

## MARY'S HELPERS, INC.

## News

No.34 Vol. 01-02 All About Jesus & Mary

Jan 25 - Feb 25, 2021





## Meditation on the JANUARY 25, 2021 Message

by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

Mary was called by the Angel Gabriel, to be the Mother of God. She trusted God. She did not understand everything of her faith, but she said "Yes". As usual, Mary calls us in these times to prayer, fasting and renunciation, as she was called in faith. She reminds us to follow the way that Jesus has called us to, so that we will be stronger in our faith. If we have been called to follow Jesus' program, why are we not more successful. Maybe our prayer life needs more commitment. We need to truely listen to Jesus and act upon it to respond to His call. Why are we not loving, forgiving and acting more like Jesus in our lives. Our "Yes" has to be REAL, and we act out our love daily in our lives, by being stronger in faith, more forgiving and loving to all. Jesus gave himself through Mary and Mary is the gift that Jesus gave to mankind and still is. Decide anew for conversion through Mary, our Mother. Let us focus and refocus on our lives to be more faithful. The holiness is waiting for us and Mary our Mother is the grace and gift from her Son, Jesus. We need to fully follow her call. We need to say "Yes" to our Heavenly Mother. Conversion can only work when we put our decision in a new to focus on allowing Her grace to gift herself to you and receiving that gift.

We need to renew confession and our spiritual connection with Mary in communial form with opportunities to meet other christians that we explain Mary's love to other people & communitities of people and share our faith with them. Amen and God Bless Love Fr AL

## Meditation on the **FEBRUARY 25, 2021** Message

by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

Mary has been permitted by God to be here to instruct us in 2 ways; PRAYER and FASTING. Prayer and fasting are very powerful in this world, so much so, that wars can be suppressed. Mary can see what will happen to us if we don't obey the will of the Father.

Mary's Immaculate Heart will not leave you peaceless if you follow her instructions. Mary intercedes for us to God the Father, her son. If we do not heed her warning when Mary tells us these things of what is going to happen, the results are our responsibility.

If you follow her instructions, you will receive and witness God's graces. By following our Mother's instructions, we can change the world. The witnessing of faith in the past has always materialized in the world as God has shown.

Mary intercedes for us before God. She wants the best for us so we can have a future with God the Father in heaven.

To each servite:

We servites place ourselves in the mystery of Mary's grace formation, for Mary has chosen us to communicate peace and faith to our other brothers and sisters in this world. So our prayer and fasting has to be witness to each other and other brothers and sisters. Let us listen with a deeper heart in Mary's Amen and God Bless heart.

Love Fr AL

# Fr. Peter Mary Rookey, OSM

Oct. 12, 1916 - Sept. 10, 2014 The Apostle of Compassion



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

듁

OUR

ANG

四

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

## St Sharbel Items Available now at Mary's Helpers:

Blessed St Sharbel Oil (Donation Requested) St Sharbel Novena Booklets \$5 St Sharbel Prayer Cards \$3 Fr Skandar's book (Eng/Sp) \$17 P. Pablo Daher book (Eng/Sp) \$20 St Sharbel Statue 12"



Sylvia Ann Perrin Williams December 18, 2020, Age 82

Walter Joseph Williams Jr. February 10, 2021, Age 89

Sylvia and Walt Williams passed away within months of each other. They both will be dancing in heaven together this day. Both will be missed by so many including their 6 children, 11 grandchildren and 8 great granchildren. Sylvia and Walt were

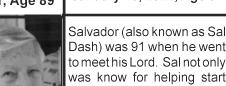
Mary's Helpers has new Angels

Please PRAY for the repose of their souls - Eternal rest grant unto them

May they find peace in their love for God

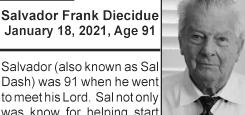
founding members of Mary's Helpers and also members of the Servants of Mary. We at Mary's Helpers owe a debt of gratitude

to both of them for helping Margaret and Gayle begin Mary's Helpers. Sylvia gave her time and talents to Mary's Helpers making it what it is today. Walt was always running errands and doing whatever was asked of him for Mary's Helpers too. Words cannot express our heavy hearts for these two. May they both rest in peace and have eternal light shine upon them. We know they are with their Lord and Saviour today.



most difficult time.

Dash Lumber but he was known forbuilding our beloved chapel at Mary's Helpers in Marrero. Anyone who has seen it would say the details are just amazing. Just beautiful. It is a place of calm where you can sit and talk to the Lord. Thank you Sal for your contribution to Mary's Helpers. May you be with your Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ, today. May the Lord bless your family and help them through this



Website: www.maryshelpers.org Email: maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net Phone:(504) 348-PRAY Fax: (504) 347-7715 Our Address: P.O. Box 1853, Marrero, LA 70072 4512 7th Street, Marrero, LA 70072

## From The Desk of FATHER PAUL BERGERON



## Prepare for The Holy Season of Lent!



Yes, my friends it is that time of the year again when Lent is on our doorstep. It sure will be different in the midst of this pandemic. I can visualize Jesus' cousin, St. John The Baptist adorned with camel hair and eating wild honey proclaiming the coming of The Son of God saying "Repent and Prepare



ye the way of The Lord!" He is the very same person that when he was in his mother's womb, lept for joy at the visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. This is what we are called to do now is to repent and prepare. We must make a good and thorough examination of our consciousness in preparing the ground for a good Lent. Ask yourself what if this was the last chance to do something good for The Lord? In order to truly celebrate the joy of Easter at The Lord's Resurrection how can we not ready ourselves to receive the greatest gift Almighty God could send? The gift of The Lord's Resurrection gave us the salvation we enjoy today, knowing that God made a way for us, through Jesus His Son, to suffer and die so that you and I could live forever in Eternal Life! Therefore, let us do what we can now in way of preparation to be the kind of Catholics we are called to be, not by name only, but because of the way we live and practice our faith which is itself a gift. God Bless and Keep You.

Rev. Father C. Paul Bergeron

## HAPPY 40 YEARS OF ORDINATION FATHER PAUL.

MAY THE LORD'S HOLY PRESENCE FILL YOUR HEART WITH JOY, AND MAY HIS GRACES BE WITH YOU. BLESSINGS ON YOUR ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY. THANK YOU FR PAUL FOR 40 YEARS OF SAVING SOULS!!

## Witnesses of Those Who Have Had

## Experiences While Praying Before this Image!

On MARCH 17, 2003, St. Patrick's Day, the 7th Anniversary, a crowd of about 250 people looked on in awe as they watched the MIRACLE of the SUN in full view beyond the trees. Everyone present witnessed the phenomena. Mary's Helpers Conference of JULY 2003 was centered around this image of Our Lady & her message, "Just Have Faith in My Son Jesus." Meet us again on March 17th in Houma where this awesome event took place along with Louis Saia himself.

MARCH 17 WED - 5PM ROSARY 6PM MASS APRIL 17 SAT - 10AM ROSARY 11AM MASS JIM BOWIE ROAD HOUMA, LA

## DAYS TO REMEMBER

February 17 - Ash Wednesday EVERY Friday in Lent - Please Fast, Pray, and Attend Way of the Cross

March 17 - Anniversary Mass for Mary's Helpers in Houma (St Patrick)

March 19 - Feast Day of St Joseph March 25 - Annunciation of the Lord

March 28 - Palm Sunday March 29- Apr 2 - Holy Week

April 2 - Good Friday

April 4 - Easter Sunday

April 11 - Sunday of Divine Mercy



LOUIS **SAIA** will be in **Houma** on **March 17** - Wednesday as guest at our monthly Mass commemorating the anniversary of Our Lady of Compassionate Protection's appearance to Louis on this day 25 years ago. 25 YEARS.. WOW.. Won't you help us celebrate all the miracles that occured at this holy place. Come ask Mary to heal you and for her protection. "JUST HAVE FAITH IN MY SON JESUS!"



## To RENEW Your 2021 SUBSCRIPTION OR JUST MAKE A DONATION

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

PLEASE Check Off below & at right I would like to donate on a yearly basis on a monthly basis	Please accept my d Our Lady's m	lonation to help of essages. (This N	efray monthly operatin IEWSletter is made pos	eep this mining costs of Mary's Helptsible through the general \$30 \$40	ers and to conti crosity of your d	inue to spread
JAN / FEB 20 I would like to receive the n Mary's Helpers Newslett	nonthly	Name:				Apt:
I already receive the Newsle I cannot donate at this time but I still want the News	sletter L	City:		State	Zip:	
Send my Newsletter by Email THANK YOU AND GOD BLE			ry's Helpers, Inc.		Marrero, l	LA 70073

We at Mary's Helpers want to take this time to THANK YOU our loyal supporters for helping us continue this ministry. We couldn't do it without YOU! Have a Happy Blessed Easter!!

## Pope Francis proclaims

via Vatican News



## "YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH"

Part 2

## Welcoming the will of God

At the same time, Joseph is "an accepting Father," because he "accepted Mary unconditionally" — an important gesture eventoday, says Pope Francis, "in our world where psychological, verbal and physical violence towards women is so evident." But the Bridegroom of Mary is also the one who, trusting in the Lord, accepts in his life even the events that he does not understand, "setting aside his own ideas" and reconciling himself with his own history.

Joseph's spiritual path "is not one that explains, but accepts" — which does not mean that he is "resigned." Instead, he is "courageously and firmly proactive," because with "Holy Spirit's gift of fortitude," and full of hope, he is able "to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments." In practice, through St. Joseph, it is as if God were to repeat to us: "Do not be afraid!" because "faith gives meaning to every event, however nappy or sad," and makes us aware that God can make flowers spring up from stony ground." Joseph "did not look for shortcuts but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it." For his reason, "he encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak" (4).

## A creatively courageous father, example of love

Patris corde highlights "the creative courage" of St. Joseph, which "emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties." "The carpenter of Nazareth," explains the Pope, was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting in divine providence." He had to deal with "the concrete problems" his Family faced, problems faced by other families in the world, and especially those of migrants.

In this sense, St. Joseph is "the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty." As the guardian of Jesus and Mary, Joseph cannot "be other than the guardian of the Church," of her motherhood, and of the Body of Christ. "Consequently, every boor, needy, suffering or dying person, every stranger, every prisoner, every infirm person is 'the child' whom Joseph continues to

protect." From St Joseph, writes Pope Francis, "we must learn... to love the Church and the poor" (5).

## A father who teaches the value, dignity and joy of work

"A carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family," St Joseph also teaches us "the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one's own labour." This aspect of Joseph's character provides Pope Francis the opportunity to launch an appeal in favour of work, which has become "a burning social issue" even in countries with a certain level of well-being. "there is a renewed need to appreciate the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary patron," the Pope writes.

Work, he says, "is a means of participating in the work of salvation, an opportunity to hasten the coming of the Kingdom, to develop our talents and abilities, and to put them at the service of society and fraternal communion." Those who work, he explains, "are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us." Pope Francis encourages everyone "to rediscover the value. the importance and the necessity of work for bringing about a new 'normal' from which no one is excluded." Especially in light of rising unemployment due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Pope calls everyone to "review our priorities" and to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!" (6).

## A father "in the shadows," centred on Mary and Jesus

Taking a cue from *The Shadow of the Father*— a book by Polish writer *Jan Dobraczynski*— Pope Francis describes Joseph's fatherhood of Jesus as "the earthly shadow of the heavenly Father."

"Fathers are not born, but made," says Pope Francis. "A man does not become a father simply by bringing a child into the world, but by taking up the responsibility to care for that child." Unfortunately, in today's society, children "often seem orphans, lacking fathers" who are able to introduce them "to life and reality." Children, the Pope says, need fathers who will not try to dominate them, but instead raise them to be "capable of deciding for themselves, enjoying freedom and exploring new possibilities."

This is the sense in which St Joseph is described as a "most chaste" father, which is the opposite of domineering possessiveness. Joseph, says Pope Francis, "knew how to love with extraordinary freedom. He never made himself the centre of things. He did not think of himself, but focused instead on the lives of Mary and Jesus."

Happiness for Joseph involved a true gift of self: "In him, we never see frustration, but only trust,"

writes Pope Francis. "His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust." Joseph stands out, therefore, as an exemplary figure for our time, in a world that "needs fathers," and not "tyrants"; a society that "rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction."

True fathers, instead, "refuse to live the lives of their children for them," and instead respect their freedom. In this sense, says Pope Francis, a father realizes that "he is most a father and an educator at the point when he becomes 'useless,' when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied." Being a father, the Pope emphasizes, "has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a 'sign' pointing to a greater fatherhood": that of the "heavenly Father" (7).

## A daily prayer to St Joseph... and a challenge

In his letter, Pope Francis notes how, "Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds [Morning Prayer]" he has "recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary." This prayer, he says, expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph," on account of its closing words: "My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power."

At the conclusion of his Letter, he adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil.

Amen.

AMAZON SMILES

Don't forget to donate to Mary's

Helpers using Amazon Smiles
We have Father Rookey Prayer
Cards also in the gift shop.

HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE

## MARY'S HELPERS GIFT SHO

## No matter what your looking for, we will do our best to find it

TO ORDER-Mail in this sheet with your information at bottom Or Call us at 504-348-7729 Or email us at maryshelpersi97@bellsouth. Check or Credit Cards Accepted

Visit our Gift Shop Online





Refills Candle \$2.85

St Joseph \$3.99





St Benedict Crucifix Pendent



Miraculous or Saints Medals \$1.50 each

Miraculous / Guardian Angel

Bracelet \$5.00

Very Colorful

**SCAPULARS** 



12" OL of Grace w/Halo \$29.99



YEAR OF

12" St Sharbel Statue \$32.99

Beautiful 22" St Benedict Crucifix \$54



SCAPULARS with medals Divine Mercy, St Joseph, OL Guadalupe, OL Mt Carmel \$2.50



12" OL of

Fatima \$24.99

GORGEOUS St Joseph and Baby Jesus Statue made from beautiful OLIVE WOOD from Jerusalem Approx 20" Tall On Sale 20% of Reg \$399 On Sale \$319

12" Beautiful PIETA

White with Wood

Base \$29.99

Visa/Master Card/Discover # Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_



Our Lady of **Grace \$129** 

ADD\$ 4.00

"\$ 5.00

**Shipping Charges** 

My Jesus Beautiful Pictures Has Blue Tony Manzella

St Michael

Statue 8 1/2"

\$34.99



FRAMED 5 X 7" Framed - \$ 7.50 8x10" Framed - \$15.00

UNFRAMED 5 x 7" Unframed - \$ 5.00 8x10" Unframed - \$ 10.00

11x14" Unframed - \$15.00

4x2 1/2" UV Coated PRAYER CARDS

In Packs of 12 - \$ 5.00 25 - \$10.00 50 - \$20.00



Scriptural Rosary of the

SEVEN DOLORS of OUR BLESSED LADY by

Fr. Peter Mary Rookey OSM

ASK US ABOUT:

Prayer Cards, St Joseph Gifts, Crucifixes & Crosses, All Saints Medals, Communion, Confirmation, Baptism Gifts, Bibles, Candles

Email or Call Us for whatever your looking for...





\$ 20.01	- \$ 30.00	"	\$ 7.25
\$ 30.01	- \$ 50.00	"	\$ 9.50
\$ 50.01	- \$ 75.00	"	\$10.25
\$ 75.01	- \$100.00	"	\$12.00
\$101.00	& Over	"	18%
Statues	24"	11	\$24.00
"	18"	"	\$20.00
"	16"	"	\$16.00
"	12"		\$13.00

10.00 & Under

\$ 10.01 - \$ 20.00

Most items ship in 2-3 days and arrive within one week to your door. (Please Include: Tax, where applicable below & Shipping Charges, shown above.)



Address

Home Phone

## MARY'S HELPERS, INC. P. O. Box 1853 4512 7th St.

Marrero, La. 70073 Phone (504) 348-PRAY FAX (504) 347-7715 (Please Print)

State

Work Phone

**ITEMS** available **EVERY MONTH** 

Mail in this Sheet with Mail Order or email us at maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net or call us (504) 348-7729

Check #

	Ck. Date	Sub Total \$_	
7	(9.2% Tax Jeff. Par. Reside SALES TAX (4.45% Tax L		\$
- 1			

St. Joseph CORD Belt size or Waist measurement:	Shipping Charges (See Above) \$
	Gift of a Donation \$
	Total Sale \$

## Seasons of the Great Lent, Passion & Resurrection in the Maronite Church for 2021

The first season (February 14, 2021), Cana Sunday, to Hosanna or Palm Sunday, (March 28), Great Lent, is a preparation for the feast of the Resurrection of the Lord, and the second, the Season of Resurrection, unfolds before us, over a period of fifty days, the meaning and joy of the Resurrection of the Lord. The feast of the Resurrection is thus the center and pivotal point of this whole liturgical season, as well as the whole liturgical year.

According to the ancient Antiochene (Church of Antioch) tradition, the Sundays of Great Lent commemorate the gestures of mercy of the Savior towards his people, which were, at the same time, as Saint John says, "the signs urging the faith." During Lent we journey to that safe harbor guarded by the glorious beacon of the cross.

Passion Week (March 29 to April 3) shows us and helps us to follow, each of the perplexities of the passion of our beloved Savior in order to better us by it, associate ourselves to it, and to benefit through its merits so that we too might share in the hope of rising with Christ.

The Season of Resurrection (April 4 to May 22) makes us appreciate the salvation which was obtained for us by the death of our Lord, the Good Shepherd, "who gave his life for his sheep".

Introduction- Season of the Great Lent

The Season of Great Lent marks the Church's period of preparation for the feast of feasts, the Resurrection of our Lord. This season recalls the forty-day period the Lord spent in the desert in prayer and fasting and at the same time, it invites us to personal conversion through penance, fasting, prayer and almsgiving. During this season we follow the Lord as he goes up to Jerusalem to suffer, die and rise to a glorious new life. The seven Sundays of Great Lent are:

- Entrance into Lent, Cana Sunday;
- First Sunday of Lent, Sunday of the Leper;
- Second Sunday of Lent, Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman;
- Third Sunday of Lent, Sunday of the Prodigal Son,
- Fourth Sunday of Lent, Sunday of the Paralytic;
- Fifth Sunday of Lent, Sunday of Bartimaeus the Blind;
- Sixth Sunday of Lent, Hosanna Sunday.

These Sundays of Great Lent place the miracles of the Lord before us, especially his healing miracles, which are the messianic signs of his power over sin and death. They point to the greatest wonder of God, the resurrection of Christ from the dead. Each of these miracles are signs of the faith of the one being healed. We are called to respond to Jesus as they did by deepening our faith in the Lord and Giver of life. (From Prayer of the Faithful According to the Maronite Liturgical Year)

## HEALING CHAPEL AT ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA IN LULING, LA HONORS MARY(CLARION HEARLD DEC2020)

HEALING SERVICE AFTER 6PM MASS ON THE LAST THURSDAY EVERY MONTH - 234 ANGUS DR, LULING, LA 70070

The inscription over the door at the new healing chapel at St. Anthony of Padua in Luling reads: "I am the one appointed by the eternal Father to crush the head of the ancient serpent and anything that threatens to devour you. Say my rosarý and bring me a rose and I will take your troubles to my son, Jesus Chrišt."

"It is not a Mass chapel, although we will have Mass in there," said Father Anthony Odiong, pastor. "It is a rosary chapel. It's the miracle of the rosary. You bring her flowers; every rose reflects the beauty and sublime nature of the Blessed Mother. There is no tabernacle. **Mary is the tabernacle in this chapel**."

"Almighty and ever-living God, pour out your grace upon this place and extend the gift of your help to all who call upon you here, and upon the intercession of your mother, Mary, that the power of your word and your sacraments and the opportunity to pray quietly before you may strengthen the hearts of all the faithful," he prayed during the dedication.

Prayer brought healing - "It's a big explosion of heaven acknowledging Mary's role in the plan of salvation," Father Odiong said. "It is a representation of the plan of salvation, the Father sending his Son, sending the Spirit and also crowning his mother. Mary is the only creature that releases the Holy Trinity in the most fascinating fashion. She is mother, she is daughter of the Father, mother of the Son and spouse of the Spirit. I am trying to capture that teaching on the wall." Other special elements include a rosary walk encircling the chapel on the walkway outside; a Seven Sorrows rosary on the floor inside; and the faces of 12 apostles in marble on the outside, surrounding the Blessed Mother, to encourage praying the Apostle's Creed.

Father Odiong said the chapel's inspiration was a life-sized image of Our Lady of Guadalupe that Oblate Father Tony Rigoli gifted him when he visited Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine in New Orleans in 2016. He said this treasure – one of the first copies made in 1981 from the shrine in Mexico City to mark 450 years of the 1531 apparition of Mary to Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill - traveled the world and landed in New Orleans as one of the many blessings to the city.

The icon was a fulfillment of a message Father Odiong said he heard when he first arrived at the parish in 2015 and was praying in front of Mary's statue by an outdoor fountain in the parish, wondering why she had brought him to Luling. The fountain is now under an overhang leading to the chapel's entrance.

The message he heard was that Mary would protect him as he reignited a healing ministry – begun in Africa in 2000 but dormant in the states – in Luling during the 2016 "Year of Mercy."

"People had forgotten the value of her, so I decided to build her a mansion," Father Odiong said. "That is what the chapel is all about.

Father Odiong said Catholics are hungry for truth and are naturally drawn to something authentic. "If they meet God in the man, they will come," Father Odiong said. "He must be a student of the truth of life. The church teaches what Christ has given to us. People are hungry and thirsty, and if you give them what they need, they will come back."

Father Odiong has researched Our Lady of Guadalupe and said the colorful image of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the tilma, from which Juan Diego poured out his roses to the bishop, is the only representation of Mary given by Mary. Part 2 Next Month



## Saint Sharbel's Miracles

Since the time of His Incarnation, our Lord Jesus Christ, is the source of all miracles as clearly seen in the New Testament. Furthermore, the holy ones "who are

led by the Spirit of God are children of God... and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him" (Romans 8:14-18). During his life, Saint Sharbel detached himself from earthly things and offered his whole being to God. Since childhood he would dedicate his spare time to prayer, and by the example of his two uncles he was drawn to the monastic life.

He spent 23 years of his life as a lay person, another 23 as a monk and then priest, and the last 23 years of his life as a hermit. He would sleep a few hours a day, spend hours preparing for the Divine Liturgy, work prayerfully in the fields, and immerse himself in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and in meditation on the Lord's word. He lived in poverty, silence, obedience, fast and abstinence. He bore insults and humiliation with love for others.

Miracles during his life God communicated to St. Sharbel at various times influence over animals (locusts, snakes) he also healed the sick, interceded for a barren woman to conceive, exorcised demons, and was instrumental in the spiritual conversions of others.

## **More Miracles**

More than 33,000 healing miracles have been reported to date in the records of the Monastery of Saint Maron-Annaya. In addition, there are countless thousands of miracles reported in Lebanon and abroad that do not appear in these records.

Above all, the grace of a true repentance is the most essential and significant work of the Spirit. The Shrine of Saint Sharbel in Lebanon is considered one of the most important among the international shrines. In this holy place, sanctified by the presence of St. Sharbel, one witnesses frequently the grace of conversion and repentance and reconciliation with God and the gift of a conscience freed from the burden of sin.

**Jesus is still alive,** healing the wounds of the suffering humanity, forgiving its sins that cause its inevitable death, and giving it eternal life. ("Saint Sharbel From his Contemporaries to our Era", by Father Hanna Skandar)

News and information about the graces and miracles of Saint Sharbel are still flowing to Saint Maron Monastery, in Annaya, where Saint Sharbel's tomb is located. About 4.5 million visitors a year come to Annaya in Lebanon to pray and seek the Saint's intercession.

Saint Sharbel is a great intercessor who develops a true relationship with those asking for his intercession with faith and prayer. Many times, this leads to a miracle through God's will.

## Nohad El Shamy

A great number of miracles have been attributed to Saint Sharbel since his death. The most famous one is that of Nohad El Shami, a 55-year old (at the time of the miracle) mother of 12, who was healed from a partial paralysis [she suffered from a left hemiplegia, affecting her leg, arm and mouth].

She recounts that on January 9, 1993, she saw in her dream two Maronite monks standing next to her bed. One of them put his hands on her neck and operated on her, relieving her from her pain while the other put a pillow behind her back. When she woke up, Nohad discovered two wounds in her neck, one on each side, and was completely healed. The following night, Saint Sharbel said to her in a dream:

"... I cut you by the Power of God so they (the people) could see you, because some people have strayed away from praying, from attending church and from respecting the saints, and you cannot do anything to people! But whoever needs anything from me, I, Father Sharbel, am always present in the hermitage. I ask you to visit the hermitage on the 22nd of each month and attend the Divine Liturgy, as long as you live."

## Other Graces and Healings

Since 1950 and up to the present day, the monks of Saint Maron Monastery in Annaya, have not ceased to register the graces attributed to the intercession of Saint Sharbel. The miracles he performed are countless and are kept in the Monastery's archives.

It is worth mentioning that these miracles. which span the whole world including people of various faith traditions (Christians, Muslims ...), would only be registered after their authenticity was scrutinized after they were judged to be worthy of belief. Most of the physical healings fall within the domain of incurable and malignant diseases and the manner in which the healing took place differs from one case to another. There are those who were healed through prayer, others through blessed oil or incense, or by wearing a blessed belt or garb, or by participating in the Divine Liturgy at the Saint's tomb or at the hermitage, or through praying the novena to Saint Sharbel. These healings always go

beyond the physical aspects and touch the souls of those affected, drawing them back from sin toward God.

A common thread running through all these miracles is a belief in the power of Jesus Christ working through the intercession of his faithful servant, Saint Sharbel.

Hundreds of documented (complete medical reports) miracles are being registered every year (up to the present day) at the monastery of Annaya (where St Sharbel's tomb is located). On specific occasions (like the saint's feast days & other), the monks at the monastery have reported distributing holy communion to 300,000 faithful. Over the last 22 years, the "phenomenon" of Saint Sharbel has been covered by various types of conventional and social media. Reports and books about him exist in dozens of languages (Arabic, Russian, Polish, Spanish, German, Italian, Portuguese, French...).



## MARY'S HELPERS NOW HAS BLESSED ST SHARBEL OIL, NOVENA BOOKS, PRAY CARDS & STATUES.

The oil from Saint Sharbel is not only blessed. A procedure is followed to pass the oil on a piece of Saint Sharbel's bone. This is a very old traditional procedure followed since the 4th century with holy oil passed on the bones of martyrs. The oil is distributed to people in need or who ask. Understand that Saint Sharbel's miracles happen only through Jesus' miraculous work. Please handle the oils with reverence and prayer.

THE FAMILY OF SAINT SHARBEL, USA

WWW.FAMILYOFSAINTSHARBEL.ORG

## The Divine Mercy Sunday Solemn Celebration April 11, 2021

April 11, 2021 St. Joseph's Church

1802 Tulane Ave., New Orleans, LA Most Rev. Gregory M. Aymond, D.D., Celebrant

## **Archbishop of New Orleans**

1:00 Sacrament of Reconciliation 1:30 Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary 2:20 The Divine Mercy Chaplet 3:00 Holy Mass



For information call (504) 908-7795 Please wear a mask & social distance.

## **HOUMA MASS SITE NEEDS RENOVATIONS**

Please put us in your prayers for help of time, talent and treasures to bring this holy site back to where it once was which was beautiful. Time is taking it's toll on Houma's Apparition Site where so many were healed. If you can assist us in any way, please let us know.

Your Prayers are Powerful!

The NEWS is published by Mary's Helpers to help spread the messages of Our Lady all over the country and the world. To receive this NEWSLetter, complete the form on page 3 & send to:

Mary's Helpers, Inc. P. O. Box 1853 Marrero, La. 70073 (504) 348-PRAY FAX# (504) 347-7715 E-Mail: maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net Website: www.maryshelpers.org

Physical Address: 4512 7th St., Marrero, La. 70072

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH 4401 7th St., Marrero LA 504-341-9516 Sat Confession 2:30-3:30 Vigil 5pn





\*Air Quality \* Ductless Systems \* New Construction 1614 Lafayette St. Gretna, LA 70053

504.962.3421 Tony Mouriz - Manager

TMourizJr@outlook.d

Non Profit Org U. S. Postage PAID Marrero, La. Permit No. 133

PLACE LABEL

## HERE

### St Patrick's Day is WED - MARCH 17, 2021 Join US as we celebrate the 25th ANNIVERSARY Mass on Jim Bowie Rd. in Houma Rosary - 5pm Mass 6pm with Benediction following: Celebrant: Fr Paul Bergeron **Guest: LOUIS SAIA** Call if directions needed

## LOUIS SAIA CD FOR SALE (2 disk) \$10

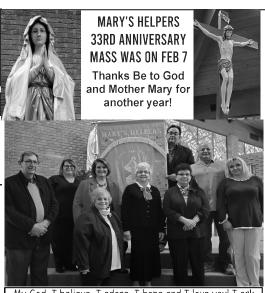
Listen to the inspirational story of Louis' testimony where he saw Our Mother Mary in Houma on Jim Bowie Road. This story teaches us that anything is possible with our Mother Mary. Available at Anniversary Mass March 17 or call us.

## Ultimo Mensaie. 25 de enero de 2021

"¡Queridos hijos! En este tiempo los invito a la oración, al ayuno y a la renuncia, para que sean más fuertes en la fe. Este es el tiempo del despertar y del renacer. Así como la naturaleza se da, también ustedes. hijitos, piensen en todo lo que han recibido; sean portadores alegres de la paz y del amor para que estén bien en la tierra. Anhelen el cielo, porque en el cielo no hay tristeza ni odio. Por eso, hijitos, decídanse de nuevo por la conversión y que la santidad reine en su vida. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado.

## Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de febrero de 2021

"¡Queridos hijos! También hoy Dios me ha permitido estar con ustedes para invitarlos a la oración y al ayuno. Vivan este tiempo de gracia y sean testigos de esperanza, porque les repito, hijitos: con la oración y el ayuno incluso las guerras pueden ser suprimidas. Hijitos, crean y vivan en la fe y con la fe este tiempo de gracia; mi Inmaculado Corazón no abandona a ninguno de ustedes en el desasosiego si recurre a mí. Intercedo por ustedes ante el Altísimo y oro por la paz en sus corazones y por la esperanza en el futuro. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado."



My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love you! I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love you!

## MAGNIFICAT ESTBANK BREAKFAST SATURDAY MAR 27 9:00 a.m.-Noon CAFE' HOPE Gretna, LA imberlane Country Club on Lapalco Blvd Guest: Fr. Gary Copping

'ance Ticket Sales Only- \$20 ets available: Call Mary's Helpers, Westbank Relig. Supply, or by Phoning: 504-341-6558