



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

MAY 2020

## CORONAVIRUS AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE

*By Anne Reed  
The Stand's Daily Digest*

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THE EDITORS OF THE SPIRITUAL ARMY OF GOD THE FATHER'S 1ST SATURDAY NEWSLETTER ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THE CONSISTENT QUALITY AND ACCURACY OF THE SPIRITUAL ARMY OF GOD THE FATHER'S 1ST SATURDAY NEWSLETTER AND AS SUCH RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT OR EDIT THE CONTENT OF ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR PUBLICATION. EDITING MAY INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, CHANGES TO GRAMMAR, SYNTAX AND STYLES, REMOVAL OF OFFENSIVE CONTENT AND REMOVAL OF PERSONAL NON-PUBLIC INFORMATION. SUBMISSION OF YOUR ARTICLE SIGNIFIES YOUR AGREEMENT TO THE TERMS AFOREMENTIONED.

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"The virus we cannot see." That's how the Coronavirus was described at Monday's White House press briefing by Ambassador Debbie Birx, scientist and physician who is an expert in infectious disease and vaccine research. That's why she has been appointed to the position of Coronavirus Response Coordinator. She understands how these types of unseen things work.

We have an invisible enemy, however, that goes far beyond what can be seen under a microscope. President Donald Trump also said, "We have an invisible enemy." Although he holds the most powerful position in the world, this unseen world operates far above him.

This spiritual reality is referenced in Ephesians 6:12: For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

We have an unseen enemy who means to destroy us. There is no doubt about it. But God is sovereign, and He loves us with an immensity we cannot possibly understand.

What Satan means for evil, God means for good. And let's just be clear. Everything Satan does is saturated in evil.

Whatever is allowed into this world, we can be assured God intends to use it for good – including this global pandemic known as the Coronavirus, or COVID-19.

What if He plans to wake up the church ushering in revival? I cannot think of a better time for the church to go into the prayer closet and put Ephesians 6:10-11 into action:

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. I don't mean, necessarily, the type of armor that will protect you from the virus. There is enough instruction out there about that. This is spiritual armor – for those who have surrendered to the lordship of Christ and entered into His kingdom.

Therefore, take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer

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# FEASTS FOR MAY

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

- |                                                                                                        |                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Joseph the Worker, Opt. Mem.                                                                         | 22 Rita of Cascia, Opt. Mem.                                                               |
| 2 Athanasius, Memorial                                                                                 | 24 Ascension or the Seventh Sunday of Easter, Solemnity                                    |
| 3 Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday), Sunday                                               | 25 St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII; St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, virgin, Opt. Mem. |
| 10 Fifth Sunday of Easter, Sunday                                                                      | 26 Philip Neri, Memorial                                                                   |
| 12 Nereus and Achilleus; Pancras, martyrs, Opt. Mem.                                                   | 27 Augustine of Canterbury, Opt. Mem.                                                      |
| 13 Our Lady of Fatima, Opt. Mem.                                                                       | 31 Pentecost Sunday; Whitsunday, Sunday                                                    |
| 14 Matthias, Feast                                                                                     |                                                                                            |
| 15 Isidore the Farmer (USA), Opt. Mem.                                                                 |                                                                                            |
| 17 Sixth Sunday of Easter, Sunday                                                                      |                                                                                            |
| 18 John I, Opt. Mem.                                                                                   |                                                                                            |
| 20 Bernardine of Siena, Opt. Mem.                                                                      |                                                                                            |
| 21 Ascension of the Lord; Christopher Magallanes and companions; Eugene de Mazenod (Canada), Opt. Mem. |                                                                                            |

The feasts of Saints. Philip and James (May 3), St. Damian the Leper (May 10) and the Visitation (May 31) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy. The Solemnity of the Ascension (May 21) is celebrated on May 24 (Sunday) in most dioceses in the United States. ☐

## THANK YOU

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

*Psalm 106:2*

<p><b><u>Las Vegas, Nevada</u></b></p> <p><b>2000 Hail Devotion</b> March 16, 2020</p> <p>Robert &amp; Evelyn Pua</p>	<p><b><u>Los Angeles, California</u></b></p> <p><b>2000 Hail Mary Devotion</b> May 16, 2020</p> <p>Adriana Arguello   Vic &amp; Alice Araneta Marco &amp; Norma Gamboa   Frank &amp; Beth Lim Ben &amp; Vincie Ong   Leonida Putong</p>
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### OUR CENACLE CORNER

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

### JOY, HAPPINESS AND ABUNDANCE

GENESIS  
SAMUEL  
PROVERBS

# GOD TOUCHED ME

## OUR 2020 EXODUS

*By Evelyn Pua*

*"For the Lord, your God, dried up the waters of the Jordan in front of you until you crossed over, just as the Lord, your God, had done at the Red Sea, drying it up in front of us until we crossed over, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, and that you may fear the Lord, your God, forever."*

*Joshua 4:23-24*

In November 2019, we purchased our plane tickets for Manila via Korean Airlines with a stopover in Seoul, South Korea. We also decided to have a 9-day side trip to Seoul, Gyeongju and Busan on our flight back to the USA. In December 2019, after we came back from our Marian Pilgrimage, we paid our South Korea trip in full. Then, in the first week of January 2020, we paid for our 4-day Puerto Princesa, Palawan trip scheduled on March 5 thru 8. A few days after this, the COVID-19 news broke out and we had to wait and see how things would develop.

During the Feast Day Celebration of the Holy Infant Jesus, I offered our trip to Him and told Him that His will be done. In our daily prayers, I asked God the Father that we want to take this trip because we wanted to be with Robert's (my husband's) mother for her 92nd birthday on March 13. However, if it is not His will, then we gladly accept it without any regrets.

Two weeks before our Las Vegas departure date of March 1, we canceled our South Korea travel and did not get a penalty for this. Praise God! Due to this change, we rebooked our Manila departure date from March 24 to April 1 with no penalty. Again, we thank God for this.

On the morning of March 1, we went to St. Sharbel Church for our Eternal Father

devotion. Again, we asked God the Father to guide us on whatever happens, according to His will. Our flight was at night and just before we left for the airport, we checked with the airlines to make sure our flight was not canceled. The flight was only 30% full so Robert and I each had a whole row to ourselves.

Upon arrival in Manila, I heard from Mila that on March 2, Korean Airlines announced that they will neither fly in nor out of Las Vegas. All their Las Vegas flights will be rerouted to Los Angeles. So our friend Josie, called our travel agent to rebook our flight to Las Vegas via Los Angeles. Meanwhile, our Palawan trip went smoothly, met our friend from 50+ years ago, and were able to go on the scheduled side trips. A few days after we got back to Manila, we heard on the news that thousands of tourists in Palawan were stranded because all plane flights and ship sailing schedules were canceled due to the COVID 19 lockdown. Once again, God has brought us to a safe place.

On March 11, President Duterte announced that there will be a Metro Manila lockdown starting on March 15. On March 13, we decided to cut our trip short and go back to Las Vegas. We were worried that soon even international travel will be banned. Our travel agent, through the help of our friend,

Josie, was able to book us for March 17 with the same airlines via Los Angeles.

In the evening of March 16, before our departure, Pres. Duterte announced that international travel will be canceled after 72 hours from this date. Once again, by the Divine Providence, we made it before this travel ban. We also saw in the news that at LAX, people lined up and waited for 3 hours to get through Immigration and Customs. While at the Chicago airport, it took them about 6 hours. We just said to God that His will be done.

On our way to the airport on March 17, Metro Manila roads had no traffic congestion. No buses, no jeepneys, few people were on the road with no transportation in sight. Our flight from Manila left on time, had a two-hour stopover in Incheon airport, South Korea, and again departure time was on the dot. The flight was quite full with only very few vacant seats. Upon arrival at LAX, we took a restroom break preparing for the long line ahead of us.

Fortunately, we have Global Entry cards, so we had a separate entry which had only four people with about 10 computers available for our use. We checked in via computer, got the print-out and presented it to the Immigration officer. On our way out, I turned around and saw several long lines of people, including the airline crew, going through Passport Control. In 15 minutes, we were at the baggage pick up conveyor. Only three of us were there. I asked the other person where the other passengers in our flight were and he said they were still in line at the Passport Control. His wheelchair attendant was fast and was able to get him through. From baggage conveyor, we were directed to the next conveyor where we can drop off our baggage for the flight to Las Vegas. We also breezed through Customs as we were also in the Global Entry line.

Passengers who arrived way before us were still in several long lines waiting to go through. At the Delta drop off baggage, there was no line and we were directed to go to Terminal 2. We walked from Tom Bradley Terminal to Terminal 2 where we had to go through security check. Again, there was no line. In less than an hour of arrival time, we were at our departure gate to Las Vegas.

We felt the Hand of God guiding us through this. It felt like the parting of the Red Sea as we breezed through everything, with the wall of people on one side and the building wall on the other side as though they were the wall of the Red Sea as the waters parted.

We arrived in Las Vegas before the scheduled arrival time. Out of consideration to everyone, we did self-quarantine until April 1. As of this writing date, we continue to stay home, going out only for essential errands.

As the Lord has promised in Genesis 28:15: "I am with you and will protect you wherever you go, and bring you back to this land. I will never leave you until I have done what I promised you." And in Joshua 4:23-24: "For the Lord, your God, dried up the waters of the Jordan in front of you until you crossed over, just as the Lord, your God, had done at the Red Sea, drying it up in front of us until we crossed over, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, and that you may fear the Lord, your God, forever." □

## **SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RECOMMENDED**

### **SEEKING INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS THROUGH THE BIBLE**

**BY VICTOR ARANETA**

THIS BOOKLET HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND COPIES ARE AVAILABLE TO EVERYONE FOR A DONATION OF \$6.00 PER COPY. CONTACT ALICE @ [alice.a@spiritualarmyofgod.org](mailto:alice.a@spiritualarmyofgod.org) TO GET YOUR COPIES. FIRST SET OF PRINTED COPIES IS SOLD OUT AND ANOTHER SET OF PRINTS IS BEING ORDERED. RESERVE YOUR COPIES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THE SPIRITUAL ARMY OF GOD THE FATHER NEWSLETTER STAFF

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*I am your Mother Mary. Yes, my children, continue your prayers for mercy. The world has witnessed the stillness of life. Everyone must be prepared for an even more disruptive way of life. This has been done with precise time by human beings, for everything will stop. My children, God is merciful, and He will stop this with His own power. This is one after the other. Pray unceasingly that this human pestilence and tribulation created by man will soon stop. Pray unceasingly, my children. Pray unceasingly.*

*Mary, Your Lady of Sorrows*  
04042020

*... My children more people will be opened into their lies. More secrets that they have done for the love of Satan and their love to KILL more humankind and the unborn will be exposed. I AM the Lord God and these people I will make them footstools and will fall one by one - and those who call themselves close to Me.*

**PREPARE FOR YOUR EXODUS  
AND THE BATTLE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL**

**THE I AM.**  
04192020

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## Upcoming Events

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



### **MAY CROWNING CELEBRATION**

**SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020**

IN LOS ANGELES:  
CONVENT OF THE SISTER DISCIPLES  
OF THE DIVINE MASTER  
501 N BEAUDRY AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IN LAS VEGAS:  
CENACLE HOUSE  
8455 WEST SAHARA AVENUE  
UNIT 172  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89117

## **LENT AND THE PATH TO FREEDOM**

and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel (Ephesians 6:13-19).

Within this text, instruction is found that applies to our current state of affairs:

### **Commit to faithfulness.**

By fastening on the belt of truth, we are less susceptible to deception. As we are all forced to adjust our lifestyles, let us not fall into the trap of the enemy and simply find new ways of entertaining ourselves. Rather, than seeking our own pleasure, let us faithfully seek Him and His will – truth itself.

### **Rely on, trust in Christ.**

We are to put on the breastplate of righteousness. We have no righteousness of our own, so the only righteousness we have is that of Christ's. We can lean into Him, draw close, and guard our hearts with His pure goodness – to help us overcome fear, doubt, and temptation.

### **Be ready to tell others.**

In 2 Timothy 4:2 we read, Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. I dare say we are in season! When the world is in a panic, and so many questions about the future and safety abound, we have the message of ultimate, eternal security!

Hold onto God as your strength.

Psalm 91:4-5 says, God is our shield and refuge; he is our hiding place in the day of difficulty; his faithfulness will keep us safe when we are being shot at by arrows, flaming or otherwise." Enough said!

Know that your ultimate security is in the salvation Christ bought by sacrificing His own body for you.

We are to put on the helmet of salvation, knowing we were rescued from the fear of death through the work of Christ. 1 John 5:13 says, those who believe in the name of the Son of God ... may know that you have eternal life.

And Romans 8:15 says, For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!

### **Spend time in God's presence.**

Most of us will have more available time. We can use this opportunity to change our habits, spending time in God's presence – reading, studying, and meditating on Scripture (privately and as a family). This piece of armor

is intertwined with prayer – praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication ... making supplication for all saints. Jesus said, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4). And we know He is forever interceding on our behalf (Hebrews 7:25, 1 John 2:1). And He wants us to be one with Him (John 17:20-23) – warriors in the faith!

What if we would allow this pandemic to be used to change us? What if the slowing down caused us listen, to heed the still small voice, to bring us to our knees, to humble [ourselves], and pray and seek [His] face and turn from [our] wicked ways (2 Chronicles 7:14)? Would He then, "hear from heaven and forgive [our] sin and heal [our] land?" ☐

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Anne Reed is a staff writer of The American Family Association (AFA) Journal. AFA is a faith based non-profit organization and its goal is to be a champion of Christian activism. The Stand's Daily Digest is one of AFA's top blogs.

**Editor's Note:** This article is very helpful to all of us during this pandemic situation and even after this crisis because we will always be in a spiritual warfare as we grow closer to God.