

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



Shrine Newsletter

Volume 18 Winter 2015



*Christmas is Christ's Birthday,
Come Let Us Adore Him*

About Our Cover

The Cave in which Our Lord was born at Bethlehem was an animal shelter, in a rough and rocky hillside. The replica of this Cave on the Shrine grounds was built as shown in vision to Mary Ann Van Hoof. The Cave is open from Dec. 1st to Feb. 1st. Caroling at the Cave takes place on Christmas Eve; at other times eleven hand-painted murals are on display in the entrance that depict various observances in the Church year.

An annual outdoor Nativity Pageant, which was enacted for the first time in 1971, is now held on the First Saturday of December at 7:00 P.M. It's portrayed by a large cast in colorful costumes and live animals; with supportive lighting, electronics, and music. This beautiful spiritual experience for young and old is one that will always be remembered. Admission is free.

Prayer for Priests

by St. Therese of Lisieux

O Jesus, eternal Priest, keep your priests within the shelter of Your Sacred Heart, where none may touch them. Keep unstained their anointed hands, which daily touch Your Sacred Body. Keep unsullied their lips, daily purpled with your Precious Blood. Keep pure and unearthly their hearts, sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood. Let Your holy love surround them and shield them from the world's contagion. Bless their labors with abundant fruit. And may the souls to whom they minister be their joy and consolation here; and in heaven their beautiful and everlasting crown. Amen

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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Vigil Schedule at the Shrine

January 2016

8th **Our Lady of Prompt Succor** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

23rd **Espousal of Our Lady** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

February 2016

2nd **Presentation of Jesus & Purification of Blessed Virgin Mary** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

9th **Anna Katerina Emmerick** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

13th **Robert Van Hoof Death Anniversary** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

25th **Tom Huber, Henry Binkowski** — 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Memorial

March, 2016

17th **Saint Patrick** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

18th **Mary Ann Van Hoof Death Anniversary** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

19th **Saint Joseph** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

21st **Saint Benedict** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

25th **Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary** — 8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil

April 2016

6th **Father Martins Death Anniversary** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

7th **Apparition Anniversary of 1950** — 8:00 p.m. Candlelite Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil

May, 2016

1st **Saint Joseph the Worker** — 8:00 p.m. Vigil

15th **Penecost Sunday** — 12:45 p.m. Procession and 1:00 p.m. Vigil

22nd **Trinity Sunday** 12:45 p.m. Procession and 1:00 p.m. Vigil

24th **Mary Help of Christians** — 8:00 p.m. Procession and 8:15 p.m. Vigil

28th **Apparition Anniversary of 1950** — 12 noon Procession and 1:00 p.m. Vigil

29th **Apparition Anniversary of 1950** — 12 noon Procession and 1:00 p.m. Vigil

30th **Apparition Anniversary of 1950** — 12 noon Procession and 1:00 p.m. Vigil

31st **Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary** — 12:45p.m. Procession/Crowning and 1:00 p.m. Vigil

Shrine Newsletter

FRIDAY IN ADVENT December 18, 1970

Bring the Christ Child back; make Christmas the True Christmas, then you might have a small way of coming back to the love of God.

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HEAVEN'S MESSAGES IN REVIEW



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

“WHERE ARE YOU CHRISTMAS?”

A popular song speaks of not finding “Christmas”. Yet, we as Christians know Christmas is not about the sentimentality or even the attitude of the populace. Christmas is the Birthday of Our Divine Savior. How do we spend our Advent and Christmas? How do we help others to love the Christ Child, to appreciate His gift to us, and to thank Him sufficiently?

Our Holy Mother spoke many times about “Putting Christ back into the Crib”. One such Message to Mary Ann Van Hoof on December 7, 1956, states, *“Bring those innocent children home to their Savior; and by that you must first place the Christ Child in the Crib. You must take out the tinsel, the glitter; you must take out the drinks, the parties, the commercialism. You must place into that Crib the Christ Child, and bring that innocent child home to the Christ Child. It is now lost in a forest of tinsel; false tinsel, the web. It's like a fly that gets caught in a web of a spider. So is the Godless spreading the web of tinsel*

to trap that child and take it away from the “true” Christmas, the Christ Child. Unless you put Christ back into Christmas, unless you replace the Bunny with the Resurrection, you will not find the peace that you are seeking. Without Christ there is no peace, but destruction for all mankind. Save the innocent souls – that’s the mission here; which should be the tree, and branch out all over to save those innocent children. Give them a real Christmas!”

Another Message given on December 18, 1959, states, “*So, sad; so sad. Again the Crib will be empty. The Infant will not be in Our Holy Mother’s arms. It is sad to see in our U.S.A., the land dedicated to and so loved by Our Holy Mother, that we failed to be the shining star in the Western Hemisphere at the time when the Christ Child’s birth is again celebrated from the altars. Yes, it might be a wee bit early for some places to put up the Nativity scene, but it should not be put up any later than this; because if the Catholic world wants to show those who are battling against the Infant, Our Lord and God, then they should display the Nativity scene with all its glory at least eight days before Christmas, not just the night before His Birth, to counteract Satan’s display of destruction of Catholicism or the Christian world. In some areas it is beautiful what they have done. This is not in vain, for even those that are harsh cannot help but comment on some of these beautiful Nativity scenes of their Lord and God.”*

We can contemplate on how we can spend our Advent in preparation for this beautiful feast. The Message of Our Holy Mother to Mary Ann on December 18, 1970 reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas. “*The times are too good. As long as the Almighty Dollar keeps rolling into their pockets, that is all they care; and how they can have good times, how they can have merriment, parties. Well, giving, that’s what Christmas represents; giving, “GIVING OF WHAT? The spiritual love of God; no, that’s for the squares. True love of God is not there. The only thing they seek is buying of gifts. Millions of dollars are spent for gifts. How many knees bend for the true Christ; how many knees bend for the love of God, the Infant, the Anniversary of the Birth of Thy Lord and God? How many knees bend for Him? Oh, they have Santa Claus up. Oh, yes, they have everything up. But what represents Christ? That again is only for the squares; that again is not for them. But when they come up before Thy Lord and God, which they will all have to face, no matter how much money they have, or how much they think they possess, possessions will not mean a thing when you pass on. Are you going to enter Heaven or down to Hell? Will you roll right into Hell because you had no time for Thy Lord and God; you had no time for Thy Holy Mother?.... Turn to Thy Lord and God. Make this a Spiritual Christmas; a Spiritual Christmas of love of God first and above all. No, there’s no harm in giving a gift, as long as you remember Thy Lord and God first; that Christmas will mean to you, the Birth of Christ.”*

Instructions were given on the Feast of St. Nicholas, December 6, 1968

prayers in December. These prayers were to begin on December 18th and continue daily until Christmas.

Another request was to read the Psalms during Advent. We must use this preparation time set aside by the Church to increase our appreciation and love of Our Divine Savior and His Holy Mother.

If you would like a copy of the Prayers requested, they are contained in a booklet:

NO. 649 Traditional Family Customs for Christmas:

This booklet includes Advent Wreath Customs, Blessing of a Christmas Tree for the Home, Prayers to be said for Christmas, Hour of Grace, Blessing of the Crib, Christmas Eve Program for the Home, The Gospel Story of the Birth of Christ, and Christmas Carols. 22 pages.



\$2.00 ea. S&H \$3.00

ATTENTION READERS!

Do you know of anyone who had been receiving the Shrine Newsletter, but has not received it in the past few months? If you do, please have them contact the Shrine by mail, e-mail, or a phone call with their name and address; so we can put them back on the mailing list.

Also, if anyone has or will have a change of address, please contact us; plus file a "change of address" with your Post Office. Thank you!



SHRINE NEWS



House of Prayer

Work has continued on the House of Prayer due to the mild Autumn weather. Volunteers have been coming during the week as well as on Saturday to help with the forming and the setting of re-enforcement steel rods. Work will continue as long as the weather stays mild.

Besides the forming and setting of rebar, we have concrete block walls that need to be built. In the future, there will be a need for volunteers with iron-worker's experience. In addition to that, electricians and plumbers will be needed.

Our Saturday work begins at 9:00 P.M. The Saturday volunteers are always pleased with the special treat prepared by the women; as a noon lunch is offered to the men so they can continue to work in the afternoon without having to leave for lunch on their own.

May God and His Holy Mother bless the cooks; and, all those volunteers traveling to help with the House of Prayer and the other projects on the Shrine Grounds.

October 7th Anniversary Day Report

Heaven blessed us with a beautiful Fall day in which to honor Our Blessed Mother in appreciation for Her Visit to Mrs. Van Hoof on this day in 1950. Again visitors came from our surrounding states to join us.

It was an inspiration to see the people follow behind the statue of Our Lady as they proudly carried their State Flags while singing our Shrine song "Ave, Ave, Mater Dei".

Equally impressive, was their sincere prayers and gratitude to Our Heavenly Queen for coming to warn us of what would befall our Country and our Church if we did not heed those warnings. Sadly we all realized that Her Warnings have come true; and humbly have to accept the consequences for not enough people working and praying as She asked.

MARY ANN'S STORY

October 7, 1950

From "My Work With Necedah"

By Henry Swan

(Continued from Autumn Newsletter)

The morning of October 4th was a very sad morning as Our Pastor was leaving us. I don't believe anyone in Church had a dry eye and all had a heavy heart. I know I was unable to read my Missal because of the tears. I had to pray for control when going to the Communion Rail. We all loved Father and felt very disappointed because he was transferred, but this is all in a Priest's life. He gets to love his Flock and they him; then he is taken from them.

After Mass Mother Lengowski told me to come over to the Rectory to have breakfast. Father's Sister Helen was there also. Many things were packed and being packed. After breakfast I talked to Father. Then some people came that had been at the farm and wanted to see me.

John Dohn was present also; and he saw Father on the Religious Goods sales and settled with him about the percentage basis. He also talked of his being refused permission to sell any more Religious Goods at the Parish Hall. He had gone to La Crosse to the Chancery Office, but still was not allowed to sell anything. He was very upset. Then people also bothered him about trying to see me. He said, "*Say, Mary Ann, I'll take you to Milwaukee. This is terrible; you'll be all in the 7th, the big day. We can't let this happen. I don't think it's right. Come, let's go see the Padre.*"

We went upstairs to Father Sig's Office and John told Father what he thought. Father thought that was a good idea. I shook hands with Father and hoped he would find everything in order in his next Parish; and that it would not be too hard on his Mother, for she was taking it hard. The poor soul was crying, for she loved Necedah. I advised Father not to unpack, I said it won't be long and you'll be moved again. He looked at me rather strange and gave me his particular smile he has that I love; it's sort of a twinkle in his eyes. John took me home and said he would pick me up in an hour. I got ready; and in an hour and a half John came and we left for Milwaukee.

Before I left, the yard was full of people all trying to see me, Mother, Mary McInnes, and Clara were busy with the people. So many of them insisted I was home. I came in the back way; also left the back way. It seemed so strange that I would have to sneak in and out of my own home, otherwise I would have been swamped.

On our way to Milwaukee, John talked of his experiences with the Religious Goods work and told me many stories about it. I had some of my mail with me which I tried to read on the way down to Milwaukee, John took

me to his home first, and I had lunch with his family. Then he took me to Bob Broderick's. Bob called Father Franklin Kennedy at the Herald Citizen Office and told him I was there. He also called Father Claude Heithaus at Marquette University and told him. Later that evening they all arrived. Also Father Val Rykowski came over; and we talked of the crowds of people, and how they were already arriving.

Father Kennedy was all upset about not coming up to Necedah with his Staff from the Office of the Herald Citizen Press. Father Kennedy read a letter to me concerning my Bishop not permitting him to come to Necedah. He felt very bad about it, but he shrugged his shoulders, "*Can't be; it can't be.*"

Then something was said that surprised me and made me wonder about Obedience. Father said, "*My Press Boys will be there. They are good; and I can depend on them.*" He spoke of how Bishop Murray of Minneapolis had gone over Our Lady's Work for the Digest with his little stub pencil and corrected the Work. Bob Broderick showed me the Catholic Digest in manuscript form, only Bob called it something else that I can't recall. He said they were all ready to add October 7th to it; then it will go on the Press in seven different languages. It will be sent to many foreign countries, so Our Lady's Message will be all over in a hurry. Bishop Murray had gone over it for correction. When the October 7th Message comes through and any happenings, he will stay right in Necedah, write it up, and go straight to Minneapolis to the Bishop's Office for correction. Then it would be read at a moment's notice from my Bishop. They were all so excited, which seemed strange and a little confusing.

Father Val Rykowski took me over to his friend's home where I stayed over night. When we arrived there we watched television while coffee was being made. Father read his Office; we just had time to finish our coffee before midnight. Father left for the Rectory and I went to bed, as I had stayed here in September and knew the people and my room.

The next day I went to Mass at St. Vincent's Church. Father Val said Mass. I had breakfast, talked with my hostess, and teased the two children. The little girl and boy sure were cute children. About 9:30 A.M., Father Val arrived and took me over to the Brodericks. Jeanette had been doing artistic work for a Church, I believe in Kenosha; and she sure could do some beautiful work. Father Kennedy came over and said something about going to his farm that evening for supper. Father Heithaus came as soon as his teaching was over, so we were all together. We talked of the crowd and how difficult it was for us to get around, being grabbed onto.

Then they decided that Father should say Mass in my home. I said, "*Father, that would be swell. Joanne and I then wouldn't get attacked again.*" They wondered how to go about it. Father Heithaus said his Superior was in Washington, but he could call him; so he left. A half hour later he was back and it was all settled; and he had permission to say Mass.

I was surprised at how the Fathers were talking of getting around their Bishops. Isn't that breaking Obedience? Well, I thought they would know the laws. We talked of Father's removal. I told them I knew of this before. Our Lady calls him my Spiritual Director. But now it will be more of a sacrifice to get to see him. I asked Father Heithaus if the Bishop could tell me who my Spiritual Director should be. Father said, "*No, that is one privilege you have, and no one can tell you who to have.*" Father Kennedy smiled and said the same thing.

I told them I knew who was behind Father's removal, but I would not tell. I did give Father Val some information on it, but not all. I felt very hurt about it, and told Father Val that many in the Community blame me for Father's removal; some even are hostile. Father said this is the usual procedure at all Apparitions.

Fathers Val, Kennedy, Heithaus, the Brodericks, and myself went to Father Kennedy's farm. I had arrived a little earlier in the afternoon and went to look at the pigs. The Nuns here were taking care of everything. They had many brood sows, cows, ducks, geese, chickens. Two Sisters were dressing chickens, I believe for the Sacred Heart Sanitarium. Father showed me the big barn full of hay they had. This second cutting of hay he said we could have. He asked if I knew how he could get it to our place, discussing the cost of trucking it. He said he would find out. We went in and had supper. The Nuns sure put up wonderful eats. That food looked good, but I couldn't eat much as I was fasting.

Jenny said tomorrow she'd put my hair up on curlers; then I could leave it that way until the morning of the 7th. Bob and Father Kennedy then teased me about my hair. It was again mentioned why I was not to cut my hair. Father said that Our Lady must believe in long hair.

We talked of different things, and they wondered about what name Our Lady would give Herself. I told them I didn't even know if She would give Herself a Title or Name, for Our Lady didn't say anything about it. I had told them this before, but it seemed that question was put to me so often. We left to go back to the city.

I went with Fathers Val and Heithaus; and on the way back to Milwaukee Father Heithaus asked me to pray for his brother, Victor Heithaus. He implied things were not so good with him. I told him I would. What was actually said I will omit, for it is private. Then Father Heithaus said something that struck me very strange coming from a Priest. We discussed other things; about my going back the next day, and so forth. We took Father Heithaus to Marquette College; and Father Val took me to his friend's place, where we again watched television until coffee was made, because it seemed Father Val liked his coffee.

My hosts both were excited about the 7th and asked me how I felt. Oh, I didn't know. I then told them of my feelings which I could not explain. We had our coffee and just finished it a minute before midnight. I excused myself and

went to bed for I was tired.

The next morning I went to 7 or 7:15 o'clock Mass at St. Vincent's Church, had breakfast, and waited for Father to pick me up earlier as he had done before. Jeanette got my hair ready in the morning; and Father Kennedy said his Press Boys were all ready to go, and they would arrive in the evening at his rented home in Necedah. Broderick had the things ready that they were going to take, for they were leaving early. Father came for me and we left to pick up Father Lengowski's sisters; Grace at the Doctor's office and Henrietta at her home, who also went to a factory for Father Kennedy. Father Val bought a coat, forest green color like he had, for our Bernard. Had a little difficult time in getting the coat.

Here I discovered Father's temper, which he displayed at stop and go lights and other places, for he was in such a hurry. I felt this before but didn't think it was quite this serious. I prayed for him so that he would be able to control his temper better. We left for a small town north of Stevens Point, as Father had some business up there. We ran into detours and rain which delayed us considerably.

On the way back we stopped for something to eat this side of Wisconsin Rapids, I had soup, Father took a fish dinner, the girls had hot sandwiches. Father's fish dinner was not tasteful, so he left it. By this time it was getting very late. In Necedah we took the girls to Mrs. Mae Fitzgerald's home and Father took me home to the farm. Everywhere there were people. The Rosary was being prayed over the loud speaker. People coming and going. We came in the back way. People were at the back door. Cops were at the back door. The Cop was about to halt me when he recognized me. He laughed and I went in, for I didn't want to be stopped by the people in the back yard. It was 10:30 P.M.

There was a sigh of relief when they saw me. The house was full of people. I thought, "*Good Lord, what's this?*" as several Priests, our relations, and other people were all there. Father Ed Sobczyk was showing someone a picture post card of me and the Shrine. He was trying to get this person to see something in this picture. He saw me, grabbed me by the arm and said, "*Come here; did you see this card and what's on it?*" No, I didn't see anything on it. "*Why, the profile of Our Lord is on this picture.*" Try as I did, I could not see it, which he just could not understand. Father Scheetz was sitting in the living room. He seemed disappointed about something. I said a few words to him.

I was told about the rumor that I was taken sick and would not be here tomorrow. I believe someone went out to let the crowd know I was here, and well. Of course some saw me as I passed the door or spoke to the Cop at the front door. Joe Engel was out there and he told me the story. Of course he laughed and said, "*Our Lady will have her here!*" I came back in and Father Val told me he couldn't see the profile in the picture either. Father told me that the people should clear out and I should get some rest. I agreed for I was tired

and there was dissension in the air, I could feel the weight caused by it. Why, I do not know. “*Oh Father,*” I said, “*there’s such a pressure here.*”

“*Oh, you are tired, you better get some sleep.*” He spoke to someone in the room. Who all were in the room that night, I really don’t know; as the house was just jammed with people.

Poor Joanne and Fred. I said to Father, “*I have a feeling like leaving.*” Mary Fisher came and said someone wanted to see me in the back. She said it was better that she stick around to help Joanne. Oh, wonderful Mary! I sure loved her. She was a God-send to me. So I went out; it was about a Crown for Our Lady. “*Oh,*” I said, “*that will be taken care of, as it has been ordered.*”

Then I noticed Hank Swan, Gus Keller, Joe Engel, Bob Broderick, Len and Bob Schmitt. There was an argument going on over where the Herald Citizen Press should be. I was spotted and called over. They thought I should help to decide. I told them the Committee should take care of that. Whatever they decided was OK. That’s when Bob said that Hank, Gus, and Len were on the Committee; and they were being pushed out, meaning Bob and the Press. Bob sure was angry. Father Heithaus stood to the side watching.

It seemed they thought I should voice my opinion and that would be that; but I didn’t. I trusted Hank, Gus, and Len’s judgment, and felt it was better than mine; besides, they were chosen to do this work. Of course the Committee didn’t know that Father Heithaus had Fred and I sign a statement that no one else was to tell them what to do as this was our property. That was for Father Heithaus, Kennedy, also Bob and Jenny Broderick. I left then and went into the house. Father Scheetz was leaving; also others left, as did Father Eddy.

It wasn’t until midnight that we were left without outsiders, just my own folks. Mass was scheduled for 7 A.M. the next morning. George and Ann Van Hoof stayed in our house overnight, too. I was called to the back door about 11:30 P.M. when Stephen Orazo came to the door asking questions; and some Brown Scapulars arrived. I prayed over them, touched them with my Blue Rosary, and they were given to the people.

There was beautiful singing, the Rosary, Litanies, also Consecration Prayers. Anthony Olinger recited some beautiful Meditations while standing on the loudspeaker platform. Then someone got lost and was called over the loud speaker to meet at a certain place. My brother’s wife’s Mother had an awful cold. She was coughing terribly; and so again this night, no sleep. I prayed for her and others. About 4 A.M. the talking outside of the window quit and I could have gone to sleep, but knew I must get prepared for Father Heithaus so he could say Mass. When Fred got up to milk, I also got up; and George was up, too. He said he couldn’t sleep, but rested a little though. I started to make coffee and oatmeal for the children. There was plenty of cake and bread.

Father and Bob Broderick arrived at 6:30 A.M., and as soon as everyone was ready we had Mass in our living room on the old writing desk. Those

present for Mass were Mrs. Christianson, (mother of my brother's wife Rose), my Mother (Mrs. Bieber), my brothers Matthias and Richard, Richard's wife (Rose), George and Ann Van Hoof (Fred's oldest brother), Oliver Trumm, Joanne, Fred, and myself. Bob Broderick served for Father and all that could receive Holy Communion.

After Mass Bob said to me the crowd sure was getting larger right along and thought it would be larger than August 15th. He thought they were packed closer to the buildings; the fence was much closer than on August 15th. They were over the garden, where they were not on the 15th. By that time Father was ready to leave so they left. Bob said that Father Kennedy would have a reporter here at the phone to talk direct to him in Milwaukee. My brother heard it and laughingly said, "*To give a blow by blow description over the phone.*"

With that Bob said, "*I'll be seeing you. Good Luck.*"

"*Thanks; God Bless you.*" I answered. Everyone prepared to eat breakfast and the children came down. "*Oh, Mom, look at all the people!*"

"*Yes,*" I said, "*there'll be more coming.*" Kenneth, the baby, was too young; but Donna 5 and Bob 7 couldn't understand all those people being there.

Joanne and I went out, after the children had eaten, with some flowers; and also took out Cecelia Boomer's beautiful Shrine and placed it before the feet of Our Lady of Fatima's Statue. Our Lady of Necedah would be right over it. It surely was a very beautiful Shrine and I did not want anything to happen to it. Matt Haack was working on an electric cord for the recorders. Bob and my brother Richard, Father Scheetz, and Ray Schelfhout were working to get set up for the recorders.

Bob King came around the house to get me to identify someone, and as usual it was relatives of Fred's (Martin and Math Van Hoof and families). I spoke with them for awhile in the back; and then noticed Father Val had arrived, so I spoke a few words with him. Later Father Val and I joined Bernard and Bob King; and we were talking over by the barn.

Juliet Hughes wanted to see me, so I talked to her in my Mother's car. I told her she would have to be with the rest of the relatives, as she wanted to come into the house and also be with me at the Spot. "*Oh, Juliet, you'll be close to Our Lady if you stand with the rest of the relatives.*" My Spiritual Director told me definitely not to permit her at the Spot. In the absence of my Spiritual Director, Father Val said the same. I guess the poor soul just couldn't understand why and she cried; but orders were orders, and I believe she was happy and contented with the position she had after wards.

CHRISTIAN PERFECTION

Feature Article

The celebration of Christmas and the coming New Year often lead us to a time of activity, but little time for contemplation on the beauty and lessons of the season. We have so very much to learn from Our Divine Savior and His Holy Mother. Their virtues need to be imitated in our lives. Let us take time for reflection on where we are in our Christian life, and where we are going.

"The Catechism Explained", copyright 1921 by Benziger Brothers, contains a beautiful explanation on achieving Christian Perfection. The following is taken from this book.

God requires of all the just that they should aspire to Christian perfection. God desires the sinner to be converted and the just to strive for perfection. The duty of aspiring for perfection is included in the precept of charity, for it requires us to love God with all our strength.

And what else does that mean? It means continual advancement in the path of virtue. *"He that is just, let him be justified still; and he that is holy, let him be sanctified still"* (Apoc. Xxii. 11). Our Lord lays this injunction upon us: *"Be you therefore perfect, as also your Heavenly Father is perfect"* (Matt. V. 48). The will of God is none other than our sanctification. He, who does not aim at the attainment of Christian perfection, is in danger of losing his soul. No man can stand still on the path of virtue. *"As soon,"* says St. Augustine, *"as thou art content with thyself, and thinkest thou hast done enough, thou art lost."* We should always aim at the highest degree of sanctity.

The most sublime example of Christian perfection is found in Our Lord. After Him, the saints are also patterns of perfection. Christ says: *"I am the way, the truth, and the life"* (John xiv. 6). When the rich youth asked Our Lord what he was to do in order to be perfect, the answer given him was: *"Follow Me"* (Matt. Xix. 21). St. Paul bids us: *"Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ"* (Rom. Xiii. 14).

As an apprentice watches his master at work, that he may learn to work like him, so we ought to keep our eyes on our Master, Christ. The saints meditated unceasingly on the Life and Passion of Our Lord. He is the Christian's pattern. The saints are also examples of perfection, for they imitated Christ. The saints stand in the same relation to Christ as the stars do to the sun; as He surpasses them all in perfection. Thus, it is easier for us to imitate the saints. We know Christ sets us the example, but the sanctity of the saints is within our reach. Almost every saint excelled in a particular virtue. The actions of each were suited to, and in conformity with, the circumstances and environment in which they were placed; e.g., their calling, their means, their bodily strength, and natural temperament. Every one ought to choose for his model a saint whose position and calling were similar to his own.

The perfection of the Christian consists in charity towards God and his neighbor, and in detachment of heart from the things of the world. "*Love is the fulfilling of the law*" (Rom. Xiii. 10). *Charity is the bond of perfection* (Col. Iii. 14). St. Augustine, when asked how sanctity of life was to be attained, answered: "*Love God, and do as Thou wilt;*" meaning that he who truly loves God will do nothing that displeases Him. St. Francis of Sales says that the only true perfection is to love God with our whole heart and our neighbor as ourselves; all other perfection is false. St. Thomas Aquinas defines sanctity as the fervent surrender of one's self to God. Sanctity does not consist in the outward observances of religion, in long prayers, in fasting, and alms giving; these are but means to its attainment. Nor does sanctity consist in complete freedom from sin; it is attained rather by constant and energetic resistance to sin. For God frequently permits even saints to fall into sin to keep them humble.

Least of all does sanctity consist in extraordinary works, which the world regards with astonishment and admiration. We do not read of the Mother of God ever having performed extraordinary works; or St. Joseph, the foster-father of Christ. In the ranks of the saints a great number will be found who never shone in the sight of the world; *their life was hid with Christ, in God* (Col. Iii. 3). The love of God is always accompanied by hatred of the world and abhorrence of its sinful, sensual delights. *If any man loves the world, the charity of the Father is not in Him* (1 John ii. 15).

The love of God and the love of the world are like the scales of a balance; as one rises the other falls. As charity increases in the heart, sinful affections die out. As one who would climb to the top of a tower must ascend the steps that lead to it, so if we would reach the summit of perfection, we must detach our hearts as completely as possible from earthly things. The greater our hatred of the world, and our proportionate charity towards God and our neighbor, the greater the degree of perfection we have attained.

He who makes Christian perfection his aim will attain it surely but slowly. Our Lord says: "*Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after justice, for they shall have their fill*" (Matt. V. 6). A sincere desire for perfection and an untiring effort to attain it will not be unsuccessful. The desire for it is already half the battle; for an energetic desire gives force and courage, makes labor light, daunts the enemy, makes a man pleasing to God, and obtains grace.

On St. Thomas Aquinas being asked how one could make sure of attaining sanctity he replied: "*By a resolute will.*" No one has ever attained sanctity without fervently desiring it, any more than proficiency in an art or science has ever been acquired by one whose wishes were not eagerly set upon it. But progress towards Christian perfection is very slow. Our sanctification is not the work of a single day. No one, unless he be peculiarly privileged by God, can reach perfection in a short time. It is the same in the spiritual as in the natural order: A plant does not spring up and blossom in a night; nor does the

infant grow to a man's stature in a single day. The process of healing is a slow one; indeed the slower the surer. So it is with our sanctification.

There are three degrees in the way of perfection; that of beginners, who still retain a strong affection for mortal sin; that of the advanced, who cannot abstain from venial sin, and who, because of attachment to earthly things, are still in a state of warfare; and the perfect, whose heart is completely detached from earth and given to God, and who consequently are entirely at peace within themselves.

These three degrees are also known as the purgative, the illuminative, and the unitive way. They correspond in the supernatural life to the three stages of man's natural life; infancy, the beginning of life; childhood, the period of development; and manhood, the period of maturity.

St. Ignatius asks beginners to meditate on these last things; the advanced, to concentrate on the Passion of Our Lord; and the perfect, to concentrate on divine goodness and celestial joys.

There is no end to the way of perfection; for the love of God is without limit. *"He who is just, let him be justified still; and he that is holy, let him be sanctified still"* (Apoc. Xxii. 11). It is however, within the power of man to approach very near, while still on earth, to the state of the Blessed in Heaven.

There is no state or calling of life in which Christian perfection is not possible. Saints are formed in every class, from the highest to the lowest. To love God and one's neighbor is within everyone's power. *"How easy a thing it is,"* says St. Bonaventure, *"to love God; there is nothing laborious, nothing disagreeable involved in it."* In fact nothing is more delightful to the heart than to love God. From other good works a man may excuse himself, saying: *"I cannot fast; I have not the means to give alms;"* but no one can say: *"I cannot love."*

Pious practices must be proportioned to the powers of the individual, and adapted to the occupations and duties of that individual. St. Francis of Sales compares piety to a fluid, which takes the shape of the vessel in which it is contained.

In order to make sure of attaining Christian perfection, the following means should be adopted. First to practice fidelity in small things. By this means greater graces are obtained and grave sins more easily avoided. *"If thou wouldst become great,"* says St Augustine, *"begin with that which is little."* Grains of sand form a mountain and a number of trees make a forest. He who is faithful in small things is not as likely to fall into heinous sins. God gives great graces to him who has been faithful in small ways. Pay heed therefore to be careful to avoid every untrue word, every word that may give of fense; never utter lightly the name of God.

Secondly one must practice a habit of self-control. By the practice of self-control the understanding is enlightened, the will strengthened, and the

soul finds peace. If we deny ourselves what is lawful, it will be easy for us to abstain from what is unlawful. The most perfect among us will fall into sin if he ceases to practice self-denial. All that we deny to our carnal senses is repaid a hundredfold to our spiritual senses. But if you know how to command the winds of passion, a marvelous peace and great calm will ensue. He who for the love of God has renounced all carnal lusts will enjoy the sweetest consolations of the Holy Spirit. He who is master of himself will not easily be provoked to wrath. Self-control is the parent of meekness and patience.

Thirdly we must abstain from all that is superfluous, especially in regard to eating and drinking. Those who take great delight in splendid dress, costly furniture, theater-going, entertainments, etc., will never attain perfection; for the Holy Ghost will not dwell in a heart that is filled with the love of earthly things. Talkativeness is also to be avoided. An unrestrained tongue is a sign of conceit and folly. “*If any man offend not in tongue, the same is a perfect man*” (Jas. Iii. 2). Mortification of the tongue is indispensable to the attainment of sanctity.

Order and regularity are the fourth requirement to advancing in sanctity. This is conducive to peace of mind. It is well to have a fixed time for rising and retiring to rest, for meals, for work, for recreation, etc. We should endeavor to keep order in all around us; for thus we shall save much time and trouble. St. Augustine says that order leads to God; for all that He ordains is regulated in perfect order.

The fifth requirement is unremitting prayer. By this means many temptations are held aloof, and graces in abundant measure obtained. Our Lord admonishes us: “*Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation*” (Matt. XXvi. 41). St. Paul bids the faithful: “*Pray without ceasing*” (1 Thess. V. 17). Unremitting prayer is a sure means of drawing down the Holy Ghost from on high. The more a plant enjoys the sunshine, the better it will grow and the more luxuriantly will it blossom; in like manner the more often the soul draws near in prayer to the sun of Divine Grace, the greater will be its increase in perfection. St. Alphonsus used to say that the saints owed their sanctity more to their prayers than to their works.

Frequent Confession and Communion are the sixth requirement to achieving spiritual perfection. The confession of the sins of our past life serves to keep us humble. And if, after Confession, we frequently approach the holy table, we shall increase in perfection; as a tree which is planted near running water grows to great height.

The seventh requirement is reading attentively the life of Our Lord, the lives of the saints, and meditation on the truths of religion. By reading the lives of the saints we shall feel ourselves powerfully incited to imitate their example. The saints loved to study the lives of the saints and to imitate them; just as a draftsman looks long and often at the picture he is about to copy.

However, we must not imagine that with our love of God, so poor and faint, we can all at once imitate the sublime actions of the saints. The most profitable plan is for us to read the life of a saint whose position corresponds to our own, and learn from its practical lessons. The lives of the saints are the maxims of the Gospel put into practice. Meditation on the truths of religion is supremely useful; it enlightens our understanding, stimulates the will to the pursuit of what is good, and gives us peace of mind. The truths of religion are like a fire, that by standing near we receive light and warmth. These truths impart nourishment to our souls; they are a food that satisfies. It was through meditation that the saints attained their greater sanctity.

Love of solitude is the last requirement. In solitude we obtain actual graces, we are preserved from temptation and from sin, and grow in virtue. Our Lord would go to solitary places; to a mountain, to the desert, or the Mount of Olives where He spent long time in prayer. Until He was 30 years of age, He led a hidden life. We know also that many holy men withdrew into solitude and devoted themselves to spiritual exercises. St. Benedict passed three years in a cavern among the mountains. St. Ignatius of Loyola dwelt for a considerable time in the Cave of Manresa.

In solitude we obtain many graces, because there the Holy Spirit speaks to the heart. One cannot hear a sweet melody in the midst of din and tumult; God's voice can only be heard by those who flee from the world. The further the soul lives from all worldly tumult, the more familiar does it become with its Creator. In solitude alone is true contentment to be found. Virtue is more easily preserved in solitude than amid the noise and bustle of the world.

But however great the advantages of seclusion, we must not be unsociable, and withdraw altogether from the society of our fellow men. We must mix with them freely whenever duty bids, or charity calls upon us to do so. Let us hold aloof from the world in spirit, not in bodily presence.

From the book, *“Twelve Steps to Holiness and Salvation”* by Rev. Cornelius J. Warren, C.S.S.R. taken from the works of St. Alphonsus Ligouri, is taken the following: Should anyone object that a life according to faith is opposed to nature, I answer: It is, no doubt, opposed to nature – but to a depraved and fallen nature? It is burdensome, yes, but only for those who rely on their own strength and resources. But for one who trusts in God and begs for His assistance, the observance of the law of Jesus Christ is sweet and easy. *“Taste and see,”* says the Psalmist, *“how sweet is the Lord.”* (Ps. 33:9) *“Come to Me, all ye that labor and are burdened, and I will give you repose. Take up your yoke upon you and learn of me, because I am meek and humble of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden light.”* (Matt. 11:28-30)

When we contemplate the virtuous lives of the Holy Family, we find the guidebook for our lives. It was the acceptance of the Will of God **without**

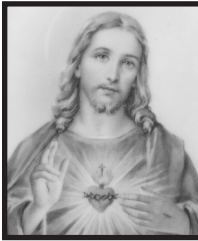
question. The world despises simplicity, and often humility as well. Yet these are virtues which lead to a Heavenly reward. Resisting those things which are praised and prized in the world will give us strength to reach for virtues instead.

In our attempts to grow in the spiritual life, we must remember that it does not happen overnight, but is a slow and steady progress. We must be careful not to get discouraged at our many imperfections. We should endeavor to look upon our faults with a calm, collected, firm displeasure. Therefore when we have fallen, we must raise our heart gently, humble ourselves greatly before God, and acknowledge our fault. This is when we rely on God's mercy and begin again in our pursuit of holiness. God has a plan for each of us. He has reserved our place with Him in Heaven. We, on our part, need to diligently strive to fulfill God's Will in our lives. In all our undertakings, we must rely on God's Providence, through which alone we can succeed; and seek steadily on our part to cooperate with it. Then we can rest satisfied; because if we trusted all to God, whatever happens will be the best for us.

So while on earth our one hand should use the good things of this world as God has given them to us, and our other hand should seek the guidance of Our Holy Mother. We cannot let go. We can do nothing good without the aid of Our God and His Holy Mother. She will show us the way, so our labor will be efficacious in His sight.

The times we are living in are perilous, uncertain as of what tomorrow will bring. We can only face the future with trust in Almighty God. Attaining complete trust and peace can be accomplished through growing in spiritual perfection. Our goal in life must be reaching our Heavenly Reward. That is all we must strive for on this earth. We need to have our focus on always increasing our love of God. With these tools we will be shaped and ready to follow His Will every day of our lives.

Be ready to suffer heavy afflictions, if need be martyrdom itself, all for Christ's sake; determine to give to Him all that is dearest to you when He pleases to take it – father, mother, brother, husband, wife, child, the sight of your eyes, and even your life itself. To all such submission your heart should be disposed. But in the meantime, if Divine Providence does not try you with such severe afflictions, endure all little evils, trifling inconveniences, and unimportant losses which happen daily. For by using these little opportunities you will grow spiritually. We must take every opportunity to do so. As St. Anthony of Padua said, ***“Give all of yourself, and God will give all of Himself.”***



FOOD FOR THE SOUL



“BLESSED ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT, FOR THEIRS IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN”

Christ taught a new outlook on life. Worldly wealth, dignity, knowledge are not the goals we should be pursuing in this life. Society rises up those of noble birth, the wealthy, and those of great learning; thus we are encouraged to strive for success in these areas. Yet such honors and esteem will not bring us happiness in this life or in the next. We must take on a new attitude of conquering our worldly ways and become “poor in spirit”.

The poor in spirit are those who acknowledge that in God’s sight they are poor; and realize that all their goods, both spiritual and temporal, come from God. If they become detached in heart and mind from worldly possessions for the love of God, they can be at peace even in this life.

Whether rich or poor, one may be poor in spirit. A rich man, one who spends his money for good causes and is willing to be parted from it, lives this virtue. Likewise a poor man, resigned to his state of affairs and does not envy the rich, also lives this virtue.

In general the poor of the world are saved from temptations into which the wealthy often fall. This is one reason for choosing poverty voluntarily. The greatest example of this was the circumstances of Our Lord’s birth. He chose a cold cave meant for animals and a straw filled manger upon which to lay His head. His parents upon earth lived a meager, humble life. The God of Heaven, the God who created us, could have chosen a palace for his abode. Thus, many lessons were taught through His example of humility from birth to death on this earth.

Our Lord taught the true path of perfection and happiness on earth through the Beatitudes, which contain the law of God and how to attain this perfection. On other occasions He also emphasized the difficulty of salvation for a rich man. *“With difficulty will a rich man enter into the Kingdom of Heaven”* (Matt. 19:23). *“If thou be perfect, go, sell what thou hast and give to the poor, ... and come, follow me”* (Matt. 19:21).

The poor in spirit are those who have the spirit of a little child. They will enjoy celestial peace; for Our Lord declares that theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. **Continued on page 27**



DIAMOND STAR RESEARCH NOTES



CREATING A COSMIC “CHASTISEMENT” by Diamond Star Research

A chastisement is usually considered a punishment and a purifying of man via cosmic forces of the universe. It usually is catastrophic in nature. On Earth it involves seismic forces as well as the weather and volcanism. A storm of nature has been referred to by the early Church Fathers as a tempest. The word tempest is used by these Church Fathers to describe future tribulations that overcome not only the Church but the whole world in the End of Days. The word, *tempest*, comes from the Greek, *seismos*, meaning “a cosmic disturbance.” This has direct reference to seismic activity – earthquakes and geographical upheaval. This “cosmic disturbance” signifies the coming prophesied cosmic chastisements to come.

An important part of the New World Order agenda is to prepare for this coming “cosmic disturbance.” All their preparations in building underground bases, bunkers, and virtual “cities” down 2 miles or more, as well as their military exercises (Grid-Ex II, Jade Helm, etc.), are in anticipation of a coming major geophysical event.

In June 2005 the World Elite gathered in London, England at a special meeting to discuss and assess how well their plans were being carried out in this regard. They discussed seven points which only the seventh concerns us here. The insider who leaked this information to Project Camelot’s Bill Ryan heard these elites discuss their concerns that plans must be on track and controls put in place before the expected geophysical event to come in the 5 - 10 years approximately. [These elite were no doubt a bit off in their time frame for this to happen, as the time period has just about run out; but such a geophysical event does appear to be on the immediate horizon.]

The important point to remember here is the World Elite know of the coming of the Brown Dwarf/Planet X system and have been preparing for it for decades. They know they must get control before it gets here or they will miss their chance. That is why the coming period between now (2015-16) and 2020 is crucial and should prove very interesting in ways and very threatening in others. This is when our whole solar system crosses from one age to the next, the period of the Great Tribulation. As in ages past, this crossing through

the dark rift (one reason Planet X is called the “planet of the crossing”) during the period of the Great Tribulation will be marked by social and civil upheaval - war, strife, as well as great seismic and cosmic events.

The World Elite know this great crossing and geophysical event is coming and have put in place certain police state measures to control the surviving and reduced population that will result after all has passed. Just prior to this the world as we know it will collapse financially, accompanied by great social upheaval. All is to be put under martial law and under their full control before this expected major geophysical event.

At this time the Earth is under great seismic stress because of the incoming Brown Dwarf/Planet X system. This is the perfect time for the elites to pull off a “cosmic disturbance” of their own making. They are working on certain measures that will induce certain seismic events such as earthquakes, volcanoes, tidal waves, and the collapse of certain land masses. This is already happening through cosmic forces acting on the tectonic plates of this planet, but appears to be assisted by HAARP technology (and possibly CERN technology) as well as Project Blue Beam. Certain population centers will be targeted to reduce the surface population to a more manageable level in accordance with the first “commandment” of the Georgia Guide Stones: *“Maintain the population at 500 million.”* That would mean with a present population of about 7 billion, six and a half billion would have to be eliminated one way or another. This sounds incredible but very true, nonetheless, as this statement is etched in stone.

The gist of all this is, that the World Elite know this cosmic crossing of the ages is coming and will prepare whatever is necessary to protect themselves and their utopian dream at our expense. The common people to them are just *goyim*, “cattle,” to be herded, used, and/or eliminated as they see fit. Their goal is to have only 500 million of us “managed” under martial law and under police state surveillance.

All is rapidly being put in place in preparation for some triggered so-called “natural” event. There has been considerable speculation and debate as to what this triggered event might be. Author and researcher of underground activity, Richard Sauder asked some very interesting questions in this regard. He asks, *“Do the clandestine movers and shakers inside the military-industrial-espionage complex know something that the rest of us don’t?”*

Mr. Sauder actually posed such type questions to one of his sources and as Richard says, *“got a wonderfully evasive, sphinx-like answer that frankly raised more questions than it answered.”* He goes on to say, *“As best as I could parse the response, it seems that at least some, and perhaps many, underground and underwater bases and tunnels are preparations for the following possibilities in the relatively near term (say within the time frame of the next several years to next few decades).”*

He then lists the following possibilities:

Shift, or axis relocation.

Reversal of Earth's magnetic field.

Asteroid and/or comet strikes.

Massive, sudden climate change.

Social, political, and economic chaos resulting from any of the preceding.

A combination of any one or more of the above.

Richard Sauder's sources all indicate that some "very dramatic events may be just around the corner. It seems as if those in the know are making massive, extremely expensive preparation for something." The conclusions he has come to regarding the information he has received through these sources is that some *approaching cataclysm is the reason these people are so troubled*.

It appears from the information received from accounts most of which Mr. Sauder received directly from people who worked for the military-industrial complex, in some cases uniformed military, indicate that a possible *man-made cataclysm is in the works*. Sauder then states that it may be technologically possible to "design, build, and deploy *continent-busting weaponry* that far exceeds the destructive power of nuclear weaponry..." Sauder asks if it is morally advisable to do so. He asks, "*Under what conceivable set of circumstances would a military command structure literally unleash hell on Earth, such that entire continents, or regions of continents were laid waste? What sane person would set in motion such a series of events?*" ["Approaching Cataclysm? A Conclusion of Underground Bases" by Richard Sauder. The Intell website – May 15, 2012. Emphasis, Diamond Star.]

Given what Richard Sauder has revealed here about "continent-busting weaponry" consider the following Necedah revelation: "*God the Father has already upset the forces of nature in many places of the world which will add to the devastation so that the geographical aspect of whole continents will be violently altered*." (July 2, 1954).

It appears more and more likely, as time goes on, that the event being prepared for which Martial Law will be declared is a triggered man-induced "natural" disaster. It is very likely that the New Madrid fault system will be triggered as well as the San Andreas fault system. (No doubt, the reason the "pre-programmed" movie, *San Andreas* was recently made). If a seismic and volcanic event is triggered in the Canary Islands, a giant tidal wave may be unleashed. Now add to this, the fact that the so-called Particle Beam Accelerator is actually an electromagnetic cannon that is capable of shooting beams through the Earth's crust inducing earthquakes and heating magma and you have man playing "god." It does appear there are plans afoot to alter whole geographical areas via an artificially engineered pole shift, or at least a major seismic catastrophe. One thing is for sure, such a feat is more possible at this time due

Continue on page 27

PRO -LIFE

Three doctors told my parents to abort me - they were terribly wrong!

October 19, 2015 — For as long as I can remember, my mother made sure I understood that God is like no other; and that He had saved my life. My mom told me she would pray that I would not only know Jesus as my Savior, but that I would live out that love in kindness; and in compassionate and tangible ways.

My mom also wanted me to understand the significance of what God has done and is continuing to do in my life. Recognizing this has compelled me to be His voice for the voiceless. Because of my story He laid on my heart, not only the pre-born children whose lives are daily in jeopardy in this country, but also the parents in crisis, as well as those in the medical field.

A few years ago it was on my heart to hear each detail about my story. I dug up the journals that my mom had written over the years – even ones leading up to my birth. My mother’s and father’s battle to save my life was difficult to read at times; but I am thankful that we had it written down as it is not only my story and my family’s story, but truly God’s story.

I pray my journey will bring others hope and healing. Each life is valuable, no matter if healthy or sick and no matter what the “geographical” location of the child – in utero or outside. ALL children are valuable! All life is valuable! We are ALL made in God’s image. May telling my experience bring a face to that story.

You see three doctors told my parents to abort me, but there were three other doctors who were willing to fight for my life; and so my story begins with an understanding of the power doctors have - either for life or for destruction. Doctors have an influence that can be life-altering for good or for destruction; and we must make sure that we see a physician who uses that power for God’s good and glory, and not for evil!

If I had been diagnosed with a terminal disease at the age of two with no perceived hope of survival, it would have been criminal for any doctor to suggest just stopping my life right then and there because I was going to die anyway. But because I was in utero, the doctors decided that my life had no value and should be ended.

The physicians failed to see my life as having any worth once they saw I was sick. They determined that because I was in trouble within my mother’s womb and because they believed I would never live (or if I did, I would not have a “normal” or long life), that my parents should abort; no matter how much my parents said they would never do that.

Who defines ‘normal’; and why does the geographical location of a sick child make that child worth destroying, as opposed to worth fighting for? I

wonder why my value had so changed – now being worthy of destruction – just because my health status had changed from healthy to sick; and because I was inside my mother’s womb.

Thankfully, my parents not only loved me unconditionally, but they also saw the intrinsic value of my life and wanted to fight for my life. My Grammy told my parents as long as there is a heartbeat, there is hope; and we pray.

God opened the door through a wonderful ob/gyn friend at our church; to get my parents and me into the hands of doctors who were willing to take on the fight to try and save me. These wonderful doctors that took on my case did realize it was a serious situation, no amniotic fluid and very growth retarded; but they were willing to do everything in their power to help.

I was born at one pound two ounces; and one of the doctors told my parents that if I was born alive I would be too sick to make any noise, as I was so small and there was no amniotic fluid. But when I was born that sweet doctor said, “*She is squawking.*” I then spent 5 1/2 months in the hospital with my mom staying with me up to 12 hours a day; and my dad coming there almost every day after work and on weekends. The medical care and love both my parents and I received was impacting during this hospital stay.

I felt prompted by God a few years ago to write letters to the doctors who *didn’t* fight for me. I wanted to tell them that I forgave them even if they didn’t realize they needed it; and I wanted them to know that Jesus also loves them and is willing to forgive them if they will turn to Him and stand for life not death. I didn’t want other parents to have to face what my parents faced.

Writing these doctors who told my parents to abort was a long process of praying and making sure I used the right, thoughtful, and loving words. I didn’t know where He would lead me and it just kept coming, word after word and paragraph after paragraph. My hope in writing the three doctors who wanted my life ended was that they would hear of Jesus’ forgiveness; and also be compelled to never again suggest that any parents take the life of their child. I could not believe it when I received two hand-written notes in the mail from two of the three doctors who had said to abort. I was deeply touched and thankful.

I became aware that there are many parents in the same position that my parents were, when they discovered that not all doctors stand for life. My parents never realized before all this happened that knowing where a doctor stands on his or her views of life is critical to picking a doctor. My parents, like many, assumed all doctors value all life and fight for all life – but my parents were in for a crushing awakening. I don’t want any mother or father or baby to ever be in the position my parents were in, where a doctor would say a life is worth ending if that life is unhealthy or runs into health troubles in utero.

My desire is to make available a website that lists doctors that stand for life and will fight for it no matter what. It is important for doctors to understand

that all life is valuable and the decision for life or death is not theirs to make.

Because of my story, I see the beautiful side of the medical field with gifted physicians who will use their giftings to impact lives for good. But I am also well acquainted with the fact that some doctors use their influence as leaders in the medical community to decide which lives have value and are worth fighting for. Some devalue other lives to the point of suggesting the destruction of those lives.

This was the beginning of my journey to start an ob/gyn resource of pro-life doctors who are 100 percent pro-life with no exceptions. It is still very much a work in progress. I started it about two years ago or so, feeling so prompted by God with such a burden that no one should ever have a physician who sees some life as less valuable than other lives. I am 17 years old now; and I make calls and write letters to ob/gyn offices asking if doctors, who are 100 percent pro-life and Christians, will be on my resource list. I hope to get this list into the hands of pregnancy crisis centers across the US, as well as into the hands of all women seeking ob/gyn care for themselves and their pre-born babies.

It has not been easy to find doctors who are 100 percent pro-life; but I will never give up, as I know they are out there.

Continued from page 21 - They are externally barren, yet possess consolations of which the world knows nothing. Heaven belongs to these souls as a pearl belongs to the man who purchases it for a goodly price. The poor in spirit, by their renunciation of all earthly things, have purchased Heaven at the cost of all they possessed.

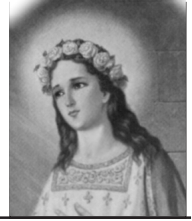
We, however, are expected to be industrious; obliged to provide for ourselves and for those dependent upon us. Laziness and begging are to be avoided; for neither are beneficial to the individual or society in general.

Being poor in spirit is being generous for the love of God. Let us practice this virtue beginning this Advent and Christmas season. We will find joyful peace in letting go of our worldly possessions through giving to those in need or to the charities that do so. We have these opportunities before us. Will we conquer our self-will for the Divine-Will of that Child of love?

Continued from page 24 -to the advances in technology and the fact that great pressures are being put on the Earth's tectonic plate system because of cosmic forces acting on it. This most certainly includes the Planet X system.

This man-caused "chastisement" has long been in the planning and has to be timed to coincide with the coming of the Planet X system. This is what all their preparations, exercises, and maneuvers are for. The point is are YOU prepared for what is to come? [**For more information visit: www.diamondstarlightbeacon.com.**]

SAINTS IN REVIEW



The Wonder Worker How could a young girl who died at age of 13 become world renowned? As ancient catacombs were being excavated on May 24, 1802, a vault was unearthed with the inscription: “Peace be with you Philomena.” Since the discovered relics were accompanied by a vial of dried blood, it was recognized that these were the relics of a martyr. Soon astounding miracles and wonders were attributed to these newly discovered relics, which sparked keen interest and curiosity regarding this unknown martyr.

After numerous difficulties, a devout priest succeeded in acquiring the relics for his church in Mugnano close to Naples. Healings and conversions continued to take place with the honoring of these relics, and the relics were soon encased in a statue of this unknown wonder worker. The statue began to take on various expressions with the eyes opening and closing, the hair becoming more plentiful, and diverse movements of head and lips. On occasion, the vial of dried blood, which was placed next to the statue, changed dramatically from dried ashes to liquid form and was sometimes mixed with gold and silver and precious stones. Often the statue exuded a fragrant aroma. These exceptional wonders which took place, drew large crowds. Who was this Philomena person!

Philomena appeared to three various individuals to whom she revealed the details of her life. Until then, all that was known of her was that she was apparently a martyr whose relics were unearthed in the Catacombs. Because of the numerous miracles and wonders associated with and attributed to her relics, it was assumed that she was someone very special.

Philomena revealed to a devout nun, that both of her parents were of royal blood whose prayers for a child of their own were not heard until they were converted to Christianity. At age thirteen, Philomena traveled with her parents in order for them to plead with the Emperor regarding an unjust war proclaimed by him. Seeing the striking beauty of their young daughter, he promised the parents that their wishes would be granted if he were allowed to take their daughter in marriage. Because of the vow of chastity which Philomena had taken at age eleven, she vehemently opposed this arrangement. No amount of pleading, persuasion, or tempting promises enticed her to change her mind even though this arranged marriage would make her the Empress of Rome. Furious and insulted, this lecherous Emperor ordered her bound hand and foot and thrown into the dungeon where she pleaded with Our Lord and His Mother for assistance.

After numerous days of imprisonment, the Blessed Mother appeared to her and informed her that she would have to endure additional suffering for Her Son. Our Lady promised Philomena support, consolation and love.

Torture was then ordered by the infuriated Emperor and Philomena was tied to a pillar and scourged in order to force her to abandon her vow of chastity, but even this agony did not succeed to break her spirit. Two angels from heaven appeared and cured her wounds and her beauty increased. The Emperor became more determined to change her mind. His orders then were to have an anchor tied around her neck and then be thrown into the river. Her assisting angels severed the rope, brought her to shore, her clothes perfectly dry! While this phenomenon converted many bystanders, it only increased the Emperor's fury. He then ordered that she be pierced with numerous arrows. A deep peaceful sleep was allotted her by heaven to give her reprieve from her suffering. Heated arrows were then ordered by the Emperor but the arrows malfunctioned and would not leave their bows. Our Lord intervened, and the arrows then turned on the archers themselves and they were annihilated! The order then came that this brave young girl, who had dedicated herself to Christ alone, be beheaded.

An explosion of testimonies have come forth world wide relating the wonders, cures and conversions attributed to this young martyr. Philomena is one of the many Saints who have made their appearance on the Shrine grounds. Phenomenal St. Philomena pray for us.

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. PHILOMENA

O FAITHFUL VIRGIN and glorious martyr, St. Philomena, works so many miracles on behalf of the poor and sorrowing, have pity on me. Thou knowest the multitude and diversity of my needs. Behold me at thy feet, full of misery, but full of hope. I entreat thy charity, O great Saint! Graciously hear me and obtain from God a favorable answer to the request which I now humbly lay before thee. . .

[Here mention your petition.] I am firmly convinced that through thy merits, through the scorn, the sufferings and the death thou didst endure, united to the merits of the Passion and Death of Jesus, thy Spouse, I shall obtain what I ask of thee, and in the joy of my heart I will bless God, who is admirable in His Saints. Amen

MAIL CORNER

California: Just a note for Christmas greetings to you folks who work so hard following the directions of Blessed Mother. Each Shrine Newsletter that arrives we are so happy to receive. When August 15th comes I'm so sad that we are just too far to be able to attend the beautiful rosary and crowning of Mother Mary. I am enclosing a little to help along with the upkeep. The spring flowers are so beautiful! May God Bless all in the Shrine!



Missouri: I wish my sister and I could attend the Anniversary dates in May, but health issues have put a halt in our travel plans. Please place my petitions in the box at the Sacred Spot and light a vigil candle for my intentions. I am enclosing a check for the building fund. God bless all the workers at the Shrine.

Canada: Please find enclosed a donation toward your worthwhile work. The prophecies Our Mother gave Mary Ann Van Hoof, decades ago, are more evident as the days and years go by. We are reaping the results of discarding these warnings as well as Her urgent call for prayers. May God have mercy on us all.

Spiritual Bouquet For The Holy Father

The brash apostasy permeating Christ's Church is a weighty burden upon the Pope. He urgently needs our continued prayers to lighten that overwhelming burden. This is the 58th year that the Necedah Shrine devotees have gathered a Spiritual Bouquet for the Holy Father. It has never been more crucial for us to do it than at this present time. The time is NOW! Join us by filling out the spiritual bouquet form and mailing the totals to us. Please encourage others to do like-wise, so we can mail the bouquet during the Christmas Season.

_____ *Holy Masses*

_____ *Holy Hours*

_____ *Angelus*

_____ *Stations of the Cross*

_____ *Ejaculations*

_____ *Days of Fasting*

_____ *Holy Communion*s

_____ *Spiritual Communion*s

_____ *Rosaries*

_____ *Acts of Penance*

_____ *and Sacrifice*

(Please send in your anticipated totals for the coming year.) *Mail to:*
Queen of the Holy Rosary Shrine, W5703 Shrine Road, Necedah, WI 54646

Extra copies can be printed from our Web site

CLIP AND MAIL

Please return this full page with order.

SACRAMENTALS FOR THE ASKING

- Blessed Rosary and "How To Pray The Rosary" Leaflet
- Brown Scapular and "Our Lady's Scapular" Leaflet
- Blessed Green Scapular and Leaflet
- Blessed Sacramental Packet and Leaflet

\$3.00 or Donation for shipping and handling

ADDRESS CHANGE

Please fill in the form below if there are any changes in your address. Please Print.

Mail to: For My God and My Country, Inc.
W5703 Shrine Road
Necedah, WI 54646-7916

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PETITION REQUEST FORM

Your petitions are welcome. They will be placed at the Sacred Spot and included in the daily rosary and prayers at 8:00 p.m. that we offer for our benefactors and those petitioning prayers. Whenever possible, come and join us. When impossible join us in spirit.

SEVEN DAY VIGIL CANDLES

Lit at the Sacred Spot

For the intention of _____

_____ Candles @ \$2.00 ea. Total _____

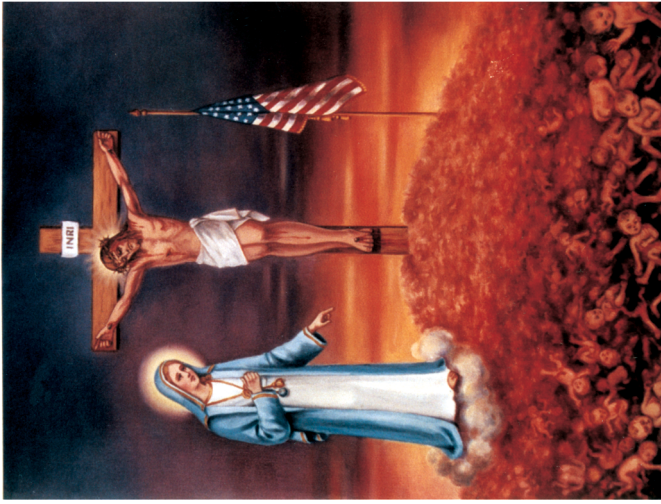
Candles Lit Per week _____

Please return this full page with order.

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Necedah, WI 54646-7916

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SAVE AMERICA BY
A CONSTANT VIGIL PRAYER



America doesn't have a prayer without yours.

