



# 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY DEVOTION NEWSLETTER

January 2014

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### A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

By Dr. Adrian Rogers

As we embark on a New Year, it's important that we know how to have a firm foundation to face the world in which we live. We need to start with a Christian worldview, and to do that we need to start at the very beginning. Genesis 1:1 opens, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." This is foundational truth.

#### God Is Simply Presented -- *Recognize Him*

"In the beginning God ..." God is not argued, explained, nor defended. He is simply presented. There is neither an explanation in the Bible for the existence of God nor did the writers try to prove His existence. The Bible is full and complete and has all we need for faith. God must ultimately be accepted by faith.

Whether you believe in God is not a matter of the mind but a matter of the heart. The Bible says in Psalm 53:1, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." When the Bible uses the word fool, it does not mean the man who is mentally deficient; it means the man who is morally deficient. What God is saying is that a man with a wicked heart is the kind of man who denies God. In fact, it does not state the fool has said in his heart there is no God. It literally says, the fool has said in his heart, "No God." Just like you might go through the cafeteria line and say, "No dessert"; the fool says, "No God. I do not want God."

#### God Is Sovereignly Powerful -- *Respect Him*

"In the beginning God created ..." Only God has creative power and only God has originating power. The Hebrew word for create is *Bara*, and it means "to make something out of absolutely nothing." Hebrews 11:3 says, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." God is the One who can make something out of nothing. Man cannot create anything, and man cannot destroy anything. All man can do is to change the form.

If you see a watch, you assume there is a watchmaker. If you see a building, you assume there is an architect. If you see the complex structure of the human body, I hope you don't believe that happened by chance. The evolutionists believe that billions of years plus time plus chance can turn frogs into princes. In school they call that fairytales; in the laboratory they call it science. Man cannot create.

Only God has originating power. One question that stumps the evolutionists: Where did primordial ooze come from? If they say life came from Mars, where did Mars come from? There are two alternatives: a self-existing universe or a self-existing God.

Continued on Page 5

# OVERVIEW FOR THE MONTH

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

The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus, which is celebrated on January 3. The first twelve days of January fall during the liturgical season known as Christmas which is represented by the liturgical color white. The remaining days of January are the beginning of Ordinary Time. The liturgical color changes to green — a symbol of the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.

In the first part of January we continue to rejoice and celebrate Christ's coming at Bethlehem and in our hearts. We have the wonderful feasts of Mary, Mother of God, where we honor Mary's highest title, and then we follow the Magi to the crib as they bring their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh on Epiphany. Finally we reach the culmination of this season with the Baptism of Our Lord by St. John the Baptist. With a touch of sadness we take down our decorations and enter into the liturgical period known as Ordinary Time where we will devote ourselves to the mystery of Christ in its entirety. □

## FEASTS FOR JANUARY

The feasts on the General Roman Calendar celebrated during the month of January are:

- 1 Mary, Mother of God, Solemnity
- 2 Basil the Great; Gregory Nazianzen, Memorial
- 3 Most Holy Name of Jesus, Opt. Mem.
- 4 Elizabeth Ann Seton (USA and CAN), Memorial
- 5 Epiphany of the Lord, Opt. Mem.
- 6 Andre Bessette, Opt. Mem.
- 7 Raymond of Penafort, Opt. Mem.
- 12 Baptism of the Lord, Feast
- 13 Hilary; Kentigern (Scotland), Opt. Mem.
- 17 Anthony, Memorial
- 20 Fabian; Sebastian, Opt. Mem.
- 21 Agnes, Memorial
- 22 Day of Prayer for Unborn, Opt. Mem.
- 23 Vincent of Saragossa, Opt. Mem.
- 24 Francis de Sales; Our Lady of Peace, Memorial
- 25 Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle, Feast
- 27 Angela Merici, Opt. Mem.
- 28 Thomas Aquinas, Memorial
- 31 John Bosco, Memorial

The feasts of St. John Neumann (January 5) and Sts. Timothy and Titus (January 26) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy. □

## OUR CENACLE CORNER

*Seeking a deeper relationship with God through meditation of passages from Holy Scriptures*

Matthew 6:9-13

Luke 11:2

OUR FATHER  
(THE LORD'S PRAYER)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

***Today as you offer prayers to my Mother Mary, these offerings must be from the heart as they are raised before the My Father. The days will be coming when the differences on the thoughts and acts of humankind will prevail. The insincerity of humankind becomes too clear to everyone. My children, the mercy of God is beyond humankind's understanding but even then I ask for contrition and hearts of reparation for sins. My Sacred Heart is burning for hearts of My creation who are sincere, humble and contrite. I will be with you always. Jesus of Nazareth, Your Merciful God***

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# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

SOLEMNITY OF THE MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD  
JANUARY 1

HOMILY OF POPE FRANCIS  
VATICAN BASILICA | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2014

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In the first reading we find the ancient prayer of blessing which God gave to Moses to hand on to Aaron and his sons: "The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace" (Num. 6:24-25). There is no more meaningful time than the beginning of a new year to hear these words of blessing: they will accompany our journey through the year opening up before us. They are words of strength, courage and hope. Not an illusory hope, based on frail human promises, or a naive hope which presumes that the future will be better simply because it is the future. Rather, it is a hope that has its foundation precisely in God's blessing, a blessing which contains the greatest message of good wishes there can be; and this is the message which the Church brings to each of us, filled with the Lord's loving care and providential help.

The message of hope contained in this blessing was fully realized in a woman, Mary, who was destined to become the Mother of God, and it was fulfilled in her before all creatures.

The Mother of God. This is the first and most important title of Our Lady. It refers to a quality, a role which the faith of the Christian people, in its tender and genuine devotion to our heavenly Mother, has understood from the beginning.

We recall that great moment in the history of the ancient Church, the Council of Ephesus, in which the divine motherhood of the Virgin Mary was authoritatively defined. The truth of her divine maternity found an echo in Rome where, a little later, the Basilica of Saint Mary Major was built, the first Marian shrine in Rome and in the entire West, in which the image of the Mother of God – the Theotokos – is venerated under the title of *Salus Populi Romani*. It is said that the residents of Ephesus used to gather at the gates of the basilica where the bishops were meeting and shout, "Mother of God!". The faithful, by asking them to officially define this title of Our Lady, showed that they acknowledged her divine motherhood. Theirs was the spontaneous and sincere reaction of children who know their Mother well, for they love her with immense tenderness. But it is more: it is the *sensus fidei* of the holy People of God which, in its unity, never errs.

Mary has always been present in the hearts, the piety and above all the pilgrimage of faith of the Christian people. "The Church journeys through time ... and on this journey she proceeds along the path already trodden by the Virgin Mary" (*Redemptoris Mater*, 2). Our journey of faith is the same as that of Mary, and so we feel that she is particularly close to us. As far as faith, the hinge of the Christian life, is concerned, the Mother of God shared our condition. She had to take the same path as ourselves, a path which is sometimes difficult and obscure. She had to advance in the "pilgrimage of faith" (*Lumen gentium*, 58).

Our pilgrimage of faith has been inseparably linked to Mary ever since Jesus, dying on the Cross, gave her to us as our Mother, saying: "Behold your Mother!" (*Jn 19:27*). These words serve as a testament, bequeathing to the world a Mother. From that moment on, the Mother of God also became our Mother! When the faith of the disciples was most tested by difficulties and uncertainties, Jesus entrusted them to Mary, who was the first to believe, and whose faith would never fail. The "woman" became our Mother when she lost her divine Son. Her sorrowing heart was enlarged to make room for all men and women, all, whether good or bad, and she loves them as she loved Jesus. The woman who at the wedding at Cana in Galilee gave her faith-filled cooperation so that the wonders of God could be displayed in the world, at Calvary kept alive the flame of faith in the resurrection of her Son, and she communicates this with maternal affection to each and every person. Mary becomes in this way a source of hope and true joy!

The Mother of the Redeemer goes before us and continually strengthens us in faith, in our vocation and in our mission. By her example of humility and openness to God's will she helps us to transmit our faith in a joyful proclamation of the Gospel to all, without reservation. In this way our mission will be fruitful, because it is modeled on the motherhood of Mary. To her let us entrust our journey of faith, the desires of our heart, our needs and the needs of the whole world, especially of those who hunger and thirst for justice and peace, and for God. Let us then together invoke her, and I invite you to invoke her three times, following the example of those brothers and sisters of Ephesus: Mother of God! Mother of God! Mother of God! Amen. □

## THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD JANUARY 5

*Welcome Christ our Light  
Do a Little Lectio Divina for Epiphany*

*By Stephen J. Binz*

The feast of Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the world. For all of us, God's love bursts forth like a light that pierces the darkness.

Let's attend carefully to the Scripture readings for the day, confident that God will do something new in our lives through our prayerful listening. Like the Magi who meet Jesus at the end of the journey, we meet Jesus as we reflect on God's word.

**Read and Understand.** Light a candle or sit in the presence of the manger scene approached by the three Magi bearing gifts.

When you are prepared, read Matthew 2:1-12 aloud, reading with your eyes and lips and listening with your ears and your heart. Hear these inspired words in a new way, guided by the light of God's renewing Spirit.

The Magi are avid scholars of spiritual mysteries. Whether these seekers are Persian priests, Babylonian astronomers, Nabataean spice traders, or wise seekers from other places to the East, their significance



lies in that they are Gentiles from distant nations. Later, tradition embellished the biblical account by giving names and royal titles to these Magi: Melchior, king of Persia; Gaspar, king of India; and Balthasar, king of Arabia. The wise men interpret the star as a divine sign pointing to the Messiah and seek to find him: "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage" (Matthew 2:2).

Matthew's Gospel sets up a stark contrast between the dark fear of Herod and the adoring homage of the Magi. While Herod plots the death of the child, the strangers from the East kneel before him and offer him gifts worthy of a king. These Gentile Magi who come to worship Christ anticipate all the believers from all the nations who will be called to salvation through this King from the line of David. His origin in Bethlehem points to his destiny. Some will accept him and offer him worship; others will reject him and seek to put him to death. The disciples of Jesus will meet a similar reception when they proclaim the gospel after the resurrection. Some people will accept the saving good news; others will oppose it and violently

persecute the community of faith. From his birth, Jesus is destined to be the suffering Messiah whose worldwide dominion will bring salvation to all the nations.

**Meditate.** Consider the new insights and transformed way of life you could experience from truly listening to these Scripture passages and taking them to heart.

Where on the scale from darkness to light, from gloomy to radiant, is your life in Christ? What would help you to reflect his light more luminously?

Who are three wise seekers to whom you look for advice and guidance today? What three gifts might you bring to honor Christ today?

Imagine yourself as one of the Magi. What do you see? What do you hear? What emotions do you feel? How do you respond?

**Pray.** After allowing yourself to be disturbed and challenged by this Scripture text, respond to God with a prayer that arises from your own reflection. Begin with these words and allow them to spark your own words of prayer.

Lord of all the nations, you mark the path of my life with your shining light and you guide me on my journey to you. Give me the desire to kneel before you and present to you the gifts of my life.

**Contemplate.** Choose a word, phrase, or image from the Scripture reading to be your focus. Then just rest quietly in God's presence, recalling and repeating the word, phrase or image when you get distracted.

**Act.** People with odd dress, different-colored skin, and unintelligible language often put us on guard. Yet Epiphany celebrates these strangers as friends, companions on the journey, and coheirs with us to God's promises. What can you do this week to better appreciate the strangers among you and recognize their gifts?

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Stephen Binz is a Scripture scholar, speaker, and author of many books and articles on the Bible. This is taken from his *Conversing with God in Advent and Christmas: Praying the Sunday Mass Readings with Lectio Divina*.

## THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

JANUARY 12

Excerpted from Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas  
[www.catholicculture.org](http://www.catholicculture.org)

The Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas.



The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.

In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves", He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world".

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin. □

Continued from Page 1

## A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

### God Is Surely Purposeful -- Reverence Him

"In the beginning God created..." When you look at creation, there are two things you can see very easily, one is design and the other is purpose. Look at three reasons why God created everything:

**For His pleasure.** The Bible says in Revelation 4:11, speaking to the Lord Jesus Christ, who was God's agent in creation, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created."

**For His praise.** Psalm 150:6 says, "Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord." God created it all for His pleasure and for His praise

**For His people.** Because God was going to create a people, He made a home for them. And when God made it, He stepped back and said that it was good.

### God Is Savingly Personal -- Receive Him

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." The name for God here is the name Elohim, and it speaks of a personal God. The word El means a God who has unlimited power and speaks of strength. Then the last part of Elohim means to swear or to make a covenant. The two words together, strength and covenant, results in a God Who is Almighty and Who always keeps His word. In the beginning Elohim created the heavens and the earth.

### Two Truths to Live By

**We have a solemn obligation to God** because He created us and the Bible says in Ecclesiastes 12:1, "Remember now thy Creator." We have an obligation to God. We are His because of creation and because of redemption.

**Not only do we have an obligation to God, but God has an obligation to us.** The Bible calls Him in 1 Peter 4:19, a faithful Creator. When God brought us into this universe, He did not make us to abandon us.

When you give your heart to God and trust Him as your Lord and Savior, you are fulfilling your obligation to Him. You are saying, "You made me, You redeemed me, and I surrender to You." When He comes into you, to guard you, guide you, protect you, and take care of you, He is fulfilling His obligation to you.

Are you ready to face the issues of this world? I pray these fundamental truths will help you to have a firm foundation. □

Dr. Adrian Rogers, preacher/teacher of **Love Worth Finding Ministries**, had a zeal and love for Jesus that resonated in every message. His legacy continues to reach around this world, sharing the good news that Jesus Christ is the greatest Love worth finding. Although Dr. Adrian Rogers passed away on November 15, 2005, tributes continue to pour in testifying of his worldwide impact.

# KNOWING OUR SAINTS

ST. ANDRÉ BESSETTE - (1845-1937)

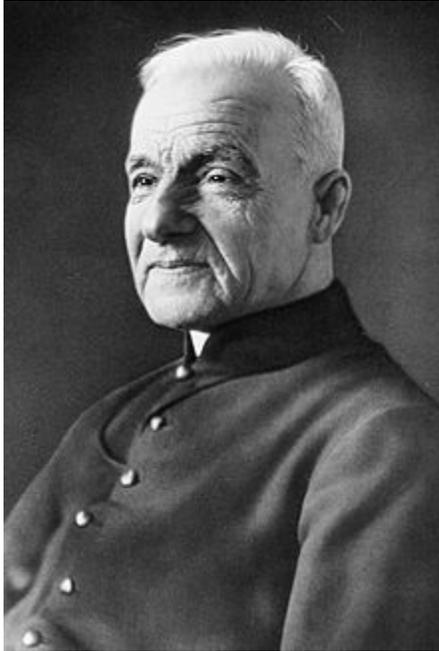
FEAST DAY: JANUARY 6

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

Brother André expressed a saint's faith by a lifelong devotion to St. Joseph.

Sickness and weakness dogged André from birth. He was the eighth of 12 children born to a French Canadian couple near Montreal. Adopted at 12, when both parents had died, he became a farmhand. Various trades followed: shoemaker, baker, blacksmith—all failures. He was a factory worker in the United States during the boom times of the Civil War.

At 25, he applied for entrance into the Congregation of the Holy Cross. After a year's novitiate, he was not



admitted because of his weak health. But with an extension and the urging of Bishop Bourget (see

Marie-Rose Durocher, October 6), he was finally received. He was given the humble job of doorkeeper at Notre Dame College in Montreal, with additional duties as sacristan, laundry worker and messenger. "When I joined this community,

the superiors showed me the door, and I remained 40 years," he said.

In his little room near the door, he spent much of the night on his knees. On his windowsill, facing Mount Royal, was a small statue of St. Joseph, to whom he had been devoted since childhood. When asked about it he said, "Some day, St. Joseph is going to be honored in a very special way on Mount Royal!"

When he heard someone was ill, he visited to bring cheer and to pray with the sick person. He would rub the sick person lightly with oil taken from a lamp burning in the college chapel. Word of healing powers began to spread.

When an epidemic broke out at a nearby college, André volunteered to nurse. Not one person died. The trickle of

sick people to his door became a flood. His superiors were uneasy; diocesan authorities were suspicious; doctors called him a quack. "I do not cure," he said again and again. "St. Joseph cures." In the end he needed four secretaries to handle the 80,000 letters he received each year.

For many years the Holy Cross authorities had tried to buy land on Mount Royal. Brother André and others climbed the steep hill and planted medals of St. Joseph. Suddenly, the owners yielded. André collected 200 dollars to build a small chapel and began receiving visitors there—smiling through long hours of listening, applying St. Joseph's oil. Some were cured, some not. The pile of crutches, canes and braces grew.

The chapel also grew. By 1931 there were gleaming walls, but money ran out. "Put a statue of St. Joseph in the middle. If he wants a roof over his head, he'll get it." The magnificent Oratory on Mount Royal took 50 years to build. The sickly boy who could not hold a job died at 92.

He is buried at the Oratory. He was beatified in 1982 and canonized in 2010. At his canonization in October 2010, Pope Benedict XVI said that St. André "lived the beatitude of the pure of heart."

## Comment:

Rubbing ailing limbs with oil or a medal? Planting a medal to buy land? Isn't this superstition? Aren't we long past that?

Superstitious people rely only on the "magic" of a word or action. Brother André's oil and medals were authentic sacramentals of a simple, total faith in the Father who lets his saints help him bless his children.

# GOD TOUCHED ME

FULFILLMENT OF A MESSAGE

*You Did Not choose Me, but I chose You*

*John 15:16*

*By MB*

## **The Birth of A Ministry**

Through its 12 years of existence, I have seen The Spiritual Army of God the Father ministry touch so many lives and hearts of the devotees. As the spiritual group enters its 12<sup>th</sup> year this January, I can only look in retrospect at the group's humble beginnings.

It started as a private devotion to The Eternal Father and the Blessed Mother. The former was housed at the Monastery of the Angels, one of the cloistered convents of the sisters of the Dominican community in Los Angeles. I can still recall vividly attending one of the First Sunday devotions to Eternal Father through an invitation from Girlie, one of the founders of the devotion, the other founder was named Jean. It was February, 2003 as I was quietly praying the rosary to the Father, an inner voice came to me stating in not so many words that soon I will take over the following of this devotion to the Eternal Father. First the feeling of betrayal. I cannot in all honesty relieve someone's leadership and declare mutiny especially in a devotional group that is in existence for just a few weeks. Besides, as far as my counting can surmise, I have more fingers than the regular attendees of the devotion present, including my two family members. That is not much to boot considering you will be paying the priest for his stipend. My mind says, "really?"

But my heart believes that this heavenly communication (as I deciphered) is putting me in a mission that even my complaint and perplexity will not over run this heavenly intentions, and so I obliged. After a few months of attendance, one of the founders, Jean, moved to Northern California. That left Girlie in the helm of this unnamed devotional prayer group comprised of a handful of individuals. Ate Girlie (as I fondly called her) approached me for assistance to handle the physical and financial retinues of the devotion like looking for the picture of Eternal Father (eventually I found one), yellow flower offering and stipend for the priest every first Sunday of the month. We ended up defraying all the expenses for this devotion from our personal funds.

## **Fulfillment of Message**

Several months passed, and Ate Girlie approached me to bid adieu as she was moving to the Philippines to fulfill her mission(as she claimed) for God. Who am I to question the validity of this claim, but I still remember telling her to test the spirit and her heart. Nothing more of any explanation will change her plans to go to the Philippines for this spiritual mission. Now, I am left with

this unnamed group (a handful of them) and trying to dissuade myself from the feeling that I am "home" alone! Yes, I know that I will get the support of my only two regular members, my wife and daughter. But of course they are as perplexed as I am, groping in the mystery of handling a devotional group in a public square, regardless of the population! Needless to say the fulfillment of the inner voice that came to during my first attendance, was now unfolding before my eyes. Many more assurances came from these heavenly inner voices called locutions (I would safely say this and have tested the spirit with prayer discernment). One that really strikes me was the change of priest who officiates the mass to Fr. Larry, also the increase in the number of devotees and the financial contribution it will bring to the monastery and the tribulations in store for me as challenges came without warning from the actual devotees themselves and the religious community of the monastery.

And they happened and unfolded each passing months and years, but I was unperturbed as I faced them with God's blessings and graces. As Moses asked His God "what name will tell I them who sent me (Exodus 3:13), and so I asked what name will I call your following my God -- "my spiritual army"! And so it happened that month of May of 2003, the Ministry has her own identity!

Even a year before our Lord gave the identity to the ministry, our devotion to the Blessed Mother through first Saturdays was in full swing. The venue was my residence and just like the Eternal Father devotion the devotees were just a handful (my family of three and two other good friends -- who would eventually move to Las Vegas to fulfill God's plan of propagation).

The numbers never really matter to God, that's an easy fix. The one that really counts is the sincerity of one's heart to acknowledge and feel GOD'S TOUCH as He blesses the works you perform for His Glory. He will perform miracles and instruct you not to tell anyone, just like the man full of leprosy (Luke 5:12-16) who pleaded to him for miracle of healing. As we all know the news spread around through this leper, as he walked praising and shouting the glory of God through Jesus. The instruction of Jesus to the Leper was unclear and with no repercussion, and our Lord knowing the future, this man who was healed would be going down the street and do the contrary, proclaiming the Glory of God, in religious parlance we call it PROPAGATION! That is the way of God's intention for the ministry, His name be known by his works, by His presence and by His Touch that grow through propagation of FAITH! ☐

## SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RECOMMENDED

- You are enjoined to practice Eucharistic Adoration at least an hour a week. Let us render God adoration, thanksgiving, reparation and petition. Kindly check with your respective parishes for schedules. Some churches are open 24-hours for Eucharistic Adoration.
- Pray at least one rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary daily.
- Pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at 3:00 PM and at 9:00 PM daily.
- Pray the Angelus at 6:00 PM daily.
- Pray the Pro-Life Scriptural Rosary [[www.rosaryoftheunborn.com](http://www.rosaryoftheunborn.com)] to make reparation for the crime of abortion.
- Think of ways to make reparation to Mary for the sins committed **against** Jesus and Mary. A very good one is to join the **First Saturday devotion**; another is the **2000 Hail Mary devotion**.
- Learn more about the Holy Cross Brothers, the order of which St. André [our Saint for January] was a member. Pray for an increase in vocations and for those who are already living the religious life.
- Offer a Mass for someone in spiritual need since this is the worst poverty and the greatest charity.
- The 2014 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) will take place from January 18-25 under the banner of the theme: "Has Christ Divided Us?" (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:13). The resources, biblical reflections and prayers from the Holy See may be freely downloaded at <http://www.vatican.va>. ☐

## THANK YOU

*... a small and simple phrase that comes from a grateful heart!*

*Psalm 106:2*

### FOR PRAYERS HEARD AND PETITIONS GRANTED

Thank you, Eternal Father, for Your Will that transformed our sorrow into joy, our tears of anguish into tears of thanksgiving. Our physical and spiritual re-creation, through Your Healing Hands, kept us enclosed and revived in our hope for renewed lives as we look up to the heavens praising You, in Jesus' most Holy Name, through the intercession of Mary, our Blessed Mother, and of the angels and saints.

*The Las Vegas devotees thank God for extending His Healing Hands to Mila Lumba who was hospitalized from October to December; and Ron Muego who had quadruple bypass in Manila during the month of November. Both were present at the 2000 Hail Mary devotion on January 11, 2014 and are feeling better. We also thank the Prayer Warriors of The Spiritual Army of God the Father for their prayers.*

*Kristen's latest laboratory tests showed she's now Cancer-Free!!! Thank You Lord!*

*Thank you Kristen for showing us how to draw strength and perseverance from Faith in God's healing love!*

### 2000 HAIL MARY DEVOTION

The Spiritual Army of God the Father and the 2000 Hail Mary Group of Northern California acknowledge with thanks our generous April sponsors of the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion. We are grateful that we have merited their partnership and support in providing a venue of spirituality and fellowship for the devotees of our Blessed Mother. The devotion continues to be a constant success.

Las Vegas, Nevada

Ron & Fe Muego

Los Angeles, California

Awaiting Sponsors.

Please contact

[victor.a@spiritualarmyofgod.org](mailto:victor.a@spiritualarmyofgod.org)

# SPIRITUAL ARMY NEWS DISPATCH

## INSTANT CARE PACK FOR HOMELESS AND INDIGENT

The Spiritual Army of God the Father's pack comprises of a fleece blanket, a pair of socks, a Consecration to God the Father prayer card, and a McDonald's \$5 gift card which should be enough provisions to last an average person for at least 2 days. Instead of dropping off the blankets and socks in Skid Row which may jeopardize the safety of our devotees, the instant care pack will be handed to individuals in the streets or in parking lots. The pack costs \$10 a piece and distribution period is during winter time. During summer an entirely different configuration is handed in to the target recipient. This will include toothpaste, soap, shampoo, bottled water and Consecration to God the Father prayer card.

We will see the practicality and efficiency of these packs and we will make configural and logistical adjustments if they are found to be ineffective. In the meantime we are getting good feedback from the target recipients themselves. □

## ABBE' JOEL VISITS LA

Our Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest seminarian, Abbe Joel Joseph Estrada, was in Los Angeles for a short vacation to be with his family and friends for the latter half of the Christmas season, making himself available to assist as Deacon and impart the message of the Gospel through his beautiful and touching Homily for both our 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday God the Father devotions. Abbe Joel's priestly ordination is scheduled sometime in August this year. It would be a once in a lifetime experience to witness the ordination of a priest, more so if you have been a part, big or small, in his vocation. The Spiritual Army is considering organizing an "excursion" to Missouri in August this year for this purpose. Details will be forthcoming as soon as they are available.

Abbe Joel and his family are grateful to all devotees who continue to support his vocation through prayers and financial help. The devotees, on the other hand are looking forward to his 1<sup>st</sup> celebration of the Holy Mass as God the Father's chosen priest for His Spiritual Army! □

## PILGRIMAGE TO MOTHER MARY'S APPARITION SHRINES

Our next scheduled pilgrimage is nearing and seats are filling up fast since December 2013. Our quota for the number of pilgrims is over 60% filled. Please don't delay registration -- \$400 guarantees your reservation and you have until October 3 to pay-off the total cost of pilgrimage.

We look forward to your company in this yet another journey seeking God through the sacred sites of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our mother, as our guide and faithful intercessor. □

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### TOY DRIVE FOR THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL [ONGOING]

### MOTHER MARY'S CROWNING

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014  
CONVENT OF THE SISTER DISCIPLES  
OF THE DIVINE MASTER  
501 N. BEAUDRY AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90027

ALSO  
AT THE CENACLE HOUSE  
IN THE ENCLAVE  
8455 W. SAHARA AVENUE #172  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89117

SAVE THE DATE  
AND SAVE UP FOR A

### PILGRIMAGE TO MOTHER MARY'S APPARITION SHRINES PORTUGAL | SPAIN | FRANCE

DECEMBER 4-21, 2014  
DAILY ACTIVITIES AND OTHER  
INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE AT  
[WWW.SPIRITUALARMYOFGOD.ORG](http://WWW.SPIRITUALARMYOFGOD.ORG)

\$400 GUARANTEES YOUR  
RESERVATION AND YOU HAVE UNTIL  
OCTOBER 3, 2014 TO PAY  
PILGRIMAGE COST

# DEVOTION SCHEDULE



## THE SPIRITUAL ARMY OF GOD THE FATHER

cordially invites you to the following devotions:

### IN LOS ANGELES:

#### 1st Saturday Devotion

The Convent of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master | 501 N. Beaudry Avenue | (213) 250-7962  
Holy Mass starts at 8:30 A.M. | 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Devotional Prayers follow.

#### Devotion to God the Father

Every 1st Sunday of the Month

The Monastery of the Angels | 1977 Carmen Avenue on Gower | (323) 466-2186  
11:20 A.M. - Rosary to the Father | 11:50 A.M. - Holy Mass  
1:00 P.M. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
Confession ongoing from 11:20 A.M. to 11:45 P.M.

#### 2000 Hail Mary Devotion – February 15, 2014

at the Convent of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master | starting at 8:30 a.m.

*Please call Victor at (213) 385-7798 if you wish to become a Sponsor of the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion.*

### IN LAS VEGAS:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Devotion

at The Cenacle House in The Enclave | 8455 West Sahara Avenue #172, | Las Vegas, NV 89117 at 1:00 PM  
Cenacle will be at 10:00 AM before the devotional prayers.

*Please call Evelyn at (702) 274-4315 for entry to The Enclave or for more information.*

#### Devotion to God the Father

Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month from 2:00 to 3:30 P.M.

at The Cenacle House in The Enclave | 8455 West Sahara Avenue #172, | Las Vegas, NV 89117

#### 2000 Hail Mary Devotion – February 8, 2014

*Please call (702) 255-9616 or (702) 274-4315 for*

*dates and venues for the coming months or for more information or if you wish to Sponsor the Devotion.*

### IN LAUGHLIN, NEVADA:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Devotion

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church | 3055 El Mirage Way

Holy Mass starts at 8:00 A.M. Devotional prayers follow.

### IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA:

#### 1st Saturday Devotion

#### 2000 Hail Mary Devotion

*Please call (650) 766-2071 for dates and venues for the coming months or for more information.*

*For Sacramento:*

*Please call Precy Rieta (916) 564-3733 | Caring Sturgill (916) 897-3194 | Maria Rosario (916) 230-7756.*

### IN SAN DIEGO

#### Rosary to the Father

Monday – Saturday after the 8:00 A.M. Mass [Look for Iris Haj]

St. Mary's Church | 1160 S. Broadway | Escondido, CA 92025

### IN THE PHILIPPINES

#### 2000 Hail Mary Devotion - Metro Manila Area

Letty Rollan has organized the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion in various areas of Metro Manila through the members of the "Mother Butler." Please call her U.S. Vonage phone (510) 779-6652, text her at Manila #916-384-9300, and/or call her Manila landline 939-4677. Mention Mila Lumba's name to be recognized.