



# MARY'S HELPERS, INC.

# News

No.38 Vol. 03-04 All About Jesus & Mary

Mar/Apr 2025

Published April 30, 2025

**MEDJUGORJE**  
**March 25, 2025**  
**to Marija Pavlovic'**

*"Dear children, in this time of grace when you are called to conversion, I am encouraging you, little children: offer me your prayers, sufferings and tears for conversion of hearts that are far from the Heart of my Son Jesus. Pray with me, because, little children, without God you do not have a future or eternal life. I love you, but I cannot help you without you; therefore, say 'YES' to God. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

**MEDJUGORJE**  
**April 25, 2025**  
**to Marija Pavlovic'**

*"Dear children, Winds of peacelessness, selfishness and sin are catching hold of many hearts and leading them into peacelessness and perdition. That is why I am calling you, little children: return to God and to prayer, so that it may be good for you in the hearts and on the earth on which you live. I love you, little children, and that is why I am not tiring of calling you to conversion. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

## Meditation on the March 25, 2025 Message by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM



Mary reminds us about this gift of grace. For us, this means we have been given the Grace of Lent to focus on our sinful life to a spiritual life with Jesus. Mary wants us to pray for her and with her. We are to share our suffering and fears with Mary as we experience conversion of hearts far from the heart of her Son Jesus. Pray with Mary to realize that without God we do not have a future or eternal life.

Many persons do not know or relate to God. They do not have a life with Jesus. Mary has been calling her children to awake and turn to God. We are to turn away from sin and seek Jesus our Savior. We begin with talking and listening to God. This is the most important!

We build on this Spiritual habit by attending community services and preparing for sacramental reception.

Let us continue our prayer life with Mary.

Love Fr. Al

## Meditation on the April 25, 2025 Message by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

Our Mother Mary is informing her children about the condition of the world. It is wrapped up in politics and instant communication that create peacelessness, selfishness and sin. These control humanities heart! Mary says, "return to God and to prayer so that it may be good for you in the hearts and on the earth on which you live."

Mary calls us to conversion and it involves us surrendering to peace and prayer and sharing this news often. We need the Lord's presence in our hearts .. and we need to love our neighbor. Mary is the example to us of prayer and peace. We will find fulfillment in her son Jesus. We need Peace and love in our hearts for each other and share the message often. Love Fr Al



**Above all else, guard your heart,  
for everything you do flows from it** Proverbs 4:23

O Blessed Mother, we pray for our departed loved ones, friends, and those forgotten. Please intercede for them at the throne of the Almighty. Behold in them, O Mother most faithful, the image of your Divine Son who offered Himself in their behalf.



### REST IN PEACE POPE FRANCIS

† Dec 17, 1936 ~ Apr 21, 2025

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant Pope Francis, whom you made successor of Peter, and a police officer and a prisoner in the same room receiving the same care... A wealthy patient waiting for a liver transplant, ready to receive the organ from a poor donor... It is in these moments, when the hospital touches the wounds of people, that different worlds intersect according to a divine design. And in this communion of destinies, we realize that alone, we are nothing. The absolute truth of people, most of the time, only reveals itself in moments of pain or in the real threat of an irreversible loss. A hospital is a place where human beings remove their masks and show themselves as they truly are, in their purest essence. This life will pass quickly, so do not waste it fighting with people. Do not criticize your body too much. Do not complain excessively. Do not lose sleep over bills. Make sure to hug your loved ones. Do not worry too much about keeping the house spotless. Material goods must be earned by each person—do not dedicate yourself to accumulating an inheritance. You are waiting for too much: Christmas, Friday, next year, when you have money, when love arrives, when everything is perfect... Listen, perfection does not exist. A human being cannot attain it because we are simply not made to be fulfilled here. Here, we are given an opportunity to learn. So, make the most of this trial of life—and do it now. Respect yourself, respect others. Walk your own path, and let go of the path others have chosen for you. Respect: do not comment, do not judge, do not interfere. Love more, forgive more, embrace more, live more intensely! And leave the rest in the hands of the Creator." —Pope Francis

### Pope Francis wrote this in the hospital (Beautiful and So True)

"The walls of hospitals have heard more honest prayers than churches... They have witnessed far more sincere kisses than those in airports... It is in hospitals that you see a homophobe being saved by a gay doctor. A privileged doctor saving the life of a beggar... In intensive care, you see a Jew taking care of a racist... A police officer and a prisoner in the same room receiving the same care... A wealthy patient waiting for a liver transplant, ready to receive the organ from a poor donor...

It is in these moments, when the hospital touches the wounds of people, that different worlds intersect according to a divine design. And in this communion of destinies, we realize that alone, we are nothing. The absolute truth of people, most of the time, only reveals itself in moments of pain or in the real threat of an irreversible loss.

A hospital is a place where human beings remove their masks and show themselves as they truly are, in their purest essence. This life will pass quickly, so do not waste it fighting with people. Do not criticize your body too much. Do not complain excessively. Do not lose sleep over bills. Make sure to hug your loved ones. Do not worry too much about keeping the house spotless. Material goods must be earned by each person—do not dedicate yourself to accumulating an inheritance.

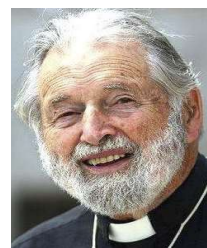
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Love more, forgive more, embrace more, live more intensely! And leave the rest in the hands of the Creator." —Pope Francis



### JUNE Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Hail, Sacred Heart of Jesus, living and strengthening source of eternal life, infinite treasury of the divinity, burning furnace of divine love! Thou art my refuge and my sanctuary. My loving Savior consume my heart in that burning fire with which Thine own is inflamed. Pour into my soul those graces which flow from Thy love. Let my heart be so united with Thine that our wills may be one, and my will in all things conformed with Thine. May Thy Will be the guide and rule of my desires and of my actions. Amen



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

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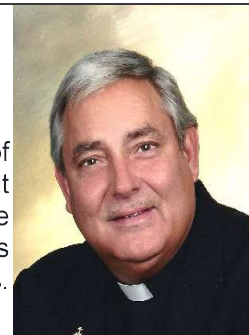


### MEDJUGORJE March 18, 2025 Annual Message to Mirjana Dragicevic-Soldo

"Dear children! With motherly love I implore you: give me your hands folded in prayer, give me your hearts cleansed in confession and I will lead you to my Son. Because, my children, only my Son, with His light, can illuminate the darkness; only He, with His Word, can remove suffering. Therefore, do not be afraid to walk with me, because I am leading you to my Son - salvation. Thank you."



# From the desk of FATHER PAUL BERGERON



If we are to truly find ourselves, we must stand in The Light of The Holy Spirit. This Third person of The Blessed Trinity gives us the Spiritual Insight to find our way in this darkened world. We receive it at Baptism and Confirmed in it when we become a soldier of Christ at our Confirmation. In the same way, two thousand years ago when Jesus breathed on His Disciples in The Upper Room. The gifts of The Spirit is a seven-fold gift that enables us to look in that Spiritual Mirror to truly find ourselves.

It is that simple-God Bless you-Fr. Paul

## Come, Holy Spirit.

Replace the tension within us with a holy relaxation.  
 Replace the turbulence within us with a sacred calm.  
 Replace the anxiety within us with a quiet confidence.  
 Replace the fear within us with a strong faith.  
 Replace the bitterness within us with the sweetness of your grace.  
 Replace the darkness within us with your gentle light.  
 Replace the coldness within us with your loving warmth.  
 Replace the night within us with your day.  
 Replace the winter within us with your spring.  
 Straighten our crookedness. Fill our emptiness.  
 Dull the edges of our pride. Sharpen the edge of our humility.  
 Light the fires of our love. Quench the flames of our lust.  
 Let us see ourselves as You see us,  
 that we may see You as You have promised,  
 and be healed according to your Word. Amen.



Come,  
Holy Spirit

MAY

## CROWNING OF OUR BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

JOIN US ON SATURDAY, MAY 17th at 10am

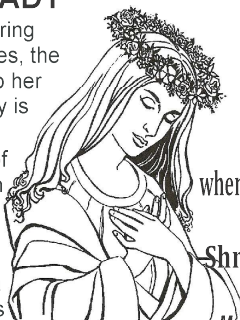
when we will have a procession and rosary to honor our  
 Mother Mary at the  
 Shrine of Our Lady of Compassionate Protection  
 106 Jim Bowie Rd, Houma, LA  
 Mass also on TUESDAY JUNE 17 at 4pm / Confession & Rosary 3pm

## DAYS TO REMEMBER

May 1-St Joseph the Worker  
 May 1-National Day of Prayer  
 May 3-Feast of the Cross  
 May 11-Mother's Day  
 May 13-Our Lady of Fatima  
 May 17-May Crown of Mary in Houma/OLCP  
 May 24-May Crown of Mary in Marrero  
 May 26-Memorial Day  
 May 29-The Ascension of the Lord  
 May 30-Begin Holy Spirit Novena  
 May 31-The Visitation of the Blessed Mother  
 June 8-Pentecost Sunday  
 June 15-The Most Holy Trinity  
 Jun15-Father's Day  
 Jun 17-Houma Mass OL of Comp Protection  
 Jun 19-The Body and Blood of Christ  
 (Corpus Christi)  
 Jun 24-Birth of St John the Baptist  
 Jun 27-Most Sacred Heart of Jesus  
 Jun 28-Immaculate Heart Mary

## MAY MONTH OF OUR LADY

In addition to the myriad feast days honoring Our Lady under her many titles and virtues, the entire month of May is especially given to her praise. In the words of Pope Paul VI, May is "a month which the piety of the faithful has long dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God ... For this is the month during which Christians, in their churches and their homes, offer the Virgin Mother more fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a greater abundance of God's merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother's throne."



JOIN US IN  
 MARRERO, LA  
 MAY CROWNING  
 Procession and Rosary  
 on SAT May 24th at  
 10:30 am at  
 4512 7th St, Marrero, LA  
 Come help us Crown Mary  
 our most beautiful Mother

## To RENEW Your 2025 SUBSCRIPTION OR MAKE A DONATION

PLEASE Fill Out The Form Below & Mail to Mary's Helpers, P.O. Box 1853, Marrero, LA 70073

OR DONATE ONLINE AT: [www.MarysHelpers.ORG](http://www.MarysHelpers.ORG)

MAR/APR 2025

THANK YOU for  
YOUR Support!!

Please accept my donation to help defray monthly operating costs of  
 Mary's Helpers and to continue to spread Our Lady's messages.  
 (This NEWSletter is made possible through the generosity of YOUR donations.)

\$25 ☐ \$35 ☐ \$45 ☐ \$55 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> * Please send me the monthly Mary's Helpers Newsletter...	Name: _____
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<input type="checkbox"/> * I would like to volunteer to help in Mary's Helpers however I can, please contact me...	

Mail to: Mary's Helpers, Inc., PO Box 1853, Marrero, LA 70073



Thank You for keeping this Ministry going!!!  
 We also encourage recurring monthly or quarterly donations.



## 3-Way Indulgence Pardon Crucifix

**FATHER FORGIVE THEM**  
**BEHOLD THE HEART WHICH HAS**  
**SO LOVED MEN**



"Granted by his Holiness, Pope Pius X to the Pius Union of the Pardon Crucifix, the aim of which is to obtain pardon of God and to pardon one's neighbors.

1. Whoever carries on his person the Pardon Crucifix, may thereby gain an indulgence.
2. For devoutly kissing the Crucifix, an indulgence is gained.
3. Whoever says one of the following invocations before this crucifix may gain each time an indulgence: "Our Father who art in heaven, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." "I beg the Blessed Virgin Mary to pray to the Lord our God for me."
4. Whoever, habitually devout to this Crucifix, will fulfill the necessary conditions of Confession and Holy Communion, may gain a Plenary Indulgence on the following feasts: On the feasts of the Five Wounds of our Lord, the Invention of the Holy Cross, the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, the Immaculate Conception, and the Seven Sorrows (Dolors) of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
5. Whoever, at the moment of death, fortified with the Sacraments of the Church, or contrite of heart, in the supposition of being unable to receive them, will kiss this Crucifix and ask pardon of God for his sins, and pardon his neighbor, will gain a Plenary Indulgence.

(Pontifical Rescript of June 1, 1905 to MM the Abbess Lemann) Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences

To the Faithful who devoutly kiss this Crucifix and gain these precious indulgences, we recommend to having in view the following intentions: To testify love for Our Lord and the Blessed Virgin, gratitude towards our Holy Father, the Pope, to beg for the remission of one's sins, the deliverance of souls in purgatory, the return of the nations to the Faith, forgiveness among Christians, reconciliation among the member of the Catholic Church.

By another Pontifical Rescript of November 14, 1905, His Holiness Pope Pius X, has declared that the Indulgences attached to the Pardon Crucifix are applicable to the souls in Purgatory.

With Ecclesiastical Sanction  
January 15, 1907

(Pardon Crucifix is available in our gift shop. Please see pg 5 for more details)

## INDULGENCE vs PLENARY INDULGENCE

Indulgences are spiritual favors granted by the Church and by the merits of Jesus Christ, the Blessed Mother and all the saints, that help atone for the temporal punishment due to sin, not the forgiveness of the sin itself. The forgiveness of sins occur through the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).

*The reason we have been given this grace is to attach greater importance to a Christian way of life and to lead souls to cultivate the spirit of prayer and penance and to practice the theological virtues, rather than merely to repeat certain formulas and acts.* To actually know the difference between an indulgence and a plenary indulgence, let us define a few terms.

Even after sins are forgiven, there may still be **temporal punishment**, which is the consequence of sin in this life or purgatory.

**An indulgence** is a remission of temporal punishment due to sin that has already been forgiven through confession. A partial indulgence removes SOME punishment for sins.

**A plenary indulgence, if all conditions are met**, removes all temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven through confession, wiping away all punishment for past sins; making the soul *as pure as a newly baptized infant*.

Essentially, a partial indulgence removes part of the punishment, while a plenary indulgence removes all of it.

Think of it like a debt: a partial indulgence reduces the amount owed, while a plenary indulgence completely forgives the debt.

There are many ways to obtain plenary indulgences. **Here are just a few:**

- Making a pilgrimage to designated Jubilee sites during the 2025 Jubilee Year.
  - On Divine Mercy Sunday, a plenary indulgence is granted to those who participate in prayers and devotions in honor of Divine Mercy.
  - Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament for at least a half hour.
  - Certain days like those from November 1st to 8th, which is the All Saints' octave, allow for a plenary indulgence for the faithful departed each day.
- IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHAT THE CONDITIONS FOR A PLENARY INDULGENCE ARE WHEN THE PLENARY INDULGENCE IS GRANTED. YOU MUST:**
- 1) Be in the state of grace (free from mortal sin)
  - 2) Have a Sacramental Confession
  - 3) Receive Holy Communion
  - 4) Pray for the intentions of the Pope.
  - 5) Have a detachment from all sin, even venial sin.

### Important Notes:

- Only ONE plenary indulgence can be gained a day.
- The conditions for a plenary indulgence can be fulfilled a few days before or after the specific act, but it's recommended that Communion and prayer occur on the same day.
- Indulgences can be applied to oneself or to the souls in purgatory, but not to living people.

IF you want more info, you can research the Enchiridion of Indulgences Issued by the Sacred Apostolic Penitentiary, 1968.

## PRAYER OF BEING FORGIVEN

Loving Lord, mindful of your mercy and the love that took you to the cross,  
I place myself before you  
and ask forgiveness for all the times  
when I have failed to follow you.  
Lord Jesus forgive me and help me  
become more like you each day. Amen



## PRAYER BEFORE

## The Holy Cross

May 3

Oh Lord Almighty!  
You have suffered death at the cross for our sins.  
Oh Holy Cross of Jesus! be my true light.

Oh Holy Cross of Jesus!  
fill my soul with good thoughts.  
Oh Holy Cross!  
help me in my salvation.

Oh Holy Cross! safeguard me  
against unholy thoughts  
and worldly dangers that I may worship  
the Holy Cross of Jesus of Nazareth crucified.

Have pity on me.  
Oh Holy Cross of Jesus! be my hope.  
Oh Holy Cross have mercy on me  
forever and ever. Amen.

## MAY 3 is HOLY CROSS DAY!

This is based on an old liturgical feast and tradition celebrating the discovery of the true cross of Christ by St. Helen on May 3rd, 326 A.D.

According to traditions, Constantine's mother, the Queen Helena, traveled to Jerusalem to find the true cross. Legend has it that the true cross was authenticated by the miraculous healing of a woman.

**LORD... BY  
YOUR CROSS AND  
RESURRECTION,  
YOU HAVE SET US FREE.  
YOU ARE THE SAVIOR OF  
THE WORLD.**



# MARY'S HELPERS GIFT SHOP **\*\* FREE SHIPPING ON ORDERS OVER \$75**

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Ends Jun 30, 2025

**Beautiful 3-Way Indulgence Pardon Crucifix** with Miraculous & St Benedict Medals (article on Page 4)



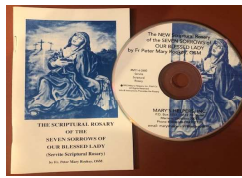
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Fill with Holy Water and carry with you anywhere.

**GARDEN FLAGS** of Mother Mary 18in X 12in **\$8.00**



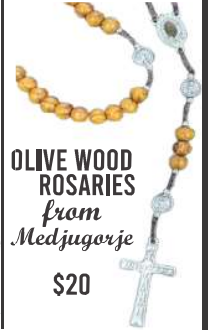
**Scriptural Rosary of the SEVEN DOLORS OF OUR BLESSED LADY** by Fr. Peter Mary Rookey OSM  
CD \$10 / Booklet \$5

## LADDER ROSARY

Also known as the stairway to heaven rosary

The ladder rosary is based on the visions of both Saint Dominic and Saint Francis de Sales, in which they saw the rosary as a ladder leading to Heaven.

Sapphire Faceted Glass Ladder Rosary \$19.99



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**\$20**



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**22" Wood St Benedict Crucifix \$79.99**



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8" Beautiful PIETA White with Wood Base \$31.00



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St Benedict Medals, Statues, Earrings Available



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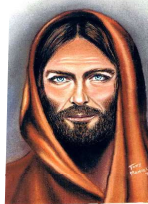


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## Pictures

**My Jesus Has Blue Eyes**

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8x10-MJ \$10 \$15-\$20  
11x14-MJ \$15 \$50  
Tony Manzella, Artist



**Beautiful 8 x 10 prints**

Holy Family (shown)  
Our Lady of Grace,  
St Michael (shown)

\$2.00 Unframed / \$20.00 Framed



**Marie-Julie Jahenny Purple Scapular \$20.00 (House Scapular)**



**Purple Scapular PRAYER CARDS laminated \$2.00**

## SCAPULARS



**Small Benediction Scapular \$7.00 (Purple Scapular)**



**Our Lady of Mt. Carmel/St. Simon Scapular with Medals \$3.00**

## OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION

Many Healings from praying to OLC  
*Just have Faith in My Son Jesus*

**PRAYER CARDS** \$ .50 each or

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Unframed/Framed  
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\$ 9 \$ 49



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**MAR/APR 2025**

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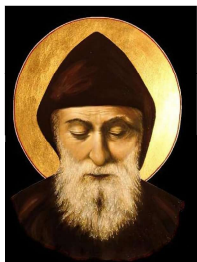
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## St. Sharbel Makhlouf

More than 33,000 miracles recorded as of July 2024 according to the records of Saint Maron Monastery

Mr. Raymond Nader gave a talk about Saint Sharbel, the Family of Saint Sharbel in the world, and the "return of the evil spirits".

In this talk, Raymond Nader emphasizes the critical role of faith in the current world and highlights Saint Sharbel's miraculous works worldwide. Mr. Nader also explores the concept of spiritual warfare, identifying three primary demons at battle against the Kingdom of God (Baal, Ashtar, and Molech) and points out contemporary signs of their influence. He warns that as society distances itself from God, it leaves a spiritual void that makes humanity more susceptible to demonic influences.

According to Mr. Nader, Saint Sharbel's miracles are divine messages urging humanity to return to God; Sharbel's work is a beacon of hope, reminding us of the power of God's presence and the importance of living a life aligned with divine purpose. Mr. Nader concludes with a call to action.

For more information, visit:  
[www.familyofsaintsharbel.org](http://www.familyofsaintsharbel.org)

# HOPE

HOPE looks for the good in people instead of harping on the worst.

HOPE opens doors where despair closes them.

HOPE discovers what can be done instead of grumbling about what cannot.

HOPE draws its power from a deep trust in God and the basic goodness of human nature.

HOPE "lights a candle" instead of "cursing the darkness."

HOPE regards problems, small or large, as opportunities.

HOPE cherishes no illusions, nor does it yield to cynicism.

HOPE sets big goals and is not frustrated by repeated difficulties or setbacks.

HOPE pushes ahead when it would be easy to quit.

HOPE puts up with modest gains, realizing that "the longest journey starts with one step."

HOPE accepts misunderstandings as the price for serving the greater good of others.

HOPE is a good loser because it has the divine assurance of final victory.

By Father James Keller, M.M.

## St. Benedict

James R. Dennis, O.P.  
Posted on July 11, 2012



*The first monks who tried to live under Benedict's direction hated his regimen, so much so they plotted to kill their abbot. They put poison in a glass of wine and offered it to Benedict. Before he took it, he blessed it, as was the custom. According to the story told by Pope Gregory I (Benedict's biographer), when Benedict made the sign of the cross over the wine glass, it shattered, and the wine spilled to the floor.*

*Benedict, Gregory wrote, "perceived that the glass had in it the drink of death," called his monks together, said he forgave them, reminded them that he doubted from the beginning whether he was a suitable abbot for them, and concluded, "Go your ways, and seek some other father suitable to your own conditions, for I intend not now to stay any longer amongst you."*

On another occasion, a jealous priest tried to kill him with poisoned bread. St. Benedict again prayed over his meal and a raven swooped down and took the bread from him before he could eat it. Because of these two legends, St. Benedict is often pictured in sacred art with a chipped chalice or a raven with a piece of bread in its mouth.

## Jubilee Prayer



Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of Heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

**St Benedict PRAY FOR US**

## Christianity Today

July 11 is the feast day of St. Benedict of Nursia, who was born in about 480, as the Roman Empire began to crumble. The son of a Roman nobleman, he left his home and his studies around the age of 20. He established about a dozen monastic houses, but is most widely known for founding Monte Cassino, an abbey which to this day remains the mother house of the Benedictine Order. Benedict died around 547, according to legend while standing in prayer to God.

Benedict is sometimes considered the founder of western monasticism. The effects of the monastic movement, including the Benedictines, has been enormous. Largely as a result of their patience and painstaking labors, the Holy Scriptures were preserved through the Dark Ages. They contributed greatly to science, literacy, and culture at a time when all of these were threatened.

As I reflect upon the story above, it seems to me to have a deeper meaning than first appears. There's nothing unusual about those of us in the religious life experiencing profound frustration, and even anger, with our brothers and sisters. (I'm glad to report, however, that I'm unaware of any conspiracy to poison my Prior or any of the leaders of my Order.) According to legend, as Benedict made the sign of the Cross over the poisoned cup, it shattered. It seems to me that the Cross has a remarkable way of breaking through anger and resentment, and that may be the point of this story.

Benedict's response to that poison cup offers us another insight. He forgave the brothers responsible. He teaches us something terribly important: having been saved by the Cross, we cannot withhold from others the same forgiveness Christ displayed on the Cross. God watch over thee and me

The St Benedict Medal, with its unique symbols and the exorcism prayer inscribed on it, is seen as a tangible representation of St. Benedict's power against evil. The symbols and phrases on the medal serve as reminders of God's authority and a declaration of the wearer's faith in God's protection. The Saint Benedict Medal often has Latin guidance and exorcism prayers inscribed on its back, including phrases like:

- **C. S. S. M. L. (Crux Sacra Sit Mihi Lux):** "The Holy Cross be my light".
- **N. D. S. M. D. (Non Draco Sit Mihi Dux):** "May the dragon never be my guide".
- **V. R. S. (Vade Retro Satan):** "Get away, Satan".
- **N. S. M. V. (Nunquam Suade Mihi Vana):** "Never tempt me with your vanities".
- **S. M. Q. L. (Sunt Mala Quae Libas):** "What you offer me is evil".
- **I. P. V. B. (Ipse Venena Bibas):** "Drink the poison yourself!".

### MASS INTENTIONS REQUEST FORM

I would like to offer a mass intention at the Holy Mass celebrated on the 17th of next month at Our Lady of Compassionate Protection Shrine in Houma, LA celebrated by Fr Paul Bergeron.

Intentions by: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name

Prayers for: \_\_\_\_\_ Living or Deceased



## Blessed Carlo Acutis and the Many Miracles of the Eucharist

by [Timothy P. O'Malley](#) November 25, 2024

The temptation to normalize sanctity comes from a good place. Relatable saints can be imitated. We have a desire to open whatever is the Catholic equivalent of US Weekly's "Stars—They're Just Like Us" and see St. Francis of Assisi watering his garden (while suffering from the stigmata). St. Ignatius of Loyola is just your average bro who wanted people to find God in all things (who happened to break out in tears every time that he celebrated Mass). St. Catherine of Siena is a fine example of a female leader who exerted power against corruption (and who also survived for years while consuming the Eucharist alone).

The closer the saint is to our day, the more we might wipe out the weirdness of sanctity. Blessed, soon to be Saint, Carlo Acutis is especially prone to this kind of treatment. When his canonization was announced, newspapers declared: the first Millennial saint. Statues of Carlo depict him wearing tennis shoes. He has a video recorder or a computer in his arms. He is dressed as Italian teenagers from the early aughts might have dressed. He was a web designer; he had a video game system just like I did (do). Who is more relatable than Blessed Carlo? #MillennialSaints.

Carlo Acutis died in 2006 from leukemia. He was fifteen. As it turns out, like the other saints of the Catholic Church, his "normalcy" is relative. Carlo asked to receive his First Communion at the age of six. From then on, he was a daily communicant. My son who is eleven and my daughter who will receive her First Communion attend Mass reluctantly on a weekly basis. Sometimes, I attend Mass reluctantly. Carlo lived an ascetic life. Yes, he had a video game system, but he played this system for an hour per week. As a forty-two-year-old man, I continue to play video games for a longer time per week than Carlo did when he was fifteen. If Carlo was given anything (a bike, clothing, or a new pair of shoes), he gave

it away to the poor. His family was well-off, but anything he received, he sought to pass on to the homeless in Milan. His funeral Mass was full of people who were recipients of Carlo's hidden acts of charity.

Yes, before he died, Carlo made websites. But not for the kind of things that young people make websites for today. He was not anticipating the arrival of cryptocurrency, ride sharing apps, or even influencer-based Catholic evangelization. He focused on those dimensions of Catholicism that are uncomfortable to many of us modern Westerners. Marian apparitions. Eucharistic miracles. The kind of interruptions of the supernatural into the mundane that many theology departments do their best to avoid speaking about except as religious phenomena that expose the zeitgeist of an era. He thought the internet could be a different kind of place, one that led people to visit Eucharistic and Marian shrines. But he was mostly wary of the internet, especially the free license it gave to pornography. When he died, his mother Antonia Salzano found herself reading the various diaries that Carlo kept on his computer. What she discovered was not a teenager developing a small business plan with a potential move to Silicon Valley. Instead, it was a diary full of theological insights, especially around the Eucharist, from a young man who was only fifteen years of age. During the terrible suffering he endured in the eleven days between his diagnosis and death, he did not complain. He offered his sufferings for Pope Benedict XVI and the entire Catholic Church. And through his life and death, he has transformed the existence of his mother, Antonia, who went from being an apathetic Catholic to a devout Catholic woman who studied for a master's degree in theology.

Now, dear reader, think back and remember what you were doing when you were fifteen.

## FIRST MILLENNIAL SAINT

Carlo Acutis was beatified by Pope Francis on 10 Oct 2020. After a second miracle, Pope Francis granted approval July 2024 to canonize Carlo Acutis, on 27 April 2025 during the Jubilee of Teenagers. This beautiful event has been postponed due to Pope Francis' passing.



Lest you feel uncomfortable admitting it, at the age of fifteen, I was not begging to attend daily Mass. I was not thinking about Eucharistic miracles or Marian apparitions (though, there were some young women named Mary who occupied much of my attention). I was playing video games (mostly Mortal Kombat), listening to Weezer and Presidents of the United States of America, and I was certainly not setting up websites related to Eucharistic miracles (in fairness, I did not have the internet until I was eighteen). But when I did get the internet in 2000, I sent endless AIM messages to friends about nothing. I certainly could not imagine offering up my terminal diagnosis for the Pope.

Carlo was weird. The clue to unlocking his holiness, might I suggest, is related to the websites he set up. Marian apparitions. Eucharistic miracles. He believed and then lived out the consequences of the Incarnation: the Word was made flesh, dwelt among us, lived among us, died for us, rose for us, and still is here for us. He is present on every altar, in every hungry and thirsty person who directs their gaze to us asking for a cup of cold water. And if you want to pursue holiness, then it is through that materiality: from the Eucharistic Body and Blood of Christ to the flesh and blood life we possess here and now. [The body matters](#) because Christ's Body matters.

Continued next month

## YOU DID IT... AC is installed

I want to personally thank everyone who helped make the AC replacement a reality. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We couldn't have done this without you. Your support lets us know that you care about this ministry. We love being here for you and hope to be here for many more years. Mother Mary and Her Son Jesus will not forget those who helped or helped by praying. I'm sure your graciousness will be rewarded in heaven. ***This IS our pathway to heaven!***

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



Two donkeys were walking in Jerusalem, when one donkey said to the other, "Just yesterday I was here carrying Jesus and the people were singing and shouting and throwing down their clothing for me to walk on, and today they don't even recognize me". The other donkey replied "that's how it is my friend...

Without Jesus you are nothing.



A Sunday school teacher began her lesson with the question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?"

A hand shot up in the air, "I know! I know! He's an artist! said one little boy. "Really? How do you know that?" asked the puzzled teacher.

"Oh, you know... 'Our Father who does art in Heaven'"

Three preachers sat discussing the best positions for prayer while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely best", claimed one.

"No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to heaven."

"You're both wrong," the third insisted. "The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate, faced down on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey fellas," he interrupted, "the best prayin' I ever did was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY - MAY 11

## PRAYER FOR ALL MOTHERS

"Lord, we lift up all mothers today, recognizing that their journey can be filled with both joy and challenges. When they feel overwhelmed, give them your peace. When they feel tired, give them your strength. When they feel alone, give them your comfort. May they know that they are loved and supported, both by you and by their families. We pray for their well-being and for their continued strength and resilience. In your name, we pray. Amen."

### Daily Reminders

Make peace with your past so it won't disturb your future

The only person in charge of your happiness is you

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**

**PERSONAL PRAYER LINE INTENTIONS**  
**(504) 348-PRAY (7729)**

The NEWS is published by Mary's Helpers to help spread the messages of Our Lady all over the country and the world.

Physical Address: 4512 7th St., Marrero, La. 70072  
Phone 504-348-PRAY (504-348-7729)  
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Website: www.maryshelpers.org

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**Pentecost**

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Around the World!  
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### Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de marzo de 2025

"¡Queridos hijos! En este tiempo de gracia en el que están llamados a la conversión, los animo, hijitos, a ofrecermos sus oraciones, sufrimientos y lágrimas por la conversión de los corazones que están lejos del Corazón de mi Hijo Jesús. Oren conmigo, hijitos, porque sin Dios no tienen futuro ni vida eterna. Los amo, pero sin ustedes no los puedo ayudar. Por eso, díganle sí a Dios. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado."

### Ultimo Mensaje, 18 de marzo de 2025 - Aparición anual a Mirjana Soldo

"¡Queridos hijos! Con amor materno les ruego: entréguenme sus manos juntas, entréguenme sus corazones purificados en la confesión, y yo los guiaré hacia mi Hijo. Porque, hijos míos, sólo mi Hijo, con Su luz, puede iluminar las tinieblas, sólo Él, con Su Palabra, puede eliminar el sufrimiento. Por eso, no tengan miedo de caminar conmigo, porque yo los conduzco hacia mi Hijo, hacia la salvación. Les doy las gracias."

### Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de abril de 2025

"¡Queridos hijos! Los vientos del desasosiego, del egoísmo y del pecado están apoderándose de muchos corazones y los conducen a la desolación y a la perdición. Por eso, hijitos, los invito: regresen a Dios y a la oración, para que se sientan bien en sus corazones y en la tierra en la que viven. Los amo, hijitos, y por eso no me canso de llamarlos a la conversión. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado."

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY - JUNE 15

### FATHER'S DAY prayer

Gracious God, bless fathers and all father figures with such love and faithfulness that children flourish and grow in uprightness and joy. Bless those who long to be fathers and those for whom this day is difficult. Amen



Call to me and I will answer you...  
Jeremiah 33:3

### PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Simply Medjugorje ~ May 30 to June 10, 2025  
Spiritual Guide: Deacon Bob Hoffman of Denver, CO  
Local Guide JOSIP ELEZ Son of Visionary Ivanka  
Register Online at [www.SimplyMedj.com](http://www.SimplyMedj.com)  
or Call (818) 307-4332 and talk to Patti Flores  
Package \$2,960 (double occupancy)

### Come Pray with us Tuesday at Noon

JUST ONE HOUR OF YOUR TIME FOR GOD  
at Mary's Helpers  
at 4512 7th Street, Marrero, LA  
Across from Immaculate Conception  
**Group Prayer is so powerful! Join us!!**  
**Mary is asking us to**  
**Pray! Pray! Pray!**



### MAGNIFICAT WESTBANK BREAKFAST

**9:00 a.m. - Noon**  
**Saturday May 31, 2025**  
**Speaker: Noel Delery**

Place: Immaculata Marrero KC Hall  
Advance Ticket Sales Only- \$20  
Call Cindy Delger 504-319-6788

Westbank ReligSupply, 504-341-6558  
Questions: [magnificat.westbank@gmail.com](mailto:magnificat.westbank@gmail.com)