



# Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages **February 2019**

5180 West Taft Rd, North Syracuse NY 13212

Hours: Mon. — Fri 9am– 5pm

Phone (315) 452– 4698

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Website: cnymariancenter.com

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

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

“Dear children! Today, as a mother, I am calling you to conversion. This time is for you, little children, a time of silence and prayer. Therefore, in the warmth of your heart, may a grain of hope and faith grow and you, little children, will from day to day feel the need to pray more. Your life will become orderly and responsible. You will comprehend, little children, that you are passing here on earth and you will feel the need to be closer to God, and with love you will witness the experience of your encounter with God, which you will share with others. I am with you and am praying for you but I cannot without your 'yes'. 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 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 joy as we celebrate the Holy Family? Between the events which marked **Christmas** and the beginning of **Christ's** public life the Church has seen fit to recall the example of the Holy Family for the emulation of the Christian family. That we may become holy too?

The month of February is dedicated to the **Holy Family**. This year the first thirteen days of February fall during the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time** which is represented by the liturgical color green. Green, the symbol of hope, is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. The remaining days of February are the beginning of **Lent**. The liturgical color changes to **purple** a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

### Feast of the Presentation of the Lord February 2, 2019



Today the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of **Jesus** and is also known as **Candlemas** day. The Presentation or **Our Lord** bridges the two seasons, Christmas and Easter! In addition,

the faithful may receive in February two of the four major public sacramental that the Church confers during the liturgical year: blessed candles and the blessing of throats.

### St. Agatha February 5, 2019

**St. Agatha** died in defense of her purity, in Catania, Sicily, where she was born.

It is impossible to write a historically reliable account of St. Agatha's life. The "Acts" of her martyrdom are legendary, dating from the sixth century.

According to these sources Agatha was a Sicilian virgin of noble extraction. **Quintianus, governor of Sicily**, became deeply enamored of her; but she rejected his advances. As a result she was charged with being a Christian and brought before his tribunal. When asked why she lived the servile life of a Christian, she answered: "I am a handmaid of **Christ**, and that is why I bear the outward appearance of a slave; yet this is the highest nobility, to be a



slave to **Christ**." The governor threatened her with the most dreadful tortures if she did not renounce **Christ**. Agatha countered: "If you threaten me with wild beasts, know that at the Name of **Christ** they grow tame; if you use fire, from heaven angels will drop healing dew on me."

After being tortured, "Agatha went to prison radiant with joy and with head held high as though invited to a festive banquet. And she commended her agony to the **Lord** in prayer." The next day, as she again stood before the judge, she declared: "If you do not cause my body to be torn to pieces by the hangmen, my soul cannot enter the Lord's paradise with the martyrs. She was then stretched on the rack, burned with red-hot irons, and despoiled of her breasts.

Returning to prison, she prayed: "You have seen, **O Lord**, my struggle, how I fought in the place of combat; but because I would not obey the commands of rulers, my breasts were lacerated." In the night there appeared to her a venerable old man, the apostle Peter, with healing remedies. Agatha, ever delicately modest, hesitated to show him her wounds. "I am the apostle of **Christ**; distrust me not, my daughter." To which she replied: "I have never used earthly medicines on my body.

I cling to the **Lord Jesus Christ**, who renews all things by His word." She was miraculously healed by **St. Peter**: "Father of my **Lord Jesus Christ**, I give you praise because by Your apostle You have restored my breasts." Throughout the night a light illumined the dungeon. When the guards fled in terror, her fellow prisoners urged her to escape but she refused: "Having received help from the **Lord**, I will persevere in confessing Him who healed me and comforted me."

Four days later she was again led before the judge. He, of course, was amazed over her cure. Nevertheless, he insisted that she worship the gods; which prompted another confession of faith in **Christ**. Then by order of the governor, Agatha was rolled over pieces of sharp glass and burning coals. At that moment the whole city was rocked by a violent earthquake. Two walls collapsed, burying two of the governor's friends in the debris. Fearing a popular uprising, he ordered Agatha, half dead, to be returned to prison. Here she offered her dying prayer: "Blessed Agatha stood in the midst of the prison and with outstretched arms prayed to the **Lord**: **O Lord Jesus Christ**, good Master, I give You thanks that You granted me victory over the executioners' tortures. Grant now that I may happily dwell in Your never-ending glory." There upon she died.

A year after her death the city of Catania was in great peril from an eruption on Mount Etna. Pagans, too, were numbered among those who fled in terror to the saint's grave. Her veil was taken and held against the onrushing flames, and suddenly the danger ceased. Her grave is venerated at Catania in Sicily.

### Our Lady of Lourdes February 11, 2019

Today marks the first apparition of the **Blessed Virgin Mary** in 1858 to fourteen-year-old **Marie Bernade (St. Bernadette) Soubirous**. Between February 11 and July 16, 1858, the **Blessed Virgin** appeared eighteen times, and showed herself to **St. Bernadette** in the hollow of the rock at **Lourdes**. On March 25 she said to the little shepherdess who was only

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fourteen years of age: "**I am the Immaculate Conception**." Since then Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and many cures and conversions have taken place. The message of **Lourdes** is a call to personal conversion, prayer, and charity.

The many miracles which have been performed through the intercession of the **Blessed Virgin** at **Lourdes** prompted the Church to institute a special commemorative feast, the "**Apparition of the Immaculate Virgin Mary**." The Office gives the historical background. Four years after the promulgation of the **Dogma of the Immaculate Conception (1854)**, the **Blessed Virgin** appeared a number of times to a very poor and holy girl named **Bernadette**. The actual spot was in a grotto on the bank of the Gave River near **Lourdes**.

**The Immaculate Conception** had a youthful appearance and was clothed in a pure white gown and mantle, with an azure blue girdle. A golden rose adorned each of her bare feet. On her first apparition, February 11, 1858, the **Blessed Virgin** bade the girl make the sign of the Cross piously and say the rosary with her. Bernadette saw her take the rosary that was hanging from her arms into her hands. This was repeated in subsequent apparitions.





The third time **Mary** appeared she invited the girl to come to the grotto daily for two weeks. On one occasion she ordered her to tell the ecclesiastical authorities to build a church on the spot and to organize processions. **Bernadette** also was told to drink and wash at the spring still hidden under the sand.

**Finally on the feast of the Annunciation, the beautiful Lady announced her name, "I am the Immaculate Conception."**

Four years later it was declared, the apparitions to be supernatural and permitted the public veneration of the Immaculate Conception in the grotto. Soon a chapel was erected, and since that time countless pilgrims come every year to **Lourdes** to fulfill promises or to beg graces.

February 11 was proclaimed World Day of the Sick by **Pope John Paul II**. Therefore, it would be appropriate to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick on this day during a Mass or Liturgy of the Word. (The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is only to be given to "those of the faithful whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age", Roman Ritual. This Sacrament must not be given indiscriminately to all who take part in Masses for the sick.)

### **Feast of the Chair of St. Peter February 22, 2019**

This feast brings to mind the mission of teacher and pastor conferred by **Christ** on **Peter**, and continued in an unbroken line down to the present **Pope**. We celebrate the unity of the Church, founded upon the Apostle, and renew our assent to the Magisterium of the Roman Pontiff, extended both to truths which are solemnly defined *ex cathedra*, and to all the acts of the ordinary **Magisterium**.

"We shall find in the Gospel that **Jesus** to himself the inviolable promise which makes him the foundation of the Church. **Christ**, willing to begin the mystery of unity in His Church, among all His disciples chose twelve; among the twelve He chose one. Here is the first separation, and the Apostles chosen. The first, Simon, who is called Peter. Here, in a second separa-

tion, **St. Peter** is set at the head, and called for that reason by the name of Peter, 'which **Jesus Christ**,' says **St. Mark**, 'had given him,' in order to prepare, as you will see, the work which He was proposing to raise all His building on that stone.

**Jesus Christ**, who is the true Stone, strong of Himself, to Simon, who is only the stone by the strength which **Jesus Christ** imparts to him. It is to him that **Christ** speaks, and in speaking acts on him, and stamps upon him His own immovableness. And I, He says, say to you, you are Peter; and, He adds, upon this rock I will build my Church, and, He concludes, the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. To prepare him for that honor **Jesus Christ**, who knows that faith in Himself is the foundation of His Church, inspires Peter with a faith worthy to be the foundation of that admirable building. **You are the Christ, the Son of the living God**. By that bold preaching of the faith he draws"

*Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board*

### **Catholic Men's Conference Ignite 2019**

**Saturday, March 30, 2019  
SRC Arena at Onondaga Community  
College Campus Syracuse, NY  
8am—5pm**

#### **A Message from Bishop Robert Cunningham**

On March 30, 2019, Catholic men from around Central New York and beyond will gather for the 11th annual IGNITE Catholic Men's Conference.

This year, I am pleased to welcome Chris Padgett, Eric Mahl, and Dr. John Bergsma to the gathering. The inspiration and grace of this day will fill your own life and touch the lives of all whom you go back to at home, work, and in your communities.

Please plan to join us for the special gathering as we celebrate eleven years of the IGNITE Catholic Men's Conference."

**Eric Mahl** grew up in Monroeville, Ohio

where he was a standout athlete. He earned a scholarship to play football at Kent State University and, in 2005, was signed by the Cleveland Browns. After a period of discernment, he sold or gave away all his belongings so as to fully give himself to the Lord and live out the message of Divine Mercy. His journey eventually lead him to the shrine of Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA. Eric now lives, works, and prays in service with the Marian Missionaries of Divine Mercy.

**Chris Padgett** is a speaker, musician, and author who has traveled the country for more than a decade spreading the message of **Jesus'** love and forgiveness. In 1999, Padgett entered the Catholic Church on Easter. He earned a master's degree in theology from Franciscan University. He is a published author of *Spirituality You Can Live With, Wholly Mary* and coauthor with his wife of *Holy Marriage, Happy Marriage*. Chris is an impassioned Catholic about his faith. He has been married to his high school sweetheart for over 25 years and they have nine children.

**Dr. John Bergsma** grew up a Protestant (Dutch Calvinist), and converted to the Catholic Church in 2001 while pursuing a Ph.D. in Theology from the University of Notre Dame. Today a Professor of Theology at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. Author of seven books, including *Bible Basics for Catholics* and *New Testament Basics for Catholics*. Dr Bergsma specializes in the Old Testament and the Dead Sea Scrolls, and has published more than 25 articles.

**Register at:**

<http://www.ignitecatholicmen.org>

**Cost includes conference registration, continental breakfast and lunch.**

**\$70 at the door on March 30th**

**\$65 March 16 – March 28th**

**\$55 Early Registration - through March 15**

**Bishop J. Cunningham will celebrate Mass and adoration. As the Marian Center is one of the major sponsors, be sure to stop at our vendor's tables. As men play a very important role in the church and in their families you need to be there, don't miss it!!!**

*Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board*



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

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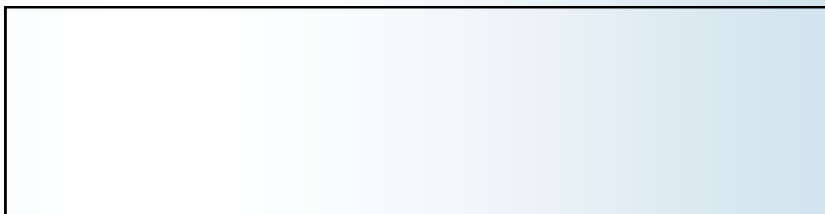
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## **CNY Marian Center is Pleased to Present**

With the Lenten season approaching in February, The Marian Center will be 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.

We will also make available our four **First Class Relics** for Lenten Season services as requested. It is in the veneration and kissing of a first class relic that many miracles occur.

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.**

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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