



IPVS NEWS

Issue No. 24
SPRING 2019

International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima Foundation, Inc

WHEN YOU GET TO HEAVEN

By Postulant Carole - Passionist Nuns

When you get to Heaven

As youngsters, whenever we asked about the mystery of the Holy Trinity, we were nearly always instructed that a tenet of our Catholic faith when we got to heaven was the time we would know and understand the shrouded mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Then there is the famous Catholic story of a young boy, supposedly an angel, was making sand castles with his tin bucket by the seashore as Augustine (a saintly thinker) walked to and fro along the sandy beach in deep reflection.

With GOD All is Possible

Since childhood, most of today's, Catholics were instructed that Earth is one of nine "planets" with the sun being a bright star and all planets revolving around the sun. These nine planets in our solar system are located in a galaxy called the Milky Way. Our Sun and all of the stars that you see at night belong to the Milky Way. When you go outside on a dark night and look up, you will see a milky swirl looking band stretching across the dark night sky. That is our Galaxy. One Galaxy, such our Milky Way, can contain hundreds of billions of stars and be as large as 200,000 light years across. Edwin P. Hubble, remember the Hubble telescope, revolutionized "cosmology" by proving that the clouds of light astronomers saw in the night sky were actually other "galaxies" beyond our galaxy, the Milky Way!

Source

<http://hubbl.site.org/referencedesk/faq/all.php.cat+galaxies>

So far, astronomers have found more than 500 solar systems and are discovering new ones every year. Given how many they have found in our own neighborhood of the Milky Way galaxy, scientists estimate that there may be tens of billions of solar systems in our galaxy, perhaps even as many as 100 billion+. **Source:** <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/review/dr-marc-space/solar-systems-in-galaxy.htm>

Like grains of sand

Above are just two stories. The former simply implies the miniscule inconstancy humans, such as Augustine, possess regarding the true nature and/or being of the Creator; while the latter can only influence the mind's thought pattern and mankind's inquisitive nature as to how it could inconceivably be deduced that billions, most likely trillions, of other undiscovered galaxies, exist even more numerous than all the grains of sand on the beaches of our simple Earth.

It would NOT be a "stretch of the imagination" to surmise the unimaginable quantities of galaxies, planets, and stars

that one could NOT count, would equally mirror the grains of sand on the beach.

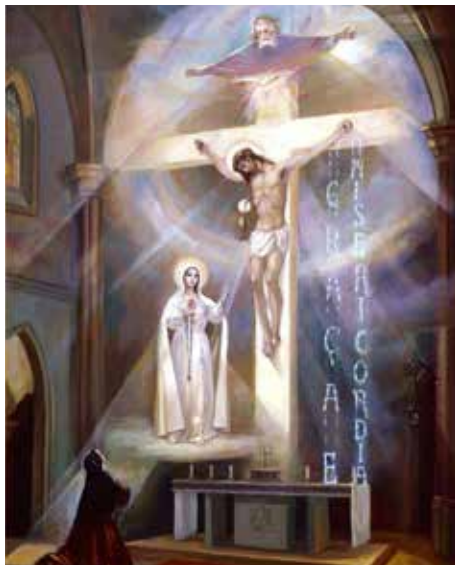
Psalm 19: 1 (NAB)

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the heavens proclaim its builder's craft." (NAB 19:1)

"What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him, this God has revealed to us through the spirit." (NAB 1 Cor 2: 9-10)

The grains of sand on the beach and the limitlessness and immeasurable number of stars in the universe are meant to only contrast the awesomeness, magnitude, and immenseness one might attempt to attribute, ponder, or even refer to God in our much limited knowledge, understanding and imagination. However, it should also lead us to attempt to recognize the greatness of God, THE Creator, and place it in our mind's perspective, or at least an attempt to mentally and spiritually realize our own minimal insignificance and yet,

His unbounded love for each and every human being, beside the remains of His creation.



With overwhelming interest and young apprehension the boy asked Augustine, who seemed to be either extremely disturbed or in such a deep state of thought, what was he so concerned about? Seeing the boy's sincere concern, Augustine told him that his concentration and deep thoughts were directed at solving the mystery of the most Holy Trinity. Appearing somewhat bewildered at Augustine's response, the young boy did not seem to have a resolution to Augustine's deep query; instead, the small boy uninterestingly simply said to Augustine: ***"it would be much simpler for you to count all the grains of sand on this beach than to arrive at a clear knowledge and understanding of the mystery of the Most Holy Trinity."***



Apparition of the Angel of Fatima (circa Spring 1916)

"Fear not! I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me." The Angel knelt on the ground and bowed very low. By some inspiration, they (Jacinta, Francisco, and Lucia) imitated him and repeated the words they heard him pronounce as follows: **"My God I believe, I adore, I trust, and I love Thee. I ask pardon for all those who do not believe in Thee do not adore Thee, do not hope in Thee, do not love Thee."** He repeated this prayer three times. Then, he arose and said: **"Pray this way. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to the voice of your supplication."**

During the following summer, as they were resting in the early afternoon, the Angel visited them again and said to them: **"Pray! Pray a great deal...Offer prayers and sacrifices unceasingly to the Most High!" Lucia asked: "How are we to sacrifice ourselves?"**

"Of **"special interest"** were the words attributed to Sister Lucia of Fatima which sums up the suffering and humiliation She has endured to warn her children: **"The Most Holy Virgin is very sad because no one has paid any attention to Her message, neither the good nor the bad."**

Source: **"The True Story of Fatima: A Complete Account of the Fatima Apparitions,"** by Rev. John de Marchi, I.M.C., Imprimatur 1947, Fall River, Mass.

This Newsletter – the IPVS

As a general rule, this newsletter's contents are normally directed at Fatima related events. It appears to this writer that Our Lady's messages at Fatima, and elsewhere, are simply Her caring and concerned warnings of probable events and of circumstances which will affect Her children whom she protects at all costs to Herself and to each of them to the risk of voluntarily submitting Herself to "blasphemies and offenses" regarding Her Eternal Queenship and Mystical Motherhood for all our sakes. In reality, by Her presence, She does not interfere with Jesus' church, instead She appears in order to tell Her adopted children, the message Our Lord expounds in the Gospels. **Repent and believe!!!**

St. Louis de Montfort writes in his **"True Devotion to Mary"** book: "...the majority of Christians...fail to recognize the necessary bond that unites you and your Blessed Mother." He adds, **"You are always with Mary, and Mary is always with you. She can never be without you, because then she would cease to be what She is."** (pg.2) **"The first human born of Mary is the Man-God, Jesus Christ. All others are mere men and women, the children of God and Mary by adoption."** (pg.164) **"Remember, that she accepts as her children, all those who choose to be so."** (pg.166)

Source: **"A Year with Mary: Daily Meditations on the Mother of God,"** Paul Thigpen, St. Bernard Press LLC, Charlotte NC, 2015

Mary's Call



The following is taken from the Homily by Pope John Paul II at Fatima, May 13, 1982, one year to the day after the attempt on his life in St. Peter's square in Rome. In the light of the mystery of Mary's spiritual motherhood, let us seek to understand the extraordinary message, which began May 13, 1917, to resound throughout the world from Fatima, continuing for five months until October 13 of the same year. **(As ascribed to Pope John Paul II)**

Convert and repent

The Church has always taught and continues to proclaim that God's revelation was brought to completion in Jesus Christ, who is the fullness of that revelation, and that "no new public revelation is to be expected before the glorious manifestation of Our Lord." (Dei Verbum, 4) The Church evaluates and judges private revelations by the criterion of conformity with that single public revelation. **If the Church has accepted the message of Fatima**, it is, above all, because that message contains a

truth and a call whose basic content is the truth and the call of the Gospel itself.

"Repent, and believe in the Gospel!" (Mk 1:15) These are the first words that the messiah addressed to humanity. The message of Fatima is, in its basic nucleus, a call to conversion and repentance, as in the Gospel. This call was uttered at the beginning of the 20th century and it was thus addressed particularly to this present century. The Lady of the message seems to have read with special insight the **"signs of the times,"** the signs of our time. Source: <http://www.rosaryo-center.org/maryfatm.htm>

Understanding God

The One and True GOD in whom we believe is the Trinitarian God that we profess and acknowledge each time we recite the Nicene Creed as follows: **"We believe in one GOD, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth and in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried...He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God...He will come again to judge the living and the dead..."**

Clearly, we see that the Triune Godhead is defined as a matter of truth and belief within the context of the Nicene Creed. All three attributes of God are defined as: **God...Father and Creator; God...Son and Redeemer, God...Love and Holy Spirit.** According to our Catholic spirituality, the Holy Spirit is the love that the Father gives the Son and the Son returns to the Father. As an example, the Father sends His Son to redeem His creation from the grip of evil; the Son in turn forsakes His life for the Father's creation (our salvation); and so in order to continue mankind's return to the Father, Jesus institutes and fortifies his mission and culminates his works by forming His church and guarantying its preservation, even that: **"I will be with you until the end of times (Mt 28:20) and the gates of hell shall not prevail against thee." (Mt 16:18)**

During the length of my life on this earth I have heard many clergy depicting the Holy Trinity in their homilies, but those were often above my "pay grade." It occurred to me that to better define this Mystery, it would be simpler to think of it in human terms. If I **replaced** the spiritual with my human understanding, one could look at the Holy Trinity as a human family. That

is to say, that the love a husband has for his wife, and the love she returns to him, manifests itself in the form of new life (their offspring.) We must always keep in mind that this God we worship, adore, and believe in is a spirit.



I am the Way (Jn 14:6 NAB)

After two thousand years of suffering persecutions and martyrdom, the early letters of the church Fathers, the Papacy and Councils, Encyclicals and Documents, Catechesis and Religious Orders, and many more unmentioned successes the church has produced, one would think that mankind would be much further advanced socially and spiritually. With this in mind and the many more events the church has produced and experienced over the last twenty centuries, **"I AM THE WAY,"** seems to me to model an eternal truth regarding the purpose of our lives and the manner in which our lives should be lived and the result to expect from this lifestyle. Simply stated, Jesus becomes the model by which to live.

What more could this loving GOD do for us? From time immemorial He chose Mary to bear and Mother His only begotten Son, Jesus, and Joseph to provide and protect this Holy Family knowing full well the suffering, persecution, rejection, death and resurrection His son would undergo to redeem mankind...His entire Creation!

I am the Truth (Jn 14:6 NAB)

During Jesus' passion, Pontius Pilate said to him, **"Then you are a king?"** Jesus answered, **"You say I am a king. For this I**

was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth **listens to my voice.**" Pilate said to him, **"What is truth?"**

Jesus never answered Pontius Pilate because He had previously shared that response with his disciples at the Last Supper table as He said: **"But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go. For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes he will convict the world in regard to sin and righteousness and condemnation of sin, because they do not believe in me, righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me; condemnation, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. "I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you."** Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason I told you that he will take from what is mine and declare it to you."

Clearly, Jesus is stating that He had taught His disciples, that His work is now completed, that he must go back to the Father, and that the Paraclete (the Holy Spirit) will descend on them and instruct them further. In other words, permit them to fully understand God's plan of salvation through His Redemptive work and Salvific action which finalizes with His Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension.

TRUTH be known, Jesus is simply saying that He, by his human and divine example, has directed them to emulate his entire manner of living, words, and deeds and that there was not much more that he would do himself, but wanted them to carry on the life and works He performed in this institution which we call Church and trust the Holy Spirit who would enlighten and guide them in all present and future life of His church until His return!

I am the Life (Jn 14:6 NAB)

Next to the **"I am the Bread of Life"** statement, **"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life,"** statement, has always aroused my curiosity as to its significance. One could easily accept what Jesus is saying as that there are three persons in one GOD, or

that God's three **attributes** are the **life** he gives us, the **way** He wants us to live, and that the **truth** that is hidden in his words and revealed in the actions of his Son as the Holy Spirit guides each child of God towards and into eternal life.

What about Mary?



What a monumental responsibility Mary undertook by saying: **"Be it done to me according to Thy word."** (LK 1:38) The Second Edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) we read:

"The Virgin Mary...is acknowledged and honored as being truly the Mother of God and of the redeemer...She is clearly the mother of the members of Christ...since she has by her charity joined in bringing about the birth of believers in the Church, who are members of its head." **"Mary, Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church."** (CCC 963...)

"Mary's role in the Church is **inseparable from her union with Christ** and flows directly from it." "This union of the mother with the Son in the work of salvation is made manifest from the time of Christ's virginal conception up to his death? It is made manifest above all at the hour of his Passion:

"Thus the Blessed Virgin advanced in her pilgrimage of faith, and faithfully persevered in her union with her Son unto the cross. There she stood, in keeping with the divine plan, enduring with her only begotten Son the intensity of his suffering, joining herself with his sacrifice in her Mother's heart, and lovingly consenting to the immolation of this victim, born of her: to be given by the same Christ Jesus dying on the cross, as a mother to his disciple, with these words: **"Woman, behold your**

son." (CCC964)

"After her Son's Ascension, Mary aided the beginnings of the Church by her prayers." "In her association with the apostles and several women, we also see Mary by her prayers imploring the gift of the Spirit, who had already overshadowed her in the Annunciation." (CCC 965)

"Mary's function as mother of men in no way obscures or diminishes this unique mediation of Christ, but rather shows its power. But the Blessed Virgin's salutary influence on men...flows forth from the superabundance of the merits of Christ, rests on his mediation, depends entirely on it, and draws all its power from it." "No

*creature could ever be counted along with the Incarnate Word and Redeemer; but just as the priesthood of Christ is shared in various ways both by his ministers and the faithful, and as the one **goodness of God is radiated in different ways among his creatures, so also the unique mediation of the Redeemer does not exclude but rather gives rise to a manifold cooperation which is but a sharing in this one source.**" (CCC 970)*

Finally, "We believe that the Holy Mother of God, the new Eve, Mother of the Church, continues in heaven to exercise her maternal role on behalf of the members of Christ." (Paul VI, CPG § 15) (CCC 975).

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT TO ILLUMINATE MANKIND

"The Advocate, the Holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name—he will teach you everything and remind you of all that [I] told you." John 14:26



*Lord Jesus, you came to destroy the works of the devil and to call us all children of God.
You sent us the Advocate so that we may know your truth and rest in the bosom of the Father.
Hear our prayers and supplications, Lord, as we beg of you to help us in this time of darkness and confusion.
Send us Angels in sufficient rank, number, power and authority to fight the demons off and away from us, to fight the demons off and away from our families, our communities and our nations.
We ask Our Lady and the entire Communion of Saints to intercede and pray on our behalf.
We are your Mystical Body, and we ask for healing through forgiveness and restoration.
Lord Jesus, rain down the Holy Spirit upon all of Mankind.
Illuminate and convict each of us as to who we are in your eyes.
Show us how much you love us and comfort us as you reveal to us our faults.
Give us the strength and courage to surrender our sin to you, who alone can make us whole.
May we turn back to you with our whole heart and be transformed in your image.
We implore you through the intercession of Saint Michael, lift the veil of confusion that plagues us.
Lord, show us your mercy.
In this we give thanks and praise.*

All Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, Amen.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – APRIL 28, 2019

Jesus to St. Maria Faustina: **“And who knows anything about this Feast? No one! Even those who should be ‘proclaiming My mercy’ and teaching people about it often do not know about it themselves that is why I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it.”** (Diary-341)

“This Feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depth of My tender mercies. Every soul believing and trusting in My mercy will obtain it!” (Diary-420)
JESUS TO ST. MARIA FAUSTINA: “Tell the whole world of My Great Mercy. That whoever approaches the “Fount of Life” (Confession, Mass & Holy Communion) on This Day (**April 28, 2019—this year**) (your Lenten confession will suffice as long as you are in the State of Grace) will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment. My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls and especially for poor sinners. On that day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The souls who will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain “complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.”

“...All the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul ‘Fear to draw near to Me.’ Even though its sins be as scarlet, My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to me will contemplate my love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy” emerged from My very depths of tenderness.”

“...Souls perish in spite of My bitter passion. I am giving them the ‘Last hope of salvation’; that is, ‘The feast of My mercy.’ If they will ‘NOT ADORE MY MERCY, THEY WILL PERISH FOR ALL ETERNITY.”

‘Secretary of My Mercy, write, tell souls about this great mercy of Mine **‘BECAUSE THE AWFUL DAY, THE DAY OF MY JUSTICE, IS NEAR...’**”

‘...MY UNFATHOMABLE MERCY—‘IT IS A SIGN FOR THE END OF TIMES!’”

(Diary 139, 286, 300, 374, 699,848) Diary St. Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul © 1987 Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception, Stockbridge, MA 0263



GOD THE FATHER, TO SR. MARIA FASTINA

“At the hour of their death, I defend as my own glory every soul that will say this Chaplet of Mercy or when others say it for a dying person. The indulgence is the same.”
 “When this Chaplet is said by the bedside of a dying person, God’s anger is placated and unfathomable mercy envelopes the soul. And the very depths of My tender mercy will be moved for the sake of the sorrowful passion of My Son. **(Diary – 811)** Sr. Faustina: “During the night I was suddenly awakened and knew that some soul was asking me for prayer and that it was in much need of prayer. Briefly, but with all my soul, I asked the Lord for Grace for her.”

SAY THE CHAPLET

“The following afternoon, when I entered the ward, I saw someone dying and learned that the agony had started during the night. When I verified it – it had been at the time when I had been asked for prayer.

And just then, I heard a voice in my soul: ‘Say the Chaplet which I taught you.’ “I ran to fetch my rosary and knelt down by the dying person, and with all the ardor of my soul, I began to say the Chaplet.”

GRACE OF THE CHAPLET

“Suddenly, the dying person opened her eyes and looked at me – I had not managed to finish the entire Chaplet when she died, with Extraordinary Peace. I fervently asked the Lord to fulfill the promise He had given me for the recitation of the chaplet. The Lord gave me to know that the soul had been granted the Grace he promised me. That was the first soul to receive the benefit of the Lord’s promise. I could feel the power of mercy envelope that soul.”

“Oh, how much we should pray for the dying! Let us take advantage of mercy while there is still time for mercy.” (Diary 810)

Sr. Faustina: “This evening, a certain young man was dying – he was suffering terribly. For his intention, I began to say the Chaplet which the Lord had taught me. I said it all, but the agony continued. I wanted to start the Litany of the Saints, but suddenly I heard the words, **‘Say the Chaplet.’**”

TREMbled WITH FEAR

“I understood that the soul needed the special help of prayers and great mercy. And so I locked myself in my room and fell prostrate before god and begged for Mercy upon that soul. Then I felt the Great Majesty of God and His Great Justice, I trembled with fear, but did not stop begging the Lord’s Mercy for that soul.”

HE DIED PEACEFULLY

“Then I took the Cross off my breast, the Crucifix I had received when making my vows, and I put it on the chest of the dying man and said to the Lord: ‘Jesus, look on this soul with the same love with which you looked on my holocaust on the day of my perpetual vows, and by the power of the promise which you made to me in respect to the dying and those who would invoke your mercy on them grant this man the grace of a happy death.’ His suffering then ceased and he died peacefully. Oh how much we should pray for the dying!

Let us take advantage of mercy while there is still time for mercy.” (Diary 1035)

Jesus said to Sr. Faustina: “My daughter, help me to save a certain dying sinner. Say the Chaplet that I have taught you for him.” “When I began to say the Chaplet, I saw the man dying in the midst of terrible torment and struggle. His Guardian Angel was defending him, but he was, as it were, powerless against the enormity of the souls’ misery.”

THE DEVILS FLED IN PANIC

“A MULTITUDE OF DEVILS WAS WAITING FOR THE SOUL, BUT WHILE I WAS SAYING THE Chaplet, I saw Jesus just as he is depicted in the Image. The rays which issued from Jesus’ Heart enveloped the sick man and the powers of darkness fled in panic. The sick man peacefully breathed his last. When I came to myself, I understood how very important the Chaplet was for the dying. It appeases the anger of God.” (Diary 1565.)

Jesus said to me: “My daughter, help Me to save souls. You will go to a dying sinner, and you will continue to recite the Chaplet, and in this way you will obtain for him trust in My mercy, for he is already in despair.” “Suddenly, I found myself in a strange cottage where an elderly man was dying amidst great torments. All about the bed was a multitude of demons and the family, who were crying. When I began to pray, the Spirits of Darkness fled, with hissing and threats directed at me. The soul (of the elderly man) became calm and filled with trust, rested in the Lord.” (Diary 2798)

A Special Promise of Mercy

“The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion (on Mercy Sunday) will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.” (699)

Our Lord’s promise of complete forgiveness is both a reminder and a call. It is a reminder that He is truly present and truly alive in the Eucharist, filled with love for us and waiting for us to turn to Him with trust. And it is a call for us all to be washed clean in His Love through confession and Holy Communion – no matter how terrible our sins – and begin our lives again. He is offering us a new start.

Feast of Divine Mercy

Prepare Yourself Properly

1. **Celebrate** the Feast on the First Sunday after Easter;
2. Sincerely **repent** of our sins;
3. Place our complete trust in Jesus;
4. Go to **Confession**, preferably before that Sunday;
5. Receive **Holy Communion** on the day of the Feast;

6. **Venerate*** the Image of The Divine Mercy;

7. **Be merciful to others**, through our actions, words and prayers on their behalf.

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Begin with the Sign of the Cross, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and The Apostles Creed.

On the Our Father Beads, say the following: *Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in*

atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the 10 Hail Mary beads, say the following:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

(Repeat step 2 and 3 for all five decades.)

Conclude with (three times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Jesus said later

to Sister Faustina:

"Say unceasingly this chaplet that I have taught you. Anyone who says it will receive great Mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as the last hope. Even the most hardened sinner, if he recites this Chaplet even once, will receive grace from My Infinite Mercy. I want the whole world to know My Infinite Mercy. I want to give unimaginable graces to those who trust in My Mercy.

"..When they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person not as the just judge, but as the Merciful Savior.

HER IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH WHERE WILL WE BE WHEN THAT DAY COMES?

It's so easy to throw away the hours. Human nature craves comfort. The line of least resistance is very attractive. When Our Lady asked for penance and mortification, she knew that what would make it valuable was that it would require rising above our human inclinations. Which is easier? Sitting home and resting during our free hours, or getting out on a hot or a cold afternoon and going down too our Church and joining in the Rosary, or going down to Church and visiting the Blessed Sacrament? But, which is more worthwhile, and which brings greater joy and peace.

*Which is easier?
Sitting home and resting during our free hours, or getting out on a hot or a cold afternoon and going down too our Church and joining in the Rosary, or going down to Church and visiting the Blessed Sacrament?*

It is so wonderful to think, in the morning during the week, that we have another half hour to sleep before getting up to work, then, we realize that Mass is being said and we should go. Immediately, hundreds of reasons come up why we should stay in

bed. We work hard, we need that rest, we will work hard all day, we'll go tomorrow, et cetera. So, we waste another half-hour sleeping. We go out for lunch, or we go to the store, and the Church is nearby. We think we might go in for a minute, but—it would be easier just to go ahead and eat our lunch, or get those groceries. We waste another few minutes that would have brought us in close contact with the Living Christ, waiting there, perhaps alone, in the nearby Church.

We decide that from now on we are going to that weekly Benediction at our Church. Comes the night, and we are listening to a favorite program or watching television. We are pulled from side to side. Should we go? Is it that important? We weaken and by the time we decide what we are going to do, it is too late to get there. Another hour of time has gone forever.

We dislike our work, perhaps. We lament and complain. We could, instead do as Our Lady asks and offer it up as a penance for sinners. Do we do it? Do we work all day complaining and irritated, and lose the chance of making it a gift of penance. These things are not bright dreams, or fancies, but reality. Time is passing, and we are passing along with it, and how are we spending it, especially in this great era of ours which is filled to overflowing with sin, and disregard for God; days which are boiling over with friction that can erupt any minute into something incomprehensible in the war of suffering and cataclysm.

All of the time we waste in ridiculous and

useless ways, can be collected and put into a great fund from which Our Lady will draw peace. We are acting like people who are faced with a great shortage of water, go on wasting it on trivialities and throwing it away, when, if it was conserved, would one day save our lives. The empty Churches in these days are frightening. Where are all of the people who should be kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament imploring mercy and help. Why are the weekday services made up of so few people, where are the others?

Why are the weekday services made up of so few people, where are the others?

True, many people are staying close to Our Lord and Our Lady during this perilous time, but where are the countless others who should care. Many people are doing their share mainly at home where they have family responsibilities; the sick are offering up their sufferings, the poor, and their misery. But, too many are somewhere else, wasting time, wasting the chance to plead for salvation for this world that is sick unto death.

There is great hope in the promises of Our Lady. We are not yet lost. But, we must make good use of time that is being given us, and not ignore the shortness of what might be left. She said Her Immaculate

Heart will triumph. Where will we be when that day comes? Will we be with Her in Her joy, as sharers in the work that had to be done to accomplish it, or will we be lamenting all of the time we could have given to this request of Hers and instead were out letting the hours go by unheeded.

Let's begin to be miserly with our time; let's scrutinize and weigh every minute, and if we are wasting time, losing it, let us change and begin to watch every minute.

Pessimism is not for us. We have Our Lady and if we do what She asks, i.e. KNOW there will be peace. But reality is for us and if we continue to waste time God is giving us, what can we answer? None of us spend our days throwing our money away; yet we are throwing away time and the hours and the half-hours and the minutes as if there would be no end of it. Let's begin to be miserly with our time; let's scrutinize and weigh every minute, and if we are wasting time, losing it, let us change and begin to watch every minute. The Morning Offering turns everything into gold for God because we offer all our prayers, works, sufferings and joys to God through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and then added to that let us make time pay off for us. We will not pass this way again.

HEALING FROM HIS WOUNDS

How often have we experienced physical, emotional, or spiritual hurts that take away our peace and affect all our words, thoughts, and actions? How often do we know someone, perhaps a loved one, who is bound by an addiction or blinded by some evil that we in our helplessness, cry out, "God help us!"?

Before leaving the world for a monastic life, I often prayed with others for emotional, spiritual, and physical healing. I prayed with others for deliverance from the evil oppression of addictions, occult, etc. I realized there are so many suffering from problems or broken relationships; drug, alcohol, sexual or work addictions. How many do we know, perhaps even ourselves, who are suffering from unforgiveness, resentment, bitterness, or anger?

One day, while kneeling in prayer in front of my crucifix, and looking at the wounds of Jesus Crucified, the scripture verse, "**By My wounds you are healed** (1 Peter 2:24)" came to mind. I then understood that not only do we have salvation through the blood of Jesus; His wounds are a source of healing and freedom today! From His wounded heart flow the water and blood of divine mercy and healing.

So, I began to pray for others by placing them in the wounds of Jesus Crucified. Why place them in the wounds? First of all, they are a place of rest and refuge. Even if a

person does not know that you have placed them there, the water flowing from the wounds of Jesus covers them with healing, comfort, strength, and renewed life. The water is cleansing and purifying. Secondly, when people are oppressed by an evil such as addiction or the occult, they are bound and blinded. By placing them in his wounds, they are covered with a constant flow of the blood of Jesus. This not only protects them from additional oppression, it gradually, through our prayers, frees them to seek help. There is much power in the blood of Jesus, which shed on the cross already has authority over all evil.

St. Vincent Mary Strambi as a Passionist priest stated, "*The prophet Isiah described our loving Jesus as wounded and bloody. He was pierced for our offenses and crushed for our sins.*" St. Vincent continued, "*He also invited us to partake joyfully of the waters of mercy and grace flowing from the*

inexhaustible fountains of the Savior, His most sacred wounds, when He said: With joy you will draw water at the fountains of salvation."

I realized that praying one-on-one with others was good, but the Lord was now calling me to a more encompassing prayer of intercession. He showed me that prayer was needed to break the evil strongholds over individuals, generations, cities, nations, and the world. He showed me the power of intercessory prayer for healing and deliverance through His wounds!

I continued to live, pray, and work in the world. I had a very good career. Yet, a growing emptiness in my life was occurring. There

had to be more... After visiting several monasteries, I found the Passionist Nuns. What a pleasant surprise to read St. Paul of the Cross in one of his letters saying:



By Postulant Carole - Passionist Nuns
"I place you in the sacred wounds of Jesus under the protection of Our Lady of Sorrows. Yes, I place you there. I implore the holy virgin to bathe your heart in her sorrowful tears, that she may impress on it a continual remembrance of the dolorous Passion of her Son and of her dolours." I am now hoping to spend the rest of my life praying for the thousands of souls in each of Our Lord's healing wounds, and for the salvation and peace of our world.

Whenever we may feel helpless again for someone hurting or oppressed, remember the words of St. Paul of the Cross: "*Renew your confidence by a glance at the cross. See that precious blood, those mortal wounds, those hands which have made heaven and earth are still outstretched to poor, repentant sinners who humbly sigh for the embrace of Jesus.*" Let us never forget that the wounds of Jesus show us not only His suffering, but especially the tremendous love God the Father has for each of us.

This Lenten Season, place those you know in the wounds of Jesus Crucified. "*For I shall restore you to health and heal your wounds (Jeremiah 30:17)."* "*He redeems your life from the abyss (Psalm 103:4)."* "*I have come so they may have life and have it more abundantly.*" (John 10:10) **May we too, united with His sufferings, find resurrection and new life.**

MY SONS! NEVER MISS HOLY MASS

This true story was related to me by an elderly nun who heard it from the lips of the late Rev. Father Stanislaus, SS.CC

By Sister M. Veronica Murphy

Many years ago, in a little town in Luxembourg, a Captain of the Forest Guards was in deep conversation with the butcher when an elderly woman entered the shop. The butcher broke off the conversation to ask the old woman what she wanted. She had come to beg for a little meat, but had no money. The Captain was amused at the conversation which ensued between the poor woman and the butcher. "Only a little meat, but how much are you going to give me?" "I am sorry I have no money, but I'll hear Mass for you."

Both the butcher and the Captain were good men but very indifferent about religion, so they at once began to scoff at

the old woman's answer.

"All right then," said the butcher, you go and hear Mass for me and when you come back I'll give you as much meat as the Mass is worth."

The woman left the shop and returned later. She approached the counter and the butcher seeing her said, "All right then we'll see." He took a slip of paper and wrote on it "I heard Mass for you! He then placed the paper on one side of the balance scales and a tiny bone on the other side, but nothing happened. Next, he placed a piece of meat instead of the bone, but still the paper proved heavier.

Both men were beginning to feel ashamed of their mockery, but continued the game. A large piece of meat was placed on the balance, but still the paper held its own. The butcher exasperated, examined the scales, but found they were all right. "What do you want my good woman, must I give you a whole leg of mutton?" At this he placed the leg of mutton on the balance, but the paper out-weighed the meat. A larger piece of meat was put on, but again the weight remained on the side of the paper. This so impressed the butcher that he was converted, and promised to give the woman her daily ration of meat.

As for the Captain, he left the shop a

changed man, and an ardent lover of daily Mass. Two of his sons became priests - one a Jesuit - and the other a Father of the Sacred Heart.

Father Stanislaus finished by saying: "I am that Religious of the Sacred Heart, and the Captain was my father."

From that incident the Captain became a daily Mass goer and his children were trained to follow his example. Later when his sons became priests, he advised them to say Mass well every day and never miss the Sacrifice of the Mass through any fault of their own.

POTENCY OF MASS: IT SHEDS THE BLOOD OF PROTECTION AND HOLDS BACK CHASTISEMENT

(adapted from *Secrets of the Eucharist*)

A single Mass is of immeasurable potency. St. Teresa explained that the world would long ago have been destroyed but for the Mass. It alone holds the arm of God. It alone restrains Divine justice. Without Mass in the world, said St. Teresa, "all here below would parish."

A single, well-said Mass—attended to with true grace—can have unimaginable effects. Our requests and supplications can be offered throughout the liturgy, and I have found it especially effective to do it while the Host is elevated, and also when the chalice is raised. For in the chalice is now the Blood of Christ, and it is that Blood which is most powerful in washing away sinfulness. It is the Blood which was shed for our redemption.

It is the Blood that demons fear more than anything, because the Blood established Christ's transcendence of the world and defeat of evil. It represents His sacrifice. Since our redemption means breaking the bondages to Satan, the Blood is extremely potent in chasing away evil spirits.

During Mass we should plead the Blood of Christ. We should plead it on our lives. We should plead it on family and friends. We should plead it upon the Church. And society. We should plead it upon every aspect of existence because the Blood is the greatest of all palliatives—meaning that in warding off devils, nothing is more effective.

It was the Blood that defeated Satan at Calvary. "Lord I am not worthy to receive You, but only say the word and I shall be healed..."

These are the cherished moments of Mass. These are the minutes that are special beyond our ability to understand how special they are. These are the seconds when we are touching eternity.

Having interceded for ourselves, our families, and the world, we have cleared the way to concentrating on our purification, and that opens the floodgates of grace, which pour forth during the Eucharist (and Adoration).

Upon reception of the Communion host,

we are in Christ and Christ is truly within us. Upon receiving Communion, we have all power over the enemy. As one of the documents from Vatican II proclaimed:

"From this it follows that every liturgical celebration, because it is an action of Christ the Priest and of His Body, which is the Church, is a sacred action surpassing all others. No other action of the Church can equal its efficacy by the same title and to the same degree (SC 7). From the liturgy, therefore, and especially from the Eucharist, grace is poured forth upon us as from a fountain, and the sanctification of men in Christ and the glorification of God to which all other activities of the Church are directed, as toward their end, are achieved with maximum effectiveness."

FROM OUR READERS....

My daughter Brenda was born with a hole in her heart; in the wall that separates the chambers. My mother and I, and my daughter, went to see the Lady of Fatima. We prayed for three hours before the statue. Toward the end, we went to say one more prayer. The custodians started to wrap her up to go to their next stop. We followed the men and Our Lady's statue out. As the custodian placed the statue down, we were reaching out to touch her and the Custodian, Carl Malburg, said "No, you cannot touch her." I said "Sir, please, my daughter has a hole in her heart." He said, "Just touch the top of the statue's head, not her hands." We all placed our hands on her head and felt a sense of peace.

Two weeks later we had an appointment with a new cardiologist. This was the fifth doctor. The other cardiologist all said the same thing "the hole would never close." The new doctor did an ultrasound. After reading the ultrasound, the doctor said, "Did anyone ever tell you that the blood only trickles through a very small hole? I said "No, the blood would gush through the hole." The ultrasound showed that the hole in my daughter's heart was now very small. The doctor said "It's a Miracle." Mrs. Valerie Lasky

To whom it may concern:

I want to thank you for sending my order out as fast as you did. I got my book at my church and I want to spread Our Lady's message as someone here in this area has done. I've read the booklet and I try my best to please Our Lady in every way I can, and so far it has helped me very much. Thanks again for your help in getting Mary's love and compassion to those who might need it; Her help to be non-sinners and

in the loving arms of Our Blessed Lady. May God bless you for the wonderful work and the wonderful message you are getting to the world. Don

Dear friends of Mary, I have been carrying a Blessed Mother statue from church to church for many years. She travels the area of Rockland, NY and different churches in upstate New York. She is very much loved. She smiles to people and could be sad at times. My devotion to Mary started at a young age. I lost my mother when I was 8 years old. Is it possible for you to post in your Newsletter that people can get in contact with me to arrange for a visit to their church in New York or nearby? Thank you! My name is Ema Saraiva, 41 Badger St., New City, NY 10956-1814

Thank you for sending Issues No. 22 and No. 23 to me. It has really helped me to know a lot more about our Mother Mary. Thanks to you that I have more to say to our brethren from other religions. I would like to receive every publication you make. They are really priceless newsletters. May God bless your work and may Our Lady continue to intercede for you as you make Her known to the world. Our Lady of Fatima, Pray for us.

Chrisanctur, St. Augustine Major Seminary, Tanzania

IPVS Foundation,

I would like to relate to you the graces received regarding the Brown Scapular. I was mowing my lawn when I saw my elderly neighbor, who was also mowing his lawn, fall to the ground and I rushed over to help him. He looked like he might have suffered a heart attack. I knew he was not a practicing Catholic and immediately took off my brown

scapular and put it around his neck and loudly called out to him several times to tell Jesus "I'm sorry, forgive me Lord." This man died in my arms, asking Jesus to forgive him his sins. Thank you for all the work you do in promoting Our Lady of Fatima and Her Messages, and Her Brown Scapular. Nick

After retiring from the U. S. Army, I took a position with a chemical company. One day two of my employees climbed down a ladder into an empty tank for cleaning and repair. They were wearing masks in case of possible fumes. Having trouble at one point trying to do a repair, one of the men found his mask was in the way and removed it momentarily. Immediately he was overcome by the fumes. After being rescued, I went with him to the hospital. I called my wife to tell her about it and that I would be late getting home. Hearing that the man wasn't responding, she said "Does he have a Brown Scapular on?" I told her "I don't know, but I don't think he's Catholic." She replied "It doesn't matter, put a scapular on him." I told her "Where would I get a scapular; I don't have a purse like you with everything in it." "Well, you have one around your neck, don't you? Get it on him." I went back into the ICU room with a rather worn scapular in hand and said "I would like to place this on the man." The doctor said it won't matter now, he has flatlined, see the monitor? I placed the scapular over his head feeling very sad because I was too late. But, when I did, the monitor made a very slight move. Then another, then a stronger one. My employee made a full recovery and returned to work.

Col. John B., Retired

Our Lady of Fatima

Pray for us!

Issue No. 24
SPRING 2019

IPVS NEWS

International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima Foundation, Inc.

Our Lady of Fatima Pray for us!

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“O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee.”

With a mother's tender love and care, Mary gently guides her children along the sure path to her Son. All of her goodness and beauty comes from Jesus. That is why we see in Mary exactly what the Lord can do with those who dare to believe in Him, hope in Him, and love Him. What a better world this would be if all Christians followed Jesus Christ in a Mary-like manner.

Without a doubt, the world we live in is sick. It is dying. Countless souls are suffering from spiritual malnutrition. Evil and sin are the diseases that poison far too many lives. Oh, yes, there is a lot of pleasure and time for frivolity, but how about the life of the soul? What is being done to obey God? There is a crisis of faith. That lack of faith explains so much of the ugliness each of us must experience each day.

Even innocent children are threatened. A dreadful paganism first deceives its victims, then goes in for the kill. That is the way Satan works. At times he is brutal and direct, whereas at other times he proceeds gradually-bit by bit—to slowly disillusion, corrupt, and finally destroy.

At Fatima Our Lady said ***“My Immaculate Heart will Triumph.”*** This promise will be fulfilled when enough of us respond to Her requests.



Mary, spread out your mantle to protect us. Show us your right and shining way, lest we be lost. MONSTRA TE, ESSE MATREM! Show us your motherly care! We want to come alive in Christ just like you. Mary, you reign; reign over our hearts. Dear Mother, your love for us is beyond all our expectations. Isn't that why you appeared at Fatima? You want us to be saved from all that destroys the life of Christ in our souls and from an eternity of death in hell. Thank you for loving us so much. Thank you for being the best and holiest Mother. Re-consecrate yourselves in Mary's Immaculate Heart to Jesus, the Saviour of the world.