



1ST SATURDAY DEVOTION NEWSLETTER

January 2016

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FOLLOW THE STAR: SPIRITUAL PRACTICES FOR THE NEW YEAR

As you cross this threshold into the New Year, what star beckons you in the night? How might you own your journey more deeply in the coming year?

By Christine Valters Paintner

The gospel text for the Feast of Epiphany offers a powerful invitation to us as we enter a new year and cross another threshold of time. The last few lines of the Matthew text offer us a template for an archetypal journey, that is, one we are all invited to make. We find ourselves in this text if we've ever longed to follow an inkling into the long night, knowing there were gifts awaiting us.

1) **Follow the star to where it leads.** The story begins with the magi calling upon the grace of night vision. Navigation in ancient times was largely by stars and constellations. Travelers had to know the night sky and trust the path through darkness and unknowing. As you cross this threshold into the New Year, what star beckons you in the night? As you stand under a black sky of unknowing, which star is shimmering? The star might be a particular practice, which when you commit to following it, will guide you in a holy direction.

2) **Embark on the journey, however long or difficult.** Herod gathers all his chief priests and scribes to find out more about this holy birth. Instead of searching out for himself, he sends the magi on his behalf. While Herod seeks outside advice and send others, the magi make the journey for themselves. Where are you tempted to trust others to make the journey for you, perhaps in reading books about the spiritual journey but never practicing yourself? How might you own your journey more deeply in the coming year?

3) **Open yourself to wonder along the way.** The scriptures tell us the magi were "overjoyed at seeing the star." I like to imagine them practicing this kind of divine wonderment all along the journey there. Moments that spoke to the sacred call. When we lose our sense of wonder our hearts become hardened and cynical, and we forget to believe in magical possibilities. As you enter into a new cycle of the earth's turning, how might you embrace the gift of wonder? What practices open your heart?

4) **Bow down at the holy encounters in messy places.** When the magi enter the messy, earthy place of the manger, it says they bow down and prostrate themselves. Prostration is an act of humility and honor, as well as full-body connection with the earth. As you encounter the sacred in the most ordinary of places, how might you express this embodied appreciation and honor?

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OVERVIEW FOR THE MONTH

www.catholicculture.org

The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus, which is celebrated on January 3.

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 | 24 | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday |
| 2 | Basil the Great; Gregory Nazianzen, Memorial | 25 | Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle, Feast |
| 3 | Epiphany of the Lord, Opt. Mem. | 26 | Timothy and Titus, Memorial |
| 4 | Elizabeth Ann Seton (USA and CAN), Memorial | 27 | Angela Merici, Opt. Mem. |
| 5 | John Neumann, Memorial | 28 | Thomas Aquinas, Memorial |
| 6 | Andre Bessette, Opt. Mem. | 31 | Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday - |
| 7 | Raymond of Penafort, Opt. Mem. | | |
| 10 | Baptism of the Lord, Feast | | |
| 13 | Hilary; Kentigern (Scotland), Opt. Mem. | | |
| 17 | Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday | | |
| 20 | Fabian; Sebastian, Opt. Mem. | | |
| 21 | Agnes, Memorial | | |
| 22 | Day of Prayer for Unborn, Opt. Mem. | | |
| 23 | Vincent of Saragossa, Opt. Mem. | | |

The feasts of the Holy Name of Jesus (January 3), St. Anthony, abbot (January 17) and St. Francis de Sales (January 24), are superseded by the Sunday liturgy. ☐

OUR CENACLE CORNER

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

ENJOY LIFE AND BE AT PEACE

PART 2

NUMBERS

CORINTHIANS

COLOSSIANS

1 PETER

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

HOLY MASS ON THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

XLVIII WORLD DAY OF PEACE

Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis
Vatican Basilica
Thursday, 1st January 2015

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Today we are reminded of the words of blessing which Elizabeth spoke to the Virgin Mary: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?" (Lk 1:42-43).

This blessing is in continuity with the priestly blessing which God had given to Moses to be passed on to Aaron and to all the people: "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 6:24-26). In celebrating the Solemnity of Mary Most Holy, the Holy Mother of God, the Church reminds us that Mary, more than anyone else, received this blessing. In her the blessing finds fulfilment, for no other creature has ever seen God's face shine upon it as did Mary. She gave a human face to the eternal Word, so that all of us can contemplate him.

In addition to contemplating God's face, we can also praise him and glorify him, like the shepherds who came away from Bethlehem with a song of thanksgiving after seeing the Child and his young mother (cf. Lk 2:16). The two were together, just as they were together at Calvary, because Christ and his mother are inseparable: there is a very close relationship between them, as there is between every child and his or her mother. The flesh (caro) of Christ – which, as Tertullian says, is the hinge (cardo) of our salvation – was knit together in the womb of Mary (cf. Ps 139:13). This inseparability is also clear from the fact that Mary, chosen beforehand to be the Mother of the Redeemer, shared intimately in his entire mission, remaining at her Son's side to the end on Calvary.

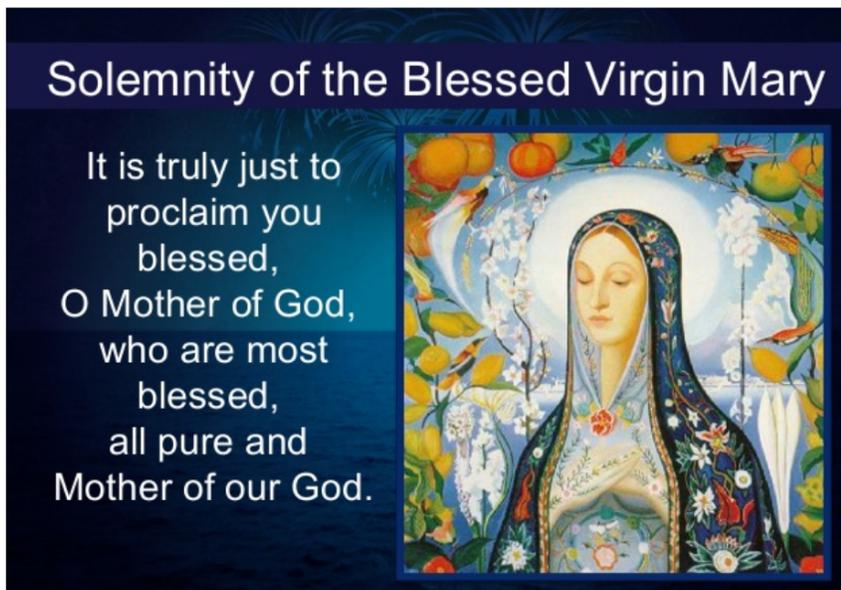
Mary is so closely united to Jesus because she received from him the knowledge of the heart, the knowledge of faith, nourished by her experience as a mother and by her

close relationship with her Son. The Blessed Virgin is the woman of faith who made room for God in her heart and in her plans; she is the believer capable of perceiving in the gift of her Son the coming of that "fullness of time" (Gal 4:4) in which God, by choosing the humble path of human existence, entered personally into the history of salvation. That is why Jesus cannot be understood without his Mother.

Likewise inseparable are Christ and the Church – because the Church and Mary are always together and this is precisely the mystery of womanhood in the ecclesial community – and the salvation accomplished by Jesus cannot be understood without appreciating the motherhood of the Church. To separate Jesus from the Church would introduce an "absurd dichotomy", as Blessed Paul VI wrote (Evangelii Nuntiandi, 16). It is not possible "to love

Christ but without the Church, to listen to Christ but not the Church, to belong to Christ but outside the Church" (ibid.). For the Church is herself God's great family, which brings Christ to us. Our faith is not an abstract doctrine or philosophy, but a vital and full relationship with a person: Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God who became man, was put to death, rose from the dead to save us, and is now living in our midst. Where can we encounter him? We encounter him in the Church, in our hierarchical, Holy Mother Church. It is the Church which says today: "Behold the Lamb of God"; it is the Church, which proclaims him; it is in the Church that Jesus continues to accomplish his acts of grace which are the sacraments.

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THE LOVE OF LIFE

*Excerpted from Spirit & Life, Monsignor Ignacio Barreiro-Carámbula,
Interim President, Human Life International*

Love is not merely a feeling, but is rather the desire for the best possible good for those whom we love. Through our natural intelligence and through Divine Revelation we become aware of the value of this most basic of all gifts which is life. Mere reason leads us to comprehend that it is better to be alive than never have had been in existence. The knowledge of the value of life that comes through revelation leads us to understand better this gift and to appreciate it: as a result, we worship and love more and more the Giver of this gift. This love is what moves us to protect the life of the unborn or any who might be unjustly treated. We are also led to protect women that might feel tempted or forced to commit abortion, as we know the devastating consequences that abortion will have in their lives. Last but not least we have to love, even if most of them seem to be utterly unlovable, the many perpetrators of abortion: medical



personnel, and pro-abortion activists and politicians. We have to do everything that we can to convince them of their errors so that they repent and change their ways, both for their own benefit and for the benefit of society. All human beings are created in the image and likeness of God. Using a traditional scholastic term, we can state that He is the exemplary cause of every human being, in other words, He is the model on which all human beings are created. He looked upon himself and wished that other beings would share in His own happiness. So if we reflect upon ourselves, we can begin to understand our participation in the greatness of our Creator. This participation on His greatness leads us to comprehend that He has brought us out of nothing with a purpose, because knowing His intelligence and His loving nature it is clear that all His actions are always guided by a magnificent purpose. The first intention for which He has created us is that we should enjoy for an eternity His loving company in Heaven. All human persons are called

to this eternal and loving company, no one is excluded, save those who, through their own actions, exclude themselves. This manner of creation brings us to understand the unique essential dignity of every human being. A dignity that is not lost for any deprivation of the many external perfections that we might expect to find in a human person. A person might be born with a disability, or may suffer disability through injury or disease, but these deprivations do not affect his basic dignity. A Christian also has the hope that one day when the doors of Paradise will be opened for those children, all their human imperfections will be healed and they will enjoy forever the beatific vision that we all long for. We are also created to be collaborators in the salvation of the World. The Lord normally does not intervene directly in the world; He does it through our free collaboration in his plans of salvation. He gives to us the saving truths through Holy Scripture, our natural reason and the mediation of the Church and

we have to manifest them in our daily lives. If we love those truths we should be impelled to share them with all whom the Lord places in front of us. So when we speak with love and conviction of those truths we cannot be accused of carrying out an exaggerated rhetoric when we defend human life from its biological beginning until natural death. Nobody in his right mind can call it "vitriolic rhetoric" when we denounce that millions upon millions of unborn babies have been killed in the womb in the U.S. and in the rest of the world. It is literally a question of life and death, for the victim, for the mother of the baby and for the perpetrator of abortion, assisted suicide or euthanasia. The victim will have his earthly life terminated; the mother will suffer greatly for her actions, and the perpetrator and the mother will live under the shadow of the unhappiness of having rejected the loving truths of their Creator and certainly they will place their

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GOD TOUCHED ME

WALKING IN THE WAY WITH GOD

"And your ears shall hear a word behind you that say 'this is the way, walk in it

- Isaiah 30:20

By RR

Peace and all-good!

It is my privilege and honor to share with you my personal journey as a "walking vocation message" and how a "lost sheep" in me does make appointment with God.

I am currently a major seminarian of the Apostolic Vicariate of Calapan (Oriental Mindoro) with its theological formation house at Saint Augustine Major Seminary (SASMA) located at Tagaytay City, Philippines. Being a seminarian is not that easy. Also, to be a seminarian is to be an Alter Christus, to be Christ-like, so to speak. Every day is a calling of witnessing to Christ and to His Church, and of cultivating gentle and humble heart in the very example of the Good Shepherd.

To glean at my past, perhaps, would not favor me to continue the next level of my formation in Theology. In 2006, after obtaining my Bachelor's Degree major in Philosophy, I left the seminary almost looking and moving forward that my vocation to the priesthood was not meant for me. I ventured in a corporate world as a Human Resource staff with a corporation in Ortigas Center, Pasig City for almost a year. I took up Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education at the National Teachers College in Manila for my licentiate in teaching. I taught six years in Catholic schools in Metro Manila: the Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila School and Stella Maris College in Cubao, Quezon City. I also taught as a part-time teacher at the Eastern Mindoro College in my hometown in Oriental Mindoro. For seven long years, without knowing it, I spent my life and service in the academe.

But human as I am, I failed myself for being self-centered and for having an "all-knowing" attitude, that is, always ready to justify whatever actions I make. For many years, I spent my life at the dark, forgetting that Christ is my co-journeyer, and assuming that with my potentials, I would survive. I almost forgot where I came from and my relationship with my loved ones were deeply affected. I never gave my 100% financial and moral support to my family, not even a portion of it. But this was never too late. I started looking after my parents' and siblings' welfare after one day I visited them in the province, discovering that their situation is of great need of my help. I would say, but then again, they are my family, and without them, I am nothing. However, I entered into an affair with a married woman

and with other women, one at a time, which actually aggravated my situation more. Good thing I did not have any children. Indulging in my gloomy past, I remember St. Augustine praying before God and saying, "Lord, make me chaste, but not this time... not now" which reflected my uncharted path. In that prayer, I was taught and was able to discover the wisdom of God, until such time, I embraced a total conversion asking Him for my "second virginity". I was also engaged into lying about the truth and vices which even my family, friends and other relatives did not know anything about it.

Being able to realize all my obscure deeds in the past, I have come to feel immensely sorry for all that wrong things I have done which also include all the failures and disappointment I have caused them. Despite everything, God's providential love is at work. Without reservations, without any sort of judgment, He embraced me wholeheartedly. He accepted me like a "father to his prodigal son." For me, total conversion and genuine intention could be purified by facing the consequences of what I have done in the past and doing goodness in return. Above all, for the sake of peace and reconciliation, I started approaching people whom I have caused pain and frustration, or in other words, to have a graceful exit.

Humility is no substitute for the truth. Year 2012 was my moment of grasping the real meaning of "second chance." As I entered into a renewal and reconnection with the Supreme Being, I have begun to exercise my profound faith and generosity. God's generosity is beyond time and measure so I begin with freeing myself from sins by confession and spiritual direction. In the past, the lost sheep did not make appointment, but now, I ask God for an appointment, that is to fully allow Him to enter my life.

Truly, I am nothing! In God's mercy and compassion, in His overflowing grace, He still loves me. I believe, I deserve to be with Him no matter where I have been in life, no matter how I am dragged into the world, and no matter I have been through in the past. Without any

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Follow the Star: Spiritual Practices for the New Year

5) **Carry your treasures and give them away freely.** The magi reveal the gifts they have brought of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold represents the honor brought to a King, frankincense is a connection to the divine by raising our prayers heavenward, and myrrh a holy oil of anointing. What are the treasures you carry with you into the New Year? How might you offer them even more generously to others in the months to come?

6) **Listen to the wisdom of dreams.** The magi are warned in a dream not to return to Herod and they listen to this night wisdom. The scriptures are filled with stories of dreams delivering important messages and facilitating discernment. Our own night dreams arrive unbidden laden with mystery and meaning. In the new year, how might you honor these stories which emerge from the darkness and surrender of sleep?

7) **Go home by another way.** After receiving the gift of the dream, they choose another way home. In truth, after any journey of significance, there is no going back the same way as before. We always return with new awareness if we have been paying attention. What is the usual path you have traveled which has become suffocating? How does this year call forth new directions in your own life? Is there something symbolic of the new way home that you could carry with you like a talisman?

These stories carry ancient treasures for us: guidance and wisdom along the way. Ultimately we turn inward to discover our own call, our own treasures to share, the dreams emerging in silent spaces.

I invite you to find a window of time in these next few days to ponder this story and these questions in your heart and see what insights they awaken for you. ☐

Christine Valters Paintner, Ph.D., is a Benedictine Oblate and the online Abbess of Abbey of the Arts, a virtual monastery without walls offering online classes in contemplative practice and creative expression and pilgrimages to Ireland, Germany, and Austria. She is the author of eight books on monasticism and creativity including *The Artist's Rule: Nurturing Your Creative Soul with Monastic Wisdom* (Ave Maria Press) and her forthcoming book *The Soul of a Pilgrim: Eight Practices for the Inner Journey* (Spring 2015, Ave Maria Press). Christine lives as a monk in the world in Galway, Ireland with her husband of twenty years.

God Touched Me

assurance whether the Seminary Council would accept my re-application or not, last March 2013, I took my resignation and gave up my career in the academe, believing that having this purity and sincerity of intention, God will guide me and do the rest.

Thanks be to God! Being accepted by the Seminary Council, I felt once more that I am blessed by God into a

life-giving mission. I underwent one year re-entry program in our local Church. I first entered the seminary in the year 2001 and here I am, after 14 long years, all set to follow His will. In that span of time, I have realized that when a person holds the priesthood of Christ, he never knows when the moment of his calling may come. I am committing myself to the Lord, and I am willing to embrace it.

However, I am mindful that entering the priesthood vocation requires copious phase of funds and is never easy, especially with the present financial status of my family. Truthful and transparent to my intention, I believe, I cannot persist without your aid and prayers. My seminary formation, including my academic formation in theology, will last for five years. To this end, I believe that your support through prayers and financial embrace matters a lot. In this juncture, I humbly ask your generous heart to help me in my vocation journey. Whatever blessing you can give is really a great help. I am hoping and looking forward for your favorable response. Be assured also of my prayers for the vision – mission of your community, the Spiritual Army of God the Father. May the intercession of Jesus' mother, Mama Mary, be with you always.

Above all, not our will, but HIS WILL, must always be done. AMEN. ☐

Editor's Note: As of the time of the final editing of this newsletter, the seminarian has been interviewed via Skype. The team who interviewed (which included Fr. Vincent Hughes) has requested a copy of his final grades and a letter from his spiritual counselor. Once these are received, a decision will be made.

**"... ".... I am your Mother Mary
Today offer yourself to God as a start of your
petition and praises before Him.
My children, God's love for His creation
is beyond human comprehension.
That love gave His only Son for the ransom
of the sin of humanity.
This love is now challenged by continuing
disobedience and blasphemous acts of humanity
before God. My little ones, He allows continuing
cleansing as He makes the old ones New! Your NEW
hearts, if you allow this to happen will be the new
step towards the Triumph of my Immaculate Heart
and the Sacred Heart of my Beloved Son Jesus.
Thank you my children for listening to me. I love
you my children."**

**- Mary, Your Lady of the Immaculate Heart
010216**

SPIRITUAL ARMY NEWS DISPATCH

THE ARMY'S 2015 AT A GLANCE

We welcome 2016 in a spectacular fashion with fireworks, light shows and stellar performances across the globe, we also bid farewell to 2015 with a whimper as we recall and recap the past year's events and projects.

In The Spiritual Army of God the Father, we can say that we have had a fulfilling and satisfying 2015 as we came true to our mission statement through various events, celebrations and projects.

The first month of 2015 filled our hearts and minds with the preparation for the Feast day celebration of the Holy Infant Jesus. With all hands on deck, the feast day celebration turned out to be more than a simple celebration, in spite of the fact that majority of the committee members just got back from an 18-day Marian pilgrimage to Portugal, Spain and France.

Various feast days were celebrated both in Los Angeles, CA and in Las Vegas, NV such as Feast of the Divine Mercy, May Crowning and Feast Day of God the Father. The God the Father feast day was simultaneously celebrated at the Chapel of the Eternal Father in Canjulao, Lapulapu City, Cebu, Philippines.

First Saturday devotion, 1st Sunday Eternal Father devotion, and 2000 Hail Mary devotion were simultaneously observed every month in Los Angeles, CA and Las Vegas, NV; while the First Friday devotion was done in Chino Hills, CA. 2015 saw the additions of more devotions in the Army. The 800 Our Father devotion was launched in July and it alternates with the 2000 Hail Mary devotion, thereafter. This is not just the usual Octave that we have been doing every Feast of God the Father in August, but rather a focused devotion that entails all prayers lifted from personal prayers and the prayer that Jesus taught us, The Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. Las Vegas chapter has added the First Friday devotion and the Mother of Perpetual Help novena.

On September. 4-6 Los Angeles and Las Vegas devotees went on a mini-pilgrimage to New Mexico visiting the Loreto Chapel which has the legendary Saint Joseph staircase and the El Santuario de Chimayo which has 2 chapels (Chapel of the Christ of Esquipulas and the Chapel of the Holy Child of Atocha) and also the Healing Sands of Chimayo.

The Convent of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master and the Monastery of Angels are direct recipients of financial contributions for 2015 from the Ministry. These are the places where we hold our devotionals and celebrations.

Continued on next page

UPCOMING EVENTS

TOY DRIVE FOR THE LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

PLEASE DROP OFF
YOUR NEW UNWRAPPED TOYS
EVERY 1ST AND 3RD SATURDAYS AT
THE CONVENT OF
THE SISTER DISCIPLES OF
THE DIVINE MASTER

FEAST OF THE INFANT JESUS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2016
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES PARISH
1111 MICHAEL WAY
LAS VEGAS, NV

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND & JORDAN

DECEMBER 5-15, 2016
DAILY ACTIVITIES AND OTHER
INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE AT
WWW.SPIRITUALARMYOFGOD.ORG

The Spiritual Army of God the Father has also a lineup of various projects, continuing the 2014 projects plus more, focusing on discipleship and evangelization through faith, prayers and deeds:

- a. Continuing efforts for our toy drive, recipient of which remains to be Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.
- b. Financial support for individual desiring to enter the religious life/priesthood.
- c. Revival of the "Kitchen of Mary" feeding program by providing financial assistance and service hours to soup kitchen entities in the Los Angeles and Las Vegas areas. In December, an individual was the recipient of a gift voucher from a local market for a Christmas and New Year dinners. Mirna Aisa's name (of Las Vegas, NV) was drawn from a box of entries submitted by the devotees.
- d. Ongoing distribution of our instant Care Pack to panhandlers/hungry and homeless. In the care pack are a blanket, a pair of socks, toothbrush, toothpaste, a \$5 bill and a Consecration Card to God the Father.
- e. Granting scholarship to students of indigent or poor families with good scholastic standing in the Philippines, specifically to two students at Jose Rizal University, Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines. This scholarship will continue hopefully as our devotees become more generous in supporting this Project.
- f. Seeking God through pilgrimages to holy places. The Ministry will scour all possible means to make future pilgrimages affordable to all. ☐

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The Solemnity of Mary

This, the Church's activity and mission, is an expression of her motherhood. For she is like a mother who tenderly holds Jesus and gives him to everyone with joy and generosity. No manifestation of Christ, even the most mystical, can ever be detached from the flesh and blood of the Church, from the historical concreteness of the Body of Christ. Without the Church, Jesus Christ ends up as an idea, a moral teaching, a feeling. Without the Church, our relationship with Christ would be at the mercy of our imagination, our interpretations, our moods.

Dear brothers and sisters! Jesus Christ is the blessing for every man and woman, and for all of humanity. The Church, in giving us Jesus, offers us the fullness of the Lord's blessing. This is precisely the mission of the people of God: to spread to all peoples God's blessing made flesh in Jesus Christ. And Mary, the first and most perfect

disciple of Jesus, the first and most perfect believer, the model of the pilgrim Church, is the one who opens the way to the Church's motherhood and constantly sustains her maternal mission to all mankind. Mary's tactful maternal witness has accompanied the Church from the beginning. She, the Mother of God, is also the Mother of the Church, and through the Church, the mother of all men and women, and of every people.

May this gentle and loving Mother obtain for us the Lord's blessing upon the entire human family. On this, the World Day of Peace, we especially implore her intercession that the Lord may grant peace in our day; peace in hearts, peace in families, peace among the nations. The message for the Day of Peace this year is "No Longer Slaves, but Brothers and Sisters". All of us are called to be free, all are called to be sons and daughters, and each, according to his or her own responsibilities, is called to combat modern forms of enslavement. From every people, culture and religion, let us join our forces. May he guide and sustain us, who, in order to make us all brothers and sisters, became our servant.

Let us look to Mary, let us contemplate the Holy Mother of God. I suggest that you all greet her together, just like those courageous people of Ephesus, who cried out before their pastors when they entered Church: "Holy Mother of God!" What a beautiful greeting for our Mother. There is a story – I do not know if it is true – that some among those people had clubs in their hands, perhaps to make the Bishops understand what would happen if they did not have the courage to proclaim Mary "Mother of God"! I invite all of you, without clubs, to stand up and to greet her three times with this greeting of the early Church: "Holy Mother of God!" ☐

Continued from Page 4

The Love of Life

eternal salvation in jeopardy. Our main solidarity has to be always with the victim of the crime, because if the conscience of the nation is not moved by this growing injustice, we know that a growing number will be victimized in the future. Our solidarity is also with the mothers of those babies because often they have been misled or forced into committing this terrible action. Last but not least we wish and pray that all abortionists will understand the terrible consequences of their actions and be converted. ☐

THANK YOU

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

Psalm 106:2

THE 2000 HAIL MARY DEVOTION

The Spiritual Army of God the Father acknowledges with thanks our generous January sponsors of the 200 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 God the Father.

Los Angeles, California

Gloria Batino | Dina Cancino
Denise Gier | Ruth Mercado
Alice Ng | Elena Rosales

FOR PRAYERS HEARD AND PETITIONS GRANTED

HOW DO WE RESPOND WHEN OUR CRY FOR MERCY RECEIVES ITS LOVING ANSWER FROM OUR MASTER?

WE NEED TO PRAISE AND THANK JESUS FOR HIS HEALING POWER, MERCY, AND GRACE.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU FELL FACE DOWN AND PRAISED JESUS?

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU PRAISED AND THANKED THE LORD

FOR ALL THAT HE HAS DONE FOR YOU

WITH A GENUINE HEART AND A PROSTRATE POSTURE?

Enormous heartfelt gratitude to Eternal Father for all our continued blessings and answered prayers HE has granted. HIS plans are always greater than our own. Thank you for showing us your love and kindness in our lives. We see it, feel it and want to share it with those around us. For all your graces and blessings, Lord, we love you with all our hearts and we give ourselves to you!!!

*– The Mercado Family,
Bon, Ruth, Brooklyn, Bella & Noah*

My God, when I asked you to remove the hurt and grudge I had towards a friend, you removed it and made me feel better. Thank you very much for your help. Without you, I would probably be sulking until now. I also thank you for reducing the allergy rashes which I had for 9 months.

- Fed

Thank you for teaching me tenderly and humbling me gently, my God, my Lord, my Savior!

Thank you, too, for healing my Ate – physically and most importantly, spiritually! She now perseveres through her physical challenges with hope and trust. Please continue to draw her closer to your heart each day.

- LH

Thank you God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit!

You never abandoned us on Sunny & Winter Days of our lives. You danced with us in the rain! You gave us energy

to do our part; knowledge, wisdom and understanding to be in the right path and most of all the Grace of Trust in your plans for us! We are grateful for 2015 & the past years. We pray for 2016 full of True Christian Life, Love, Peace and Understanding, to continue to pray for one another and for all your creations in whole world! Through the most powerful intercessions of Your & our mother, Mama Mary & all the titles given to her as Miraculous Mother, Saint Joseph, all the Angels and Saints we beg for this year of Mercy to look upon us again! Thank you so much from our hearts!

- Aida T.

God The Father, my loving and merciful Father from the bottom of my heart THANK YOU for the gift of a loving and excellent mother (Santos Evelia Abrego) you gave me on earth. Now she has gone back to you, and thank you for listening to my petition to allow me to had her buried. I love you Father.

- Carolina Abrego-Pineda

As we begin 2016, we have so much to be thankful for with all the graces and blessings You have given us this past year! We've been in our home for one year now and we are especially so honored and grateful to have a prayer room and being able to share it with others as we all continue to deepen our faith. Thank you for always watching over us and guiding us as we hope to bring others (and ourselves) closer to You.

- Gier Family

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. | 1st 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
12:30 P.M. - Rosary to the Father | 1:15 P.M. - Holy Mass
2:00 P.M. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

2000 Hail Mary Devotion – January 23, 2016

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 CHINO HILLS:

Sacred Heart Devotional Group for Departed Souls

Every 1st Friday of the Month | 16657 Tourmaline Street | Chino Hills, CA 91709
Devotional Prayers start at 8:30 P.M.

IN LAS VEGAS:

Sacred Heart and Precious Blood of Jesus Devotion for Departed Souls

Every 1st Friday of the Month
at The Cenacle House in The Enclave 8455 W. Sahara Avenue #172 | Las Vegas, NV 89117
Devotional Prayers start at 2:30 P.M.

1st Saturday Devotion

at Saint Frances de Sales Parish | 1111 Michael Way | Las Vegas, NV 80108 at 8:00 AM
Devotional Prayers follow.

and

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 1st 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 20, 2016

*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.*

Mother of Perpetual Help Novena & Rosary Prayers

Every 1st Wednesday of the month after the 7:30 AM Mass
St. Francis de Sales Parish | 1111 Michael Way | Las Vegas, NV 89108

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.