

# Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

**Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages** 

**July 2021** 

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Currently we are blest to be celebrating our 29th year!

# The Monthly Message of Our Blessed Mother from Medjugorje: June 25, 2021

"Dear children! My heart is joyful because through these years I see your love and openness to my call. Today I am calling all of you: pray with me for peace and freedom, because satan is strong and by his deception, wants to lead away all the more hearts from my motherly heart. That is why decide for God so that it may be good for you on the land which God gave you. Thank you for having responded to my call."

# See a rose . . . . Pray a Rosary!

BISHOP LUCIA NOVENA PRAYER FOR AN END TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC <a href="www.syrdio.org">www.syrdio.org</a>:

O Mary, full of grace, Patroness of this nation and Mother of the Church, in this time of illness and worldwide need we seek your intercession for the human family before your Son's throne of grace and mercy. We ask for strength in adversity, health in weakness, and comfort in sorrow. Help us, O Blessed Mother, to be filled with confidence and trust in the tender compassion of our God. Let us not be afraid, like our own Saint Marianne Cope, who entrusted her life and ministry among the outcasts of society into the care of our Divine Physician. Continue to watch over all who are sick as well as those who care for them and give wisdom to all who are seeking a cure. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

#### **HEAVEN CALLS—IS YOUR RINGER ON?**

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

The month of July is dedicated to The Precious Blood of Jesus. The entire month falls within the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green. This 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. It is used in the offices and Masses of Ordinary Time.

### St. Thomas, Apostle July 3, 2021

St. Thomas, the disciple who at first did not believe, has become for the Church one of the first witnesses to her faith. There is very little about the apostle Thomas in the Gospels; one text calls him the "twin." Rarely during Jesus' lifetime does he stand out among his colleagues. There is the instance before the raising of Lazarus, when Jesus was still in Perea and Thomas exclaimed: "Let us also go and die with Him." Bestknown is his expression of unbelief after the Savior's death, giving rise to the phrase "doubting Thomas." Nevertheless, the passage describing the incident, had as today's Gospel, must be numbered among the most

touching in Sacred Scripture.

### St. Maria Goretti July 6, 2021



St. Maria Goretti was born of a poor family in Corinaldi, Italy, in 1890. Near Nettuno she spent a difficult childhood assisting her mother in domestic duties. She was of a pious nature and often at prayer. In 1902 she was stabbed to death, preferring to die rather than be raped. (Office of Readings)

"It is well known how this young girl had to face a bitter struggle with no way to defend herself. Without warning a vicious stranger (actually Alessandro Serenelli who lived with his father in the same house as the Goretti's.) burst upon her, bent on raping her and destroying her childlike purity. In that moment of crisis she could have spoken to her Redeemer in the words of that classic. The Imitation of Christ: "Though tested and plagued by a host of misfortunes, I have no fear so long as your grace is with me. It is my strength, stronger than any adversary; it helps me and gives me guidance." With splendid courage she surrendered herself to God and his grace and so gave her life to protect her virginity.

"So let us all, with God's grace, strive to reach the goal that the example of the virgin martyr, Saint Maria Goretti, sets before us. Through her prayers to the Redeemer may all of us, each in his own way, joyfully try to follow the inspiring example of Maria Goretti who now enjoys eternal happiness in heaven."

Excerpted from a homily at the canonization of Saint Maria Goretti by **Pope Pius XII.** Her mother was present at her canonization in 1950, the first time a parent was present for a child's canonization by **Pope Pius XII.** 



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# Memorial of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin (USA) July 14, 2021



Kateri was born in 1656 near the town of Auriesville, New York. the daughter of a Mohawk warrior. She was baptized by Jesuit missionary Fr. Jacques de Lambertville on Easter of 1676 at the

age of twenty. She devoted her life to prayer, penitential practices, and the care of the sick and aged in Caughnawaga near Montreal (where her relics are now enshrined). She incurred the hostility of her tribe because of her faith. She was devoted to the Eucharist, and to Jesus Crucified, and was called the "Lily of the Mohawks." She died in 1680 and was beatified June 22, 1980 — the first Native American to be declared "Blessed." She was canonized on October 21, 2012.

When she was four, Kateri lost her parents and little brother in a smallpox epidemic. She was adopted by an uncle, he hated the coming of the Blackrobes (missionaries), but could do nothing because a peace treaty with the French. She was moved by the words of three Blackrobes who lodged with her uncle, but fear of him kept her from seeking instruction. She refused to marry a Mohawk man and at nineteen finally got the courage to take the step of converting. She was baptized with the name **Kateri (Catherine)** on Easter Sunday.

She was powerfully moved by God's love for human beings and saw the dignity of each of her people. She was always in danger, for her conversion and holy life created great opposition. On the advice of a priest, she stole away one night and began a two-hundred-mile walking journey to a Christian Native American village at Sault St. Louis, near Montreal.

For three years she grew in holiness under the direction of a priest and an older Iroquois woman, giving herself totally to God in long hours of prayer, in charity and in strenuous penance. At twenty three she took a vow of virginity, an unprecedented act for a Native American woman, whose future depended on being married. She found a place in the

woods where she could pray an hour a day and was accused of meeting a man there! She humbly accepted an "ordinary" life. She practiced extremely severe fasting as penance for the conversion of her nation. She died the afternoon before Holy Thursday. Witnesses said that her emaciated face changed color and became like that of a healthy child. The lines of suffering, even the pockmarks, disappeared and the touch of a smile came upon her lips. She was beatified in 1980. Excerpted from Saint of the Day, Leonard Foley, O.F.M.

# Our Lady of Mount Carmel July 16, 2021

The feast was assigned to July 16 because on that date in 1251, according to Caremelite traditions, the scapular was given by the Blessed Virgin to St. Simon Stock; it was first approved by Sixtus V in 1587. After Cardinal Bellarmine had examined the Carmelite traditions in 1609, it was declared the patronal feast of the order. The Order of Carmelites takes it's name from Mount Carmel in Israel, which was the first place dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and where a chapel was erected in Her honor before Her Assumption into heaven.

Saint Simon Stock entered the Carmelite Order when he was 40 years old. He was sent to **Mt. Carmel** in the Holy Land where he led a life of prayer and penance.

St. Simon Stock had great devotion to Our Blessed Mother. This may help to explain why the Carmelite Order began to prosper



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under his guidance despite considerable opposition. In response to his appeal to Our Blessed Mother for help for his oppressed Order, on July 16, 1251 A.D. Mary appeared to him holding a Brown Scapular in her hand. Mary said to him: "Receive, My beloved son, this habit of thy order: this shall be to thee and to all Carmelites a privilege, that whosoever dies clothe in this shall never suffer eternal fire." This was truly a great gift and a great promise from the Mother of God.

After this apparition, **Friar Stock** went on to establish Carmelite communities near university towns in England, France and Italy. He became the Superior-General of his order several years after the apparition. Until very recently, the brown scapular was one of the most widely used religious symbols of personal dedication to the mission of **Mary** found in her last recorded words in the **Bible** (**John 2:5**).

For over 700 years, the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel has been one of the most precious gifts and highly-indulgenced Sacramental of our church. It is more than that, however; it is in reality a garment, given to us by Our Blessed Mother which makes us her special children. Blessing and clothing with the Scapular of the 'Blessed Virgin of Mt. Carmel' enrolls the individual in the Scapular Confraternity and admits him a share in all the spiritual works performed by the Religious of Mount Carmel.

## Feast of St. Mary Magdalene July 22, 2021

On June 10, 2016, the liturgical celebration honoring St. Mary Magdalene was raised from a memorial to a feast, putting her on par with the Apostles.

"On the one hand, she has the honour of being the 'prima testis' to the resurrection of the Lord, the first to see the empty tomb and the first to hear the truth of His resurrection. Christ has a special consideration and mercy for this woman, who shows her love for Him, looking for Him in the garden with anguish and suffering, with 'lacrimas humilitatis', as St. Anselm says in the aforementioned prayer. In this sense. I would like to show the difference between the two women present in the garden of Paradise, and in the garden of the Resurrection. The first disseminates death where there was life, and the second proclaims Life from a tomb, the place of death. ... Likewise, it is in the garden of resurrection that the Lord says to Mary Magdalene, 'Noli me tangere'. It is an invitation not only to Mary, but also to all the Church, to



enter into an experience of faith that overcomes any materialistic appropriation or human understanding of the divine mystery. It has ecclesial importance! It is a good lesson for every disciple of Jesus: do not seek

human securities and worldly honours, but faith in the Living and Risen Christ."

"Precisely since she was an eyewitness to the Risen Christ, she was also the first to testify before the apostles. She fulfils the mandate the Risen Christ gives her: 'go to my brothers and say to them ... Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her'. In this way she becomes, as is already known, an evangelist, or rather a messenger who announces the good news of the resurrection of the Lord; or, as Rabano Mauro and St. Thomas Aquinas said, 'apostolorum apostola', as she announces to the apostles what they in turn will announce to all the world.

Therefore it is right that the liturgical celebration of this woman should have the same level of festivity given to the apostles in the General Roman Calendar, and that the special mission of this woman be highlighted, as an example and model to every woman in the Church." Archbishop Roche.

The feast of St. Mary Magdalene is considered one of the most mystical of feasts, and it is said that of all the songs of the saints, that of Mary Magdalene is the sweetest and strongest because her love was so great. That love was praised by Jesus Himself who said that because much was forgiven her, she loved much. Where she is buried, no one knows. Legend has her dying in Provence, France, in a cavern where she spent her last days, and her body resting in the chapel of St. Maximin in the Maritime Alps. Another has her buried in Ephesus where she went with St. John after the Resurrection. This latter view is more likely, and St. Willibald, the English pilgrim to the Holy Land in the eighth century, was shown her tomb there.

#### **Father of Christ**

The special vocation of St. Joseph as foster father of Christ is perhaps the pinnacle of his mission in God's service. (Note: Contemporary theologians now say that the proper title for this role of earthly father of Christ should be "adoptive father" for it implies better the responsibilities of St. Joseph.) Over the centuries, this title for St. Joseph has been much debated. For our purposes, we will merely maintain what the great 6th century theologian Origen declared: "The Holy Spirit honored him (St. Joseph) with the title "father" because he supported the Savior." St. Joseph's unique role as foster father of Jesus must be understood and appreciated. For this role is the key to the Old Testament prophecy that the Savior would come from "the root of Jesse" (Isaiah 11:1). No historical equivalent exists for the greatness and distinction afforded St. Joseph through this prophecy."

Theologians also note that if Mary's greatest title is "Mother of God," similarly, we must accept that St. Joseph's most precious title must also come from his relationship to Jesus through Mary. St. Joseph's actions in his traditional roles are evidenced in Scripture, as he is seen moving the family, naming the Child, and providing for His family's earthly needs. But most importantly, behind all these actions must be an understanding of St. Joseph's love for Jesus. This love was a love unlike any other, for St. Joseph, who loved God so much, now understood that he could demonstrate that love in the most direct and visible way.

In his heart, there was engraved such a love for Christ, that theologians say it was not just a human love. But St. Joseph was able to discern that his Son was both human and divine. This, therefore, was his God, the God he loved so much. Likewise, Joseph's heart was then filled with a holy love for Jesus – it was a love engendered by the very Presence of god. And while human fathers have a natural love for their own flesh and blood, St. Joseph's love for Jesus had to be greater because this child was, the angel told him, "begotten of the Holy Spirit." (Mt. 1:20)

With this understanding comes the reality that no other saint was called to the immediate service of the Word made flesh as was St. Joseph. And, no other saint could have received the gifts St. Joseph did in this service. In his arms he held the Christ Child and before He was born he adored Him in Mary's womb. Many theologians have conjectured that God the Father Himself infused into the heart of St. Joseph His own paternal love. This contemplation, however, is one of

great mystery, for from it has come many more comparisons of St. Joseph's role as Christ's earthly father with that of God the Father. While this is perhaps unavoidable, contemporary visionaries cite the need to be cautious, for they say Mary has told them that "God the Father is unto Himself and that no man, (not even St. Joseph), should be directly compared to Him", even if the intention is good and honorable.

Still, St. Joseph's tremendous love for Christ must be seen in its full uniqueness as emanating from his intimate love for the Father and his earthly union with Christ. No saint can compare in such a manner of grace, and, therefore, it is perfectly acceptable to presume that indeed, aside from Himself, the Eternal Father willed that His Son be loved by St. Joseph in a manner without rival.

Therefore, we can safely say that St. Joseph's burning love for Jesus, as inspired and provided for by the Eternal Father, came from a heart no mere mortal could acquire, for none could be worthy. St. Joseph loved the Lord as God willed he should love Him, and it is incomprehensible to ponder to what degree this love must have been. Indeed, an ocean of graces must have been bestowed on this great Saint for this mission of love, and perhaps some day the heart of St. Joseph and its love for the Messiah will be the subject of countless works.

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### TelePrayer

Join the CNY Marian Center and the Catholic Shop for prayer.

**Dial 516-597-9459**, announce yourself and mute your phone by pressing the mute button or \*6.

Monday through Friday 3:00PM - Divine Mercy Chaplet

Monday 9:45AM - Divine Mercy Cenacle Monday 7:30PM - Intercessory Rosary Tuesday 4:00PM - The Chaplet and Prayers to St. Michael

Wednesday 4:00PM - Seven Sorrows and Joys of St. Joseph (Year of St. Joseph) Friday 4:00PM - The Seven Sorrows Rosary of Our Lady

Saturday 10:10AM - Pray the Rosary

Bud O' Brien, Chairman of the Board



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

Inside: Father of Christ from the article: The Virtues of St. Joseph.

July is the month we honor the Precious Blood of Jesus

Precious Blood Chaplets are available at the Marian Center. Stop in or call us. Honor the Precious Blood of Jesus daily by praying the Fatima Morning Offering. "O my God, in union with the Immaculate Heart of Mary (kiss your Brown Scapular), I offer Thee the Most Precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, joining it with my every thought, word and action of this day. O my Jesus, I desire today to gain every indulgence and merit I can, and I offer them, together with myself, to Mary immaculate, that she may best apply them to the interests of Thy Most Sacred Heart. Precious Blood of Jesus, save us! Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us! Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us! Amen.

We ask for your prayers for the Marian Center: Holy Mary, "chosen to be the Mother of God and your mother";\* Jesus gave you to us at the Cross. We pray for your intercession that the mission given by God to the Central New York Marian Center will be fulfilled. May we, your children, give our Fiat for His Will to be done. Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us. Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. Queen of Peace, Queen of Divine Mercy,\*\* pray for us. Amen. \*spoken by Our Lady in her February 2, 2020 message \*\*From 12/31/19 homily of Archbishop Luigi Pezzuti.

For more information: www.cnymariancenter.com; Call 315-452-4698; Email: mariancenter.cny@gmail.com
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Important Notice to Our Readers