



Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages

March 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: February 25, 2019

“Dear children! I am calling you to a new life. It is not important how old you are, open your heart to Jesus who will transform you in this time of grace and, like nature, you will be born into a new life in God’s love, and you will open your heart to Heaven and the things of Heaven. I am still with you, because God permitted me out of love 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 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**”!!!

The month of March is dedicated to **St. Joseph**. The first five days 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 remainder of the month falls during the liturgical season of **Lent** which is represented by the liturgical color **purple**, a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

The season of **Lent** begins on **March 6, 2019** and ends with the “**Passiontide, Sacred Triduum** and **Easter Sunday** on **April 21, 2019**.”

March 6th 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 hon-



or 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.

Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

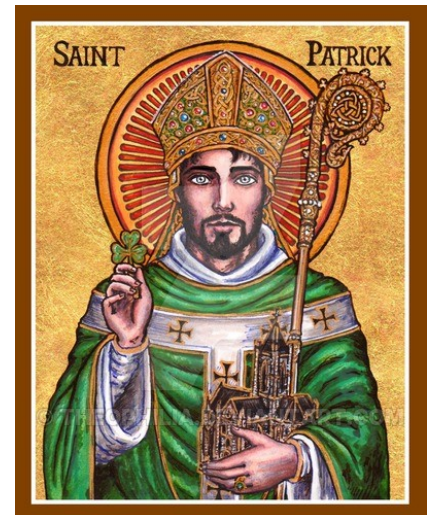
Make that special cake, pie or cookies and pay them a visit. Do your parishes' pantries have the food they need to give out? Have we sent a check in the mail to needy missions? Have we given time to a hospital, nursing home or senior citizens? Let's take the opportunity of this Lent to truly perform the **"Corporeal 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!!!

Feast Day of St. Patrick March 17, 2019

We are now in the beginning of three feasts of March (almost always in Lent) that are not part of the **Lenten Season**. Two are included in the Sanctoral (saint) Calendar, and only one is integral to the



Temporal Calendar (following the life of Christ). These are stand-alone feasts that provide a little refreshment and celebration in Lent: March 17—St. Patrick, March 19—St. Joseph, and March 25—the Annunciation.

For Catholics who follow the Liturgical Calendar closely, deciding how to celebrate these days in Lent can be as controversial as Sundays in Lent. Do we stick to the austerity of Lent and change the way a solemnity is celebrated? Do we forego family celebrations or special patronal feasts (like **St. Patrick**) because they fall into Lent? Or do we accept the spirit of the day? How does the Church celebrate these feasts?

St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in **Roman Britain** and when he was fourteen or so, he was captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party and taken to **Ireland** as a slave to herd and tend sheep. At the time, **Ireland was a land of Druids and pagans but Patrick turned to God** and wrote his memoir, *The Confession*. In *The Confession*, he wrote:

"The love of **God** and his fear grew in me more and more, as did the faith, and my soul was rosed, so that, in a single day, I have said as many as a hundred prayers and in the night, nearly the same. I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain."

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain and was reunited with his family.

He was ordained by **St. Germanus**, the **Bishop of Auxerre**, whom he had studied under for years, and was later ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to **Ireland**. **Patrick** was able to convert the chieftain and preach the Gospel throughout Ireland.

There, he converted many people eventually thousands and he began building churches across the country. He often used **shamrocks** to explain the **Holy Trinity** and entire kingdoms were eventually converted to Christianity after hearing Patrick's mes-

sage.

It is believed that **Patrick** may have introduced the **Celtic cross**, which combined a native sun-worshipping symbology with that of the Christian cross.

Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and wrote of his love for **God** in Confessions. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461.

He died at **Saul**, where he had built the first Irish church. He is believed to be buried in **Down Cathedral, Downpatrick**. His grave was marked in 1990 with a granite stone.

Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated in more countries than any other national festival.

Feast Day of St. Joseph March 19, 2019

St. Joseph is regarded as the patron saint of workers and is associated with various feast days. **Pope Pius IX** declared him to be both the patron and the protector of the Catholic Church, in addition to his patronages of the sick and of a happy death.

March is the month of devotion to **St. Joseph**, whose feast falls on March 19th. The date of the solemnity of **St. Joseph** dates to the end of the 15th century; within the next few centuries, the entire month as a time for devotion to **St. Joseph** became part of tradition.

The Annunciation of the Lord March 25, 2019

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 celebrated 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**.

Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board





Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

5180 West Taft Road

North Syracuse, NY 13212

Phone: (315)452-4698

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Syracuse, NY

13220

Permit No. 1817



CNY Marian Center is Pleased to Present

With the Lenten season upon us, 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; Call 315-452-4698; Email: mariancenter.cny@gmail.com

Central New York Marian Center, 5180 West Taft Road, North Syracuse 13212

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**

Newsletter sponsor _____ Donation _____ Name _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

To Subscribe by email, please email us at MarianCenter.CNY@Gmail.com, SUBJECT: Email Subscription

March 2019 ed.

Please check one:

New Subscription

Renewal

Phone #