



Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

March 2017

5180 West Taft Rd, North Syracuse NY 13212

Hours: Mon.—Fri 9am– 5pm Phone (315) 452– 4698

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Currently we are blest to be celebrating our 25th year!

The Monthly Message of Our Blessed Mother from Medjugorje: February 25, 2017

“Dear children! Today I am calling you to profoundly live your faith and to implore the Most High to strengthen it, so that winds and storms cannot break it. May the roots of your faith be prayer and hope in eternal life. Already now, little children, work on yourselves in this time of grace, wherein God is giving you the grace - through renunciation and the call to conversion - to be people of clear and persevering faith and hope. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Volunteers Needed, if interested call the center at 452-4698

For visitors, if the CNY Marian Center is locked, you can obtain a key upstairs at the doctor’s office M- F 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The CNY Marian Center is available for group Meetings. For a reservation, call the Center and leave a message. Current Prayer groups meet Mon. 7:30 PM, Tues. 7 PM, First Wed. 6:30 PM and Thur. 11:00 AM.

HEAVEN CALLS— IS YOUR RINGER ON ?

Blessing and prayers to all our friends, supporters and newsletter subscribers of the Central NY Marian Center.

Do our hearts ring out with great anticipation as we start the season of Lent, on our journey to Easter morning and the fulfillment of the message of “Eternal Salvation”!!!

Ash Wednesday has passed and Lent has begun. Has this great opportunity to change our lives ring in our hearts yet?

The season of Lent begins on March 1, 2017 and ends with the “Passiontide, Sacred Triduum and Easter Sunday on April 16, 2017.

March 1st is Ash Wednesday as we pray the Holy Mass and have ashes marked on our foreheads in the sign of the Cross. Lets take a look on how we are doing with the “Three Pillars of Lent.”

1) Penance: "Jesus' call to conversion and penance is like the prophets before Him. (CCC 1430-32) Daily conversion and penance find their source and nourishment in the Eucharist.

Fast and Abstinence.

It is a traditional doctrine of Christian spirituality that a constituent part of repentance, of turning away from sin and back to God, includes some form of penance, without which the Christian is unlikely to remain on the narrow path and be saved (Jer. 18:11, 25:5; Ez. 18:30,33:11-15; Joel 2:12; Mt. 3:2; Mt. 4: 17; Acts 2:38). Christ Himself said that His disciples would fast once He had departed (Lk. 5:35). The general law of penance, therefore, is part of the law of God for man.

The Church has specified forms of penance, both to ensure that the Catholic will do something, as required by divine law, while making it easy for Catholics to fulfill the obligation. **The 1983 Code of Canon Law** specifies the obligations of Latin Rite Catholics.

Canon 1250 All Fridays through the year and the time of Lent are penitential days throughout the entire Church.

Canon 1251 Abstinence from eating meat or another food according to the prescriptions of the conference of bishops is to be observed on Fridays throughout the year unless they are solemnities; abstinence and

fast are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on the Friday of the Passion and Death of **Our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Canon 1252 All persons who have completed their fourteenth year are bound by the law of abstinence; all adults are bound by the law of fast.

Can. 1253 It is for the conference of bishops to determine the observance of fast and abstinence and to substitute in whole or in part for fast and abstinence other forms of penance, especially works of charity and exercises of piety.

Abstinence. The law of abstinence requires a Catholic 14 years of age until death to abstain from eating meat on Fridays in honor of the Passion of **Jesus** on Good Friday. Meat is considered to be the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl.

On Fridays outside of Lent the U.S. bishops conference obtained the permission of the Holy See for Catholics in the US to substitute a penitential, or even a charitable practice of their own choosing. For most people the easiest way to consistently fulfill this command is the traditional one, to abstain



from meat on all Fridays of the year which are not liturgical solemnities. When solemnities, such as the **Annunciation, Assumption, All Saints** etc. fall on a Friday, we neither abstain nor fast.

During Lent abstinence from meat on Fridays is obligatory in the United States as elsewhere, and it is sinful not to observe this discipline without a serious reason (physical labor, pregnancy, sickness etc.)

Fasting. The law of fasting requires a Catholic from the 18th Birthday [Canon 97] to the 59th Birthday to reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. The Church defines this as one meal a day, and two smaller meals. Such fasting is obligatory on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. The fast is broken by eating between meals.

Those who are excused from fast or abstinence. Besides those outside the age limits, those of unsound mind, the sick, the frail, pregnant or nursing women according to need for meat or nourishment.

Aside from these minimum penitential requirements Catholics are encouraged to impose some personal penance on themselves at other times. Such freely chosen fasting could also consist in giving up something one enjoys - candy, soft drinks, smoking, that cocktail before supper, and so on.

One final consideration. Before all else we are obliged to perform the duties of our state in life. When considering stricter practices than the norm, it is prudent to discuss the matter with one's confessor or director. Any deprivation that would seriously hinder us in carrying out our work, as students, employees or parents would be contrary to the will of **God**.

Reading Sacred Scripture and praying revives the spirit of conversion and repentance within us and contributes to the forgiveness of our sins. Have we received the Sacrament of Reconciliation yet in this Lenten season? Make it a priority now! The secret of a good confession is "Honesty" with ourselves. The Father in Heaven already knows our sins.

Stations of the Cross? Pray the Stations in your churches on Fridays and receive the indulgence the church gives us during Lent.

Pray the Rosary nightly with your family? Offer it up for the conversion of sinners and remission of sins, especially our own

and your own family intentions. Pray special prayers, read Holy Scripture and meditate on the Passion. Pray for the graces to carry our own crosses as we follow our Savior to Calvary. I think we begin to see more clearly the meaning of "conversion" that **Jesus** calls us to.

2) Pillar of Fasting. The practice of fasting was very present in the first Christian community (cf. **Acts 13,3; 14,22; 27,21; 21;2 Cor 6,5**). The Church Fathers, too, speak of the force of fasting to bridle sin, and open in the heart of the believer a path to God.

Our Lenten fasts have a tendency to be oriented toward things like giving up food or television. But there are many other creative ways we can welcome Jesus' healing touch this Lent. Fast from: Anger and Hatred: Give your family and everyone you come across, an extra dose of love each day. Judging Others: Before making any judgments, recall how **Jesus** overlooks our faults. Discouragement: Hold on to **Jesus'** promise that He has a perfect plan for your life. Complaining: When you find yourself about to complain, close your eyes and recall a moment of joy **Jesus** has given you. Resentment or Bitterness: Work on forgiving those who may have hurt you. Spending Too Much Money? Try to reduce your spending by ten per cent and give those savings to the poor.

3) Almsgiving: the third traditional pillar, is linked to our baptismal commitment in the same way. It is a sign of our care and an expression of our gratitude for all that **God** has given to us.

As we think about giving something up for lent, there is no greater gift than the "Giving of Ourselves." Let's take a look at our families and parishes. Is there anyone in our families in need; out of work? Maybe they could use some extra food, a ride to a medical appointment or company. Make that special cake, pie or cookies and pay them a visit. Do your parishes' pantries have the food they need to give out? Have we sent a check in the mail to needy missions? Have we given time to a hospital, nursing home or senior citizens? Let's take the opportunity of this Lent to truly perform the **"Corporal and spiritual works of Mercy."** It is truly in selfless. Giving that we gain great graces and remission of our sins!!!

In lent, we are headed to Easter, and not just this year's particular Easter but the Easter of new birth, of resurrection,

of eternal life. Lent reminds us that there's no victory without struggle, no crown without a cross, no love without suffering. We need to be reminded of these truths at least yearly because, when we do experience struggle, cross, and suffering, we can easily lose our focus and forget that they are the means **God** uses to bring us to victory and love.

Lent is forty days in duration because, before beginning His public life, **Jesus** spent forty days fasting in the desert (actually lent is 46 days, but we don't fast and abstain on its six Sunday). Lent is dress rehearsal for these times of trial. That's one of the main reasons why we ought to make each lent the best we can. Life is a long journey, and we're on our way to our eternal home!!!

St. Patrick's Day March 17, 2017

St. Patrick was born in Britain and captured by pirates at 14 and taken to Ireland as a slave to tend and herd sheep. He fled at age 20 and returned home, became a priest, bishop. He returned to Ireland and used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity. Ireland was converted to Christianity after hearing Patrick's message.

St. Joseph's Day March 20, 2017

Joseph came from royal heritage. A descendant from David, the greatest king of Israel (**Matthew 1:1-16 and Luke 3:23-38**). Joseph was a carpenter, compassionate and caring man. The angel who first tells Joseph about **Jesus** greets him as "son of David," a royal title used also for **Jesus**. Joseph was husband and protector of **Mary**, a mentor and guardian for **Jesus** until his public ministry. Joseph is also patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers, and working people in general.

The Annunciation of the Lord March 25, 2017

The feast of the Annunciation of the Lord celebrates the angel Gabriel's appearance to the Virgin **Mary** (**Luke 1:26-38**), his announcement that the Blessed Virgin had been chosen to be the mother of Our Lord, and **Mary's fiat**—her willing acceptance of **God's** holy plan.

Originally a feast of our Lord, but now cele-



brated as a Marian feast, the feast of the Annunciation dates back at least to the fifth century, and the date of the feast, which is determined by the date of **Christmas**, was set at March 25 by the seventh century.

March 25 is the **Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord** in the Roman Catholic Liturgical Calendar. The mystery of Mary's cooperation in God's plan has inspired some of the most profound reflection in the Christian tradition. As well it should.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us, *What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ.* (CCC#487) Years ago a reflective book entitled **The Prayer of Mary: Living the Surrendered Life.**

Mary's "Yes" is called the **Fiat: in Latin, "Let it be done."** Mary's Fiat was spoken from a heart filled with love for God. In a Biblical context, "heart" is a word that means much more than the fleshy organ at the center of our chest cavity. It refers to

our center, the core of each of us, the place where our deepest identity is rooted, and from which our fundamental choices about life are made.

This is what Mary's **Fiat** is all about. In saying Yes to God, as Mary did, we are able to discover the path to conversion, to holiness, to authentic spirituality. Our call to embrace the **Fiat** and to make it our own is not a formula for easy spiritual growth, nor is it the first in a series of steps that lead to solving the problems of life. The spiritual life is a path, a Way, and it involves a continuing, ongoing walk with the **Lord**.

He has invited each of us into an intimate, personal, exchange of love. This kind of intimacy with a living, loving God is the interior meaning of **Mary's Fiat**, her **Magnificat**, and her way of life.

When we embrace Mary's Prayer and make it our own, we allow the Love that Mary bore in her body to be incarnated in and through us, too. Each of us can say "Yes" to God, right now, wherever we are. Each of us can respond with our entire

being, with a Fiat of surrendered love.

Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board

Announcements

The CNY Marian Center is pleased to present:

Dr. Patsy Iannolo renowned speaker and founder of the CNY Marian Center and a Medical Dr. in private practice will be presenting **"the Medical Effects of the Crucifixion"** in the Diocesan parishes during the Lenten Season. During the Lenten Season we are called to meditate upon the Passion, Suffering, and Crucifixion of Christ. This presentation will leave you with a deep spiritual revelation of the ultimate sacrifice Christ made on the Cross for the salvation of mankind. You won't want to miss a great opportunity to gain insight and graces!!

To invite Dr. Patsy to your parish while he still has openings in his schedule, please contact **Dr. Patsy Iannolo at 315-427-1597 or email the Marian Center at mariancenter.cny@gmail.com.**

Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board

**March 2017
Apostolate of Prayer for Priests ..Diocese of Syracuse**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Heavenly Father, during this penitential season, we pray that the Blood of Jesus may kindle in the hearts of our priests the divine fire of Your love by their devotion to the Eucharist. Mother Catherine Aurelia, Foundress			1) All Priests	2) Msgr. J McGraw Rev. K Corcoran	3) Rev. G Buckley Rev. J Mikalajunas	4) Rev. M Carmola Msgr. J Kennedy
5) Bishop R J Cunningham	6) Msgr. F Elkin Rev. A Szebenyl SJ	7) Rev. J Phillips Rev. J Carr SJ	8) Rev. J Neville SJ Rev. F Kooro	9) Rev. V Kelly Rev. J Canorro	10) Rev. J O'Connor Rev. J Croghan	11) Msgr. T Elmer Rev. J P Donovan
12) Bishop J M Moynihan	13) Rev. A Guida Rev. C Seibt	14) Rev. D Cunningham Rev. R Tucker	15) Msgr. S Rossetti Rev. J Scardella	16) Rev. G Kreinheder Rev. T Durant	17) Rev. W Bosch SJ Rev. P C Pilla	18) Rev. T Ward Rev. R Amrhein OFM Cv
19) Bishop T J Costello	20) Rev. J Smegelsky Rev. C Cerwonka	21) Rev. M Gantley Rev. J Clemente	22) Rev. R Scully SJ Rev. D Karlen	23) Chorbishop J Faris Rev. G Fukes	24) Rev. J Manno Rev. P Hearn	25) Our Holy Father
26) Rev. C Stirpe Rev. J Queen	27) Rev. C Ballard Rev. I Onyenegubo	28) Rev. J Roark Rev. J Schultz	29) Rev. D Schoenhofen Msgr. J Lang	30) Rev. M Fuchs Msgr. J O'Brien	31) Rev. J Bosco Rev. G Lupa	Glory to the Precious Blood! Mother Catherine Aurelia, Foundress



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The CNY Marian Center

Rosary Makers Needed

The demand for **Our Lady's Rosaries** is greater than ever! As the Marian Center supplies rosaries to our parishes throughout the Diocese to meet demands for rosary groups, special rosaries for First Communion, and Confirmation classes. We supply thousands of rosaries to our overseas missions and we are seeing an increase need in our hospitals.

The people that make **Our Lady's Rosaries** receive spiritual blessings for doing **Our Lady's work!!!**

If you would like to volunteer please call the CNY Marian Center at 315-452-4698.

Important Notice to Our Readers

With rising postal and printing cost we need to revise our mailing list. If you have email, please send us your email to the address below. Please respond by phone call, postal mail, or email!!! We are trying to continue to spread Mary's messages and need your support too. If you would like to be a regular sponsor or provide a donation towards our many Marian Center Projects throughout the diocese, please fill out the form & mail it with your donation to the **CNY Marian Center, 5180 W. Taft Road, North Syracuse, NY 13212**

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March 2017 ed.

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