



# MARY'S HELPERS, INC.

# News

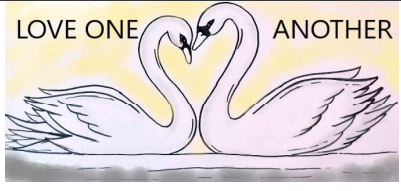
No.36 Vol. 05-06 All About Jesus & Mary May/June 2023

**MEDJUGORJE**  
**May 25, 2023**  
**to Marija Pavlovic**

*"Dear children! I am calling you to go into nature and to pray for the Most High to speak to your heart and that you may feel the power of the Holy Spirit so as to witness the love which God has for every creature. I am with you and intercede for you. Thank you for having responded to my call.*

**MEDJUGORJE**  
**June 25, 2023**  
**to Marija Pavlovic**

*"Dear children! The Most High permits me to be among you - to pray for you, to be a Mother to you and to be your refuge. Little children, I am calling you: return to God and to prayer and God will bless you abundantly. Thank you for having responded to my call."*



**Meditation on the May 25, 2023 Message**  
by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

Our mother Mary has asked us to visit nature because she knows our Lord loves all His creatures and we are also to reflect that love for all in the order of creation. We humans are the highest because of God's favor and will. When we take time to meditate about nature, we get in touch with God's wonderful plan of creation which he put our first parents into. The Garden of Eden shows how much God loved us and even after we sinned he promised us redemption in time. A greater gift was given us, more important than the sin committed! A savior; God with us, Jesus who died for our sins!! He raised our fallen nature above humanity! Now we are children of God and Jesus is our brother, the Son of God!

In his death and resurrection, He has restored all creation to seek the Father's will. To further help and aid us, Jesus promised the advocate, the Holy Spirit from the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts to witness the love God has for all His creatures and witness this message of love and forgiveness to all. Let us live by the commandment Jesus gave us. **Love the lord your God and love one another as I have loved you.** Now we are truly free and able to love all creation!!

Love Fr. Al



**Meditation on the June 25, 2023 Message**  
by Fr. Al Bermudez, OSSM

Our Mother Mary reminds us that she is with us by God's favor and power. She is here to fulfill four actions.

One: Mary comes to us in apparitions to encourage us to pray like her with faith and love in our hearts.

Two: Her role as Mother leads us to Jesus and she is our refuge because when Jesus suffered and died on the Cross, He gave his Mother to John and to us, the Church.

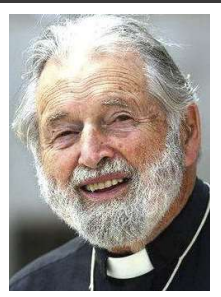
Three: Mary is to be a refuge for us! Mary's message is to wake us up to hear and to return to God with openness and love.

Four: We are called to pray by listening to the messages and doing God's will.

God will bless us abundantly in our walk with Mary, our Mother, leading us to Jesus and to the kingdom. Jesus has prepared a place for us. We share the call of Jesus to be a Church family with Mary our Mother!

Let us pray and be witness to Jesus' love and Mary's encouragement through her messages to all mankind!  
Amen!!  
Love Fr. Al

**PRAY FOR US! THAT WE MAY CONTINUE YOUR WORK HERE ON EARTH**



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

**God will not abandon the Faithful**

Thus, while the world faces a fearsome and terrible destruction in light of mankind's insolence and impiety, God assures us that He will not abandon those who are faithful to Him.

- Our Lady gave us the remedy at Fatima by asking for:**
- the daily recitation of the Rosary;
  - the establishment of the First Five Saturday devotions;
  - devotion to Her Immaculate Heart; - a prayerful life;
  - penance and amendment of life.

These requests remain ever relevant and urgent. And we must continue to heed Her maternal warnings. Amid the confusion of our days, let us remain steadfast and continue to hope, confide and turn to Our Lady, who is our Mother of Good Counsel and our Confidence. We must always trust in Her words and never tire in believing:

**"Finally, My Immaculate Heart will triumph!"**

**MASS INTENTIONS REQUEST FORM**

If you would like to offer mass intentions for you or your loved ones, living or deceased, please send us this form. We will be glad to offer these intentions up on our 17th of the month mass in Houma  
Intentions offered by: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name

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

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

**PRAYER of St. GERTRUDE the GREAT**

To release 1,000 souls from Purgatory:  
Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the Universal Church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen

**MARY'S HELPERS DONATIONS CAN NOW BE MADE ONLINE AT**

[www.maryshelpers.org](http://www.maryshelpers.org)

*We really need your prayers, time and talents.  
Lord send us your people.*

**Our Lady's Annual Apparition to Ivanka**

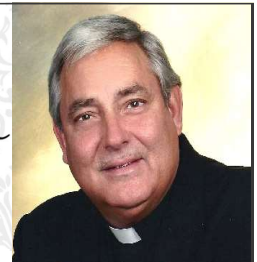
The visionary Ivanka Ivankovic-Elez had her regular annual apparition on June 25th 2022. At her last daily apparition on May 7, 1985, Our Lady confided to Ivanka the 10th secret and told her that she would have an apparition once a year on the anniversary of the apparitions. It was that way also this year. The apparition, which lasted 7 minutes (18:38h - 18:45h), took place at Ivanka's family home. Only Ivanka's family was present at the apparition. After the apparition, Ivanka said: Our Lady gave the following message:

**"Little children, I am in need of your prayers. Pray, pray, pray."  
Our Lady blessed us all.**

Website: [www.maryshelpers.org](http://www.maryshelpers.org) Email: [maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net](mailto:maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net) Phone: (504) 348-PRAY (7729)  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1853, Marrero, LA 70073 Physical Address: 4512 7th Street, Marrero, LA 70072



# A word from FATHER PAUL BERGERON



I ONCE READ A QUOTE WHICH SAID "IN THE END, WE JUST BECOME MEMORIES". What a sad way to view life. The reason why we came into being in the first place is not for ourselves but to do The Will of God and that's just not a memory but a building stone so that others can follow. As we are made in the image and likeness of God, we reflect His love, peace and joy to others. It doesn't matter how much money we have; the kind of clothes we wear or the education we possess. It depends on have we lived here for God or for ourselves. St. Paul, my Patron Saint, says it well, "If we die to self then we live for Christ for when we were baptized in Him we became Sons and daughters of The Father." When we are judged it isn't the memories we make but the way we have all lived our Christian life. As I grow older, I am ever mindful of that. May we all turn to The Lord for a great judgement hearing those beautiful words from His Holy Lips.

**WELL DONE MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT! AMEN.**

God Bless You Fr. Paul.

### Canticle of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

**JOIN US EVERY TUESDAY TO PRAY**  
*at Mary's Helpers in the chapel*  
**at 4512 7th Street, Marrero, LA at NOON**  
*Across from Immaculate Conception Church*  
**We pray the Seven Sorrows Rosary and the Divine Mercy along with other prayers. Our Lady wants us to pray pray pray. Please join us.**

**UPPER ROOM PRAYER CENACLE**  
 106 Jim Bowie Rd  
 Houma LA  
 First Saturday at 3pm-4:15pm

### DAYS TO REMEMBER

- July 1 - Upper Room Prayer Cynical/Houma
- July 4 - Independence Day
- July 15 - Begin St Sharbel Novena
- July 16 - Our Lady of Mt Carmel Feast Day
- July 17 - Houma Mass - Mon 4pm Mass
- July 22 - St Mary Magdalene Feast Day
- July 24 - St Sharbel Feast Day
- July 26 - Sts Joachim & Anne
- Aug 5 - Upper Room Prayer Cynical/Houma
- Aug 6 - Transfiguration of the Lord
- Aug 15 - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Aug 17 - Houma Mass - Thu 4pm Mass
- Aug 22 - Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Aug 29 - Father Paul's Birthday (wish him well)
- Sept 2 - Upper Room Prayer Cynical/Houma
- Sept 4 - Labor Day

### THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION HOUMA MASS EVERY MONTH ON THE 17th

*Unless the 17th falls on a Sunday*

**JULY 17 MON - 3PM CONFESSION & ROSARY 4PM MASS**  
**AUG 17 THU - 3PM CONFESSION & ROSARY 4PM MASS**  
 106 JIM BOWIE ROAD IN HOUMA, LA  
**CELEBRANT: FATHER PAUL BERGERON**



Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you  
Ephesians 4:32

*Lord Jesus, heal us.*  
*Lord Jesus, bless us.*

When your hanging on by a thread. Make sure it's the hem of HIS garment.

### To RENEW Your 2023 SUBSCRIPTION NOW OR MAKE A DONATION

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

### Remember WE need YOU to keep this ministry going!!!

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.)

**MAY / JUN 2023**

**THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU!!!**

\$15  \$25  \$35  \$45  \$55  \$100  Other \_\_\_\_\_

- \* Please send me the monthly Mary's Helpers Newsletter...
- \* I already receive the Newsletter...
- \* I cannot donate at this time but I still want the Newsletter...
- \* Send my Newsletter by Email...
- \* I would like to volunteer to help in Mary's Helpers however I can, please contact me...

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ -  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**As Margaret and Gayle used to say, make sure you put us between the light and gas bill. We really need your help at this time as our annual insurance cost just went up \$2,000. Thank you and God Bless You Always!**

# JESUS MAKES HIS POWER OF HIS SACRED HEART KNOWN AT SHRINE SITE IN HOUMA, LA

By Paul Maclean Draft dated 06.26.2023

There have been many wonderful signs at Our Lady of Compassionate Protection Shrine site over since March 17, 1996. The Sixth Glorious Mystery has already been narrated in an earlier newsletter. As our readers may recall, the key date for that was May 17, 1998. The shrine site was used by Our Lady and Her Son to again make a very important point on May 17, 2000. This narrative will attempt to explain what happened at the shrine site on that date. It greatly effected a few people, and that story needs to be told so that it can now affect many more.

It was a beautiful evening. There were hundreds of pilgrims there planning to attend what was the monthly shrine Mass. On this particular evening, the presider of the Holy Mass was Fr. Robert Rogers from the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. Fr. Paul Bergeron was not in town that evening. Fr. Rogers was the pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Montegut, LA at that time. Montegut is a small community along Bayou Terrebonne about twelve miles southeasterly of the shrine site. As you will read, it was no accident that Fr. Rogers was there from Sacred Heart Parish.

During Mass, at the time of the elevation of the Eucharist during the Consecration, an attendee kneeling near a large oak tree right in front of the altar heard a large flock of birds singing loudly in harmony. At the same time, the attendee heard interiorly the words "dig in the ground". That was such an astounding message that it was initially ignored being thought to be only in his mind. That instruction was to be followed by a second and stronger directive to "dig in the ground". That was again ignored. That was again followed by an even stronger and insistent third instruction to "dig in the ground". So strong that in fact (to not disobey) the attendee very inconspicuously took his finger and began to place it on the surface of the ground and ever so lightly began to "dig in the ground".

Slightly under the surface the attendee hit what he first thought was a shell or a piece of gravel. As he began to dig around it, he quickly detected that it was not a shell but instead it was actually a statue of Jesus with his finger pointing to His Sacred Heart. It was plastic and it was approximately an inch long.

Needless-to-say the attendee was completely surprised. He immediately began to thank and praise the Lord and thank Him for the gift that he believed was an answer to a long-time intention of his that he had prayed for many times. He proceeded to put the small statue in his pocket and began to think about how he could connect it to his rosary.

## The plastic statue dug up alongside a ruler showing a length of one inch

There were many pilgrims at the Mass at the Shrine that day. One attendee was Therese Oubre. She was having throat issues and it was believed that cancer was the problem. Upon meeting her that evening and beginning to speak with her about her illness, the same voice that originally interiorly spoke "dig in the ground" stated "the statue is not for you it is for her". Again, after three times of being told, it became clear that to have kept the statue would have been wrong. In obedience, the statue was given to Therese with the story of how it was discovered just a few minutes earlier.

After being told the sequence of events, Therese began to tear. She was just finishing a Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and she asked for something connected to that devotion, that was not metal, that she could take into the medical procedure that was scheduled to take place the following week. As it turned out, the statue was plastic and just long enough to be sewn into her brown scapular. Her prayer had been answered. But, due to the love and compassion of His Sacred Heart, He did much more.

Although the procedure occurred on the day it was planned, the Lord had worked in a mighty way because there was no sign of any cancer. All gone! Therese still resides in Houma, LA (23 years later) where she is active in family and church activities.

On May 17, 2012, Therese and Howard "Buck" Oubre (he is now deceased) placed a monument dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus at the site due to the miraculous event that occurred on that spring evening in 2000. The monument survived the ravages of Hurricane Ida in 2021 and it remains at the Shrine as of this writing.

## Sacred Heart Monument placed at the Shrine

The Power of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is tremendous. That power can be seen directly related to the faith of the pilgrim practicing it in many different ways. One way of acting on that faith in His Sacred Heart is to practice **THE NINE FIRST FRIDAYS DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS**. That devotional practice is based upon one of the twelve promises made by Our Lord to St. Margaret Mary: *"I promise thee, in the excess of the mercy of My Heart, that Its all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Communion on the First Friday of every month, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final penitence, and that they shall not die under My displeasure, nor without receiving the Sacraments, and My Heart shall be their secure refuge at that last hour."*

## THE TWELVE PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their families.
3. I will console them in all their afflictions.
4. I will be their assured refuge in life, and more especially at death.
5. I will pour out abundant benedictions on all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source and Infinite Ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall advance rapidly to great perfection.
9. I will bless the house in which the image of My Sacred Heart shall be exposed and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of moving the most hardened hearts.
11. Persons who propagate this devotion shall have their names inscribed in My Heart, never to be effaced from It.
12. I promise thee, in the excess of the mercy of My Heart, that Its all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Communion on the First Friday of every month, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final penitence, and that they shall not die under My displeasure, nor without receiving the Sacraments, and My Heart shall be their secure refuge at that last hour.



When visiting the Shrine site for the Masses on the 17<sup>th</sup> of each month (no Masses on Sundays), please consider stopping at the monument and praying to Jesus through His Most Sacred Heart. There is more that can be said about this described event and its ramifications, but that may be for a later day. In the meantime, please consider praying and telling others about visiting *The Spiritual Bulletin Board of Louisiana* <http://spiritualbulletinboardoflouisiana.info>. If you want to know more about this event and what it may mean, there is an email address to contact.



# MARY'S HELPERS GIFT SHOP

MAY/JUN 2023

STORE Hours are Mon-Fri from 9 am - 3 pm (Closed Wed)

Please remember to add shipping and sales tax where applicable.

To Order: Call Us (504) 348-7729 or Email us at: maryshelpersi97@bellsouth.net

## CANDLES



Glass Candle Holders \$3.00



6 Day Candle Refills (Fits Inside Glass Holders) \$3.25  
St Joseph Candle \$4.50

## ROSARIES



Sapphire Faceted Glass Ladder Rosary \$15.00



Beautiful Pocket Rosary-Pink Marble Beads \$10.00



Holy Family Wall Plaque 7" h x 4" w \$23.99

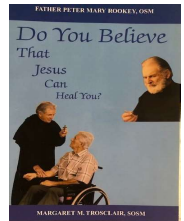


12" OL of Grace \$29.99

St Joseph with Jesus Prayer Card \$ .40 (other prayer cards avail also)



St. Peregrin (Patron Saint of Cancer) 5" Statue \$16.99



Father Rookey's BOOK "Do you Believe that Jesus Can Heal You" \$13



ST SHARBEL Novena Book \$5  
Prayer Cards \$2



## PIETA

12" Beautiful PIETA White with Wood Base \$39.99

12" St Sharbel Statue \$32.99

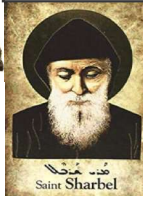


Crucifix 5" \$15.99 #305.6



POCKET PRAYER BOOK 64pgs 2"x3" \$2.50

St Michael Statue 14" \$59.99  
12" 49.99  
8 1/2" \$39.99  
5" \$15.99



OL Grace Rosary Case \$3.50



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

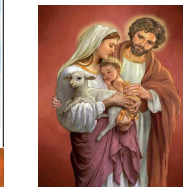
LOUIS SAIA CD Nothing is Impossible With God-Testimony \$10  
FATHER PAUL'S CD of Healing \$5



St Benedict Crucifix Pendant \$12.00



St Michael Chaplet Prayer Card & Instruct Including Rosary \$15



8 x 10 prints Holy Family, or Our Lady of Grace, St Michael (shown) \$2.00 Unframed \$20.00 Framed



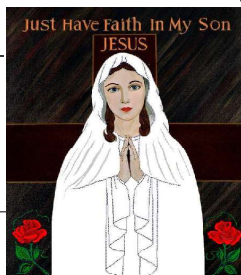
St Benedict 10" Stone Wall Crucifix \$26.00

## OUR LADY OF COMPASSIONATE PROTECTION

Many Healings from OL of Compassionate Protection

\$.50 each or  
PRAYER CARDS In Packs of  
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PICTURES Unframed/Framed  
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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.)

WE HAVE SO MUCH MORE in our shop like Prayer Books, Prayer Cards, Saints Medals, Beautiful Crucifixes, Coffee Cups, Tumblers, Communion, Confirmation, Baptism Gifts, Bibles, Baby Gifts Email or Call Us for whatever your looking for...

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



Also Available-Laminated Purple Scapular PRAYER CARDS \$2.00



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MAY/JUN 2023

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**Thibodaux woman says  
Luling priest healed her**

St Charles Herald Guide/Lifestyles  
December 13, 2017 by Anna Thibodeaux

On Nov. 15, two weeks after praying with Father Anthony Odiong in Luling, Andrea “Andie” Bollinger got an incredible report from one of the world’s foremost cancer centers in the world.

“I expected the tumors to be smaller,” Bollinger said. “But I didn’t expect them to be gone.” MD Anderson Cancer Center in Texas told her in writing that the malignancies in her lungs had responded to therapy and were gone. Bollinger certainly welcomes the medicine, but she believes her cure came from prayer.

“You tell me that’s not a miracle ... no disease,” said the Thibodaux resident. “This never happens to them.” Bollinger’s wonderment is certainly understandable considering the report she got in September. She was told her lung cancer had spread, taking her from Stage 3 to a more advanced Stage 4. Convinced she wouldn’t live past Easter, she had spent the last three months with estate planners.

Friends in St. Charles Parish intervened by bringing Bollinger and Odiong together.

By Oct. 13, Odiong said the two prayed by the icon of the Blessed Mother in the church, and emphasized Bollinger was the first he’d prayed over at this location. The priest asked her to rise from her walker and friends accompanying her held her up during the prayer.

“I felt the Holy Spirit enter my body,” she said. “I felt like I was frozen in time ... like it was just me and God. The whole time I felt his hand on me.”

When the news came that Bollinger’s cancer had disappeared, Odiong said he wasn’t surprised. He also clarified it’s a gift from God. “She is very lucky she came on the right day at the right time and will live longer than anyone

knows,” he said. “I was expecting it to happen. I’m not just praying because I’m shadow boxing. I’ve seen blind people see and lame people walk.”

“It gives me hope and peace. It might let me live hoping and helping to spread the news.” — Andrea Bollinger

Odiong said the day they prayed together was also the Day of the First Feast in Fatima, on the day of the “Miracle of the Sun.” This same date 100 years ago, three Portuguese children received apparitions of Our Lady at Cova da Iria near Fatima. In 1930, the feast of Our Lady of Fatima was initiated locally and then became part of the Church’s worldwide calendar in 2002.

“I think that Mary is trying to make a statement,” he said of Bollinger’s apparent cure.

A native of Calabar, Nigeria, Odiong came to Luling two years ago. Word has spread about his healing masses at St. Anthony of Padua Church held on the last Thursday of each month. Many from St. Charles and surrounding parishes come to be healed both physically and spiritually.

Odiong said his gift of healing came to him in the year 2000, which led to having healing masses and his more recent decision to build a healing chapel.

Odiong feels he was sent to Luling for a reason and prayed to the Virgin Mary to clarify that purpose.

“This is what I heard one evening – ‘Why don’t you use your gift of healing?’” he said. “It all began with me kneeling and praying to the Blessed Mother ... coming to Luling to give me the courage not to be afraid to use the gift.”

Bollinger said she hopes the chapel planned at St. Anthony of Padua is built because it would be important to have a place to reinforce the feeling of the experience over and over again.

“It gives me hope and peace,” she said. “It might let me live hoping and helping to spread the news.”

And, Bollinger added, “Not everybody has Father Odiong.”

Odiong is seeking evangelism rather than attention.

“I want you to believe in healing and in my life it has happened,” he said. “I believe that God can do anything.”

*What does the future hold*

According to the saints and mystics discussed, there will be a terrible period of wars, natural disasters and divine chastisements. We are assured, however, of a glorious new beginning for mankind once these events have ceased.

By studying these and other prophecies, we will be more prepared than most people for what to expect when the changes occur. We believe that Mary is here to lead her children through the troubles and she is preparing her spiritual army right now.

If these things come to pass tomorrow or ten years from now, we Christians must remain faithful and always remember that after the calamities, the earth will be filled with peace, and with faith in Our Lord and the Blessed Virgin, there is absolutely nothing to fear.

**PREPARE YOUR SOUL:**

Equip yourself with Catholic jewelry, holy water, blessed candles, rosaries, books, movies and more...

*Why are there miracles happening in the world?*

Do you ever wonder why there are miracles in the world? What about the miracle of the Eucharist where plain bread and wine is turned into the body and blood of Christ? Do you really believe that this is happening when you take communion? Most people don’t really believe that this is truly God because if they did, they would kneel before him and feel something special happen in their soul when they eat His body and drink His blood. Instead, we feel fear of getting sick. Fear that stops us from partaking in this miracle. Just have FAITH and BELIEVE! Don’t be afraid. God knows you better than you know yourself. He will protect you.

God gives us miracles every day. If your heart and mind are open to God, you will see all his blessings that he gives you and you will thank Him. Blessings like; waking up each morning, food on the table, roof over our heads, safety while

traveling or shopping, or good health. Look around. There is always someone that is less fortunate than ourselves. Be thankful to God every day for your blessings.

There are miracles happening around the world to wake us up and give us faith. And to save our souls... God has given us his precious mother, Mary, to speak to us. She asks us repeatedly to pray and fast. Do we hear her cries to be closer to her son Jesus? Do we pray more or are we too busy? Instead of praying, do you know you can just talk to God? He will guide you and help you if you listen.

He is waiting for you patiently and He loves you more than you can imagine.

**MASS & HEALING SERVICE  
ST ANTHONY OF PADUA**

234 Angus Drive, Luling, LA  
Father Anthony Odiong

Rosary 5pm Healing Mass 6pm  
followed by prayer over the sick.  
Last Thursdays of every month  
Next mass Thu Jul 27 / Thu Aug 31



## A Saint Sharbel Moment, Miraculous Healing of a Baby's Heart

*The names have been changed for privacy reasons.*

We have come to know that Almighty God has manifested the power of Saint Sharbel's intercession by numerous favors and miracles, and I wish to share a St. Sharbel miraculous moment with you.

The compassion of Saint Sharbel in this memorable story began in June of 2021 when I was invited to have dinner at my daughter, Kate's house along with her husband, Matt and his parents, John and Jane who had traveled from Florida for a visit. John and Jane were just stopping by for a lay-over on a trip to see the birth of their grandchild. The birth of this child was very special as his parents', Joe and Lucy had been trying to get pregnant for seven years. Finally, a baby had been conceived and was on his way.

The birth of a new baby is an exciting event, but sadly, a prenatal diagnosis through an ultrasound detected a rare congenital heart defect in which the heart's lower two chambers, the ventricles, are reversed in their position. The right ventricle is on the left; and the left ventricle is on the right. This is a serious birth defect.

It was anticipated that the baby would need immediate pediatric cardiac surgery by a team of experts. It was also expected that the infant would spend up to four weeks in the hospital for recovery after the procedure.

In catching up with John and Jane, as I'd not seen them for two years, I began to talk about a Catholic shrine where I currently work. I talked about the pilgrims, the devotions, the shrines and the thanksgiving for prayers answered. The soon to be new grandparents asked me the question, "Who would you pray to for the baby who was already known to have a serious heart defect?" The first thought that came to my mind was Saint Sharbel.

I shared all I knew about Saint Sharbel. I suggested, if they were open to the idea, that we pray a Novena to Saint Sharbel together. The next day I got Novena booklets, literature on the history of Saint Sharbel and Saint Sharbel Devotional Oil which contains a tiny relic of cloth. I took these items to Ralph and Sue before they got back on the road.

We four (my daughter, the baby's grandparents and myself) prayed the Novena to Saint Sharbel each day for a miraculous healing of Baby Eric's little heart. I was able to pray at the Saint Sharbel Shrine and before the Saint Sharbel relic at the shrine.

When John and Jane arrived, the expectant parents Lucy and Joe began to pray the Novena to Saint Sharbel as well with expectant faith and hope.

By way of a text I suggested that the expectant mother be anointed with The Sign of The Cross with the Saint Sharbel oil, and that her belly be anointed with the holy oil as well prior to delivery, which they did.

Prayers for the intercession of Saint Sharbel were continuously and fervently offered for the healing of Baby Eric's heart defect.

On the ninth day of the Saint Sharbel Novena Eric was born. Although a team of pediatric heart specialists was at hand, it was discovered that the anticipated heart defect was not nearly as serious as expected. There was no need for the infant to be rushed into emergency heart repair surgery.

Miraculously the right ventricle was on the right side, and the left ventricle was on the left side as it should be.

There is a hole in the lower chamber of the baby's heart, but a procedure to repair the hole will not be done until Eric is four months old. With continued prayers to Saint Sharbel, I am confident the tiny hole will be repaired through Divine Intervention.

Praise to God and thanksgiving to Saint Sharbel for the healthy heart of Baby Eric.



### JESUS IS THE TRUE HEALER!

His spirit heals; it refines; it comforts; it breathes new life into hopeless hearts. It has the power to transform all that is ugly and vicious and worthless in life to something of supreme and glorious splendor. He has the power to convert the ashes of mortality to the beauties of eternity.

"But above all else, the singular motivation in his heart that prompted him to heal the sick and to minister to their needs was his compassion. Simply put, he healed people because he loved them. He cared deeply for them. When they hurt, he hurt.

James 5:14-15. "If any of you are sick, they should call for the elders of the church, and the elders should pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. Prayer that comes from faith will heal the sick, for the Lord will restore them to health. And if they have sinned, they will be forgiven."

### Let's Laugh a Little

**Take me out to the ballgame...**  
Two buddies, Bob and Earl, were two of the biggest baseball fans ever. For their entire adult lives, they discussed baseball history in the winter and pored over every box score during the season. They even agreed that whoever died first would try to come back and tell the other if there was baseball in heaven. One summer night, Bob passed away in his sleep after watching the Yankee victory. A few nights later, his buddy Earl awoke to the sound of Bob's voice, "Bob, is that you?" asked Earl. "Of course it's me." Earl exclaimed, "So tell me, is there baseball in heaven?" "Well, I have good news and bad news," said Bob. "The good news is there's baseball in heaven." "And the bad news?" asked Earl.

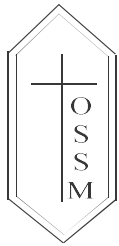
*"Tomorrow night Earl, you're pitching."*

## JULY the MONTH OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

The month of July traditionally honors the Most Precious Blood of Jesus. It is the blood of Christ, the Lamb of God, which cleanses us from sin—therefore the Church developed a devotion to Jesus' physical blood and its mystical power, just as it did for His Sacred Heart from which His blood poured out on the Cross. The Precious Blood of Jesus courses through the Church spiritually, giving eternal life to the Body of Christ through the sacraments. Many saints had a devotion to the Precious Blood of Jesus, especially St. Catherine of Siena. Devotion to the Precious Blood spread widely through the preaching of Saint Gaspar del Bufalo, who was a 19th-century priest and the founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. This devotion was later approved and recommended by the Holy See. The feast day of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus is July 1st.



**1 PETER 1:18-19**  
**YOU WERE NOT REDEEMED WITH CORRUPTIBLE THINGS, AS SILVER AND GOLD. BUT WITH THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST.**



Servants of Mary  
St. Anthony Pucci Community  
Marrero, La  
Secular Servites of Louisiana  
Jul 16 / Aug 20 at  
2 pm Formation 2:30 pm  
Priress: Isabel Bertot  
For information call (504) 908-7795

**PRAY NOW!!!  
Don't Wait!**



Stay Awake,  
you must be  
ready.  
Matthew 24: 37-44

*Your Prayers  
save  
souls!*

**O MARY,  
conceived  
without sin,  
Pray for us who  
have recourse  
to thee.**

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**Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de mayo de 2023**

“¡Queridos hijos! Los invito a ir a la naturaleza y a orar para que el Altísimo hable a su corazón y sientan el poder del Espíritu Santo, a fin de que puedan testimoniar el amor que Dios tiene por cada criatura. Estoy con ustedes e intercedo por ustedes. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado”. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado. ”



WE OFTEN HEAR,  
"LIFE IS SHORT...  
BETTER ENJOY IT!"  
HOW ABOUT,  
ETERNITY IS LONG,  
BETTER PREPARE FOR IT!"

**Ultimo Mensaje, 25 de junio de 2023**

“¡Queridos hijos! El Altísimo me permite estar en medio de ustedes, para orar por ustedes, para ser su Madre y su refugio. Hijitos, los invito: regresen a Dios y a la oración, y Dios los bendecirá abundantemente. Gracias por haber respondido a mi llamado. ”

**MAGNIFICAT & CCRWB  
LIFE IN THE SPIRIT**  
FRIDAY July 14 ~ 7:30pm-10pm  
SATURDAY July 15 ~ 9am-6pm  
St Joseph Catholic Church/Auditorium  
610 6th Street, Gretna, LA  
*Free Admission*

**A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

On the day of Pentecost, Jesus' disciples were still disoriented and fearful. They did not yet have the courage to go out in the open. We too, at times, prefer to remain within the protective walls of our surroundings. But the Lord... sends upon us the Holy Spirit who envelops us and overpowers all our hesitations.

Regina Caeli, St Peter's Square, May 23, 2021

**SAVE THE DATE  
FLAME OF LOVE EVENT**

FRIDAY AUG 25-26  
at St Anthony of Padua Church  
Fr Jim Blount  
Fr Anthony Odiong

Guest: Marina Romero, Reyna Murillo, Msgr Rareshide, Fr Steve Leake

**MAGNIFICAT**



**WESTBANK BREAKFAST**  
SATURDAY Sept 16  
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St Catherine of Siena

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