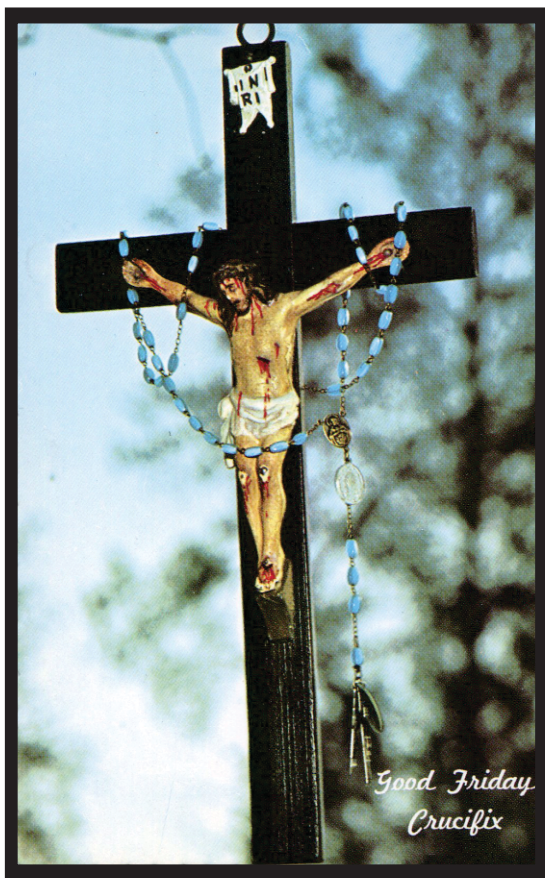


Queen of the Holy Rosary Mediatrix of Peace,
Mediatrix Between God and Man



Shrine Newsletter

Volume 19 Summer 2016



Good Friday Crucifix

About Our Cover

Good Friday, April 7, 1950 about 11 P.M., Mrs. Van Hoof noticed that the Corpus on the Crucifix on her bedroom wall was all aglow and twice its regular size. The Celestials have since referred to it as “The Good Friday Crucifix”. The Rosary draped over it is Mary Ann’s blue rosary that the Blessed Mother touched to Her Rosary on May 29, 1950. **Message Aug. 15, 1950** Blessed Virgin Mary to Mrs. Fred Van Hoof, “*Bless the people with the Good Friday Crucifix. This blessing is from Me.*”

“The purpose of private revelation is not to prove the truth of Christian doctrine or add anything to it but to offer men of a certain period, and because of the circumstances of that period, a direction for human action.”

-St. Thomas Aquinas

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.

Queen of the Holy Rosary Mediatrix of Peace Shrine

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Necedah, WI 54646-7916

Phone: (608) 565-2617

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A PROMISE

A promise made by the Blessed Virgin Mary previous to Mary Ann Van Hoof's death.

"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?"

Vigil Schedule at the Shrine

July, 2016

- 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, 2016

- 5th **Our Lady of the Snows**—Procession 8:00 p.m. 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**—Procession 8:00 p.m. 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, 2016

- 8th **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**—8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil
- 12th **Holy Name of Mary**—Procession 8:00 p.m. 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**—Procession 8:00 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. Vigil
- 24th **Our Lady of Ransom**—Procession 8:00 p.m. 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

Shrine Newsletter

MARCH 13, 1970

BEGONE SATIN! Is the most powerful weapon that you can use with a Hail Mary, an Our Father, a Glory be to God and some holy water and kiss your Crucifix.

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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.

HEAVEN'S MESSAGES IN REVIEW

WARNINGS FROM OUR HOLY MOTHER

On Good Friday, April 7, 1950, at about 11:00 p.m., Mary Ann Van Hoof noticed that the figure on the crucifix hanging in her bedroom had a strange glow to it. She then heard a voice speak the following words: *“Yes, pray, My child. Pray, pray, pray hard.”* Then the voice said something about the holy days which Mrs. Van Hoof did not understand. The voice then continued, *“My child, your cross is heavy to bear, but the people all over the world are facing a heavier cross and sorrow with the Enemy of God unless you pray. Pray hard with all your heart – devotedly. Ask your Pastor, the Father of your Parish, to tell his people, children of God, to pray the Rosary every evening at eight o’clock no matter what happens; for prayer only will help you. Tell this to your relatives and his (her husband’s) relatives.”*

Thus began the Messages of Our Holy Mother to Mrs. Fred Van Hoof – a plea for more prayer needed to fight the enemy of God. Through the years the Messages became more explicit about the future of our present world if enough prayer was not offered, and the populace did not turn back to the God who created them.

On August 15, 1950 she stated, *“We must remember the time is drawing very close. The black clouds are coming over, not to Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa, but to America - South and North America. Alaska is the first stepping*

stone. Remember - the Pacific Coast! We have no time to lose. We must carry out now, at once; for prayer only will save us.”

“Your Country is in grave danger from the enemy of God. Much of your trouble will rise from within; then through this the enemy from without will strike causing much suffering. If enough prayers are said, destruction of your vital points and most important cities will not happen; but through the many black sins, much suffering and hardship will still befall your Country.”

Thus, we see that wars, extreme suffering are ahead of us. Yet, God is not finished with our punishment. Several Messages mention a Chastisement from God. We do not know what form this will take; but we do know that God is greatly offended by the sins of His people.

The Message of June 29, 1971 again warns us, “CHASTISEMENT! War between the Christians and Satan. Right now Satan is far in the advance, the Christians are lagging behind. They seek not the Kingdom of Heaven. They seek materialistic things. The things of God are shoved aside for a later date. They care not, they heed not. Times are still too good. But, the word CHASTISEMENT was written right across the trees; for some, it might even be the Armegeddon. God is just; He is merciful. Seek repentance; hear the pleas of the Heavenly Mother; fulfill Her requests.”

We are still being given time to heed these warnings, to offer more prayer, to make reparations. Prayer, Penance, and Sacrifice are needed now more than ever. May we stand strong with the grace of God, and encourage others to join with us in this endeavor: **“United we Stand, Divided we Fall.”**

May God’s mercy be upon us.

TEACHING POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Teacher for High School

English, Spanish, History, Home Economics

2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

Traditional Catholic Education

If interested, write or call

Queen of the Holy Rosary School, W5606 Shrine Road
Necedah, WI 54646. Telephone 565-2341



SHRINE NEWS



Shrine News

Shrine Projects

Work continues each week on the House of Prayer as planned. Local volunteers are occasionally joined by other volunteers from other parts of Wisconsin, and even some from Illinois and Minnesota.

Our goal is to make the fourth pour of concrete to the floor of the Upper Mezzanine area, which will leave the fifth and final section for next year. If block-layer volunteers come forward, we will start setting up walls that now need to be built.

Also, as Summer approaches, we again need volunteers to clean Grottos, to rake lawns, and to plant flowers.

Each Saturday our women prepare a good hot meal for all our volunteers, as they too remember that Our Blessed Mother requested that the Shrine operate with volunteers as much as possible. So, you can see that our VOLUNTEERS are greatly appreciated and valued. Please pray for our success in fulfilling Our Lady's Requests.

Just a reminder - a new price catalog is available on our web site listing our books, rosaries, medals, and other materials. Also, a new 26-page Shrine Guide Tour Book, in English and Polish, is available with 37 colored pictures and a short explanation for each. The cost is \$2.50.

Reminder:

Shrine's August 15th Anniversary Day
Monday, August 15, 2016

Procession - Shrine Grounds at 12 Noon
Prayer Vigil - Sacred Spot at 1:00 P.M.

THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR HOLY MOTHER

Feature Article

Our Holy Mother chose August 15th, the Feast of Her glorious Assumption, as one of the special days in which She appeared to Mary Ann Van Hoof. A crowd of 100,000 people were present that day in 1950 to honor Our Holy Mother and to hear the Message that She would deliver through Mary Ann.

Since that year crowds have diminished. However, on the Anniversary Days, some people still make a pilgrimage to the place where Her Apparitions occurred, to honor Our Lady and to thank Her for the benefits received; and to seek the graces needed for one's spiritual life.

Pilgrimages have been the custom even before the birth of Our Lord. These journeys are made to sacred places where God oftentimes grants tremendous graces, at times miracles, and leads many to a complete amendment of their lives. Pilgrimages are works of penance, and also public profession of faith. God hears our petitions more quickly in places of pilgrimage if we are rightly disposed.

The Feast of the Assumption of Our Holy Mother is a truly great feast in Her honor. St. Alphonsus Ligouri expounds on the beauty of this special day in his book, "**The Glories of Mary**". The following has been excerpted from this book.

Let us now consider how exalted the throne was to which Mary was raised in Heaven. *"If the mind of man,"* says St. Bernard, *"can never comprehend the immense glory prepared in Heaven by God for those who on earth have loved Him, as the Apostle tells us, who can ever comprehend the glory that He has prepared for His beloved Mother, who, more than all men, loved Him on earth; nay, even from the very first moment of Her creation loved Him more than all men and angels united?"* Rightly, then, does the Church sing, that Mary having loved God more than all the angels, *"the Mother of God has been exalted above them all in the Heavenly Kingdom."*

Yes, *"She was exalted,"* says the abbot Guerric, *"above the angels; so that She sees none above Her but Her Son,"* who is the only-begotten of the Father.

Hence, it is why the learned Gerson asserts that, as all the orders of angels and saints are divided into three hierarchies (according to the angelic Doctor and St. Denis), so does Mary of herself constitute a hierarchy apart the sublimest of all, and next to that of God. And, as (adds St. Antoninus) the mistress is, without comparison, above Her servants, so is *"Mary, who is the sovereign Lady of the Angels, exalted incomparably above the angelic hierarchies."*

To understand this, we need only know what David said: *"The Queen stood on Thy right hand."* And in a sermon by an ancient author, among the

works of St. Athanasius, these words are explained as meaning that *“Mary is placed at the right hand of God.”*

It is certain, as St. Ildephonsus says, that Mary’s good works incomparably surpassed in merit those of all the saints, and therefore Her reward must have surpassed theirs in the same proportion; for *“as that which She bore was incomprehensible, so is the reward which She merited and received incomprehensibly greater than that of all the saints.”*

And, since it is certain that God rewards according to merit as the Apostle writes, *“who will render to every man according to his works,”* it is also certain as St. Thomas teaches, that *“the Blessed Virgin, who was equal to and even superior in merit to all men and angels, was exalted above all the celestial orders.”*

“In fine,” adds St. Bernard, *“let us measure the singular grace that She acquired on earth, and then we may measure the singular glory which She obtained in Heaven;”* for, *“according to the measure of Her grace on earth is the measure of Her glory in the Kingdom of the Blessed.”*

A learned author, Father La Colombiere, remarks that the glory of Mary, which is a full, a complete glory, differs in that from the glory of other saints in Heaven. It is true that in Heaven all the Blessed enjoy perfect peace and full contentment; yet it will always be true that no one of them enjoys as great a glory as he could have merited had he loved and served God with greater fidelity.

Hence, though the saints in Heaven desire nothing more than they possess, yet in fact there is something that they could desire. It is also true that the sins which they have committed, and the time which they have lost, do not bring suffering; still it cannot be denied that a greater amount of good done in life, innocence preserved, and time well employed, give the greatest happiness.

Mary, however, desires nothing in Heaven, and has nothing to desire. Who amongst the saints in Heaven, except Mary, says St. Augustine, if asked whether he has committed sins, could say “no”? It is certain, as the holy Council of Trent has defined, that Mary never committed any sin of the slightest imperfection. She not only never lost divine grace and never even obscured it, She never kept it idle. She never pronounced a word, never had a thought, and never drew a breath that was not directed to the greater glory of God. In fine, She never cooled in Her ardor or stopped a single moment in Her onward course towards God. She never lost anything by negligence, but always corresponded to grace with Her whole strength, and loved God as much as She could love Him. *“O Lord,”* She now says to Him in Heaven, *“if I loved Thee not as much as Thou didst deserve, at least I loved Thee as much as I could.”*

In each of the saints there were different graces, as St. Paul says, *“there are diversities of graces;”* so that each of them, by corresponding to the grace that he had received, excelled in some particular virtue – one in saving souls, the other in leading a penitential life, one in enduring torments, another in a

life of prayer; and this is the reason for which the Holy Church, in celebrating their festivals, says of each, *“there was not found one like him.”* And, as in their merits they differ, so do they differ in celestial glory: *“for star differeth from star.”* Apostles differ from martyrs, confessors from virgins, and the innocent from penitents. The Blessed Virgin, being full of all graces, excelled each saint in every particular virtue; She was the Apostle of the apostles; She was the Queen of martyrs, for She suffered more than all of them; She was the Standard-bearer of virgins, the Model of married people; She united in Herself perfect innocence and perfect mortification: in fine, She united in Her heart all the most heroic virtues that any saint ever practiced. Hence, of Her it was said that *“the Queen stood on Thy right hand in gilded clothing, surrounded with variety.”* For, all the graces, privileges, and merits of the other saints were all united in Mary, as the Abbot of Celles says, *“The prerogatives of all the saints, O Virgin, thou hast united in thyself.”*

She possessed them in such a degree that, as *“the splendor of the sun exceeds that of all the stars united,”* so says St. Basil of Seleucia, *“does Mary’s glory exceed that of all the Blessed.”* St. Peter Damian adds, that *“as the light of the moon and stars is so entirely eclipsed on the appearance of the sun, that it is as if it was not, so also does Mary’s glory so far exceed the splendor of all men and angels, that, so to say, they do not appear in Heaven.”* Hence, St. Bernardine of Sienna asserts with St. Bernard, that the Blessed participate in part in the divine glory; but that the Blessed Virgin has been, in a certain way, so greatly enriched with it, that it would seem that no creature could be more closely united with God than Mary is: *“She has penetrated into the bottom of the deep, and seems immersed as deeply as it is possible for a creature in that inaccessible light.”* Blessed Albert the Great confirms this, saying that our Queen *“contemplates the majesty of God in incomparably closer proximity than all other creatures.”* The above-named St. Bernardine moreover says, *“That as the other planets are illumined by the sun, so do all the Blessed receive light and an increase of happiness from the sight of Mary.”* And, in another place he also asserts, that *“when the glorious Virgin Mother of God ascended to Heaven, She augmented the joy of all its inhabitants.”* For the same reason St. Peter Damian says, that *“the greatest glory of the Blessed in Heaven is, after seeing God, the presence of this most beautiful Queen.”* And St. Bonaventure, that *“after God, our greatest glory and our greatest joy is Mary.”*

Let us then, rejoice with Mary that God has exalted Her to so high a throne in Heaven. Let us also rejoice on our own account; for though Our Mother is no longer present with us on earth, having ascended in glory to Heaven, yet in affection She is always with us. Nay, even being there nearer to God, She better knows our miseries; and Her pity for us is greater, while She is better able to help us. *“Is it possible, O Blessed Virgin,”* says St. Peter Damian,

“because thou art so greatly exalted, thou hast forgotten us in our miseries? Ah, no; God forbid that we should have such a thought! So compassionate a heart cannot but pity our so great miseries.” “If Mary’s compassion for the miserable,” says St. Bonaventure, “was great when She lived upon earth, it is far greater now that She reigns in Heaven.”

Let us, in the meantime, dedicate ourselves to the service of this Queen, to honor and love her as much as we can; for as Richard of St. Laurence remarks, *“She is not like other rulers, who oppress their vassals with burdens and taxes; but She enriches Her servants with graces, merits, and rewards.”* Let us also entreat Her in the words of the Abbot Guerric: *“O Mother of mercy, thou who sittest on so lofty a throne and in such close proximity to God, satiate thyself with the glory of thy Jesus, and send us, thy servants, the fragments that are left. Thou dost now enjoy the Heavenly banquet of thy Lord; and we, who are still on earth as dogs under the table, ask thy mercy.”*

St. Anselm says, that *“wherever there is the greatest purity, there is also the greatest charity.”* The more a heart is pure and empty of itself, the greater is the fullness of its love towards God. The most Holy Mary, because She was all humility and had nothing of self in Her, was filled with divine love; so that *“Her love towards God surpassed that of all men and angels,”* as St. Bernardine writes. Therefore, St. Francis de Sales with reason called Her *“the Queen of love.”*

God has indeed given men the precept to love Him with their whole heart, *“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart;”* but as St. Thomas declares, *“this commandment will be fully and perfectly fulfilled by men only in Heaven; and not on earth, where it is only fulfilled imperfectly.”*

On this subject Blessed Albert the Great remarks, that, in a certain sense, it would have been unbecoming had God given a precept that was never to have been perfectly fulfilled. But, this would have been the case had not the divine Mother perfectly fulfilled it. The saint says, *“Either someone fulfilled this precept, or no one; if anyone, it must have been the most Blessed Virgin.”*

Richard of St. Victor confirms this opinion, saying, *“The Mother of Our Emmanuel practiced virtues in their very highest perfection. Who has ever fulfilled as She did that first commandment, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart? In Her, divine love was so ardent that no defect of any kind could have access to Her.”*

“Divine love,” says St. Bernard, *“so penetrated and filled the soul of Mary, that no part of Her was left untouched; so that She loved with Her whole heart, with Her whole soul, with Her whole strength, and was full of grace.”* Therefore, Mary could well say, My Beloved has given Himself all to Me; and I have given Myself all to Him: *“Ah! Well might even the Seraphim,”* says Richard, *“have descended from Heaven to learn, in the heart of Mary, how to love God.”*

God, who is love, came on earth to enkindle in the hearts of all the flame of His divine love; but in no heart did He enkindle so much as in that of His Mother; for Her heart was entirely pure from all earthly affections, and fully prepared to burn with this Blessed flame. Thus, St. Sophronius says that *“Divine love so inflamed Her, that nothing earthly could enter Her affections; She was always burning with this Heavenly flame, and so to say, inebriated with it.”* Hence, the heart of Mary became all fire and flames, as we read of Her in the Sacred Canticles: *“The lamps thereof are fire and flame; fire burning within through love,”* as St. Anselm explains it; *“and flames shining without by the example She gave to all in the practice of virtues.”*

When Mary, then, was in the world and bore Jesus in Her arms, She could well be called, *“fire carrying fire;”* and with far more reason than a woman spoken of by Hippocrates, who was thus called because She carried fire in Her hand. Yes, for St. Ildephonsus said, that *“the Holy Ghost heated, inflamed, and melted Mary with love, as fire does iron; so that the flame of this Holy Spirit was seen, and nothing was felt but the fire of the love of God.”*

St. Thomas of Villanova says, that the bush seen by Moses, which burnt without being consumed, was a real symbol of Mary’s heart. Therefore with reason, says St. Bernard, was She seen by St. John clothed with the sun. The saint goes on to say, and *“there appeared a great wonder in Heaven, a woman clothed with the sun; for She was so closely united to God by love, and penetrated so deeply the abyss of divine wisdom, that, without a personal union with God, it would seem impossible for a creature to have a closer union with Him.”*

Hence, St. Bernardine of Sienna asserts that the most Holy Virgin was never tempted by hell; for he says: *“As flies are driven away by a great fire, so were the evil spirits driven away by Her ardent love; so much so, that they did not even dare approach Her.”*

Richard of St. Victor also says, that *“the Blessed Virgin was terrible to the princes of darkness, so that they did not presume to tempt or approach Her; for the fire of Her charity deterred them.”* Mary herself revealed to St. Bridget, that in this world She never had any thought, desire, or joy, but in and for God: *“I thought,”* She said, *“of nothing but God, nothing pleased Me but God;”* so that Her blessed soul was in almost continual contemplation of God whilst on earth.

The acts of love which She formed were innumerable, as Father Suarez writes: *“The acts of perfect charity formed by the Blessed Virgin in this life were without number; for nearly the whole of Her life was spent in contemplation, and in that state She constantly repeated acts of love.”* But a remark of Bernardine de Bustis pleases me still more: he says that Mary did not so much repeat acts of love as other saints do, but that Her whole life was one continued act of it; for by a special privilege, She always actually loved

God. As a royal eagle, She always kept Her eyes fixed on the divine Sun of Justice: *“that,”* as St. Peter Damian says, *“the duties of active life did not prevent Her from loving, and love did not prevent Her from attending to those duties.”*

Therefore, St. Germanus says, that the altar of propitiation on which the fire was never extinguished day or night, was a type of Mary.

St. Augustine asserts that sleep was not an obstacle to Mary’s love for God, since *“the dreams when sleeping, of our first parents in their state of innocence, were as happy as their lives when waking;”* and if such a privilege were granted them, it certainly cannot be denied that it was also granted to the Divine Mother, as Suarez, the Abbot Rupert, and St. Bernardine fully admit.

St. Ambrose is also of this opinion; for speaking of Mary, he says, *“while Her body rested, Her soul watched,”* verifying in Herself the words of the man: *“Her lamp shall not be put out in the night.”* Yes, for while Her blessed body took its necessary repose in gentle sleep, *“Her soul,”* says St. Bernardine, *“freely tended towards God; so much so, that She was then wrapped in more perfect contemplation than any other person ever was when awake.”* Therefore, could She well say with the Spouse in the Canticles, *“I weep, and My heart watcheth.”* As Suartz also says, *“As happy in sleep as awaking.”*

Similarly, St. Bernardine asserts, that as long as Mary lived in this world She continually loved God: *“The mind of the Blessed Virgin was always wrapped in the ardor of love.”* The saint moreover adds, that *“She never did anything that the Divine Wisdom did not show Her to be pleasing to Him; and that She loved God as much as She thought He was to be loved by Her.”*

Indeed, according to Blessed Albert the Great, we can well say that Mary was filled with so great a charity, that greater was not possible in any pure creature on earth. Hence, St. Thomas of Villanova affirms, that by Her ardent charity, the Blessed Virgin became so beautiful and so enamored of Her God, that, captivated as it were by Her love, He descended into Her womb and became man. Wherefore, St. Bernardine exclaims, *“Behold the power of the Virgin Mother: She wounded and took captive the Heart of God.”*

Since Mary loved God so much, there can be nothing that She so much requires of Her clients as that they also should love Him to their utmost. This precisely She told Blessed Angela of Foligno one day after Communion saying, *“Angela, be thou blessed by My Son, and endeavor to love Him as much as thou canst.”* She also said to St. Bridget, *“Daughter, if thou desirest to bind Me to thee, love my Son.”*

Mary desires nothing more than to see Her beloved, who is God, loved. Novarinus asks why the Blessed Virgin, with the Spouse in the Canticles, begged the angels to make the great love She bore Him known to Our Lord saying, *“I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if you find My beloved, that you tell Him that I languish with love.”* Did not God know how much She loved Him?

August 15, 1950 Pilgrimage of 100,000 people to
Necedah, WI for the Apparition of the Blessed Virgin
Mary to Mary Ann Van Hoof.



Mrs. Van Hoof relating the
Message over the microphone
as given to her by the Blessed
Virgin Mary.

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”

Pro-Life

Woman takes abortion pill, sees her 7-week-old baby

Christina was told by Planned Parenthood that her abortion by pill would “feel like a heavy period,” so she was unprepared for the agonizing cramps, heavy bleeding, and having to see the perfectly formed body of her aborted baby.

Christina was nine weeks pregnant when she went to Planned Parenthood at the urging of her fiancé. She already had a four-month-old baby at home, and her health was poor. Christina describes the type of “counseling” she received at Planned Parenthood:

The counselor asked me if I was being forced into it. Asked me if I was making this decision 100% on my own. She advised me to make sure this was what I wanted.

She then proceeded to tell me that the process will be pretty easy... and that I wouldn't see anything. They didn't ever use the word baby. They always just said “it” or “tissue” or “the process”. They never said anything about the level of development. They did tell me it would be too small to see anything.

In a video, Dr. Anthony Levatino described the medical abortion procedure and explained that Planned Parenthood did not warn her about the pain the abortion would cause. After Christina took the pills, she writes about how the procedure was far from what she expected:

They said it would feel like heavy period. It felt like HELL! It was worse than labor with my son.

The worst was yet to come. Christina was in her ninth week of pregnancy, as calculated from her last menstrual period. Since conception generally occurs approximately two weeks after that, at ovulation, she was carrying a seven-week-old preborn baby.

She was completely unprepared for the shock of seeing her child's body:

Within two hours of taking the second set of pills, I had the baby in the toilet. When I turned around there it was in the sack and everything. I broke open the sack and held the helpless little baby in my hand. I cried and felt like I had just murdered someone so innocent.

Too late, Christina realized she had made the wrong choice. Even after losing her baby into the toilet, Christina's ordeal was not over. Within days she was rushed, bleeding, to the ER. She continued to have painful contractions for two weeks.

Christina knows she was lied to by Planned Parenthood and is still grieving for her baby.

I regretted it 100% after that night. Nothing can truly prepare you for an abortion no matter what route you take. I'm still struggling with it and have nightmares about it all the time. I always ask myself, “What if I never did it?”

She hopes her story will help stop other women from going through the same traumatic experience.

SAINT JOSEPH At The Time of Death

In Volume III of “**The City Of God**”, chapter XV, “**#169 The Happy Death of St. Joseph**”, and what followed, we are given some insight to the prelude of death, and how to aid those in that state.

All should be well aware of the period of time preceding death. Our Holy Mother describes to Mary of Agreda that the souls of men incur “*the most incredible and dangerous attacks from the demons, as well from their own frailty and from the creatures around them. That hour is the great trial of life, upon which depends the last sentence of eternal life, of eternal suffering or eternal glory.*”

Satan stalks all, waiting for one to fall prey to a dangerous and mortal disease; and then immediately prepares to attack the unaware soul with all malice and cleverness to instill various temptations. “*Whenever they see an opening for attacking the souls, they try to supply in fury and malice, the shortness of time. At such times they gather like blood-thirsty wolves and search out the natural and acquired failings in his nature, taking into account his inclinations, habits and customs, and where his passions cause him greater weakness*”....and to this Satan applies his strongest efforts.

Those living in a state of sin, are inspired by Satan that they are not in great danger, and prevent others from informing them of such. Those that haveneglected the Sacraments are tempted to be more careless, with obstacles and difficulties placed in their way, and then die without receiving the grace to aid them. Others they confuse and try to prevent them from making a proper restitution and unburdening their consciences.

Satan entangles those who love vanity, who in their last hour continue their vain and proud desires. Those that have been sensual can be excited and violent toward what they loved blindly during life. Generally these enemies cause a great damage to souls in that hour by exciting the vain hope of a longer life. One can understand the great danger in the hour of death, when both the good works and the bad will begin to show their effects. A good life gives hope of a good end, all other reliance of salvation is questionable.

Proper prayer can assist the sick and dying by strengthening them against temptations and dismissing the demons and their persecution. Our Holy Mother urges us to exert all power and faculties to prevent or overcome these attacks.

Please join the dying in their last hours by praying with them, so through the help of St. Joseph, they too will die a “happy death”.

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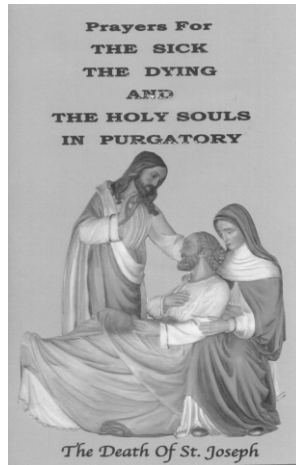
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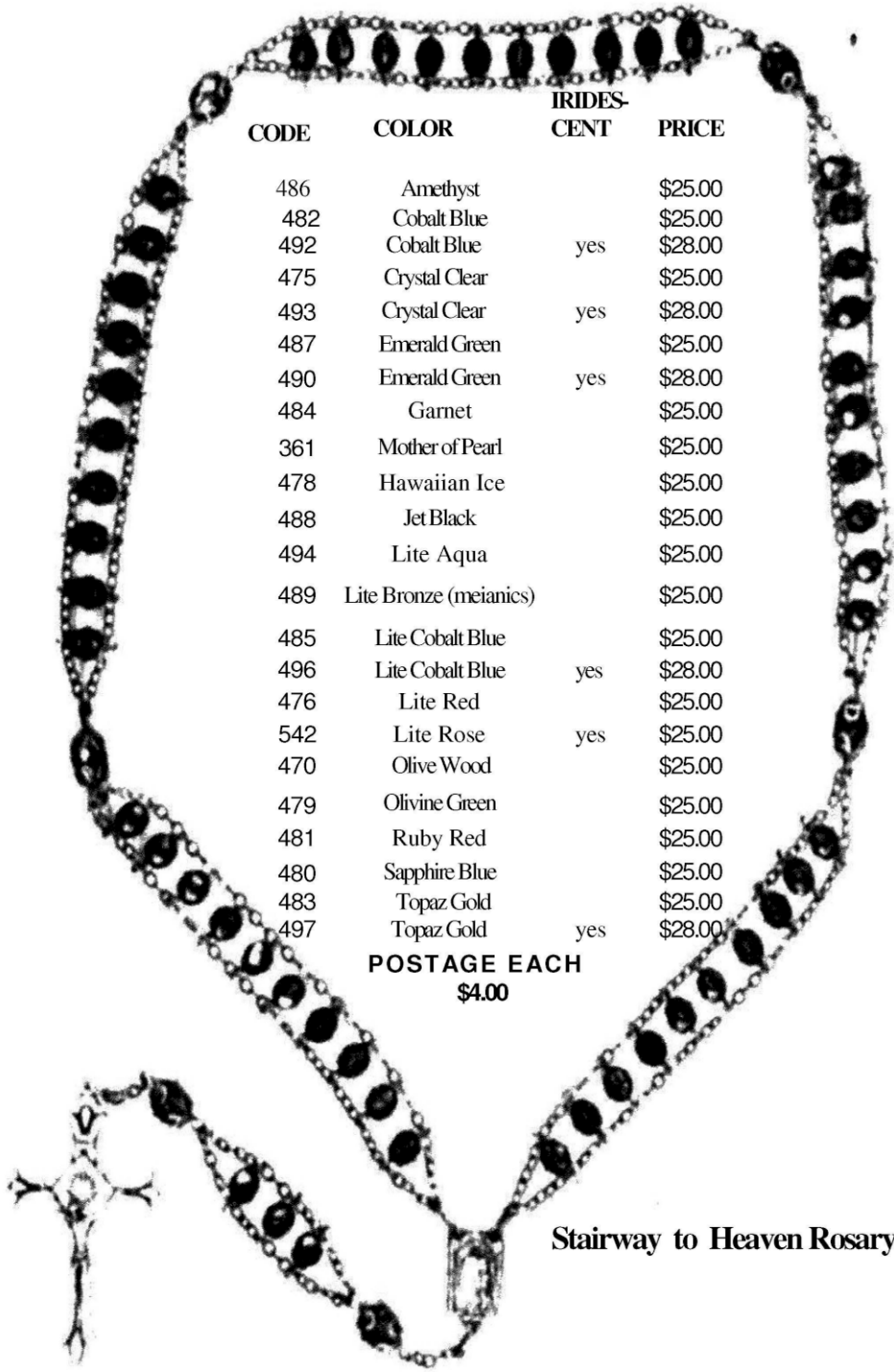
Through Mary” To Jesus,

Your “Ladder to Heaven” Rosary is a reminder that the easiest way to Jesus is through His Mother Mary. According to a legend, St Francis de Sales once had a vision of two ladders reaching up to Heaven. One ladder was very steep and difficult to climb, while the second ladder was shorter and much safer, and he noticed that this ladder was held by Mary. In the vision, St. Francis de Sales heard Jesus say, “Tell your people to come to Me by this ladder, by the way of my Mother.”

Old Mexico Ladder Rosary

This method of stringing the Rosary on a double chain has been found in Mexico. Travelers have brought them back to Colorado, calling them the “Ladder Rosaries” due to the way the beads are hung crossways like the rungs of “a ladder to climb to heaven on.” The name reminds us of Saint Dominic’s vision of souls climbing to heaven on a Rosary. St Francis de Sales’ vision of two ladders to heaven; a rather steep one directly to Jesus, another far less steep toward Mary and Jesus said: “T ell your sons to come up by the other ladder,” meaning that the easiest way to Jesus is through Mary. Also interestingly, the Russian word for Rosary means “ladder”.

Michelangelo’s painting of the “Last Judgment” in the Sistine Chapel shows two souls being pulled up out of purgatory by a Rosary!



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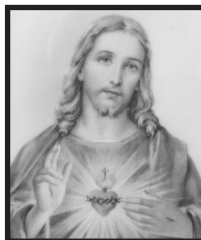
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On Hwy. 21. Follow the Signs.

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FOOD FOR THE SOUL



THE MERCY OF GOD

The year 2016 has been designated as the “Year of Mercy” by His Holiness Pope Francis. Understanding true mercy is important in view of the trends of society. The old adage still applies, *“Love the sinner, hate the sin”*.

We learn from our Catholic Faith that God is merciful. He manifests His love even to sinners. God continues to confer graces and benefits upon sinners until the last moment of their lives. He sends them troubles to bring them to repentance. He finds some good in all; and He also loves them for what He hopes they may become. God is most patient with us, because He has compassion on our weakness and desires our conversion. God is full of mercy and compassion. He readily forgives sins for which we are truly sorry. God gives the sinner time for repentance and a change of life. All through Holy Scripture we read accounts of His patience with sinners: at the warning in Ninive, at the time of Noah, at the warning to the Jews forty years before the destruction of Jerusalem, etc.

Through God’s mercy we receive the chance to enter Paradise. Yet, the burden still lies with us in reforming our lives. If we convert and attempt to lead a truly Christian life, God’s mercy and graces will aid us to do so. But, adhering to a sinful life will not bring us God’s mercy and grace. This is critical to understand in light of present trends.

Yes, God is full of mercy; and as a Good Shepherd goes after His lost sheep. No one is lost who has committed great sins, but many are lost because they have committed sins of which they will not repent. Repentance and conversion are the keys. If we look at Mary Magdalene, we see her great sorrow for sin and her humility and love for Our Lord.

Truly loving our neighbor means wanting his eternal happiness. For our family, relatives, and friends this should be the type of love we bear. True happiness will never be found in this world, only in the next if we live God’s Commandments. Thus we cannot accept those who persist in sins which cry for God’s vengeance, without praying for them and trying to help them return to the Shepherd’s fold.

Prayer is the key to salvation. *“Ask and ye shall receive.”* God is waiting for souls to return to Him. His words as He hung on the Cross ring through our minds. *“I thirst”*. Our Divine Lord thirsts for souls.

The mercy of God is indeed a motive for hope, but the most solid motive is God’s fidelity to His promises. God has promised, through the merits of Jesus Christ, to save us; and give us the graces necessary for our salvation. But, God will avail us nothing unless we pray. Prayer is a conversation with God; thus the more often we pray, the more we learn to know and love God.

Our Lord taught us how to be merciful to our neighbor, by performing the Spiritual and Corporal works of Mercy. This is true compassion and love of our neighbor. Again true love for another desires his eternal happiness.

Society today promotes accepting those who persist in sin, but without the encouragement for their conversion. May we as Christians pray and promote true Christian love for our neighbor. **May God be merciful to our souls, and those we try to help.**

SAINTS IN REVIEW



St. Maria Goretti

Maria Goretti was born in Corinaldo, Italy on October 16, 1890. Her farm-worker father later moved his family to Ferrier di Conca, near Anzio. Her father died of malaria and her mother had to struggle to feed her children.

In 1902, when Maria was 12 years old, an 18 year old neighbor boy, Alexander, grabbed her from the steps of her home and tried to rape her. When Maria said that she would rather die than submit, Alexander began stabbing her with a knife.

As she lay in the hospital, she forgave Alexander before she died. Her death didn’t end her forgiveness, however.

Alexander was captured and sentenced to thirty years in prison. He was unrepentant until he had a dream that he was in a garden. Maria was there and gave him flowers. When he awoke, he was a changed man. He repented of his crime and lived a reformed life.

When he was released from prison after 27 years, he went directly to Maria’s mother to beg her forgiveness, which she gave. “If my daughter can forgive you, who am I to withhold forgiveness,” she said.

When Maria was declared a saint in 1950, Alexander was there in the St. Peter’s crowd to celebrate her canonization. She was canonized by Pope Pius XII for her purity as a model for youth.

She is called a martyr because she fought against Alexander's attempts at sexual assault. However, the most important aspect of her story is her forgiveness of her attacker — her concern for her enemy extending even beyond death.

Her feast day is July 6th. St. Maria Goretti is the patroness of youth and for the victims of rape.

Prayer to St. Maria Goretti

Oh Saint Maria Goretti who, strengthened by God's grace, did not hesitate even at the age of twelve to shed your blood and sacrifice life itself to defend your virginal purity, look graciously on the unhappy human race which has strayed far from the path of eternal salvation. Teach us all, and especially youth, with what courage and promptitude we should flee for the love of Jesus anything that could offend Him or stain our souls with sin. Obtain for us from our Lord victory in temptation, comfort in the sorrows of life, and the grace which we earnestly beg of thee (here insert intention), and may we one day enjoy with thee the imperishable glory of Heaven. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, etc.
St. Maria Goretti, pray for us!

“United We Stand, Divided We Fall.”

The Mother of God, appearing to Mary Ann Van Hoof for 34 years, repeated often the admonition “United we stand, divided we fall.” The Mother of God advised that people of all creeds, color, or race work in unity against the enemy of God.

In Memoriam

BERNARD H. VAN HOOF

Bernard (“Bernie” or “Van”) H. Van Hoof, at the age of 82, departed for his eternal life on February 10, 2016 in Honolulu, Hawaii. He was surrounded by his family, his caretakers, and his day nurse from the Island’s Hospice.

Bernie was born in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin on June 2, 1933. He grew up in Wisconsin, Texas, and Missouri. The family settled on the family farm in Necedah, Wisconsin where Bernie experienced life with six brothers and sisters, and attended the Necedah Public Schools. He enjoyed time spent learning from his dad, spending time with his siblings and friends, and growing up on the farm. Bernie joined the United States Air Force in 1953. After boot camp at Lackland AFB, Texas, he was sent to Korea.

After Korea, he attended both Tech School and Flight School in Amarillo, TX. He was a natural leader and was chosen to attend the Senior NCO (Non-Commissioned Officer) Academy in 1956. Bernie was stationed at Davis Monthan AFB in Tucson, Arizona; Strategic Air Command (SAC) Headquarters – Offutt AFB in Omaha, Nebraska; and Hickam AFB in Honolulu, Hawaii. He had a very fulfilling 30-year career in the Air Force, and retired as a Chief Master-Sergeant. Bernie was part of the 358th Bombardment Squadron at SAC. He was a Flight Crew Chief “4th Man.”

Bernie was also in the 619th MASS (Military Air Support Squadron) at Hickam, and served in at least two classified operations – Operation Looking Glass (SAC) and Operation Blue Eagle (Hickam). He was sent to Davis Monthan to work on the B-47’s; and he worked and flew the EC-135, KC-135, and a list of other planes at Offutt. After transferring to Hawaii in 1970, he was again sent to Thailand and was stationed there for one year (TDY) to lead operations at the U Tapao Royal Thai Airfield during the Vietnam War. Bernie traveled all over the world; and over the years, would be gone for three months at a time on rotation.

When grounded, he had to be ready to leave within 15 minutes of notice. At times, he managed up to 700-800 men and women. He guided his direct reports to reach their full potential, and some were promoted to generals, who in later years always insisted he meet their planes at Hickam. After a long active duty career, Bernie was requested to continue his job at Hickam as a civilian, and worked an additional 15 years in the Civil Service. Bernie loved his family, his work, and our country. And, he loved planes. He was a great storyteller, and told many stories of his travels, his childhood, and stories about his wife and children.

Bernie met his wife, Katherine “Kay” McMillan, while poolside in Tuscon, Arizona. They married in 1958 and had three children.

As a young boy growing up on the Necedah farm, he had some heart ailments. One day his mother saw him with the old reel-blade mower mowing the same area of lawn over and over, back and forth. This was in their front yard near the Sacred Spot of Apparitions. It was later learned he was saying the rosary while mowing. After that, his heart ailment left him.

During his military career in meeting various people, he would talk to them about the Necedah Apparitions, and pass out the Necedah Shrine brochures and the little Necedah Apparition booklets. He very much believed in the Necedah Apparitions.

A viewing was held for Bernard in Honolulu on February 12, 2016 attended by his family and friends. Visitation and funeral Mass was held at the St. Francis church in Necedah on March 28th. Bernie was buried with full military honors at the Queen of the Holy Rosary, Mediatrix of Peace Cemetery. He was buried next to his mother’s grave as he had requested.

MAIL CORNER

Illinois: Necedah has such blessed memories for me. I would come on the bus from Chicago for years, and was involved with the Constant Vigil of Prayer. Our group would visit different churches for prayers. I’m homebound these days, but am able to use my walker to get around fine. I love my statue of Our Lady of Necedah, and also my statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. They are right here where I say my prayers. Thank you for your work; and God bless all the workers.

Massachusetts: Thank you for all you’ve done for the Mission from Heaven; and for the world and me personally. Enclosed is a donation for your continued work. God bless you.

Illinois: I pray that Mary Ann is blessing you with many graces from Heaven. I think Fr. Scheetz was mentioned in a book I read, “A Still, Small Voice”, a Practical Guide on Reported Revelations; as they said he was from Indiana. I’m a believer.

Minnesota: Just read your Volume 18 Winter 2015 Newsletter. Always so much to learn. Thanks!



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