



IPVS NEWS

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International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima Foundation, Inc

FATIMA AND SOCIALISM

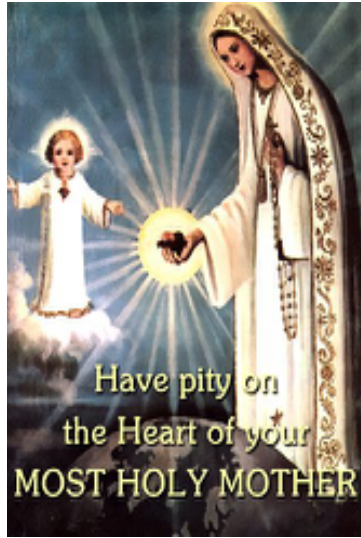
In 1917, Czarist Russia was changed into the Red Empire of Communism through the Red Revolution, becoming the Soviet Union and the first communist state in history.

That very same year Our Lady appeared six times to three little shepherd children, Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco in Fatima, Portugal, presenting to them a spiritual plan for peace in the world which at that time was in the midst of World War I. During the third apparition on July 13th, after showing them the vision of Hell, Our Lady said very sadly:

"You have seen hell, where the souls of poor sinners go. It is to save them that God wants to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If you do what I tell you, many souls will be saved, and there will be peace."

"This war will end, but if men do not refrain from offending God, another and more terrible war will begin during the pontificate of Pius XI. When you see a night that is lit by a strange and unknown light [this occurred on January 28, 1938], you will know it is the sign God gives you that He is about to punish the world with war and with hunger, and by the persecution of the Church and the Holy Father."

"To prevent this, I shall come to ask that Russia be consecrated to my Immaculate Heart, and I shall ask that on the First Saturday of every month Communions of reparation be made in atonement for the sins of the world. If my wishes are fulfilled, Russia will be converted and there will be peace; if not, then Russia will spread her errors throughout the world, bringing new wars and persecutions of the Church; the good will be martyred



and the Holy Father will have much to suffer; certain nations will be annihilated. But in the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, and she will be converted, and the world will enjoy a period of peace. In Portugal, the faith will always be preserved..."

The "errors of Russia" spoken of by Our Blessed Mother are none other than Communism and Marxist Socialism. In the late 1800s, Pope Leo XIII in his encyclical *Quod Apostolici Muneris* defined Communism as "the fatal plague which insinuates itself into the very marrow of human society only to bring about its ruin." Further Church proclamations stated that Communism is not only a movement subversive to the Faith but total and complete apostasy from the Catholic Faith, for Communism means materialism and a denial of God and His rights. Communism is not only against private ownership and social classes but also the natural

order and the supernatural order. In the Communistic system the State is everything and the individual and family are nothing and God does not exist. Communism's goals are to abolish morality, the family and individual liberty. Communism calls good bad and bad good.

For decades, many Americans believed that the tenants of Communism and Marxism were not possible to be spread in our land of freedom protected by the United States Constitution. We felt secure that we were protected from such scourges and that when praying the Rosary and living the message of Our Lady of Fatima, it was being done to help those countries already under that dictatorship.

In 1947 Professor William Thomas Walsh authored one of the first books in English on the Fatima events simply titled *Our Lady of Fatima*. In the book he recounts an interview he had with Sr. Lucia a year before. Regarding the Collegial Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Sr. Lucia said: "What Our Lady wants is that the Pope and all the bishops in the world shall consecrate Russia to her Immaculate Heart on one special day. If this is done, she will convert Russia and there will be peace. If it is not done, the errors of Russia will spread through every country in the world." Walsh then asked:

"Does this mean, in your opinion, that every country, without exception, will be overcome by Communism?" And Sister Lucia answered: "Yes." Still pressing the issue, Walsh then asked explicitly about the United States of America, adding: "and does that mean the United States of America, too?" Whereupon

By Rev. James L. P. Miara

Sister Lucia responded one more time with "yes."

If anyone has doubt that Russia has spread her errors, consider the on-going and rapid disintegration of morality and the family and an overall disregard for God and His Commandments. Take note of world events of the past year especially in our Country: freedoms slowly being stripped away under the guise of the common good, shutdowns, mandates cultivating fear in people, riots, calls to defund the police, destruction of property, looting, lying, cheating, stealing, The Great Reset, "cancel culture" and secular governments dictating how worship is to be observed in our churches.

Several of the predictions of Our Lady at Fatima sadly came to pass. World War II began twenty-two years after the Fatima Apparitions, there have been numerous other wars, the Catholic Church continues to be persecuted from within and from without and there is no peace. How did the world arrive at this point? The answer may sound simple but for over one-hundred years a vast majority of Catholics have not heeded Our Lady of Fatima's request for reparation for sin and the daily Rosary.

An important spiritual remedy against the further spread of the plague of Marxist Socialism and Communism is the First Saturday Communion of Reparation.

On December 10, 1925, Our Lady appeared together with the Child Jesus to Sister Lucia in the Dorothean Convent at Tuy, Spain. The Child Jesus, pointing to the Heart of His Mother said: "Have pity on this Heart, continually tormented by ungrateful men, with nobody to make

reparation. Our Lady added: "Look, my child, at my Heart surrounded with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude! You, at least console me."

Our Lady then gave the following requirements to observe the devotion of the five consecutive First Saturdays, all being done with the intention of making reparation to Mary's

Immaculate Heart:

- 1.) Confession (which could be made some time before or after the First Saturday provided one receives Holy Communion in the state of grace).
- 2.) The reception of Holy Communion.
- 3.) Recitation of five decades of the Holy Rosary.
- 4.) Keeping Our Lady company

for 15 minutes while meditating on one or more of the mysteries of the Rosary.

Our Lady promised that She would assist at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for salvation all those who make this devotion. Once the Five First Saturdays have been completed it is praiseworthy to keep observing them each month out of love for Our Lady and to help

usher in the triumph and reign of Her Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart! All of us must do our part in helping to avert the other prophecies of Our Lady of Fatima which have yet to be fulfilled such as various nations being annihilated, and in making the United States of America once more "a Nation under God...with liberty and justice for all!" Help console your Mother. Help save the world!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – APRIL 11, 2021

Divine Mercy, in General

Divine Mercy gets to the heart of Sacred Scripture. In fact, as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, "**The Gospel is the revelation in Jesus Christ of God's mercy to sinners**" (1846). Right there: That summarizes it. **Divine Mercy is the Gospel. It's the good news. And so, it gets to the very center of our faith.** Moreover, in the words of Pope Benedict XVI, "**Divine Mercy is not a secondary devotion, but an integral dimension of Christian faith and prayer.**" Benedict even goes so far as to say, "**Mercy is the central nucleus of the Gospel message.**"

Okay, so what is Divine Mercy? What is this thing that gets to the heart of Sacred Scripture and to the very center of our faith? To begin, **mercy is "love's second name,"** as John Paul II said. It's a particular kind of love, a particular mode of love when it encounters suffering, poverty, brokenness, and sin. Divine Mercy is when **God's love meets us and helps us** in the midst of our suffering and sin. In fact, because in this side of eternity we're all sinners and because suffering is our lot in life, God's love for us here always takes the form of mercy. It's always the Lord stepping out in compassion to help us poor, weak, and broken sinners. From our perspective, then, every good

we receive is an expression of Divine Mercy. www.marian.org/whatwedo/divinemercy.php

Our Lord's Love for All Mankind

On one occasion, I heard these words: (Jesus to St. Faustina)

"My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy...My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity...The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths and tenderness. It is my desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy." (699)

Source: Kowalski, M.F., diary, *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, pgs., 285-6, Marian Press, Stockbridge, MA, (17th Ed.) © 2019.

Divine Mercy Sunday Eternal Rewards

Divine Mercy Sunday is a very special Sunday when the Divine Floodgates from Heaven are wide-opened and Jesus offers us the **total forgiveness of all**



sins and punishment to any soul, who goes to Confession and receives Him in Holy Communion, on that day.

www.divinemercysunday.com

"And even if the sins of souls were as dark as night, when the sinner turns to My mercy, he gives Me the greatest praise and is the glory of My Passion. When a soul extols My goodness, Satan trembles before it and flees to the very bottom of hell." (378)

St. Faustina recorded all her visions and conversations with Jesus in her diary called, **Divine Mercy in My Soul**. Here she wrote the words of Jesus about the graces that would pour out on anyone who prayed before the image:

By Charles M. Urban, Sr.

"I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I, Myself, will defend [that soul] as My own glory." (48)

www.divinemercysunday.com

"Tell [all people] ...that I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with Trust, I fill it with an abundance of graces it can not contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls." (1074)

"Souls who spread the honor of My mercy I shield through their entire lives as a tender mother her infant, and at the hour of death I will not be a Judge for them, but the Merciful Savior." (1075)

Jesus promised me that, *"With souls that have recourse to My mercy and with those that glorify and proclaim My great mercy to others, I will deal according to My infinite mercy at the hour of their death."* (379)

Regarding Divine Mercy Sunday, Jesus told St. Faustina, *"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment"*(699).

"Oh, what great graces I will grant to souls who say this chaplet; the very depths of My tender mercy

are stirred for the sake of those who say the chaplet.” (848)

“My daughter, encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given to you. It pleases Me to grant everything they ask of Me by saying the chaplet. When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one.” (1541) When one is seriously ill and near death, Jesus said:

“Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. ... Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only

once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy.” (687)

“When this chaplet is said by the bedside of a dying person ... unfathomable mercy envelops the soul, and the very depths of My tender mercy are moved for the sake of the sorrowful Passion of My Son.” (811)

“The souls that say this chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death.” (754) marian.org/whatwedo/divine-mercy.php

How to Pray this Chaplet

Using the Holy Rosary, begin with one Our Father, Hail Mary, and the Apostles Creed. On the OUR FATHER beads say: “Eternal Father, I offer you the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.” On the HAIL MARY beads **you** will say the following words: “For the sake of His sorrowful passion (the respondent will say) have mercy on us and on the whole world.” “In conclusion, three times you will recite these words: ‘Holy God, Holy Mighty

One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and the whole world.” (476)

Source: Kowalski, M.F., diary, **Divine Mercy in My Soul**, pgs., 207-8, Marian Press, Stockbridge, MA, (17th Ed.) © 2019.

Closing Prayer

Eternal Father, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your Holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen

From our readers...

In our area we have a diocesan Pilgrim Virgin Statue that travels to homes. My friend for some time was suffering from cancer and was bed ridden. Being very dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima, the Holy Rosary and the Brown Scapular, She asked me if I could arrange for the Pilgrim Virgin Statue be brought to her home and remain for a few days. I was very thankful to be able to arrange the visit and fulfill her request. Before the statue arrived at her home, she made sure she was all dressed up, with her hair piece in place, to greet Our Lady's image, and prayed and prayed and had a very peaceful death. Our Lady was certainly with her to bring her before Her Son. Thank you for your very informative Newsletter. I share it with my family and friends. **#Gene**

While visiting my father in the hospital I was informed by the doctor my father was not doing well and could pass away at any time. I didn't expect this kind of bad news. The first thing I thought of "was he wearing the brown scapular?" After checking around his neck, none was found. I was going to take off my scapular and put it on him when I discovered I was without



my scapular too. I rushed from the hospital, praying all the way home that Dad would not pass away without wearing the scapular. I promised the Blessed Mother that I would make Brown Scapulars if She would allow me

to get the scapular to my father before he died. Probably breaking a few traffic laws, I was able to put the scapular on my father. Not long after, my father passed away. It didn't take long for me to forget my promise to Our Lady to make

scapulars. However, a number of months later, while going through my father's dresser drawers, to my unbelievable surprise, there were yards of brown wool cloth staring at me as I remembered my promise to Our Lady. Till this day, I am still mystified how this material appeared in my father's dresser drawer. Please remind everyone of Our Lady's promise: **“Whosoever dies wearing this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire.”** **#Phyllis**

I wish to share with you what I consider a great miracle. My husband can be very difficult most of the time, using unacceptable language and always yelling at the children. It hurts me so much to see him acting this way. One day while I was talking to a friend about my husband's action, she suggested I get a blessed brown scapular and just place it over a picture of him, putting Our Lady's arms around him, and pray. A week later I called my friend and thanked her over and over because my husband was like a changed person. He no longer swore nor yelled at the children. Thank you Blessed Mother for this great miracle. **#Angela**

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

By Charles M. Urban, Sr.

“O, poor deceived people, what are you doing? Why do you not crowd the churches in order that you might attend as many Masses as possible? Why do you not take as models the angels who, whenever Mass is being celebrated, descend in legions from Paradise and kneel before the altar in reverence that they may efficaciously intercede for us?” St. Leonard of Port Maurice

During the entire celebration of the Mass, we must join actively and responsibly. Remember, we are in the presence of the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and Creator of the entire universe. Ask yourself, am I properly dressed to meet the King of Kings? Is my cell phone on mute? Am I aware of the reverence I must show my singular God? **St. Josemaria Escriva**, founder of the Opus Dei movement, once commented that when we find the length of the Mass too long, it indicates that **“our love may be too short.”**

The Mass, in reality, is the **Sacramental Celebration of the Paschal Mystery**. It is the re-enactment of Our Lord's act of Redemption which He suffered by His life and death on the cross. Better stated by the Catholic Church, it is the Church in heaven and on earth. (233)

(Compendium – Catechism of the Catholic Church, USCCB and Confraternity of Christian Doctrine ©2006)

“The heavenly liturgy (the Mass) is celebrated by the angels, by the saints of the Old and New Testament, particularly the Mother of God, (Mary), by the Apostles and martyrs, and by the ‘great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people and tongue.’ (Revelation 7:9) When WE celebrate the mystery of our salvation in the sacraments WE participate in this eternal liturgy.” (234)

“The church on earth cel-



brates the liturgy as a priestly people...in the unity of the Holy Spirit. The baptized offer themselves in a spiritual sacrifice; the ordained ministers (priests) celebrate according to the Order (Holy Orders) they received for the service of all members of the Church; the bishops and priests act in the person of Christ the Head.” (235)

(Compendium – Catechism of the Catholic Church, USCCB and Confraternity of Christian Doc-

trine ©2006)

Our redemption and the forgiveness of our sins was obtained by Jesus when He offered His life on the cross in reparation for our sins in order to spare our immortal souls from eternal damnation. We learned this when we were children, yet even today, it is so important that we not forget but recall and thank God every time while we are still able to attend Mass.

National statistics have shown a serious decline in our

Catholic Mass attendance over the years, and because of the current ‘pandemic’ as the churches are slowly opening their doors once again we see it even more so. One can only realize how simple it is for us to forget, or worse, to become lazy.

To the best of my recollection, I recall the famous convert, lecturer, educator, and author Scott Hahn, saying the **“Mass is Heaven on Earth.”**

We sometimes forget that the Mass is a re-enactment of Our Lord's act of Redemption carried out on Calvary, which we celebrate on Good Friday. Our redemption and the forgiveness of our sins was obtained by Jesus when He offered His life on the cross in reparation for our sins in order to spare our immortal souls from eternal damnation. We learned this in our youth, but is important that we not forget, but rather, recall and thank God every time we attend Mass.

Sometimes we hear from our friends that they don't get anything out of the Mass. Or, that the priest is not a great speaker, or the choir is very much out of tune.” Obviously, they are not aware of what the Mass is.

These are common feelings, especially among young people and many adult churchgoers. The great Bishop Fulton J. Sheen...said: **“If you don't get anything out of the Mass, it is because you don't bring the right expectations to it.”** **The Mass is not entertainment...it is the worship of the God who made us and saves us. It is an opportunity to praise God and thank Him for all He has done for us,** and I add, all He keeps doing for each and every one of us even and mostly as we are completely unaware of His actions. www.catholiceducation.org

What can I do?

All of us have family members or other loved ones who should



be going to Church, but are not. However, we can commit to obtaining a special grace for them that will draw them back to the right relationship with God and the Church. We can do this by attending an extra Mass each

week ourselves, offering it up for our loved ones who are unable or unwilling to attend.

As Americans we seem to be falling into a "culture trap" which ignores God, or at best sets our religion at the bottom

of our priority list. We live in a secular society. Our children and our youth are growing up in a culture that says religion is an unnecessary option.

One EXTRA MASS per week. Share this plea with your friends

and family. Maybe go on Saturday evening and again on Sunday morning. We need to find a way. Soon it will become a habit. You will like to feel that you are doing something very important and powerful for your loved ones.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HOLY MASS

- At the hour of death the Holy Masses you have heard devoutly will be your greatest consolation.
- Every Mass will go with you to Judgment and will plead pardon for you.
- By every Mass you can diminish the temporal punishment due to your sins, more or less, according to your fervor.
- By devoutly assisting at Holy Mass you render the greatest homage possible to the Sacred Humanity of Our Lord.
- Through the Holy Sacrifice, Our Lord Jesus Christ supplies for many of your negligence's and omissions.
- He forgives you all the venial sins which you are determined to avoid. He forgives you all your unknown sins which you never confessed. The Power of Satan over you is diminished.
- By piously hearing Holy Mass you afford the Souls in Purgatory the greatest possible relief.
- One Holy Mass heard during your life will be of more benefit to you than many heard for you after your death.
- Through the Holy Mass you are preserved from many dangers and misfortunes which would otherwise have befallen you. You shorten your Purgatory by every Mass.
- During Holy Mass you kneel amid a multitude of holy Angels, who are present at the adorable Sacrifice with reverential awe.
- Through Holy Mass you are blessed in your temporal goods and affairs.
- When you hear Holy Mass devoutly, offering it to Almighty God in honor of any particular Saint or Angel thanking God for the favors bestowed on him, you afford that Saint or Angel a new degree of honor, joy and happiness, and draw his special love and protection for yourself.
- Every time you assist at Holy Mass, besides other intentions, you should offer it in honor of the Saint of the day.

DEVOTIONS TO "THE THREE HAIL MARY'S"



The Devotion of praying Three Hail Mary's each day was revealed to St. Melchilde while she was beseeching Our Blessed Mother to assist her in her hour of death. Our Lady appeared to her and said:

"I will, certainly. But I also want you to say three special Hail Mary's to me every day."

"The first Hail Mary will be in honor of God the Father, Whose omnipotence raised my soul so high above every other creature that after God I have the greatest power in heaven and on earth. In the hour of your death, I will use that power of God the Father to keep any hostile power far from you."

"The second Hail Mary will be said in honor of the Son of God Who communicated His inscrutable wisdom to me. In the hour of your death I will fill your soul with the light of that wisdom so that all

the darkness of ignorance and error will be dispelled."

"The third Hail Mary will be in honor of God the Holy Ghost. Who filled my soul with the sweetness of His love and tenderness and mercy. In your last hour I will then change the bitterness of death into divine sweetness and delight."

Our Blessed Mother also revealed to St. Gertrude the Great: ***"To any soul who faithfully prays the Three Hail Mary's, I will appear at the hour of death in a splendor so extraordinary that it will fill the soul with heavenly consolation."***

Numerous examples show how agreeable the three Hail Mary's Devotion is to the Divine Mother and what special graces it draws, during life and at the hour of death, on those who never omit it for a single day.

(St. Pope Pius X gave his Apostolic Blessings to this practice and the devotion was raised to the Arch-confraternity by Pope Benedict XV.)

~ THE ROSARY ~ A VISION OF ROSES



In "The Secret of the Rosary," St. Louis DeMontfort also wrote about a young Friar whom he had learned about through the chronicles of Saint Francis. The Friar prayed the Rosary every day before dinner. One day, he hadn't yet prayed it when the dinner bell rang, so he received permission from the Monastery Superior to go to his cell to pray it before eating.

"After he had been gone a long time the Superior sent another Friar to fetch him, and he found him in his room bathed in a heavenly light facing Our Lady who had two angels with her," wrote St. Louis De Montfort. "Beautiful roses kept issuing from his mouth at each Hail Mary; the angels took them one by one, placing

them on Our Lady's head, and she smilingly accepted them. Finally two other Friars who had been sent to find out what happened to the first two saw the same lovely scene, and Our Lady did not go away until the whole Rosary had been said."

In the same book, St Louis De Montfort also explained the meaning behind that miracle. "The word Rosary means 'Crown of Roses,' that is to say that every time people say the Rosary devoutly, they place a crown of one hundred and fifty-three red roses and sixteen white roses upon the heads of Jesus and Mary." The saint wrote. "Being heavenly flowers these roses will never fade or lose their exquisite beauty."

THE ANGEL'S PRAYER

Most Holy Trinity Father, Son and Holy Spirit- I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages,

sacrileges, and indifferences whereby He is offended. And through the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of Thee the conversion of poor sinners.

JESUS, YOU TAKE OVER!

Are we anxious about what tomorrow will bring? What we will have to eat or drink? Shall we have clothes to wear or find a job to support our self and our family? How many of us during this past year, especially with the current pandemic, are very fearful of what added misfortunes we may also encounter. Who knows better than God what we need to stay alive. Who better than God knows what we need to serve Him best and to tell others about Him? If we believe in God's all-knowing wisdom, if we believe that His wisdom far exceeds ours, then the logical consequence is to let Him worry about our lives and take care of us.

THE ROSARY OF ABANDONMENT

A prayer of the Servant of God,

Fr. Dolendo Ruotolo

**Imprimatur: *Vincenzo Pelvi, Auxilliary Bishop
of Naples, Italy, July 25, 2006**

God, come to my assistance. Lord, make hast to help me. Glory be. Our Father. Hail Mary!

1st Decade: Jesus, You take over!

(10 times on the beads of the Hail Mary) Glory be.

2nd Decade: Mother Mary, guide me!

(10 times on the beads of the Hail Mary) Glory be.

3rd Decade: Jesus, you take over!

(10 times on the beads of the Hail Mary) Glory be.

4th Decade: Mother Mary, guide me!

(10 times on the beads of the Hail Mary) Glory be.

5th Decade: Jesus, You take over!

(10 times on the beads of the Hail Mary) Glory be.

In conclusion: *Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears! Turn, then, O most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary, Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen!*



CHURCH GRANTS PLENARY INDULGENCE FOR YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

The Apostolic Penitentiary issues a Decree granting plenary indulgences for the year of St. Joseph proclaimed by Pope Francis The special year will last from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021.

By Vatican News staff writer

Conditions for the plenary indulgence

The plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions) to Christians who, with a spirit detached from any sin, participate in the Year of St. Joseph on these occasions and manners indicated by the Apostolic Penitentiary:

- The plenary indulgence is granted to those who will meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Lord's Prayer, or take part in a Spiritual Retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St. Joseph. "St. Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us", the decree reads, "to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, to listen and correspond with profound discernment to God's will."
- The indulgence can also be obtained by those who, following St. Joseph's example, will perform a spiritual or corporal work of mercy. St. Joseph "encourages us

to rediscover the value of silence, prudence and loyalty in carrying out our duties," the decree notes.

- The recitation of the Holy Rosary in families and among engaged couples is another way of obtaining indulgences, in order that "all Christian families may be stimulated to recreate the same atmosphere of intimate communion, love and prayer that was in the Holy Family."

- Everyone who entrusts their daily activity to the protection of St. Joseph, and every faithful who invokes the intercession of St. Joseph so that those seeking work can find dignifying work can also obtain the plenary indulgence. On 1 May 1955, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of St. Joseph "with the intent that the dignity of work be recognized by all, and that it inspires social life and laws, based on the fair distribution of rights and duties."

- The plenary indulgence is also granted to the faithful who will recite the Litany to St. Joseph (for the Latin tradition), or the *Akathistos* to St. Joseph (for the Byzantine tradition), or any other prayer to St. Joseph proper



to the other liturgical traditions, for the persecuted Church *ad intra* and *ad extra*, and for the relief of all Christians suffering all forms of persecution. Because, the decree notes, "the flight of

the Holy Family to Egypt shows us that God is there where man is in danger, where man suffers, where he runs away, where he experiences rejection and abandonment."

OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, PRAY FOR US

by Carl R. Malburg

Our country, the United States of America, has endured much distress in the past year. The Covid pandemic has taken a terrible toll. Most of us have had it attack family members and some have lost loved ones and borne the heartache of not

even having a traditional funeral. Then, there is the loss of jobs and income. But, for us Christians, the closing of our churches has also been a cross to bear. We missed Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. And that was just the beginning. No

parties for First Communion, Confirmation, Engagements, Weddings, Graduations, etc., etc.

In our hope for a better year in 2021, we must turn to our National Patron. Even many Catholics don't know that the United States of America

is dedicated to the protection of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception.

On May 13, 1846 a decision was made by the Sixth Provincial Council of Baltimore, "With enthusiastic acclaim and with unanimous approval

Our Lady of Fatima Pray for us!

IPVS NEWS

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Issue No. 27 SPRING 2021

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We acknowledge each and every donation received for the travels of the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue. Many donations are also received anonymously. To each and everyone, we thank you most kindly for your sacrifices and ask Our lord and Our Lady to bless you immensely.

(All donations are tax deductible.)

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**International Pilgrim Virgin
Statue Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 3506, Munster, IN 46321
Telephone No. (219) 836-8779
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OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, PRAY FOR US... CONTINUED

and consent, the Fathers (of the Council) have chosen the Blessed Virgin Mary, conceived without sin, as the Patroness of the United States of America." Oddly enough, we forget that on March 25, 1858, Mary appeared for the third time to Bernadette Soubirous and declared She was the Immaculate Conception.

Few people realize that the French explorers, mapping the Mississippi River, named it the "Rivière De La Conception Immaculée," that is "River of the

Immaculate Conception" Thus, already in the 16th Century the entire mid-section of our country was dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

So, let us ask the Blessed Virgin Mother, Mary, the Immaculate Conception, to intercede for our country; to bring forth a relief from this virus, for us to return to the beliefs and moral values that our forefathers lived and to whom they consecrated us. "O, Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."



A website dedicated to a great man and the founder of the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue Foundation.

www.johnhaffert.com