



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

MAY 2022

## THE MIRACLE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA AND THE THREE DOVES

*By Franciscan Handmaids of the Immaculate*  
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### In this Issue

The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima and the Three Doves	1
Feasts for May   Thank You Our Cenacle Corner	2
God Touched Me	3
Spiritual Enrichment Recommended   Upcoming Events	4

In 1946, Portugal celebrated its 300th anniversary of her consecration to the Immaculate Conception. In order to manifest their great love for Our Lady of Fatima, the people wished to celebrate it with great pomp and grandeur. A great procession with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima was organized which began in Fatima at the Cova de Iria where She appeared to the three children and ended at the Church of Our Lady of Fatima in Lisbon, 70 miles away. Men carried the statue on a platform the entire way on foot, with the changing of the "guard" in each city along the way. In every city, massive crowds came to show their devotion with different festivities including all night adoration and concluding with Holy Mass in the morning before She began her journey again.

As a mark of honor and thanksgiving, six white doves were released into the air on December 1, 1946. Three of them flew down to Our Lady's feet and remained at Her feet during the whole journey to Lisbon. They refused to eat or drink, and they ignored all the commotion and noise which attended the Statue as She passed through the villages. Rose petals were tossed at Our Lady and brushed against the doves, lights and thunderous fireworks blazed in the night skies, crowds pressed all along the path of Our Lady. Once in a while the doves would drift up a little off the statue, as to prove that they were not tied there. This remarkable event became such a sensation that the local newspapers recorded all the details and aroused the interest of all of Portugal.

With the white doves still perched at Our Lady's feet and still having refused to eat, the statue finally arrived in Lisbon at Our Lady of Fatima Church on December 5th, in time for the great Feast on the Immaculate Conception on December 8th. It seems as if all of Portugal was wondering what the doves would now do, since they had reached the destination of great import.



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*Continued on Page 5*

## FEASTS FOR MAY

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

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Third Sunday of Easter, Sunday  | 25 St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, Virgin, Opt. Mem. |
| 2 Athanasius, Memorial  | 26 Ascension Thursday (for some provinces); Philip Neri, Memorial                                |
| 3 Feast of Philip and James, Apostles, Feast                                    | 27 Augustine of Canterbury, Opt. Mem.  |
| 8 Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday), Sunday                        | 29 Ascension or the Seventh Sunday of Easter, Sunday   |
| 10 Damien de Veuster (USA); John of Avila, Opt. Mem.                            | 31 Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast  |
| 12 Nereus and Achilleus; Pancras, martyrs, Opt. Mem.                            |  |
| 13 Our Lady of Fatima, Opt. Mem.  |  |
| 14 Feast of Matthias, Apostle, Feast  |  |
| 15 Fifth Sunday of Easter, Sunday   |  |
| 18 John I, Opt. Mem.  |  |
| 20 Bernardine of Siena, Opt. Mem.   |  |
| 21 Christopher Magallanes and companions; Eugene de Mazenod (Canada), Opt. Mem. |  |
| 22 Sixth Sunday of Easter, Sunday   |  |

The feast of of St. Joseph the Worker (May 1), St. Isidore the Farmer (May 15) and St. Rita of Cascia (May 22) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy. The Solemnity of the Ascension (May 26) is celebrated on May 29 (Sunday) in most dioceses in the United States. □

## THANK YOU

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

*Psalm 106:2*

*With a grateful heart, our family gives thanks to God  
for His Divine Providence:*

*Every day, when I open my eyes in the morning, I thank God for a new day.  
Recently, I also thank the Lord for always making me feel HE is by my side  
especially during the past 30 agonizing days of my recent hospitalization. What I  
went through would have been very difficult without His presence.*

*So again, THANK YOU, MY LORD AND SAVIOR!*

*Thank you, Mother Mary, for interceding, in the name of Jesus. Amen*

*- Mila Lumba*

## OUR CENACLE CORNER

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

### SPIRITUAL WARFARE IN OUR TIME

# GOD TOUCHED ME

*Publish his glorious deeds among the nations.  
Tell everyone about the amazing things he does. — 1 Chronicles 16:24*

## GOD'S MANIFESTATION – AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE

*By Nicet Santos, a Devotee*

*"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."  
Matthew 25:40*

My name is Nicet Santos. I live in Las Vegas, Nevada and have been a member of the Spiritual Army of God the Father for many years now. I would like to share this amazing experience of how God has touched me.

**God's Manifestation.** On October 31, 2021, some members of the Spiritual Army of God and the Maryknoll Affiliates of Las Vegas, joined our Parish Church, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, for their yearly fundraising event popularly dubbed "Boo Bash" by parishioners. As volunteers we were assigned to sell food at the Filipino Food Booth. Lots of Filipino food and other goodies donated by good-hearted Filipino sponsors were marketed at our booth.

It was a carnival day and lots of people including children came and bought food from us. That day I was assigned to distribute free cookies to those who bought meals from us. There was always a long line at our booth. Our Filipino food must really appeal to their tastebuds!

At the end of the line, there was an old man who came to me and said that he had not eaten any meal yet and would like to have a cookie. I took pity on him and told him there should be no problem. I told him I could make him a plate with no charge and that he did not have to worry about it. He smiled and was thankful for my offer, but he said he needed only a cookie. So I handed him a couple of cookies in a bag, thanked me with a smile and left.

At first, I did not give it any thought. But as the days went on, I kept thinking of the old man. I walked around the Church vicinity several times hoping to see him again. But to my disappointment, he was nowhere to be found. I asked myself could that old man be a manifestation of God, Jesus, or St. Joseph? But then, I said to myself that I should not be driven by my emotions. I must always trust in God.

I continued to keep this experience to myself and did not tell any of my friends about it. When I got home, I could not get the old man out of my thoughts and all through the days that followed. Then, at our next Maryknoll meeting I decided to share my experience. The other Affiliates shared their thoughts and feelings about my experience. All of them felt that it was indeed and truly a manifestation of God. God wanted us to know that His presence was within all of us while we were serving food that day.

From what I know and have read . . ." the Manifestation of God are appearances of the Divine Spirit or Holy Spirit in a series of personages, and as such, they perfectly reflect the attributes of the Divine into the human world for the progress of human morals and civilization through the agency of the same spirit."

I thank God for this awe-inspiring experience. I truly believe that it was God's manifestation of Himself in a visible form. How I wish to meet the "old man" again! ☐

# SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RECOMMENDED

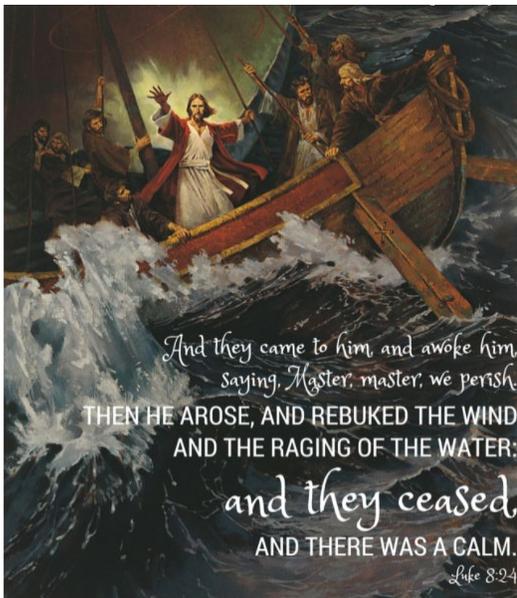
## SPIRITUAL WARFARE

BY VICTOR H. ARANETA

Our lives as immigrants of this earthly life have become so complicated after the fall of man.

We never realize that the low spirits have been following our lives even before the coming of our savior Jesus Christ. Why is this so? If one has to realize, our Lord vanquished the legions of evil spirits from the demoniac using the command that He usually says, "LEAVE THIS MAN!" This time He allowed the evil spirits to speak, "we know you are the Son of the Most High." And the Lord said, "Silence!" The low spirits retorted and said, "please just send us to the swine." The legion of demons beg Jesus and the Lord said, "Go!" Matthew 8:28

The legions of evil find Jesus' powerful words hard to resist that they have no choice but to follow. These words were uttered not because He is the son of God but because He holds these demons with faith and perfect resolve.



Everything in the wind and air had been captured, in a manner of speaking, and were relegated to almost nothingness that the swine eventually drowned in the river. If we follow the verse in the Bible, our Lord started this exorcism before he even reached the other side (City of Gergesenes) of the ocean with His disciples in the boat when the Lord rebuked first the disturbing wind and then the storm.

Matthew 8:23-27 states, "As they sailed, he fell asleep. A storm came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger. The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm."

Let us take note that Jesus rebuked the wind first then the storm!

It is quite interesting to note that if we apply this in our lives, God never promised that there will be no storms confronting us, but He will be with us, calming the squail ravaging our lives. Jesus will get up, rebuke the wind of destruction, and then say to the waves that ravage us, QUIET!!

**Prayer:** Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine power God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world, seeking the ruin of souls. AMEN. □

## Upcoming Events

### 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY DEVOTION

MAY 1, 2022

IN LOS ANGELES:

THE MONASTERY OF THE ANGELS

DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS BEGIN

AT 10:30 AM

IN LAS VEGAS:

ST. SHARBEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

MASS AT 9:30 AM FOLLOWED BY DEVOTIONAL

PRAYERS AT THE CHAPEL

### 1<sup>ST</sup> FRIDAY DEVOTION

MAY 6, 2022

IN LOS ANGELES: VIA ZOOM

DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS BEGIN AT 9:30 PM

IN LAS VEGAS:

DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS AT 2:30 PM

AT THE CENACLE HOUSE

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

#### MOTHER MARY'S CROWNING

MAY 7, 2022

IN LOS ANGELES: THE MONASTERY OF THE

ANGELS | MASS BEGINS AT 9:15 AM

DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS FOLLOW

IN LAS VEGAS:

CENACLE VIA ZOOM AT 11:00 AM

DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS AT 1:00 PM

AT THE CENACLE HOUSE

#### 2000 HAIL MARY DEVOTION

MAY 21, 2022

IN LOS ANGELES: VIA ZOOM

MASS AT 10:00 AM

IN LAS VEGAS: 6:00 AM

AT THE CENACLE HOUSE

#### SEEKING GOD'S GLORY THROUGH

#### MARY'S HELP

A NINE-DAY PILGRIMAGE

QUEBEC CITY | MONTREAL | NEW FRANKEN |

HUBERTUS | LA CROSSE

OCTOBER 12-20, 2022

DAILY ACTIVITIES AND OTHER

INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE AT

[WWW.SPIRITUALARMYOFMOTHERMARY.ORG](http://WWW.SPIRITUALARMYOFMOTHERMARY.ORG)

## THE MIRACLE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA AND THE THREE DOVES

On December 7th at 3:00 p.m., thousands of children were consecrated to the Blessed Mother. There was an enormous evening candlelight procession at 9:30 p.m. Masses were then offered throughout the night and the solemn High Mass was held in the morning. While this Mass was progressing, there was a sudden fluttering of wings. One of the doves flew to the Epistle side of the altar and the other to the gospel side. As the bishop straightened to elevate the Consecrated Host, they alighted and folded their wings, one on each side, as if they were adoring the Host.

The third dove was still at Our Lady's feet. Then all of a sudden, at the moment of Holy Communion, the third dove flew up to the top of the crown of the statue. As the bishop turned and held up Our Lord saying, "Ecce Angus Dei" ("Behold the Lamb of God"), astoundingly, the dove spread its white wings and held them open.

It seems Our Lady held the doves at Her Feet, on this special occasion, so that they could give glory to God at Holy Mass Who, in turn, confirmed the glory that He has given to Our Lady – Our Lady of Fatima. □

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### A Prayer in Gratitude for Our Mothers

Good and Gentle God,

We pray in gratitude for our mothers and for all the women of theory who have joined with you in the wonder of bringing forth new life. You who became human through a woman, grant to all mothers the courage they need to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings.

Give them the strength to live and to be loved in return, not perfectly, but humanly.

Give them the faithful support of husband, family, and friends as they care for the physical and spiritual growth of their children.

Give them joy and delight in their children to sustain them through the trials of motherhood. Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help when they need it most.

- Author Unknown

*"I am your Mother Mary.*

*I am your Mother Mary. My children, offer prayers for the suffering souls in purgatory. They suffer fire of redemptive scrutiny for the cleansing of souls. My children, these souls are sometimes seen years of distant past. Remember, my children, I want to see you in Heaven when your time of exile has passed. Purgatory is a place you must avoid. So your works on earth must be meritorious for you to be led by your guardian angel through the gate of everlasting happiness. Pray, pray, pray, my children. Pray, my children.*

*Mary Your Lady of the Rosary*

*Mary,*

*Your Lady of the Immaculate Heart*

04232022

## THE SPIRITUAL ARMY CELEBRATES DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Sunday is an international Catholic feast day promoting Jesus' message that He is merciful to everyone, and that people should trust in His mercy and lead a compassionate life.

The first call to mercy was given to a young nun, several years ago. When this young nun, St. Faustina Kowalska, was canonized in 2000 by Pope John Paul II, the church then made the Sunday after Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday.

In Los Angeles, CA the Divine Mercy Sunday celebration culminated with the liturgical services at the Monastery of the Angels. The celebration was officiated by Fr. Xavier. The celebration commenced with the Prayer for Mercy for the Dying, the Souls in Purgatory, the Release of a Loved One from Alcohol or Drug Addiction, for the Unborn, Divine Mercy Direct to Me, and the Litany of the Divine Mercy. A solemn procession of the images of the Eternal Father, the Divine Mercy, St. Pope John Paul, II and St. Faustina took place around the gardens of the Monastery as the devotees sang the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, ending at the Altar where they offered red and white flowers as they declared their petitions in the silence of their hearts.

At St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church in Las Vegas, NV, Divine Mercy Sunday was celebrated with a prayer service, led by Fr. Rogelio Espina, which included Eucharistic adoration, praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy in English and Spanish, floral offering and veneration of the Divine Mercy image as bringing our lamentations of forgiveness before our merciful God. This parish celebration was planned and coordinated by The Spiritual Army of God the Father with the parish staff. The English version of the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy was led by our devotee, Maria Luisa Sheets, while the Spanish version was led by a parishioner, Guadalupe Bustamante. The celebration was attended by the devotees, the parishioners of St. Francis de Sales and visitors from other parishes who all responded to Jesus' call of mercy.

Please visit our website at [www.spiritualarmyofgod.org](http://www.spiritualarmyofgod.org) for more photos of our Divine Mercy celebration.

