



# Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages

**December 2019**

5180 West Taft Rd, North Syracuse NY 13212

mariancenter.cny@gmail.com

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

Website: cnymariancenter.com

Currently we are blest to be celebrating our 26th year!

## The Monthly Message of Our Blessed Mother from Medjugorje: November 25, 2019

“Dear children! May this time be a time of prayer for you. Without God you do not have peace. Therefore, little children, pray for peace in your hearts and families, so that Jesus can be born in you and give you His love and blessing. The world is at war because hearts are full of hatred and jealousy. In the eyes, little children, peacelessness is seen because you have not permitted Jesus to be born in your lives. Seek Him, pray, and He will give Himself to you in the Child who is joy and peace. I am with you and I pray for you. Thank you for having responded to my call.”



**See a rose . . . . Say the Rosary!**



**Volunteers Needed, if interested call the center at 315-452-4698**

For visitors, if the CNY Marian Center is locked, you can obtain a key upstairs at the doctor’s office M- F 9AM to 5PM. The CNY Marian Center is available for group Meetings. For a reservation, call the Center and leave a message. Our monthly newsletter posts to our website, [www.cnymariancenter.com](http://www.cnymariancenter.com), you can be notified when it is posted through the website, email us your email address, also there is a form on the back cover for postal mailings, or call 315-452-4698.

### 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 joy as we sing “Glory to God in the Highest” with the angels celebrating the birth of **Our Savior**? Are our hearts overwhelmed in adoration as we join the Holy Family and the baby **Jesus** with the shepherds at the manger?

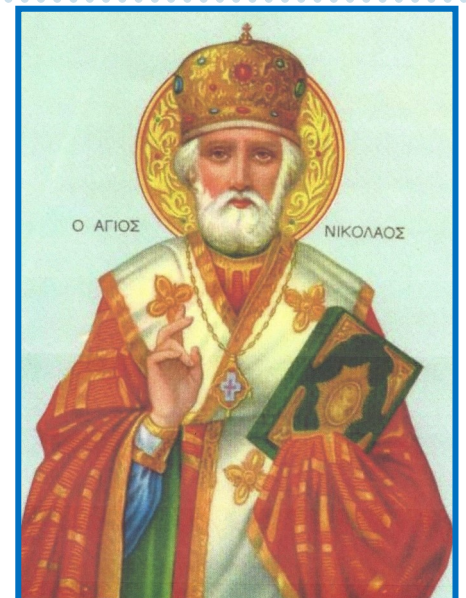
The month of December is dedicated to the **Immaculate Conception**, which is ordinarily celebrated on December 8 but since it falls on a Sunday, the feast has been transferred to December 9. The first 24 days of December fall during the liturgical season known as of **Advent** and are represented by the liturgical color **purple**, a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart. The remaining days of December mark the beginning of the **Christmas** season. The liturgical color changes to white or gold, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence. Christmastide begins with the First Vespers (Evening Prayer) of Christmas on December 24th and ends on the Sunday after Epiphany.

### St. Nicholas of Myra December 12, 2019

**Saint Nicholas, bishop of Myra**, is undoubtedly one of the most popular saints honored in the Western world. In the United States, his memory has survived in the unique personality of Saint Claus, the jolly, rotund, white-bearded gentleman who captivates children with promises of gifts on Christmas Eve.

In spite of his widespread fame, **Saint Nicholas**, from the historian's point of view, is hardly more than a name. He was born in the last years of the third century in Asia Minor. His uncle, the archbishop of Myra in Lycia, ordained him and appointed him abbot of a nearby monastery. At the death of the archbishop, Nicholas was chosen to fill the vacancy, and he served in this position until his death. About the time of the persecutions of Diocletian, he was imprisoned for preaching Christianity but was released during the reign of Emperor Constantine.

Popular legends have involved **Saint Nich-**



**olas** in a number of charming stories, one of which relates Nicholas' charity toward the poor. A man of Patara had lost his fortune, and finding himself unable to support his three maiden daughters, was planning to turn them into the streets as prostitutes. Nicholas heard of the man's intentions and secretly threw three bags of gold through a window into the home, thus providing dowries for the daughters.



The three bags of gold mentioned in this story are said to be the origin of the three gold balls that form the emblem of pawn-brokers.

After Nicholas' death on December 6 in or around 345, his body was buried in the cathedral at Myra. It remained there until 1087, when seamen of Bari, an Italian coastal town, seized the relics of the saint and transferred them to their own city. Veneration for Nicholas had already spread throughout Europe as well as Asia, but this occurrence led to a renewal of devotion in the West. Countless miracles were attributed to the saint's intercession. His relics are still preserved in the church of San Nicola in Bari; an oily substance, known as *Manna di S. Nicola*, which is highly valued for its medicinal powers, is said to flow from them.

The story of **Saint Nicholas** came to America in distorted fashion. Catholics should think of Nicholas as a saint, a confessor of the faith and the bishop of Myra, not merely as a jolly man from the North Pole who brings happiness to small children. Many countries and locations honor St. Nicholas as patron: Greece, Russia, the Kingdom of Naples, Sicily, Lorraine, and many cities in Italy, Germany, Austria, and Belgium.

### The Feast of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary December 9, 2019



The feast of the **Blessed Virgin's Immaculate Conception** is the most solemn of all those which the Church celebrates during the holy time of Advent; for the Conception of **Mary** tells us that the Birth of **Jesus** is not far off.

The intention of the Church, in this feast, is not only to celebrate the anniversary of the happy moment in which began, in the womb of the pious Anne, the life of the ever-glorious **Virgin Mary**; but also to honor the sublime privilege, by which **Mary** was preserved from original sin.

On December 8, 1854, **Pope Pius IX** officially declared the **Immaculate Conception a dogma of the Church**, which means that all Christians are bound to accept it as true. As the Holy Father wrote in the Apostolic Constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*.

Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that **Mary**, "full of grace" through **God**, was redeemed from the moment of Her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as **Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854. (ccc 490,491)**

The **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception** is the patronal feast of the United States. **Pope Leo XIII**, Nov. 30 1879, raised the feast to a double of the first class.

### The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe December 12, 2019

Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared in Mexico as the pregnant Mother of **God** to **Saint Juan Diego**, an Aztec Indian, on December 9, 10, and 12, 1531. She left a Miraculous Image of her appearance on his cactus fiber cloak (**tilma**), which still exists today for all to see in the **Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City**.

On December 9, 1531, in Mexico, Our Lady appeared to **St. Juan Diego**, a poor humble Aztec Indian who had recently converted to the Catholic faith. She identified herself as the ever **Virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live, of the Creator of all things, Lord of heaven and the earth**. She asked him to go to the Bishop and tell him to build a church where she said "I will show and



offer all of my love, my compassion, my help and my protection to my people." **St. Juan Diego** did as she asked, but the Bishop asked for a sign that this message was really from Our Lady.

After complying to the Bishop's request for a sign, She also left for us an image of herself imprinted miraculously on the native's **tilma, a poor quality cactus-cloth**, which should have deteriorated in 20 years but shows no sign of decay 480 years later and still defies all scientific explanations of its origin.

There is reason to believe that at Tep-eyac **Mary** came in her glorified body, and her actual physical hands rearranged the roses in **St. Juan Diego's tilma**, which makes this apparition very special. **St. Juan Diego's** feast day is December 9, 2017.

**Our Lady** came to offer faith, hope and consolation to the oppressed natives of **Mexico** and to reconcile them with their Spanish rulers. She put an end to the bloody human sacrifice of the Aztecs and converted eight million natives in the next seven years!!!

### Christmas December 25, 2019

A Holy day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, and adore the Lord. For today a great light has come upon the earth.

For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name Him **Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.** (Isaiah 9:1-6)

“For the first coming of **Our Lord** in the flesh [**December 25, the fourth day**] in the reign of Augustus [**the forty-second year,** and] in the year 5500 [from Adam]. And He suffered in His thirty-third year [March 25, the paraseve, in the eighteenth year of **Tiberius Caesar, during the consulate of Rufus and Rubellio.**”

The early Christians, who attributed to **Christ** not only the title ("**Kyrios**") but also many other honors that the pagans paid to their "divine" emperors, naturally felt inclined to honor the birth of the Savior. In most places the commemoration of **Christ's birth** was included in the **Feast of the Epiphany** (Manifestation) on January 6, one of the oldest annual feasts. Soon after the end of the last great persecution, about the year 330, the Church in Rome assigned December 25 for the celebration of the birth of **Christ**.



**Christmas** soon became a feast of such great importance that from the fifth century on it marked the beginning of the ecclesiastical year. After the tenth century, the season of Advent came to form an integral part of the Christmas cycle; thus the beginning of the ecclesiastical year was advanced to the first Sunday of Advent.

The English word "**Christmas**" is based on the same pattern as the old names for other feast days in the liturgical year, such as Michaelmas, Martinmas, Candlemas. The first mention of the name, **Christes Maesse,**" dates from the year 1038. It means "**the Mass of Christ.**"

As **Christ** came into the world as the "**Light of the World.**" Let the light of the "**Prince of Peace, the Lord of Lords and the King of Kings**" remain with us always and open our eyes that we may see Him in all things and in all human beings throughout the world. Let Him open our ears that we may hear His "**word**" and let Him open our hearts that we may receive Him, live with Him, in Him, and share in His glory for all Eternity!!

**Feast of the Holy Family  
December 29, 2019**

Scripture tells us practically nothing about the first years and the boyhood of the Child Jesus. All we know are the facts of the sojourn in Egypt, the return to Nazareth, and the incidents that occurred when the twelve-year-old boy accompanied his parents to Jerusalem. The general breakdown of the family, however, at the end of the past century and at the beginning of our own, prompted the popes, especially the far-sighted Leo XIII, to promote the observance of this feast with the hope that it might instill into Christian families something of the faithful love and the devoted attachment that characterize the family of Nazareth. The primary purpose of the Church in instituting and promoting this feast is to present the Holy Family as the model and exemplar of all Christian families.

Looking at the Holy Family, we see the love, the protection, and the diligent care that they gave to the Redeemer. We can not fail to feel uneasiness, perhaps a shameful thought, for the times in which we have not rendered the appropriate care and attention to the Blessed Eucharist. We can only ask for forgiveness and do penance for all the sacrilegious acts and the lack of respect that are committed in front of the Blessed Eucharist. We can only ask the Lord, through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, for a greater love for their Son Incarnate, who has

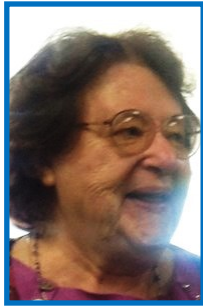


decided to remain here on earth with us every day until the end of time.

The gifts of the Magi, I do not have. I come forth on bended knee before the Prince of Peace, truly present in every Tabernacle in the world!!!

**A Blessed and Merry Christmas to all!!!  
Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board**

**Announcements**



Louise Donahue, a longtime friend of the Central New York Marian Center, passed away November 30, 2019.

From a young age, Louise loved and served the Lord. With trust in Jesus, she founded and managed Circle of Hope, a halfway house for men who were recently released from incarceration. She visited prisoners in Auburn Prison and Watertown Facilities. Her love of Mary and the Rosary prompted her to travel to Medjugorje with husband, Hank. Both faithfully served the Marian Center and Louise was the Treasurer for many years. They formed the Monday night Rosary group at the Center and rarely missed it. Louise loved Scripture and regularly shared the Word she received from the Lord at their Thursday Night Prayer Group. Her Wisdom and wit will remain with us always.

Louise's sixty-one years of marriage to Hank was truly a Sacrament of service and Love for God. Louise served God in everything she did: marriage, love and care of her children, devotion to Our Lady and the Marian Center, praying the Rosary every Saturday morning at Planned Parenthood to save the lives of the unborn, helping the imprisoned to know Jesus and live a new life. The Psalm Response for the First Sunday of Advent, December 1<sup>st</sup>, was "Let us go rejoicing to the House of the Lord." We are sure that Louise entered *her* new life walking with old friends, rejoicing, to the House of the Lord and praising God.



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**5180 West Taft Road**

**North Syracuse, NY 13212**

**Phone: (315)452-4698**

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## **CNY Marian Center 2019 What A Blessed Year!!**

As we celebrate **Christmas** and the birth of **Christ** to open the heavenly doors for our salvation, the **Marian Center** has received many blessings. In preparation for the coming of our **Savior**, in sponsoring the Men's and Women's Conferences, we saw record attendance at both. Twelve hundred rosaries were given out at each conference, the **Marian Center** supplied a record demand for religious materials throughout the Diocese. The **Marian Center** had a record expansion of our website thanks to our board member Regina Harty. Regina and other board members have expanded many programs throughout the Diocese to spreading the **Marian message**. We are looking forward to the 2020 blessings! **Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board**

For more information: [www.cnymariancenter.com](http://www.cnymariancenter.com)

Call 315-452-4698; Email: [mariancenter.cny@gmail.com](mailto:mariancenter.cny@gmail.com)

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### 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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