



Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages **March 2020**

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 27th year!

The Monthly Message of Our Blessed Mother from Medjugorje: February 25, 2020

“Dear children! In this time of grace, I desire to see your faces transformed in prayer. You are so flooded by earthly concerns, you do not even feel that spring is at the threshold. You are called, little children, to penance and prayer. As nature fights in silence for new life, also you are called to open yourselves in prayer to God, in Whom you will find peace and warmth of the spring sun in your hearts. 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

If the CNY Marian Center is locked, you can obtain a key upstairs at the doctor’s office M- Th 9AM to 4PM, F 9AM-2PM. Current groups and meetings: **Mon.** Divine Mercy Cenacle 9:30A, Lap Rosary making 11:30A, Intercessory Rosary 7:30P; **Tues.** 1:00P Rosary making at the Franciscan Villa; **2nd Wed.** 6:30P Anne Costa Book Club; **Thur.** 7:00P Private prayer groups, **First Sat.** 1:30 & 6:30 Movie. **Volunteer** or have questions? Please 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 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 entire 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.

LENT
PRAY + FAST + GIVE

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.

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.

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 the age limits, those of unsound mind, the sick, the frail, pregnant or nursing women according to need for meat or nourishment.

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.

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**.

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!!!

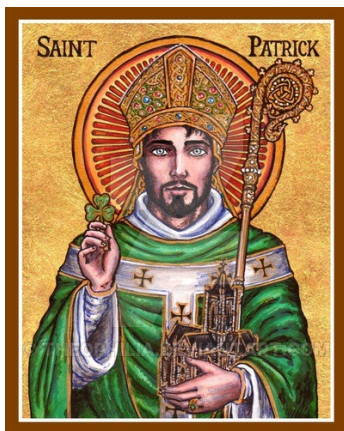
Lent is forty days in duration because, before beginning His public life, **Jesus** spent forty days fasting in the desert (actually Lent is 46 days, but we don't fast and abstain on its six Sundays). Lent is dress rehearsal for these times of trial. That's one of the main reasons why we ought to make 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, 2020

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 roused, 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 message.

It is believed that **Patrick** may have introduced the **Celtic cross**, which combined a native sun-worshipping symbolism 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, 1461.

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, 2020

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 ad-

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dition 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. To learn about Consecration to St. Joseph in Father Donald Calloway's (MIC) new book, visit consecration-tostjoseph.org.

The Annunciation of the Lord March 25, 2020

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)*

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

Announcements

Catholic Men's Conference Ignite 2020

Saturday, March 28, 2020
SRC Arena at Onondaga Community College Campus Syracuse, NY
8am—5pm

Message from Bishop Douglas Lucia

"On March 28, 2020, I will have the privilege of joining with nearly 1,000 Catholic men from around Central New York and beyond for the Twelfth Annual Ignite Catholic Men's Conference, my first as the Bishop of Syracuse.

I look forward to kicking off the day by celebrating Mass with you and then joining with you for inspirational talks from our speakers. I am thrilled to welcome Steve Ray back to IGNITE, and we are blessed to be joined by NFL quarterback Chris Greison, and Fr. Thomas Petri, O.P., Dean of the Dominican House of Studies. As usual, we will also have time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament as we seek to "Take Refuge in the Lord."

You can offer them refuge and healing

in the Name of Jesus. See you on March 28th!"

Please plan to join us as we celebrate twelve years of the IGNITE Catholic Men's Conference.

Register at:
<http://www.ignitecatholicmen.org>

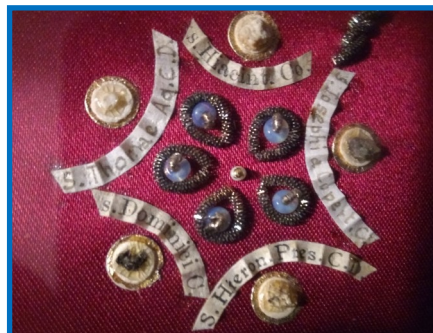
Cost includes conference registration, continental breakfast and lunch.

\$70 at the door on March 28th
\$65 March 16 – March 28th
\$55 Early Registration - March 15

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!!!

Come Pray with the Saints!

The five relics in the top right of the reliquary are all ex. Ossibus – first-class from the bone. These saints are passionate devotees of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Hyacinth is known for the Miracle of Kiev. While under siege, Hyacinth took hold of the ciborium and prepared to run from his church. He passed a statue of Mary and heard, "Hyacinth, my son, why dost thou leave me behind? Take me with thee and leave me not to my enemies." Hyacinth wrapped his arms around the heavy alabaster statue and lifted the life-size figure. He escaped from the church undetected saving the Holy Eucharist and the statue of the Blessed Virgin. Saint Joseph of Cupertino C. sought to honor the Mother of God by the frequent recital of the praises contained in the Litany of Loreto. St. Jerome C.D., Biblical translator, defended the perpetual virginity of Blessed Mary against



Helvidius. St. Dominic C. received the Rosary from her; St. Thomas Aquinas, C.D. little known for his Marian thought, has had his Marian writings gathered in a volume entitled *Meditations*.

Excerpts from the Eulogy for Jane Pigott by Monsignor Eugene Yennock

Jane Pigott was a woman of faith. She was not a ho hum, sometimes catholic. She had a strong, courageous faith. That faith was anchored in her intelligent knowledge of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The beauty of our faith is that it affirms the dignity of human life from the first moment of conception to the last moment of natural death. With all her heart, Jane Pigott believed that human beings are sacred because they come from the hands of the creator.

Jane did not sit on her Catholic faith she did something about it. She founded the Society for the Protection of the Unborn in 1971, which later became the Syracuse Chapter of Right to Life. She was responsible for the annual Syracuse March for Life, which continues to this day. She was instrumental in procuring the monument dedicated to the unborn at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Bridgeport. Jane was involved with the "Our Lady of Knock float", with the CNY Marian Center for the St. Patrick's Day parade and rode on this float for more than 30 years.

God allows people to enter our lives for a little while. For a little while Jane entered our lives so that she might show us how to put our faith into action. May she be in peace.

Pilgrimages by Mary Scarsciotti

Sunday, May 17 Our Lady of Fatima at the National Blue Army Shrine, Asbury NJ

Sunday, June 28 National Shrine of Divine Mercy, Stockbridge MA (Sunday pilgrimages include Mass)

September 14-16 (Mon—Wed) Notre Dame du Cap, St. Anne de Beaupre', St. Joseph's Oratory

Call Mary Scarsciotti for a flier, registration and payment information, 315-437-2360.

Bud O'Brien, Chairman of the Board



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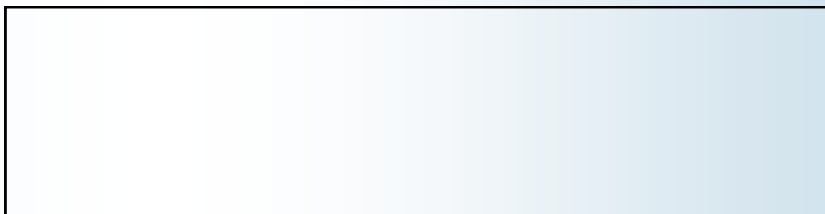
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CNY Marian Center is Pleased to Present

Check inside for a tribute to Jane Pigott, pilgrimages and new info on the Saints reliquary in our Chapel.

First Saturday movies 1:30 and 6:30PM begin April 4, Palm Sunday weekend, with Son of God. *The life story of Jesus is told from his humble birth through his teachings, crucifixion, and ultimate resurrection.* Refreshments served. Bring a snack to pass if you like.

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19, 3PM at Transfiguration Church, Teall Ave. Divine Mercy with Our Lady of Fatima, Mother of Mercy Pilgrim Statue and first-class relics of Sts. Jacinta and Francisco. Check our website or call for details on these events.

The Medical Aspects of the Crucifixion current bookings: Our Lady of Hope, 3/25, 6PM; St. Agatha's Canastota, 4/1, 7PM.

For more information: www.cnymariancenter.com; Call 315-452-4698; Email: 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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