma Anniversary Mass @ OLCP Shrine
- Mar 19 - Feast of St Joseph
- Mar 25 - The Annunciation of the Lord
- Mar 27 - The Seven Sorrows of Mary
- Mar 29 - Palm Sunday
- Apr 2 - Holy Thursday
- Apr 3 - Good Friday
- Apr 4 - Holy Saturday
- Apr 5 - Easter Sunday
- Apr 17 - Houma Mass @ OLCP Shrine
- Apr 19 - Divine Mercy Sunday
- Apr 26 - Our Lady of Good Counsel Feast Day
- May 1 - First Friday
- May 2 -First Saturday

38th ANNIVERSARY OF MARY'S HELPERS



**THANKS FATHER ♥
BRAUD for
celebrating 38
years with us!**

Mother Mary pray and
help us to continue
Your ministry!

**Prayer to Our Lady
of Good Counsel**
Feast Day April 26

Mary, Our Lady of Good Counsel:
filled with the Holy Spirit, you
were a faithful disciple of Jesus,
your Son.



We are happy to celebrate Mary's Helpers Anniversary of 38 years with so many of our friends. We are thankful for all of these hard working members that have been with us for many years. We cherish them and want to express our gratitude for their valuable time and talents they are always willing to give. We are also happy to welcome our new members that will help keep this ministry going for many in the future years to come. We are always looking for more members to assist us in all the work that needs to be done. If you are interested, please come by and see us at 4512 7th St. in Marrero or call us at (504) 348-PRAY. We also have prayer in our chapel at noon on Tuesday if anyone wants to join our prayer group. We have an active prayer line for prayer intentions for you or someone you know. We need your support if you can lend a hand in any means possible. Thank you and God Bless You!! MARYS HELPERS

Intercede with your Son for us that we may be faithful to our baptism, fervent in prayer, and generous in the service we give to our sisters and brothers. May the spirit of the living God, who graced you with the gift of counsel, lead us in the way of truth and love. With the help of your prayers, may we come to rejoice forever with you. Amen

2026 SUBSCRIPTION OR MAKE A DONATION (Don't let your subscription expire)

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Jan / Feb 2026

**THANK YOU and
God Bless You!**

Please accept my donation to help defray monthly operating costs of
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(This NEWSletter is made possible through the generosity of YOUR donations.)

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- * I cannot donate at this time but I still want the Newsletter...
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Mail to: Mary's Helpers, Inc., PO Box 1853, Marrero, LA 70073

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**Please consider making a recurring
monthly or quarterly donation.**



**"For God so loved the world that he gave his
only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall
not perish but have eternal life.:"** John 3:16



THE SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
(Friday of Passion week)

APR 3rd, 2026

The Church twice commemorates the sorrows of its heavenly Mother. The Friday of Passion week, since the 15th century, and also Sept. 15 have been dedicated by the universal Church to Her Compassion. Why is this so? To understand this double liturgy, we must know that Mary is also the Mother of the Mystical Body. The present feast was instituted by Pius VII after his return from his captivity and exile, which lasted from 1809 to 1814. Christ no longer suffers, and for Our Lady also, all suffering as we understand it has ceased. Nonetheless, the prophet Jeremias in his Lamentations, asks: "To whom shall You be compared, O Virgin? Your affliction is like the ocean." A mother who is happy in her home weeps just the same over the sorrows of her children. The statues and pictures of Mary all over Europe wept before the Revolution in France, and Her statues weep again today, in many places. The Passion of Christ continues in His elect, in particular in His Vicar on earth, from whom He does not separate Himself, and against whom the force of hell is deployed unceasingly. The mysterious compassion of the Mother is forever acquired for the Mystical Body of Her Son, which must reproduce the divine death in its human nature, elevated above its natural condition by the superhuman power of grace. Mary's great sorrows began at the prediction of Simeon that a sword would transpierce Her heart. Soon afterwards, She was obliged to flee with the newborn Infant, already object of a fatal search. She lost Him in the temple for three inexpressibly painful days; She met Him on the road to Calvary, and the sight indeed pierced Her heart. She saw Him die, heard His final cry, and witnessed the opening of His side with the effusion of His last drops of blood, mingled with water; She received in Her arms the inert body of the most beautiful of the sons of men. Finally, She was obliged to depose Him in a tomb, leave Him there and return with Her adopted son, John, to a deicidal Jerusalem. The Queen of Martyrs has never ceased to encourage Her children on earth to bear their own crosses, which complement the Passion of Christ. He suffered first the ordinary contradictions of life; for three years He was taunted and regarded as a menace by those who should have recognized Him and His mission. He knew hunger, cold and fatigue; He slept so heavily in a boat amid a tempest, that we can only suppose He was exhausted. He knew what it was to be abandoned in need and to lose, to the empire of various passions, followers He had called His. Christ is our forerunner in all human sorrows and difficulties. Mary, as His Mother, offered to God with Him all the afflictions of His earthly life, and She continues to offer those of the Church, for its sanctification, for the souls in Purgatory and the salvation of souls.

PRAYER OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace; Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; And where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, Grant that I may not so much seek, To be consoled as to console; To be understood, as to understand; To be loved, as to love; For it is in giving that we receive, It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. Amen!



POPE LEO announces the Franciscan Jubilee Year for 2026

Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a special Jubilee Year to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the death of **Saint Francis of Assisi**. From 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027, this Year of Saint Francis will invite believers and communities to rediscover the way of life of the Saint of Assisi: a life that is simple and essential, open to peace, fraternity, and respect for creation.

During this period, the Church proposes a spiritual journey that ideally continues the experience of the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025.

The Apostolic Penitentiary grants a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions, to those who take part in the Jubilee initiatives with a sincere spirit and a willingness to undergo inner conversion, expressing their faith also through responsible choices toward the world we inhabit.

The Year of Saint Francis is intended in a particular way for the various Franciscan communities as well as for all communities and associations inspired by Franciscan spirituality. Nevertheless, the invitation is open to all: anyone may experience this time of grace by making a pilgrimage to a Franciscan church or to a place dedicated to Saint Francis anywhere in the world, rediscovering in prayer the value of simplicity and the care of our common home.

This Jubilee Year, which marks eight centuries of Franciscan memory, is above all an invitation to action. The example of Saint Francis, a man of poverty, humility, and reconciliation, urges us to live a concrete charity, to build more just relationships, and to foster peace, caring for people and for the environment as inseparable gifts.

"REBUILD MY CHURCH" by Archbishop Checchio

Archbishop Checchio of New Orleans talked about St Francis of Assisi and his devotion to Jesus and rebuilding the church. "Jesus told St. Francis to rebuild the church and he took it literally, but we need to also look at the broader call of renewing our Christian vows for ourselves and the community, he said. "We need to be like St. Francis and fall more in love with Jesus and follow his example by changing our lives and hearts first."



WHY IS ST JOSEPH SO IMPORTANT?

Now is the time of St. Joseph! It is a bold claim but the Lord wants to direct our hearts, families, parishes, dioceses, and Church to St. Joseph in a big way! St. Joseph holds a special place in Christians' hearts. His greatness has always been praised and extolled by centuries of saints, popes, mystics, scholars, and laity alike. He is known as the Terror of Demons! God is telling his Church that, in order to defend marriages and the family, elevate morals, recover lost ground, and win souls for Jesus Christ, we need to bring St. Joseph onto the battlefield. With St. Joseph's powerful spiritual fatherhood, incredible love for his spiritual children, and constant intercession, the Church can be renewed as a light to the nations.

There are many reasons that we need St. Joseph now.

First, we need the spiritual fatherhood of St. Joseph to help us protect marriage and the family. Marriage and family have always been under attack, but in modern times, the threats have reached extraordinary heights. Many people no longer know what it means to be a man or woman, let alone what constitutes a marriage and a family. There is great confusion on these matters, more so than in any era of human history. The Servant of God, Sr. Lucia dos Santos, visionary of Fatima, knew the seriousness of the times and made a powerful statement. She wrote:

The final battle between the Lord and the kingdom of Satan will be about marriage and the family.

To combat and overcome Satan's deceptions, the Church needs St. Joseph. Who else can help us but the *Terror of Demons*?

Second, the world needs to be re-evangelized. Many nations and Christians have fallen away from their Christian roots and are on a path of self-destruction. Countries have been overrun by ideologies and organizations that seek to strip society of all that is sacred. Without a major turnaround, civilization itself is going to self-destruct.

God desires that all his children be committed to the love and care of a mother and a father. Mary being your spiritual mother and St Joseph being your spiritual father. The spiritual fatherhood of St. Joseph is extremely important for your spiritual growth. Mary wants you to consecrate yourself to St. Joseph. Be at peace. The Hearts of Jesus, Mary and St. Joseph are one.

What does consecrate yourself to St Joseph mean? It means you acknowledge that he is your spiritual father, and you want to be like him. To show it, you entrust yourself to his paternal care so that he can lovingly help you acquire his virtues and become holy. The person who consecrates himself to St. Joseph wants to be as close to their spiritual father as possible, to the point of resembling him in virtue and holiness. St. Joseph, in turn, will give those consecrated to him his loving attention, protection, and guidance. (From the book *Consecration to St. Joseph* by Donald Calloway) St Joseph Feast Day March 19

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Jan / Feb 2026

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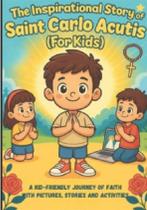
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Pray to St Sharbel the miracle worker
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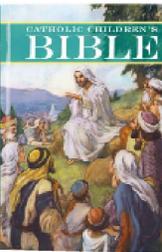
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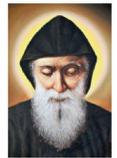

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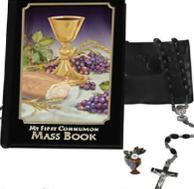


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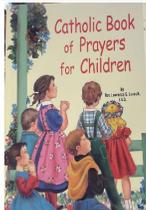

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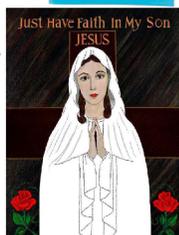

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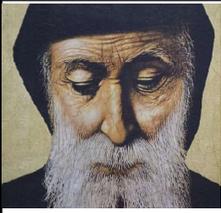

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St. Sharbel Makhoul

1828-1898

2 New Miracles

Reported Through the Intercession of St. Charbel in 2026

Two new miracles attributed to St. Charbel Makhoul have been reported since the beginning of 2026 — one in the United States and one in Lebanon — each involving the healing of a woman against all medical expectation.

Revered by the faithful as the “doctor of the sky,” St. Charbel, a Lebanese Maronite monk and priest, is now associated with more than 30,000 reported miracles. From his hermitage in the mountains of Lebanon to hospital rooms across continents, his intercession continues to reach those in need, transcending borders, cultures, and generations.

A healing case from the United States

Attorney Georgianne Walker, born in South Bend, Indiana, in 1975, reported that she underwent abdominal surgery in December 2024, which was soon followed by a serious infection in the lower abdomen. The infection caused severe pain and persistent anxiety, requiring six weeks of antibiotic treatment. While the symptoms gradually subsided, the surgical wound remained open, inflamed, and unhealed.

Despite close monitoring by her surgeon and other medical professionals, the wound showed no improvement. For 10 months, Walker changed her dressings daily due to continuous bleeding. With no progress, her surgeon ultimately concluded that a second operation was necessary to remove the inflamed tissue and scheduled a new surgery.

In September 2025, Walker said she was visited by George Issa, a Lebanese friend who had been healed through the intercession of St. Charbel Makhoul three years earlier. Issa brought with him a small vial of oil associated with the saint and encouraged her to pray for his intercession and anoint her wound with the oil.

The use of blessed oil has long been an established practice in the Eastern Christian tradition and continues to this day. In the case of St. Charbel, this ancient custom remains actively observed. Monks at the Monastery of Saint Maron in Annaya continue to bless oil using the saint’s relics and distribute it to the faithful who request his intercession for healing and other graces.

Walker stated that she prayed and applied the oil to the wound, after which it healed completely. She reported a full recovery and no longer required the scheduled surgery. She said she believed the healing occurred through the intercession of St. Charbel and expressed gratitude to both the saint and Issa for what she described as a life-changing event.

A recovery without medical explanation in Lebanon

The second reported miracle of the year was recounted by Racha Charbel (no known relation to St. Charbel) born in 1987 in Jezzine, a mountain town in south Lebanon.

Racha was admitted to the hospital on Oct. 1, 2025, after experiencing severe back pain. An MRI scan conducted under the supervision of her treating physician, Dr. Christian Atiya, a specialist in neurosurgery and vascular surgery, revealed a tumor on the spinal column identified as a meningioma, measuring 2.3 centimeters in length and 0.3 centimeters in thickness.

According to her physician, the tumor was unresponsive to medication, posed a risk to the spinal nerves and blood vessels, and could only be treated through surgical removal. A follow-up MRI was scheduled three months later to monitor its progression, and a provisional hospital admission date of Jan. 7, 2026, was set should surgery be required.

Racha reported that on the night of Jan. 6, a picture of St. Charbel was hanging above her bed. She said she placed her hand on the image and asked for healing before falling asleep.

On the morning of Jan. 7 she returned to the hospital for the repeat MRI. She was informed that the examination would take approximately 45 minutes and could take longer if needed. The scan was completed in about 20 minutes and revealed an unexpected finding: The tumor had completely disappeared.

According to Racha, her doctor told her that there was no medical explanation for the disappearance and that such a tumor could not vanish without surgical intervention.

On Jan. 17, Racha Charbel made a thanksgiving visit to the Monastery of Saint Maron in Annaya, where she officially registered the healing and submitted the relevant medical reports. She later stated that the experience marked a turning

Sssshhhh It's a secret...

In the next few months, we hope to have some good news regarding St Sharbel's relic coming to our area. We will let you know as soon as we can. We are so excited!

A saint and a river of mercy

The Lebanese saint, a priest and hermit monk of the Maronite rite, was widely known for intercessions attributed to him by Catholics, Muslims, and followers of other religions like the Druze.

St. Charbel died on Dec. 24, 1898. He was beatified by Pope Paul VI on Dec. 5, 1965, and was canonized by the same pontiff on Oct. 9, 1977.

In December 2025, Pope Leo XIV became the first pope to visit St. Charbel’s tomb during his trip to Lebanon.

During the visit, the pope described the saint’s intercession as “a river of mercy,” recalling in particular the monthly pilgrimage held on the 22nd of each month in memory of a miracle granted to a woman named Nouhad El Chami — a devotion that continues to draw thousands of pilgrims.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APR 19

Divine Mercy Sunday falls on April 19, 2026. To receive the extraordinary graces

of this feast, the only condition is to receive Holy Communion worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the vigil celebration) by making a good Confession beforehand and staying in the state of grace, and receive the great trust in Divine Mercy. We also are encouraged to venerate the Divine Mercy Image and perform acts of mercy through deed, word, or prayer.

Remember:

- Attend a special Mass dedicated to Divine Mercy.
- Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, especially at 3 PM.
- Take advantage of the sacrament of confession before or on this day.
- Perform acts of mercy, both spiritual and corporal, to honor the day.
- Spend time in reflection on the message of Divine Mercy and its significance.



Let's Laugh a Little ~ It's good for the soul

George W. Bush was walking through a hotel lobby when he noticed a man in a long, flowing, white robe with a long, flowing white beard and white hair. The man had a staff in one hand and some stone tablets under his other arm.

Struck by the man's appearance, George W. approached the man and whispered, "Aren't you Moses?" The man stood perfectly still and continued to stare at the ceiling, saying nothing. George W., unaccustomed to being ignored, positioned himself more directly in the man's view. He asked again, "Aren't you Moses?" The man resolutely stared up at the ceiling. George W. then tugged at the man's sleeve and demanded, "Well, are you Moses or not?" Again, there was no movement or words from the old man.

One of George W.'s aides asked if there was a problem, and George W. said, "Either this man is deaf or he's extremely rude. I've asked him 3 times if he's Moses, and he hasn't answered me yet."

At this point, the man finally responded to George Bush by saying, "Yes, I can hear you and yes, I am Moses, but the last time I spoke to a bush I ended up wandering in the desert for 40 years."

Consecrating America: Random Acts of Faith and the Sacred Heart of Jesus *By: Paul Maclean*

A Louisiana Faith Legacy Leading Toward June 12, 2026

On June 12, 2026, the bishops of the United States will consecrate our nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

This date falls on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, a day of deep spiritual significance that always occurs on a Friday—nineteen days after Pentecost Sunday. To Catholics across the country, it will be a moment of collective renewal. But to Catholics in Louisiana, where faith and culture breathe together, that day carries even deeper meaning.



The following narrative highlights several *Random Acts of Faith* that appear, in hindsight, to be threads in a larger tapestry woven by divine providence. It cannot capture all that God has inspired across our nation, but it seeks to honor a few specific acts that have occurred within—or sprung forth from—Eucharistic Louisiana. This story reminds us that what may seem like isolated acts of devotion are actually connected within a far greater design of divine will.

Ultimately, this reflection invites everyone to discern how they, too, are called to **“Go and make disciples.”** Whether through parish ministries, quiet acts of mercy, or national devotion, each of us is called to ***Bloom Where We Are Planted.***

Louisiana’s Faithful Footsteps: From the French Quarter to the Nation

The story begins in New Orleans on July 13, 1996, Feast of *Our Lady of Rosa Mystica*, when Monsignor Robert Guste led the *Way of the Cross Rosary Procession* through the historic French Quarter. Beginning at St. Louis Cathedral at approximately 3:00 p.m., the faithful walked a pattern of streets—many bearing the names of saints—that ultimately formed a great cross around the Cathedral itself. That day’s procession marked the beginning of a chain of grace that would unfold over decades.

In 2001, another Louisiana priest, Monsignor Joseph Luminais, then pastor of Holy Guardian Angels Catholic Church in Bridge City, combined holy water from sixty-four locations around the world, calling it his *“Easter Water.”* Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, this consecrated water became a symbol of unity—linking countless prayers and intentions into one act of blessing.

That same year, the “Easter Water” made its way to Lake Itasca, Minnesota—the source of the Mississippi River, known in early centuries as the *River of the Holy Spirit* and later the *River of the Immaculate Conception*. On Friday, June 22, 2001, at 3:33 p.m.—the hour of mercy and the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus—the water was poured into the river by a Louisiana Catholic family living in Minnesota. A prayer of blessing for America was offered at that moment *which can be requested from Mary’s Helpers.*

Only months later, on September 11, 2001, the United States would face unimaginable tragedy. Many now reflect on that earlier blessing as an act of spiritual preparation—a providential infusion of grace that would sustain a wounded nation through dark times.

The River Returns: 2020 and a Renewed Blessing

Exactly nineteen years later, once again on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (June 19, 2020), Louisiana Catholics returned to the same spot at Lake Itasca. This time, holy water gathered from over 300 locations around the world was poured once more into the source of the Mississippi River. It was an act of re-dedication—a prayer that all waters, people, and lands touched by that river be renewed in the Divine Will of God. As the Mississippi is fed by tributaries from thirty-one states, its waters mirror how the heart of Louisiana is shaped by the faith of all who live along its course. When water blessed in prayer at its source flows to the delta, it carries not only sediment but **grace.**

The Titles of Mary: One Mother, Many Invitations

Throughout this story, the Blessed Virgin Mary appears in her many titles and devotions, each a facet of the same maternal heart: *Our Lady of Prompt Succor*, patroness of Louisiana; *Our Lady of Compassionate Protection*, cherished by Mary’s Helpers; *Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception*, patroness of the United States; and *Our Lady of Guadalupe*, mother of the Americas.

Her titles do not divide us—they unite us under one loving call: to return to her Son, Jesus Christ.

The Continuation of the Story: Acts of Faith Leading to Consecration

These sacred acts, stretching from Louisiana to Minnesota and beyond, remind us that nothing in faith happens by coincidence. They point forward to a national movement of re-consecration that is beginning to unfold:

- May 17, 2026: *National Jubilee of Prayer, Praise, and Thanksgiving* on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., to rededicate America as One Nation Under God.
- May 24, 2026: Launch of the *National Eucharistic Pilgrimage* (the St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Route) from St. Augustine, Florida, traveling along the East Coast toward Philadelphia.
- June 12, 2026: *Consecration of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus* by the U.S. Bishops.

Each of these events echoes the ongoing plea found in the prayer poured into the Mississippi: that Christ’s love literally “cover America from East to West, and from North to South.” *Again, this prayer is available for free from Mary’s Helpers upon request.*

A Warning and a Hope Even as America prepares for grace, Our Lady’s maternal voice calls for repentance. Some have seen in the celestial signs from 2017 to 2024—tracing a great cross over the United States—a *Nineveh-type warning*: a plea for conversion and return to faith. Will America listen? Will hearts soften and turn back toward God?

If the story of Louisiana’s many Random Acts of Faith teaches us anything, it is that God’s mercy is already moving—quietly, persistently, and powerfully—through those who say “yes” to His call.

Return to Jesus As 2026 approaches, may every Catholic—especially those in Louisiana—take these events as both inspiration and invitation. Our Lord is writing a story not just about holy water, rivers, or processions, but about hearts returning to Him.

The acts of the past were not random—they were providence in motion. The consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will not be an end, but another beginning. Until then—pray, act, and trust in His Divine Will.

And remember always to Bloom Where You Are Planted. Have a great day in the Lord!

(If you want more information regarding these events, log onto <https://louisianawim.wixsite.com/sbbl>)

<p>Catholic Charismatic Renewal Westbank Prayer Meeting, Mass & Healing Service 7:30 PM, on 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7PM Rosary Infant Jesus of Prague Church 700 Maple St, Harvey, LA</p> 	<p>Have a Great Lenten Season! And Happy Easter!</p>	<p>Mary is asking us to pray together. You can always join us on Tuesdays at Noon to pray as a group at Mary's Helpers, 4512 7th St Marrero, LA We would love to see you.</p>	<p>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH 4401 7th St., Marrero LA Phone: 504-341-9516 Confession Fri 5:00-5:45pm Sat 2:30-3:30pm Sat Vigil 4:00pm Sun 8:00am 10:00am, Sun 12:00 (Espanol), 6pm Fr. Stephen Leake, Pastor</p>		
<p>RENEW Your 2026 SUBSCRIPTION FILL OUT the FORM on Page 3 & SEND IN NOW! YOUR DONATIONS KEEP THIS MINISTRY GOING!</p>	<p>LORD, teach us how to LOVE YOU AND WORSHIP YOU</p> 		<p>PERSONAL PRAYER LINE INTENTIONS (504) 348-PRAY (7729)</p>		
<p>The NEWS is published by Mary's Helpers to help spread the messages of Our Lady all over the country and the world.</p> <p>Physical Address: 4512 7th St., Marrero, La. 70072 Phone 504-348-PRAY (504-348-7729) E-Mail: maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net Website: www.maryshelpers.org</p> <p>To receive this NEWSLetter, complete the form on page 3 & send to: Mary's Helpers, Inc. P. O. Box 1853 Marrero, La. 70073</p>				 <p>St. Patrick Feast Day March 17</p> <p>St. Joseph Feast Day March 19</p> <p>4512 7th St Marrero, LA 70072</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Non Profit Org U. S. Postage PAID Marrero, La. Permit No. 133</p> </div>

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Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de enero de 2026

“¡Queridos hijos! Hoy los invito a ser oración y bendición para todos aquellos que no han conocido el amor de Dios. Hijitos, sean diferentes a los demás y sean personas positivas de oración y de amor a Dios, para que con sus vidas sean signo del amor de Dios para los demás. Los bendigo con mi bendición maternal e intercedo por cada uno de ustedes ante mi Hijo Jesús. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado.”

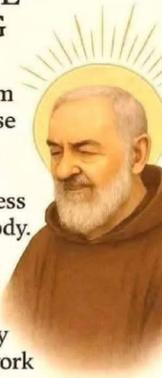
Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de febrero de 2026

“¡Queridos hijos! En este tiempo de gracia, los invito nuevamente a ofrecer sus vidas a Dios para que Él los guíe hacia la resurrección por medio de su conversión personal. Hijitos, Dios está cerca de ustedes y atiende sus oraciones, pero ustedes están adormecidos; por eso Él me ha enviado a ustedes para despertarlos y para que brillen en santidad como una flor de primavera. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado.”

<p>2026 Trips to MEDJUGORJE Reach out to Simply Medjugorje (Patti Flores) Phone: (818) 307- 4332 Upcoming 2026 trip dates: May 29-Jun 8, 2026 Corpus Cristi June 19-29, 2026, 45th Anniversary</p>	<p>PALM SUNDAY Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Luke 19:38</p>
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PRAYER FOR FAMILIES
 God, Our Father, loving and merciful, bring together and keep all families in perfect unity of love and mutual support. Instill in each member the spirit of understanding and affection for each other. Keep quarrels and bitterness far from them, and for their occasional failures instill forgiveness and peace. Amen

PRAYER FOR COMPLETE HEALING



St. Padre Pio,
 Please heal me from sickness and disease aches and pains.
 Padre Pio, bring wholeness and wellness to every cell in my body.
 Padre Pio, drive out everything in me that should not be.
 Padre Pio, let every organ in my body work the way it should.
 Padre Pio, Please heal me today.
 In Jesus name. Amen.

Pray, hope and don't worry. Anxiety doesn't help at all. Our Merciful Lord will listen to your prayer.



Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
 The bishops approved consecrating the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in 2026.
 See Page 7 for more information.

THANKS BE TO GOD...
 for Harry & Jenelle Davis who were instrumental in getting Mary's Helpers Bulletin Ad back in ICS's church bulletin. Please go check it out and spread the word about this organization that is here to love and serve our Mother Mary and Her Son Jesus.
 Thank You Harry & Jenelle



MAGNIFICAT WESTBANK BREAKFAST
9:00 a.m. - Noon
Saturday May 16, 2026
Speaker: Andi Oney
 Place: TBD
Advance Ticket Sales Only- \$20
 Call Cindy Delger 504-319-6788
 Westbank ReligSupply, 504-341-6558
 Questions: magnificat.westbank@gmail.com