

# Queen of the Holy Rosary Mediatrix of Peace, Mediatrix Between God and Man



## Shrine Newsletter

Volume 22 Summer 2019



### FOR MY GOD AND MY COUNTRY SHRINE

## **About Our Cover**

George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were men of God. Their sterling character and unwavering faith helped found and preserve us; as One Nation Under God, with Liberty and Justice for all. The message Washington emphasizes is part of his Farewell Address; Lincoln emphasizes his immortal one at Gettysburg; and the Flag is at half-mast for the Murdered Unborn. On the Feast Day of Sts. Peter and St. Paul, June 29, 1974, St. Peter stated: *“Help Thy Mother, so that She can crush the serpent with Her heel and save thy Nation. Turn thy Nation back to God. Fly the Flag with true love; make it a glorious ‘Old Glory’. Thy Statue of Liberty stands with its arm upraised for justice; yet where is the justice when you murder thousands and thousands of innocent little victims that have harmed no one?”*

### **A PROMISE**

**Mary Ann Van Hoof (seer, stigmatist, and mystic) was given the following promise before she was taken to her heavenly reward on March 18, 1984:**

***“When we take your sister home, I will be with you on all the Anniversary Days to bless these grounds. You will not see Me or the celestials with Me. I will not abandon you, unless you abandon Me. Is that understood?”***

### **OUR PLEDGE**

To stand firmly for God and for Country;  
To bring the Truth to all people;  
To bring peace and unity between Home, School, and Church;  
Thus bringing everlasting peace to the Nation.

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# Shrine Newsletter

**JUNE 16, 1970- APPARITION ANNIVERSARY**

**Feast of the Sacred Heart**

*“My Child, there's a great need for true devotion to My Divine Son and My Immaculate Heart.”*

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## Vigil Schedule at the Shrine

### July, 2019

- 2nd Visitation of The Blessed Mother**— 8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil  
**7th St. Mother Cabrini**—8:00 p.m. Vigil  
**15th St. Henry II, Confessor**—8:00 p.m. Vigil  
**16th Our Lady of Mount Carmel**—8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil  
**19th Godfred Van Hoof Death Anniversary**—8:00 p.m. Vigil  
**22nd St. Mary Magdalene**—8:00 p.m. Vigil  
**26th SS. Joachim and Anne**—9:45 a.m. Procession and 10:00 a.m., 1:00, 4:00, and 8:00 p.m. Vigils

### August, 2019

- 5th Our Lady of the Snows**— 8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil  
**6th Transfiguration of Our Lord**—8:00 p.m. Vigil  
**12th St. Clare**—8:00 p.m. Vigil  
**15th Anniversary Day** — Assumption of Our Blessed Mother 12:00 noon Procession and 1:00 p.m. Vigil  
**22nd Immaculate Heart of Mary**— 8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil  
**25th Myrtle Sommers Death Anniversary**—8:00 p.m. Vigil  
**31st St. Raymond Nonnatus**—8:00 p.m. Vigil

### September, 2019

- 8th Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**—8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil  
**12th Holy Name of Mary**—8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil  
**15th Seven Sorrows**—9:45 a.m. Procession and 10:00 a.m., 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, and 9:00 p.m. Vigils  
**19th Our Lady of La Salette**—8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil  
**24th Our Lady of Ransom**— 8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil  
**29th St. Michael the Archangel**—8:00 p.m. Vigil  
**30th St. Therese Enters Heaven**—8:00 p.m. Vigil

## OUR LADY'S MESSAGES

The Revelations and Messages shared at the Queen of the Holy Rosary, Mediatrix of Peace Shrine came from the Blessed Mother, or one of the Saints who assisted Her; such as St. Therese *The Little Flower*, St. Francis, St. Joan of Arc, and others.

Pilgrims who have visited the Shrine on Anniversary Days when the Revelations were given have seen Mary Ann in a state of ecstasy, noticing that she was not conscious of anything or anyone around her as she spoke. These Messages were taken down on a tape recorder; and in long hand by at least two people. Some Messages were repeated word for word as given by the Blessed Mother; however, in most cases Mary Ann was inspired to speak using her own language, grammar, and expressions. Many Messages were also given during suffering periods in her home, especially during Advent and Lent.

In a more general sense, the Revelations and Messages came from the Triumphant Church in Heaven, who used the voice of Mary Ann Van Hoof as a human transmitting device or instrument.

## MESSAGES FULFILLED-- BY TIME

Again we ask you to ponder with us some more of the Messages Mrs. Van Hoof received from Our Lady dating back to 1950. We also want to again reflect on the question: How would Mary Ann know these facts of the "future"; unless someone like Our Heavenly Mother, who cares for Her Children, was revealing them to her?

Remember: Mary Ann was told by Our Lady that fulfillment of Her Messages, regarding Church and World Conditions, would prove the validity of Her Apparitions at Necedah.

### *Message*

**March 11, 1960** (see Pg. 162 "Revelations And Messages" Vol. I)

...*"A Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, a traitor; a Judas in the Vatican. Pray; pray for Pope John. Pray so that he may have the enlightenment to discover him before it is too late; pray. Laity must work; must help to strengthen the clergy and religious. Do not believe the rumors that will be coming forth against Pope John, our modern St. John. They will try to destroy him as they tried with Pope Pius XII."*

*Fulfilled --- By Time*

## **ENEMIES OF THE CHURCH HIJACK VATICAN II** **catholicapologists.info**

On January 25, 1959 when Pope John XXIII announced his intention to convoke an Ecumenical Council, some Cardinals voiced opposition to the idea; stating that many bishops had been imbued with Modernist and liberal ideas, that such a Council would do more harm to the Church than good. Cardinal Billot said, “*The worst enemies of the Church, the Modernists...are already getting ready...to bring forth a revolution in the Church, like that of 1789 in France.*”

It had only been due to the strong-armed rule of Pope Pius XII that the “rebel” clergy had been kept under control. But, now under the “good-hearted” Pope John, the rebels were getting out of control and could let loose their revolution in the Church.

### **Spiritual Ailments: Must Undergo Permanent Purification** **Vatican -** December 2013

Pope Francis denounced the resistance he’s encountering in reforming the Vatican bureaucracy, saying some of it is inspired by the devil; and that prelates who work for him must undergo “permanent purification” to serve the Catholic Church better.

### **Pope Paul VI and the Smoke of Satan** **by: Donald R. McClary** January 29, 2013

I have long heard about Pope Paul VI having referred to the “*smoke of Satan*” having entered the Church. Usually most references to it do not mention when it was said, and in what context.

The quote apparently was said on June 29, 1972 by Pope Paul VI on the Ninth Anniversary of his Coronation during a homily given at a Mass for the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul.

### **Satanism Practiced in the Vatican** **by: Fr. Malachi Martin** *These Last Days News* February 10, 2015

In *The Fatima Crusader* the Jesuit priest, Malachi Martin who served in Rome from 1958 until 1964, reported that Satanic Rites took place in St. Paul’s Chapel in the Vatican on June 29, 1963, barely a week after the election of Pope Paul VI.

# FEATURE ARTICLE

## Preserving Our Freedoms

“For My God and My Country” is the name of the organization that Our Holy Mother requested be established to oversee Her Shrine at Necedah. Often the Messages given by Our Holy Mother to Mary Ann Van Hoof spoke of fighting Bad Law Enactments. Thus, we need to heed Her advice and take an active role in preserving the Freedoms granted us by our Founding Fathers; and, were being upheld throughout the years by the Veterans who risked their lives for this cause.

The Message from Our Holy Mother on Good Friday, March 31, 1961 encourages Prayer and Action

for our survival as a great Nation. She said, *“Pray, and continue to pray for the Leader of our Country. But saying he is the Leader, that’s only in words; what everyone, every man, woman, and child believe him to be the Leader. But pray for him and all those beneath him, even those that are of the anti Christ; so that they awaken, and see they cannot survive without God. .... For as long as the Constitution of the U.S.A. is ripped into shreds and has not been put together and righted, as long as these things are not straightened out for the good and for what the Forefathers established them, if that is not returned, if the Monroe Doctrine is not fulfilled, and the Preamble’s Words are not in mockery; then, only then, can we expect the right, and peace, and happiness for the Country. Our Lady, the Mediatrix of Peace, the Mediatrix between God and man so loves and now sheds tears for, to save this beautiful Country. .... Do not let them take your birthright away from you. Do not let them destroy the governments of your States or at Washington, D.C. Watch them, be sure that you read the smallest clause where mostly the booby-trap is hidden beneath it; tiniest print, or worded so that if you say ‘yes’ to what you think you are really voting for, you are actually saying ‘no’. Watch; they are very cunning. Be alert, be a true citizen of the Old Glory and for My God and My Country; and then you shall be able to cleanse and find peace. But without this, there shall be no peace.”*

We have been witnessing a true struggle between Satan and God reflected in the laws that are being pushed today. Would our Forefathers have endorsed such laws and accepted such things as abortion, transgender, homo-sexuality, infanticide, mandated health insurance, gun-control? And the list goes on.

Let us through the following article, taken from excerpts of “The American Miracle” written by G.N. Longarini, review the Principles on which this Nation was founded.

The story of the Declaration of Independence had its beginning during our Colonial History – long before there was any trouble between the Mother Country and the Colonies. The true seeds of American Independence were planted on American soil by the first permanent English settlers; especially the Pilgrims, who came to the New World in search of Religious Liberty. The search for Liberty – religious, civil, or personal – brought thousands of our early settlers to these shores; and peopled young America with a race of men to whom Liberty was more precious than Life. From that day to this, our Country has clung to the ideal of Liberty planted by her Founders. It was because this Liberty was threatened, and attempts at conciliation with the Mother Country had failed, that the Colonial Leaders finally declared on July 4, 1776, that *“these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States.”*

The Declaration of Independence was inevitable. The very nature of the new Country destined it to be a land free from external rule. It was a Country far from the old European Governments, separated by three thousand miles from England. It was therefore natural that the Colonies should develop the widest possible powers of Self-Government.

But Independence was impossible to attain, without first having a strong Colonial Union. We must remember that the Thirteen Colonies were not in any sense a single unified Country like our United States of today. The Colonies were almost completely separated from one another. They had no common governor, no common legislative body, no congress. It was therefore necessary to bring about some kind of Union, before the growing desire for Independence could be formed.

After the Boston Tea Party with the English passing the Intolerable Acts, the time was ripe for such a step. Every Colony but Georgia sent delegates to the First Continental Congress. A Second Continental Congress was held in May 1775. Then in June 1776, the leaders from all of the 13 British Colonies assembled to draw up the Declaration of Independence.

The events of 1775-1781 are called the War of Independence, or the American Revolution. This was a Revolution of ideas, fought in the battlefields of men’s minds. The Revolution was this idea: that each person is a sovereign individual, with certain inalienable God-given Rights; and that the purpose of Government is not to dispense Rights, but to protect them. Government would be the servant, not the master of the people. Among these Rights are those to Life, Liberty, and Property.

One by one, specific Liberties were fought for and secured during the Colonial Period. The Freedom of the Press was recognized in the famous



Peter Zenger Case in New York in 1735. Freedom of Religion and Conscience was one of the major reasons for the settling of our Country; and by the time of the Declaration, it was fairly well established. Other Freedoms and Rights were reaffirmed and protected in the years before Independence; such as the Rights to bear arms, to own property, to have a fair trial by jury, to representative government, to be left alone.

Each man attending the meeting in 1776 possessed a Land Estate, a substantial Business, a Professional Position – or all three. These Representatives were men of social position. If these men joined the Rebels, they risked not only their own lives, but also the lives of their families. Some of them refused to sign; and each who did sign, knew what he risked when he wrote his signature under the words: *“We mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor; that this Nation, under God, shall not perish from the earth.”* He was prepared to lose his life for its causes and motives: *“We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.”*

The Founding Fathers of this Nation realized that the seed of tyranny and despotism did not reside in the particular men who happened to be governing at the time. Even Democracies with their majority rule have the seed of tyranny in them. These men realized that Government was necessary; so they devised ways and means to keep the power of the Government in check, so that it would remain within the sphere of specific activities assigned to it which was: the protection of the Life, the Liberty, and the Property of its citizens from internal or external interferences.

The tools assigned to a Government are dangerous. They represent Power. That Power may be used by those who wield it against those whom they are supposed to protect. Therefore, checks and balances are necessary; since the “watchman” must be watched. This is precisely the reason why the Founding Fathers gave us a Government made up of three Branches with checks and balances, so that no one of them would exercise too much Power. It is clear, that their hope was that it never could and never would invade what they considered to be the inalienable Rights of the individual. The objective was to insure each individual the Freedom to guide his own destiny; progress to the full extent of his abilities and energies; dispose of the fruits of his own labors; and pursue happiness in an atmosphere of justice, tranquility, and human dignity.

This is the uniqueness of the American Revolution and War for Independence – it did not degenerate into dictatorship, but succeeded in establishing a Republic protecting Rights to a degree never before

attained. So, valuing Freedom above all else, they staked their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor on an effort to gain Freedom.

They sought above all else to establish the worth, and dignity, and freedom of the individual – in the deep religious conviction that every human is endowed with an individual soul, which is Sacred in the eyes of Almighty God. They looked at the Bible as their Charter of Liberty. They were determined to restrict Government; so that it could not, with good intentions or bad, encroach beyond carefully spelled-out boundaries on the individual’s Rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The Founders of our Government were students of history as well as statesmen. They knew that, without exception, every Government in recorded history had at one time or another turned its power – its police force – against its own citizens, confiscated their property, imprisoned them, enslaved them, and made a mockery of personal dignity.

This was true of every type of Government known to mankind. That was true regardless of how the people frequently turn out to be the worst enemies of the people who elect them.

It was for this reason that the Founders of the American Republic introduced into that Government a completely new Government leaders came to power. It was true – then as now – that Government leaders elected by the idea. **For the first time in known history, a written Constitution specified that certain institutions and human relations were to be outside the authority of Government. The Government was specifically forbidden to infringe upon them or to violate them.** This was a revolutionary concept of Government. The idea of inalienable Rights and individual Freedom had never before been incorporated into a national constitution. Never before in history had the people said to the Government: **“Thou shalt not.”**

These free people then listed in their Constitution those specific functions that they wanted Government to handle. But even so, the people were afraid that the elected leaders of the new Government might misunderstand the ideals of human dignity; of individual freedom; of the proper functions of government. So, as specific examples of what they meant, the American people added the Bill of Rights to the Constitution. These personal and individual Rights include freedom of worship; free speech and a free press; the right to assemble together; the sanctity of person and home; trial by jury; the right to life, liberty, and the private ownership of property.

Finally, to make absolutely sure that no government official could possibly misinterpret his position as servant rather than master, the people added two more blanket restrictions against the Federal Government. The

Bill of Rights specifies that: *“The enumeration . . . of certain Rights shall not be construed to deny . . . others retained by the people.”* And: *“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution . . . are reserved to the States . . . or to the people.”*

It was this philosophy of individual freedom and individual responsibility – reflected in the Bill of Rights – that attracted to this Country millions of persons from the government-oppressed people of Europe. They came here from every Country in the World. They were in search of personal Freedom, not government-guaranteed “security”. And as a direct result of the individual Freedom specified by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, they earned the greatest degree of security ever enjoyed by any people anywhere.

A clear understanding of Freedom, as the foundation of spiritual and material progress, is absolutely essential to all those who strive to be effective Disciples of Human Liberty. For the first time in all recorded history, there was established here a society based on certain concepts which have as their ultimate effect the minimizing of that greatest enemy of human progress – the Coercive Force of Government used to restrict or control the creative energies of the men; thus destroying their individual incentives.

There is no denying the fact that Human Beings progress and prosper to the degree to which individual freedom and initiative is permitted; or at least not prevented by artificial restrictions and bureaucratic red tape. Here, for the first time in human history, human energy was freed from arbitrary Governmental Authority.

The blessings which have stemmed from our Constitutional System are all about us. They are manifest in our material wealth, our high standard of living, our great social progress, our leadership in self-confidence and self-reliance; which over the years used to be the distinguishing characteristic of the great majority of the American people.

America has been different from any other Nation on earth. The men, who cut the pattern for Americans two centuries ago, held a deep conviction that all men are born with qualities that give them a unique status. The simple fact, of man being born a Human Being, marks him as the most important thing God ever created – and entitles him to a certain dignity and to self-respect. They believed that in this sense men are born equal; and are endowed with certain God-given, not man-given, Rights – as each person was free to live and build his life without the handicap of any interference that can be avoided.

These blessings have been apparent to us all – and to our fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers before us. They are so evident that many of us have come to take them for granted. We believe, in our

complacency, that they are assured to us for all time – that our Constitution stands; and that as long as it stands, the fundamental principles which it embodies are inviolate and will endure despite in-difference, in-attention, and political laziness on our part.

When Benjamin Franklin walked out of the Convention Hall, he was asked: “*What have you given us?*” And Franklin, with his great mind still looking to the future, replied, “*A Republic, sir; if you can keep it!*”

One way we have forgotten this is by drifting far from some of the basic principles which are the essence of this Nation. There is no doubt that the American people will never – if they understand what is at stake – voluntarily choose to surrender their Liberties to an all-powerful Central Government. But rather, they will surrender them through the slow drift away from fundamental principles under the banner of misleading slogans which threatens the limited Government for which our Forefathers risked their all.

A second way is over the years permitting and even encouraging the slow withering away of Local and State authority and responsibility; and allowing the concentration of increased Power and Control in Washington. We have also witnessed, with apparent indifference, the breakdown of the Doctrine of Separation of Powers between equal and coordinate Branches of the National Government. It can no longer be truthfully said that Congress alone makes the laws and controls the Nation’s purse. More and more control over law-making, and the effective authority to spend the people’s money, becomes lodged in the hands of the Executive Branch and the Bureaucracy.

A third way in which we have drifted is by submitting to rule by Administrative Agencies of the Government. The laws which Congress does pass do not always mean what they seem to mean. Often the interpretation and the regulations are at sharp variance with the Intent and Will of Congress.

A fourth way is by allowing the Supreme Court – traditionally our final bulwark against erosion of the Constitution – to be distorted into an instrument of social change; rather than of calm, cool, legal determination. The yard stick by which the Court seems to measure its Judgments no longer appears to be the Freedom from unlimited Governmental Authority which the Constitution so clearly meant to establish, but rather allows freedom for Government to encroach more and more on the Liberties of the Individual.

We have to face it. The drift away from our Constitutional Moorings has been wide and deep. Much of the life and vigor is going out of American politics. The people tend to place their trust in individuals



## SHRINE NEWS



### Anniversary Days

The Anniversary Days of May 28th, 29th, and 30th were again the start of our annual efforts to honor Our Blessed Mother for Her Visits to Mary Ann Van Hoof in 1950. Even though these were week-days, most schools were still in session, and out-of-town vacation traveling was difficult to schedule, Wisconsin people were joined by people from our surrounding States of Illinois and Minnesota; plus some people who wanted Our Lady to know they represented Poland as well.



Shortly before noon the Procession participants again assembled at the Mediatrix of Peace Lecture Hall. There it would be led with someone carrying the Crucifix; followed by those carrying the American flag, the Papal flag, and the God and Country flag; then the men carrying the statue of Our Lady of Necedah; then followed by the person carrying the Pro-Life flag ; and finally the Visitors carrying their State flags.



Exactly at noon the Procession made its way through the Shrine Grounds on its way to the Sacred Spot of the Apparitions, with everyone singing the Shrine's Song "Ave, Ave Mater Dei" that was written by Fr. Duren.



On May 28th extra honor was given to Our Heavenly Mother when some of our First Communicants, who carried a Crown of Roses in the Procession, placed that Crown on the head of the life-size statue of Our Lady of Necedah while everyone sang the song “Bring Flowers of the Rarest”. The Procession and the

Crowing truly made a very impressive sight.

The many preliminary prayers and songs sincerely offered in thanksgiving to Our Lady, plus the official Prayer Vigil that was spent meditating on Her and Her Divine Son during the fifteen-decade Rosary, made for another very successful Event.

These efforts on our part are the least we can do to show our appreciation to this Holy Mother who humbled Herself by coming to show how people were offending Her Son; and to warn us of the punishment that would befall our Nation and our Church if we did not mend our ways.

Other major Anniversary Day Prayer Vigils are planned for June 4th, June 16th, August 15th, and October 7th. Please consider joining us if you can, so we can merit Our Heavenly Mother’s help and protection.

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### **House of Prayer Update**

With the bad weather we had this past Winter, we had to stop working on the House of Prayer. With Spring here now, we will continue working by building forms and setting in the steel rebar’s. Our plans are to finish constructing the forms; then pouring concrete this Fall into the columns and the connecting roof support-beam.

We also have many other projects that need to be done around the Shrine Grounds, such as cutting lawns, weeding the flowerbeds, and various repair jobs. If you are able to volunteer some of your time, give us a call; or email us using the information found in the Shrine Newsletter. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know if you have any special trade-experience; and we will plan our work according to your God-given skills.

Our Work Bees are held every Saturday starting at 9 o’clock in the morning and ending about 5 PM.

A Lunch Meal is prepared by the ladies every Saturday for those people who graciously volunteer their time. God bless our Volunteers!



## St. Padre Pio

Francesco, named in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, was born to Giuseppa and Grazio Forgione, peasant farmers, in the small Italian village of Pietrelcina on May 25, 1887. From his childhood, it was evident that he was a special child of God. Francesco was very devout even as a child, and at an early age felt drawn to the priesthood. He became a Capuchin novice at the age of sixteen and received the habit in 1902. Francesco was ordained to the priesthood in 1910 after seven years of study and became known as Padre Pio.



On September 20, 1918, Padre Pio was kneeling in front of a large crucifix when he received the visible marks of the crucifixion, making him the first stigmatized priest in the history of the Church. The doctor who examined Padre Pio could not find any natural cause for the wounds. Upon his death in 1968, the wounds were no longer visible. In fact, there was no scarring and the skin was completely renewed. He had predicted 50 years prior that upon his death the wounds would heal. The wounds of the stigmata were not the only mystical phenomenon experienced by Padre Pio.

The blood from the stigmata had an odor described by many as similar to that of perfume or flowers, and the gift of bilocation was attributed to him. Padre Pio had the ability to read the hearts of the penitents who flocked to him for confession which he heard for ten or twelve hours per day. Padre Pio used the confessional to bring both sinners and devout souls closer to God; he would know just the right word of counsel or encouragement that was needed. Even before his death, people spoke to Padre Pio about his possible canonization. He died on September 23, 1968 at the age of eighty-one. His funeral was attended by about 100,000 people.

On June 16, 2002, over 500,000 Padre Pio devotees gathered in Rome to witness Pope John Paul II proclaim Padre Pio, Saint Pio of Pietrelcina. The Padre Pio Foundation and many benefactors traveled to Rome, San Giovanni Rotondo, Pietrelcina, Piana Romana and many other holy places to celebrate Padre Pio's Canonization.

rather than traditions; to follow personalities rather than principles. The self-reliance and autonomy of the average individual has declined in step with a corresponding increase in the authority and paternalism of the Government. Changing the men in power, and keeping the present system as it is, will not change things “one iota”.

Many Americans think that we have passed the point of no return. But, they have not read history; and learned how other people have responded. Without obstacles to overcome, rising to higher levels is out of the question for many people. The difficulties facing us now may serve as stepping stones; they may be blessings in disguise. Regenerative forces are always at work in any Society; although outmatched, for a time, by the forces of decay. But remember, there is always a saving remnant at work. As the Old Testament says, *“Periods of vice and corruption are followed by the return of strength and honor.”*

If these are times of great adversity, then surely this is a time for greater Faith in Freedom. Adversity should strengthen and refine our thinking to the point where we overcome it. Our future growth depends on a reversal of our present trend toward Government Dependency. We must go back and retrace our steps to that point on the road of political and social doctrine where we took the “wrong turn”.

The Preservation of Freedom is the business of every citizen. Chief Justice Hughes stated, *“We have in this Country but one security. You may think that the Constitution is your security – it is nothing but a piece of paper. . . It is nothing at all, unless you have Sound and Uncorrupted Public Opinion to give Life to your Constitution; to give Vitality to your Statutes; and to make Efficient your Government Machinery.”*

America is not going to fail. This Nation of Courageous Individuals, this Nation of Free Men, has always been able to handle the problems which arise. We can do so again – if we are True to Ourselves; True to our Magnificent Heritage; True to the basic American Principles of Freedom; and have Faith in the Laws of God which are the cornerstones of our social, political, and free-enterprise system.

It is the duty of every Citizen to contact their Representatives in the Legislatures regarding the Bills put before them. With the modern convenience of e-mail and the phone, one’s views can be heard. There are many websites which can keep one abreast of important legislation; and some even offer to send a Message of support or opposition to Bills with your name attached. We must do our part; and God will do the rest.



# FOOD FOR THE SOUL

## The Sign of The Cross

We, as Catholics, start our prayers with the Sign of the Cross. In doing so, we are invoking the Trinity to open our hearts to Grace. We affirm our belief in a Triune God. It is a great Sign of our Faith, the Doctrine of the Blessed Trinity, and of the Incarnation of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

The “name” of God indicates His authority and power; and that we act under His commission. In making the Sign of the Cross, we make a profession of our belief in the Blessed Trinity by the words, “*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*” By the very form of the cross which we make upon ourselves, we profess that the Son of God died for us upon the Cross.

The Catholic Church holds the Sign of the Cross in great honor. It is repeated over and over again in the Holy Mass, in all Sacraments, in all Blessings, and in all Consecrations; also, the Sign of the Cross is placed over our Churches, over our altars, on banners, on sacred vestments, and over the graves of the departed. Many of our Churches are even built in the form of a cross.

In making the Sign of the Cross, we are asking God’s blessing for our mind; for our passions, for our desires; and for our very bodies. This Sign commits us wholeheartedly to Christ; body, soul, mind, and heart. We mark ourselves as belonging to Christ, Our True Shepherd.

The Sign of the Cross chases away the devil and his temptations; for it reminds him of the Holy Cross by which he was vanquished on Calvary. In signing ourselves we recall the Cross of Christ; and it gives us strength to resist Satan’s temptations.

In the year 312, Constantine the Great with his whole army, saw a cross of light in the sky; and upon it the words: “*In this Sign thou shalt conquer.*” On the occasion of the finding of the Holy Cross by St. Helena, a woman who was blind was restored to sight by merely touching it. Many of the Holy Martyrs, on making the Sign of the Cross, felt no more pain in their torments. The early Christians made continual use of the Sign of the Cross.

We should make the Sign of the Cross often during the day, especially in the morning in night; before all undertakings, that they may turn out well; and before our prayers, in order that we may not be distracted in saying them. Our Holy Mother at Neceorder to obtain God’s blessings on the day; in the evening to ask for His protection during the dah suggested we put our hand upon the Cross we were asked to wear around our neck; to help fight temptations, and to give us strength in difficult situations.

When we make the Sign of the Cross, we should, if possible, make it with Holy Water. Holy Water has a special power to defend us against all attacks

Continued on page 19

## Miraculous Medal

Like the Scapular, the Miraculous Medal is a Sacramental. It originates from an Apparition of Mary to St. Catherine Labouré, a French nun, living in Paris. The specific Apparition that has to do with the Miraculous Medal occurred on November 27, 1830.

On the night of July 18-19, 1830, a child (perhaps her Guardian Angel) awakened Sister (now Saint Catherine Labouré), a novice in the Community of the Daughters of Charity in Paris; and summoned her to the Chapel. There she met with the Virgin Mary, and spoke with Her for several hours. During the conversation, Mary said to her, *“My child, I am going to give you a Mission.”*

On November 27, 1830 Mary gave her this Mission in a Vision. She saw Mary standing on what seemed to be half a Globe; and holding a golden Globe in Her hands, as if offering it to Heaven. On the Globe was the word “France;” and Our Lady explained that the Globe represented the whole World, but especially France. The times were difficult in France, especially for the poor who were unemployed; and often refugees from the many Wars of the time. France was first to experience many of those troubles, which ultimately reached other parts of the World; and are even present today. Streaming from rings on Mary's fingers, as She held the Globe, were many Rays of light. Mary explained that the Rays symbolize the Graces She obtains for those who ask for them. However, some of the gems on the rings were dark; and Mary explained that the Rays and Graces were available, but did not come because no one had asked for them.



### The Meaning of the Front Side of the Miraculous Medal

Mary is standing upon a Globe, crushing the head of a serpent beneath Her foot. She stands on the Globe, as the Queen of Heaven and Earth. Her feet crush the serpent to proclaim that Satan and all his followers are helpless before Her (Gn 3:15). The year of 1830 on the Miraculous Medal is the year the Blessed Mother gave the design of the Miraculous Medal to Saint Catherine Labouré. The reference to Mary conceived without sin supports the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Mary—not to be confused with the Virgin Birth of Jesus; and referring to Mary's sinlessness, “Full of Grace” and “Blessed Among Women” (Luke 1:28)—that was proclaimed 24 years later in 1854.

The Vision turned and showed the design of the reverse side of the Medal. Twelve Stars encircled a large "M" from which arose a Cross. Below are two Hearts with flames arising from them. Thorns encircle one Heart; and a Sword pierces the Other.

## The Meaning of the Back Side of the Miraculous Medal



The Twelve Stars can refer to the Apostles, who represent the entire Church as it surrounds Mary. They also recall the vision of Saint John, writer of the Book of Revelation (12:1), in which “a great Sign appeared in Heaven: a Woman clothed with the Sun; and the Moon under Her feet; and on Her head a Crown of 12 Stars.” The Cross can symbolize Christ and our redemption; with the Bar under the Cross a sign of the Earth. The “M” stands for Mary, and the interweaving of Her initial; and the Cross shows Mary’s close involvement with Jesus and our World. In this, we see Mary’s part in Our Salvation; and Her role as Mother of the Church. The two Hearts represent the love of Jesus and Mary for us. (See also Lk 2:35).

With approval of the Catholic Church, the first Medals were made in 1832; and were distributed in Paris. Everyone who wears this Medal around their neck will receive great Graces.

### Miraculous Medal Prayer

*O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you; and for all who do not have recourse to you, especially the enemies of the Church and those recommended to you. Amen.*

Famously known as Mother Teresa, St. Teresa of Calcutta in her many years of world-wide Missionary Work with the poor was often seen with a Miraculous Medal in her hands. At times, she would pass out handfuls to Priests who would meet with her. It didn’t matter who you were young, old, dying, or healthy, if you came into a contact with Mother Teresa, there is a chance you received a Medal.

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### The Sign of The Cross Continued from page 17

of the devil. Each time we make the Sign of the Cross with Holy Water, we can gain an Indulgence. Holy Water is placed at the doors of our Churches; and we should place Holy Water at some convenient spot in our homes.

We must never be ashamed of the Sign of the Cross, lest Christ be ashamed of us. The devil rejoices when he sees anyone neglect to make the Sign of the Cross; for he knows that the Cross is his destruction, and a Sign of Victory over his temptations.

The Cross is the Sign of our Christian Faith. May we wear it proudly, putting our “light” upon a candlestick; so the World may see we are God’s Children, and will stand forever under the shadow of His Cross.

## PRO-LIFE NEWS

We wish to share with you the following Christmas letter received from Parents after losing their new-born child.

(Names and dates have been deleted).

I know the past year has been really tough for my family. They all loved me so much and were devastated when they heard the news that I had Spina Bifida; and later found out I also had Trismoy 18. They were heartbroken; as they thought of all the milestones and memories that would now, never get to happen.

A lot of the statistics and doctors didn't think I would make it, and told my mom it would probably be easier to terminate; but I'm glad she didn't listen. I got to experience a lot of cool things in my mom's belly, like rock in my brother's room and hear songs and stories. My big brother would jump on me sometimes, and I would try to kick him back. I also got to go on a few trips with my family; and out to the lake this summer.

My mom and dad had a lot of appointments, meetings, and countless phone calls about me. They always advocated for me, even when some of the doctors told them the Monday before I was born, that they should find somewhere else to deliver me. The pediatricians said they weren't going to participate in my care; but did somehow change their minds. I know it was stressful for my parents; but it helped immensely to have everyone's support, especially from those brave people who weren't afraid to talk about it. Thanks again to everyone who showed my family kindness.

Everyone's prayers were answered (and 'wow' did I have a lot of people praying for me) when I was born alive on (date) in the middle of the night. I got to meet a lot of my family, watch a sunset with Mommy, hold Daddy's finger, and hear my brother's cute laugh. I got to show them how sweet and strong I was; plus everyone said I was beautiful. They even sang 'Happy Birthday' to me when I turned 2 days old. I know they tried to pack a whole lifetime of love in two days. Unfortunately I would stop breathing, and gave everyone a lot of scares; but then to everyone's surprise, I would start breathing again. After two full days my body wasn't able to make it any longer, and Jesus came and got me.

My big brother, 2 1/2 yrs. old, does a good job of keeping my family going; and I tell him to remind our parents that I'm okay. Like when they were driving to the funeral home on the morning of my funeral. (Brother) likes to name off everyone who is with him and he said, "*Mommy is here, Daddy is here, (Brother) is here, and (Baby) is here.*" They were surprised because he had only said my name a few times before this; and it brought a smile to their faces. I think it also reassured them that I will always be a part of the family.

Pro Life Continued on page 22

Heaven requested we say the Precious Blood Chaplet – five days a week during the month of July.

## CHAPLET OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

Each bead of the Precious Blood Chaplet is, as it were, a chalice filled with the Divine Blood of Jesus, uplifted by Our Lady to the Eternal Father, imploring every grace necessary for your soul and body.

This Chaplet is divided into seven groups, containing thirty-three “Our Fathers” in honor of the thirty-three years during which the Precious Blood flowed in the veins of Jesus, before it was all poured out on the Cross for our salvation. After each group, the “Glory be to the Father” is recited in thanksgiving to the Holy Trinity for this great gift of the Precious Blood. While reciting these prayers, you are asked to meditate on each of the seven blood-sheddings of Jesus.

The “Our Father” is Christ’s own prayer. It is a complete prayer, including every possible desire for the glory of God and the needs of soul and body. Its seven petitions unite in a very practical way with each of the seven blood-sheddings, making up seven chapters in the gospel of Christ’s love for me: “HE LOVED ME, AND DELIVERED HIMSELF UP FOR ME.”

V. Incline unto my aid, O God.

R. O Lord, make haste to help me.

V. Glory be to the Father, etc.

R. As it was in the beginning, etc/

**1<sup>st</sup> Mystery** - Jesus shed His Blood in the Circumcision. Let us ask for chastity of soul and body. Our Father five times. Glory be to the Father, etc. We beseech Thee; therefore, help Thy servants whom Thou hast redeemed by Thy Precious Blood. .

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mystery** – Jesus shed His Blood whilst praying in the Garden of Olives. Let us ask for the spirit of prayer. Our Father five times. Glory be to the Father, etc. We beseech Thee, therefore, etc.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Mystery** – Jesus shed His Blood in the scourging. Let us ask for the grace of mortification. Our Father five times. Glory be to the Father, etc. We beseech Thee, therefore, etc.

**4<sup>th</sup> Mystery** – Jesus shed His blood in the crowing with thorns. Let us ask for contempt of worldly honors. Our Father five times. Glory be to the Father, etc. We beseech Thee, therefore, etc.

**5<sup>th</sup> Mystery** – Jesus shed his Blood while carrying His cross. Let us ask for patience. Our Father five times. Glory be to the Father, etc. We beseech Thee, therefore, etc.

**6<sup>th</sup> Mystery** – Jesus shed His Blood in the Crucifixion. Let us ask for contrition for our sins. Our Father five times. Glory be to the Father, etc. We beseech Thee, therefore, etc.

**7<sup>th</sup> Mystery** – Jesus shed Blood and water when His side was pierced. Let us ask for the grace of perseverance. Our Father three times. Glory be to the Father, etc. We beseech Thee, therefore, etc.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ in satisfaction for my sins, for the needs of Holy Church and for the relief of the souls in Purgatory.

*500 days indulgence*

*Nihil obstat*

*Arthur J. Scanlan, S.T.D.*

*Censor Librorum*

*Imprimatur*

*\*Francis J. Spellman, D.D.*

*Archbishop, New York*

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Pro Life Continued from page 20

(Brother) really wishes I was still around to watch him play with his tractors and trucks; and to help him build forts. I think he would have loved having me as his little sister. My dad is coaching Basketball and teaching Phys-ed., which I know he likes. My mom still works for a Mental Health Center, and enjoys helping kids. I watch down on them; and can tell you they will be okay. God has given them peace and comfort. I know it would help them if you continue to say my name, and help keep my memory alive. We babies are miracles, and good health is not something we all have; so try not to take it for granted. I hope you remember to kiss your loved ones goodnight and trust in God, so that I can see you again someday.

Sending love from Heaven,  
(Baby)

## CONSTANT VIGIL OF PRAYER

**Could You Not Watch One Hour With Me?** Our Lord asked this of His sleeping Apostles in the Garden of Gethsemane. Many people throughout the United States have answered the call to take an hour of prayer by starting Perpetual Adoration programs in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Many areas, however, do not have Perpetual Adoration or do not have enough people to fill the hours.

Our Blessed Mother at Necedah has asked for an hour of prayer each week, in addition to our Sunday Church obligation, through a Constant Vigil of Prayer Program. This hour could be taken at home, at church, or anywhere, and could be filled by any type of prayer or spiritual reading. The general intention of this Constant Vigil of Prayer is to save America from destruction by the evil forces.

Please join us by sending your participation information.

*The Constant Vigil of Prayer — Our Only Hope for Peace*

### CONSTANT VIGIL OF PRAYER

**“Could you not then, watch and pray one hour with Me?”**

Choose one hour a week besides your Sunday Service as a family or individually.

Day \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_ M. Number Participating \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**“Let’s Save America By A Constant Vigil of Prayer”**

## MAIL CORNER

**Wisconsin:** I'm sending along a contribution to your Shrine Fund for the erection of the House of Prayer. My husband and I visited the holy grounds of the Shrine many times in the past. We've had some mini-miracles happen to us while there. My dear husband, Robert, passed away going on two years now. He battled prostate cancer for 15 ½ years.

A good, patient, loving man he was. We both always read your Shrine Newsletter from cover to cover. Such wonderful insights to our Faith. I may not ever get to the Shrine again, as I'm going on 86 and have severe back problems. Would you dear folks please remember me in your prayers and rosaries?? I shall also pray for you and the completion of the House of Prayer. May Our Dear Lord continue to bless you and the work you do.



**Minnesota:** My husband and I, plus our family, have been coming to the Shrine for 45+ years. Our friends had been there and got us started in the Constant Vigil of Prayer Program. My husband headed it; and we met once a month. My husband passed away a year and a half ago. He died of dementia. With the help of Our Lord and Blessed Mother, I managed to take care of him to the end. I haven't been to the Shrine for two years, so I hope I can get there for August 15th. Please accept my donation, which I try to send every month. Keep up the good work.

**Pennsylvania:** Always thankful for the Shrine Newsletter. Please continue to send them. I have been putting aside money for the building fund. Please find enclosed money for the House of Prayer. I also enclosed money for Sacramentals. Again "Thank You". May you have the complete Blessings of the United Hearts of J.M.J.

**Illinois:** Enclosed is an order and a check; with an additional donation for the good work you do. I have been blessed to be at the Anniversaries when Mary Ann Van Hoof was alive. In fact my parents brought my family there for the first time August 15, 1956. Their prayers were answered in November that year when I underwent experimental surgery that saved my life. In 1956 my rosary, my brother's rosary, and the cross on my dad's rosary "turned". Truly a sign that my parents' prayers would be answered. We saw the sun dance; and were there when it rained and no one got wet.





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**DIVIDED WE FALL**

*To Pray Together - To Play Together*  
*To Work Together - We Shall Win Together*

