



Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages

January 2022

5180 West Taft Rd, North Syracuse NY 13212

Hours: Mon. — Fri 9am– 5pm

Phone (315) 452– 4698

cnymariancenter@gmail.com

Website: cnymariancenter.com

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

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

“Dear children! Today I am carrying my Son Jesus to you, for Him to give you His peace. Little children, without peace you do not have a future or blessing; therefore return to prayer, because the fruit of prayer is joy and faith, without which you cannot live. Today’s blessing which we give you, carry to your families and enrich all those whom you meet, that they may feel the grace which you are receiving. 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 www.syrdio.org:

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.

Do our hearts ring out with joy in proclaiming the **Holy Mother of God**, Her highest title in the Catholic Church and our very own Heavenly Mother?

The month of January is dedicated to the **Holy Name of Jesus**, which is celebrated on January 3. The first ten days of January fall during the liturgical season known as **Christmas** which is represented by the liturgical color white — the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored). The remaining days of January are the beginning 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.

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1, 2022

New Year’s Day, the octave day of Christmas, the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God**, the divine and virginal motherhood of the **Blessed**



Virgin.

Mother of God is Mary’s highest title and the source of all her other titles and roles in the Church. From all eternity, **God** chose the Virgin of Nazareth to be the Mother of His Son. With her

“fiat” at the Annunciation, she became the **Theotokos, the Mother of God** (CCC no. 495). At Calvary, **God**, in the person of **Christ**, gave His Mother to all mankind as our spiritual Mother, so that through Her, we might come to Him, as through Her He came to us.

In A.D. 431, the third general council of the Church at Ephesus (the Council of Ephesus) defined as Catholic dogma that the **Blessed Virgin is the Mother of God (Theotokos)**; the Council also reasserted the teaching of the truth that there is but one divine person in **Christ**. This feast is a holy day of obligation.

The solemnity of the **Mother of God**, which now coincides with the octave-day of Christmas and the beginning of the New Year, was probably assigned this day because of the influence of the Byzantine Church, which celebrates the synopsis of the most holy Theotokos on December 26. The Coptic Church celebrates this feast on January 16. Even before **Pope Sergius** introduced four Marian feasts in the seventh century (**the Birth of Mary, the Annunciation, the Purification and the Assumption**), the octave day of Christmas was celebrated in Rome in honor of the **Maternity of**

Mary.

As we look at the nativity scene we see hope and promise immersed in the figures surrounding the manger, pulling us closer to the child. We see our Heavenly Mother that with her "yes" to being the Mother of Our Savior. Because of Her "yes," Bethlehem was the small village where Jesus, in whom the hope of God and the hope of man meet, is born. We see St. Joseph, through the message of our Angel, saying "yes" to taking the Mother of our Savior for his wife and becoming the Holy Family.

Now we look back at the shepherds who represent the humble and poor people awaiting the salvation of the Messiah. They also answered "yes" to the choirs of angels, telling them to go to the manger to adore the "Newborn King."

How many of us really say "yes" to Our Lord and our Lady and the will of the Father in His Divine Plan for each of us? Before we close our eyes at night, let us offer up Our Heavenly Mother's response to the angel. "Be it done unto me, according to thy Word." When we arise to a new day in our life, let us pray the prayer of the Angel of Peace given to the children of Fatima.

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You!

Baptism of the Lord

January 9, 2022

Today we celebrate the baptism of Christ in the Jordan. This is the second epiphany, or manifestation, of the Lord. The past, the present, and the future are made manifest in this epiphany.

The most holy one placed Himself among us, the unclean and sinners. The Son of God freely humbled Himself at the hand of the Baptist. By His baptism in the Jordan, Christ manifests His humility and dedicates Himself to the redemption of man. He takes upon Himself the sins of the whole world and buries them in the waters of the Jordan. — The Light of the World by Benedict Baur, O.S.B.

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church

recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes.

In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Many of the Fathers of the Church, as well as the medieval Scholastics, saw Christ's Baptism as the institution of the sacrament. His Flesh blessed the water, and the descent of the Holy Spirit (in the form of a dove) and the voice of God the Father announcing that this was His Son, in Whom He was well pleased, marked the beginning of Christ's public ministry.

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the beginning of what is called the "public" ministry of Jesus. He was thirty years old. He died His redemptive death at Golgotha when He was only thirty three.

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's bap-



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tism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

As we remember Bud....

We often never know who a person is or how they affect other people until after their death when people share about them and their good works. Following Bud's death we heard from many people about him and how he affected them.

"Bud was a kind man and always very helpful. 🙏

He will be missed by many!! Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May Bud rest in peace. Amen. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen."

"Bless his faithful soul."

"Always believed he was a saint. Rest In Peace, Bud."

"May this very special man rest in peace."

"I do not remember when I first met Bud. He was just there to help me, like an angel. I taught 4th grade CCD back in the 1990's and I wanted to give the children something to hold on to as their faith grew and their prayers deepened with meditation on the life of Jesus. I could not afford much at all, but Bud said 'Come to the Marian Center! We have just what you need.' He gave me tons of perfect prayer cards for children (Guardian Angel, the Holy Family, the 10 Commandments); and beautiful, colorful rosaries for each child to choose their favorite, and take extras to share with all of their brothers and sisters. It was like Christmas every month thanks to Bud. God bless you Bud!"

"A note from someone who appreciated Bud's work on the newsletter. 'Thank you for the wonderful and beautifully printed newsletter. I look forward to receiving it in the mail. God bless your good ministry.'"

For several months, Bud kept telling us at the Marian Center that we needed to bring Our Lady of Guadalupe Image to Syracuse. "Our Lady was calling and wanted to come." Bud passed away on the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. December 12th is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Because the 12th was a Sunday this year, the liturgical celebrations took place on December 11th, the day of Bud's Funeral Mass. Our Lady of Guadalupe did call and come to Bud. How he must have been in awe of her beauty and grace! Rest in peace Bud.

"Heaven is Calling Is Your Ringer On?"

Maurice "Bud" O'Brien A Tribute to an Exceptional Representative of Heaven



In the more than 10 years that I had the privilege of knowing Bud O'Brien, I became his friend and sometimes his confidant. Also, the more chances I had to be with Bud, I learned that he was such a deeply spiritual person that he did not require many friends or confidants. His constant companions were his Guardian Angel and the Blessed Mother. Every once in a while, he let a special few of us glimpse his soul. He had two favorite sayings. First, "May Ye Be in Heaven an Hour Before the Devil Knows You are Dead." The second was the above slogan which Bud lived his life by. He imparted this slogan to all who read the Marian Center newsletter and the hundreds of people he counseled at any time of the day. "Just dial 'O' for O'Brien." On the night of December 7th, his ringer was on for the ultimate call to Heaven. His passing has left a hole in my life and I am sure the same for all those who knew him well throughout Central New York and the United States.

Meeting Bud for the first time was a unique experience for me. When the Blessed Mother had honored me in 1990 with the request to create the Marian Center, I had first spoken to Monsignor Yennock. One of the things I clearly remember in that conversation was that if I started the Center that it had to be a lifetime commitment. Also, that I would meet and must love a variety of challenging and wonderful people who were all trying to be on the same spiritual journey. Wonderful insight and advice from a Priest who is now 95 years old and serving Our Lord for over 70 years. As a Physician, I was already used to the challenging people and loved them all the best I could. So I was spiritually ready for them. It has been the meeting and befriending of the wonderful people like Bud that continues to always overwhelm me.

Two of the many wonderful people of these years of the Marian Center to stand out on a National stage were Bud and Richard Bingold. Since all of us are really all wrapped in the Mantle of Our Blessed Mother the connection of Richard with Bud came as no surprise to me. However, it was ultimately a surprise to the two of them. The first time I met Richard he was referred to me by other Marian Center friends. He presented as a former detective with a near death experience who had become an insurance salesman. He had a briefcase that night and in it was a Rosary he had made from the stones of Medjugorje. He asked me what I thought and told me his life story. The rest is history. Richard and I became spiritually very close.

About 10 years later I met Bud. Again, it was through one of our volunteers at the Marian Center. I was told that a man came looking for our statue of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows and wanted to take it home. I met with Bud later that week. He had this gentle and engaging smile and this sense of inner peace that caught my attention right away. In the sorrows of his life that included Marine Corps warfare, construction injuries and the loss of his beloved wife to cancer he had developed a deep devotion to Our Lady of Seven Sorrows. Our Blessed Mother revealed to Bud that we had a statue for him to take. The statue had been donated years before by Richard Bingold. Once again in my life in the Marian Center I became Spiritually connected and close to a wonderful person. Given his deep spirituality it was not long before Bud was invited to be a mem-

ber of the Marian Center Board. Also, in a short time he became the Chairman of the Board and took his role for the Center very seriously.

Bud's background as a Marine and as a construction project manager created a rocky start to his tenure. He had this fascinating combination of conviction in his opinions, his extensive font of knowledge that he had about anything Christian and an ability to talk anyone's ear off until they lost track of the essence of what he was trying to tell them. So, our previously congenial Board meetings sometimes became quite interesting. In the process the Board evolved into a more dynamic and focused group following Bud's energetic leadership. We were going to Marian Center boot camp. Behind the scenes Bud and I were having intense private discussions regarding leading volunteers who were highly spiritual in their own right. My theme always has been that if we plan on loving and being considerate of one another in Heaven, then we should do that in the here and now. Over the years Bud became a wonderful, humble, insightful and kind leader of the Marian Center. His constant daily connection with Our Blessed Mother brought us many inspirations and the Board meetings became full of goals and thoughts that would hit one of us and an idea would take off with mutual contributions from everyone there.

In the Community at large Bud accomplished a lot in the Spiritual realm and in his work for Veterans. Knowing him as closely as I did, I knew that he could just have been a loner who was wrapped up in the Glory of God. Instead, he knew he was being called to a higher level of performance and he always rose to that call. He assisted numerous parishes, Diocesan programs, Men's and Women's Conferences, National Shrines, Retreat Houses and Programs. He never said no to anyone who needed him for their personal trials or to any religious group that called him for his leadership and organizational skills. He was a constant example of selfless love, sacrifice, and leadership.

We will all deeply miss him. I am sure that Bud is completely enjoying his reward in Heaven. If he had the chance to give us parting advice, I think he would have told us

"...KEEP YOUR RINGER ON."

Dr. Patsy Iannolo



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5180 West Taft Road

North Syracuse, NY 13212

Phone: (315)452-4698

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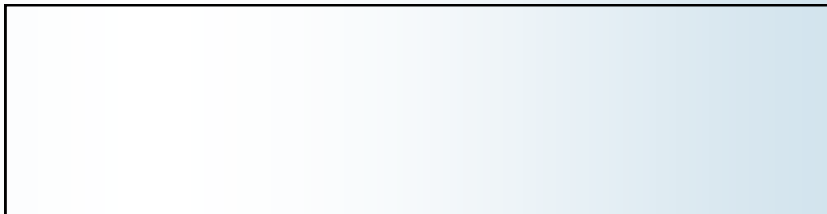
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CNY Marian Center is Pleased to Present

We enter this New Year with the sad news that our Chairman of the Board, Maurice (Bud) O'Brien, passed away December 7th. Bud wrote and oversaw the production of the newsletter for over ten years. He introduced the Marian Center to many through his hand delivery of the newsletter. A tribute to Bud is included in this month's newsletter.

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: cnymariancenter@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**

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