

# Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages

May 2022

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

## The Monthly Message of Our Blessed Mother from Medjugorje: March 25, 2022

“Dear children! I am listening to your cry and prayers for peace. For years, satan has been fighting for war. That is why God sent me among you to guide you on the way of holiness, because mankind is at a crossroad. I am calling you to return to God and to God’s Commandments that it may be good for you on earth, and that you may come out of this crisis into which you have entered because you are not listening to God Who loves you and desires to save you and lead you to a new life. 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](http://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.

in our adversities.

1:43ff).

As we look forward to Our Lady’s month of May, do our hearts ring with joy, as we celebrate a number of important feast days in the Catholic Church?

The month of May is the “month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to **Our “Blessed Lady,”** and it is the occasion for a “moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the **Queen of Heaven.** During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of **God’s** mercy come down to us from Her throne in greater abundance” (Paul VI: **Encyclical on the Month of May, no. 1).**

#### Feast Day of Sts. Philip and James, Apostles May 3, 2022

Today’s Mass tells us that the example of the Apostles is the most certain and direct path to heaven. They suffered and were persecuted, but they placed their confidence in God and now they rejoice in heaven. We too must have confidence in God and not be troubled



#### St. Philip

The Apostle Philip was one of Christ’s first disciples, called soon after his Master’s baptism in the Jordan. The fourth Gospel gives the following detail: “The next day Jesus was about to leave for Galilee, and He found Philip. And Jesus said to him: Follow Me. Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the town of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him: We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law and the Prophets wrote, Jesus the Son of Joseph of Nazareth. And Nathanael said to him: Can anything good come out of Nazareth? Philip said to him: Come and see” (John

#### St. James the Less

St. James the Less, a brother of the Apostle Jude, was of Cana of Galilee. He is the author of one of the Catholic Epistles in the New Testament. He was favored by an appearance of the Risen Christ (I Cor. 15:7). After the dispersion of the Apostles he was made Bishop of Jerusalem. He was visited by St. Paul (Gal. 1:19). He spoke after Peter at the meeting of the Apostles (Acts 15:13). When he refused to deny the Divinity of Christ, the Jews cast him down from the terrace of the temple and clubbed him to death. The Breviary contains a very moving description of his death. “When he was ninety-six years old and had governed the Church for thirty years in a most holy manner, the Jews sought to stone him, then took him to the pinnacle of the temple and cast him off headlong. As he lay there half dead, with legs broken by the fall, he lifted his hands toward heaven and prayed to God for the salvation of his enemies, saying: Lord, forgive them for they know not what they do! While the apostle was still praying, a fuller struck his head a mortal blow.” His relics now rest next to those of St. Philip in the church of the Holy Apostles in Rome, and their names are mentioned in the first list in the Canon of the Mass.

#### The Feast of Our Lady of Fatima May 13, 2022

Between May and October 1917, **Our Lady** appeared six times to three young Portu-

gueuse children in a field called the Cova de Iria, near the small village of Fatima, about seventy miles north of Lisbon. They were Lucia dos Santos, age ten, and her two younger cousins Francisco and Jacinta. They tended sheep together and often would kneel in the open field to pray the Rosary.

In the spring, prior to the apparitions, an angel appeared to the children to prepare them for the coming of **Our Lady**. "**Fear not! I am the Angel of Peace. Pray with me!**" The angel knelt on the ground and bowed very low. The children imitated the angel and repeated his words three times: "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You. I beg pardon for all those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope, and do not love You." Then he rose and said: "Pray this way. The Hearts of Jesus and Mary are attentive to the voice of your supplications."

The first apparition took place around noon on Sunday, May 13, 1917 when a brilliant flash of lightning drew the attention of the children. A beautiful Lady appeared clothed in white and asked the children to return the thirteenth of each month. In these apparitions, **Mary** asked the children to pray the Rosary daily for the conversion of sinners and asked for devotion to her **Immaculate Heart**. She asked for prayer, penance, the consecration of Russia to her **Immaculate Heart** and the Communions of Reparation on **First Saturday**. On December 10, 1925, **Mary** returned to Lucia and shared the elements of practicing the devotion. On five consecutive **First Saturdays** pray five decades of the Rosary, keep **Mary** company for fifteen minutes meditating on another set of mysteries, go to confession and receive Holy Communion to make reparation to the Hearts of Jesus and **Mary**.



During the apparitions, **Our Lady** gave the children "Three Secrets". On the day of the final apparition, October 13, 1917, she identified herself as "**Our Lady of the Rosary**" and the dramatic episode of the dance of the sun took place, witnessed by a crowd of seventy-thousand people, in which the sun seemed to tumble from the sky. After a lengthy diocesan inquiry, a declaration from the Bishop of Leiria, in whose diocese these apparitions occurred, approved the devotion to **Our Lady of Fatima** in 1930. The young visionary Francisco died on April 4, 1919 and his sister Jacinta on February 20, 1920. The sole survivor, Sister Lucia, lived many years as a professed Carmelite nun, before her death on February 13, 2005.

### The Ascension of the Lord May 16, 2022

**The Ascension of the Lord**, 40th day of Easter, commemorates Christ's Ascension into Heaven from Mount Olive 40 days after He rose from the dead (**Mark 16:14-20**). After the Gospel, the Paschal Candle lit from the New Fire of the Easter Vigil, is extinguished to symbolize the departure of **Christ**.

The story of **Our Lord's Ascension** and His foretelling of the Pentecost to come is recounted most fully by **Luke in Acts 1:1-11**. He ascended to be glorified with the Father, to sit at the Father's right hand, to rule as **King of Kings**, to send us the Holy Spirit and prepare a place for us (**John 14: 1-3**)

**Christ** made His last appearance on earth, forty days after His Resurrection from the dead. As the disciples watched, **Jesus** lifted up His hands, blessed them, and then was taken up out of their sight (**Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9**). Two angels appeared to them and asked them why they were gazing into heaven. Then one of the angels said, "This same **Jesus**, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as you have seen Him going into heaven" (**Acts 1:11**).

Christ's Ascension is the pledge of our own. Filled with an immense hope, the Church looks up towards her leader, who precedes her into the heavenly home and takes her with Him in His own person: "**for the Son of God, after incorporating in Himself those whom the devil's jealousy had banished from the earthly paradise, ascends again to His Father and takes them with Him**" (St. Leo).

Look up to heaven today. See Christ ascending to His Father and our Father. Say : Thank you, God, for creating me, and for giving me, through the Incarnation of your beloved Son, the possibility and the assurance that if I do my part here, when death comes it will not be an enemy but a friend, to speed me on my way to the true life which you have, in your love, planned and prepared for me.



### Pentecost Sunday May 23, 2022

The term **Pentecost** comes from the Greek and refers to the festival celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover, also known as the "**Feast of Weeks**."

The earliest possible date is 10 May (as in 1818 and 2285). The latest possible date is 13 June (as in 1943 and 2038). The day of **Pentecost** is seven weeks after Easter Sunday: that is to say, the fiftieth day after Easter inclusive of Easter Sunday. **Pentecost** may also refer to the 50 days from Easter to **Pentecost Sunday** inclusive of both, because Easter itself has no fixed date, this makes Pentecost a moveable feast.

In Christian tradition, **Pentecost** is an important event that marks the shifting of God's redemptive purpose from the "**descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob**" to all peoples. It does signify an important event in the history of the early Church that enabled the rapid spread of Christianity. Within a few decades important congregations had been established in all major cities of the Roman Empire.

The biblical narrative of **Pentecost** is given in the second chapter of the Book of Acts. Peter's sermon in **Acts 2:14-36** stresses the resurrection and exaltation. In his sermon he quotes **Joel 2:28-32** and **Psalms 16** to indicate that first Pentecost marks the start of the Messianic Age. About one hundred and twenty followers of Christ (**Acts 1:15**) were present, including the Twelve Apostles (**Matthias was Judas' replacement**) (**Acts 1:13, 26**), Jesus' mother **Mary**, other female disciples and his brothers (**Acts 1:14**).

Traditional interpretation holds that the Descent of the **Holy Spirit** took place in the Up-





per Room, or Cenacle, while celebrating the day of **Pentecost**. The Upper Room was mentioned in **Luke 22:11-12** where Jesus says: ...say to the owner of the house 'The Teacher asks you, **"Where is the guest room, where may I eat the Passover with my disciples?"** He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there.

## The Visitation of The Blessed Virgin Mary May 31, 2022

The **Feast of The Visitation** recalls to us the following great truths and events: The visit of the **Blessed Virgin Mary** to her cousin **Elizabeth** shortly after the **Annunciation**; the cleansing of **John the Baptist** from original sin in the womb of his mother at the words of Our Lady's greeting; Elizabeth's proclaiming of **Mary, Mary's** singing of the sublime hymn, **Magnificat ("my soul doth magnify the Lord")** which has become a part of the daily official prayer of the Church. **The Visitation** is frequently depicted



in art, and was the central mystery of **St. Francis de Sales'** devotions.

The Mass of today salutes her who in her womb bore the King of heaven and earth, the Creator of the world, Son of the Eternal Father, the Son of Justice. It narrates the cleansing of John from original sin in his mother's womb. Hearing herself addressed by the most lofty title of **"Mother of the Lord"** and realizing what grace her visit had conferred on John, **Mary** broke out in that sublime canticle of praise proclaiming prophetically that henceforth she would be venerated down through the centuries: **"My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. Because He that is mighty, hath done great things to me, and holy is His name"** (Lk. 1:46).

## Do We Choose the Better Part?

We're all familiar with the story of Martha and Mary. Jesus told Martha that Mary chose the better part, to sit at the feet of Jesus and listen. (Luke 10:38—42) Sr. Lucia dos Santos of Fatima knew how to do that well. She listened to Jesus' and Mary's requests for Five First Saturdays Devotion and the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and gave that information to the world. How does this involve us today?

On July 13, 1917, Our Lady of Fatima told the three shepherd children, Francisco and Jacinta Marto and Lucia dos Santos that she would return to ask for the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart and the Communion of Reparations on First Saturdays. She spoke to them of war, famine and persecutions of the Church and the Holy Father which would occur if people did not stop offending God.

On December 10, 1925, Our Lady and the child Jesus appeared to the surviving visionary, Sr. Lucia, in the Dorothean Convent at Pontevedra, Spain and defined the First Saturdays Devotion. *"I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess; receive Holy Communion; recite five decades of the Rosary; and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."*

The Child Jesus appeared on February 15, 1926, to Sr. Lucia, encouraging spread of the devotion. The Child answering Lucia's questions, explained that if Communion is received in a state of grace and with the intention of reparation to the Immaculate Heart, the Confession can be made later. "They can do so at their next Confession, taking advantage of the first opportunity to go to Confession."

On May 29-30, 1930, through locution, Our Lord identified the five categories of offenses

against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, that are prompting the Five First Saturdays Devotion.

1. Offenses or blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception through ridicule or denial.
2. Against the perpetual virginity of Mary – that she had relations with Joseph and had other children.
3. Against her Divine Maternity, denying she is the Mother of God and our Mother.
4. Implanting into children's hearts indifference, contempt, and hate against our Mother.
5. Insulting her sacred images through indifference, ridicule, and damage to them.

These five categories are the reason for Five First Saturdays, however, we are not asked to make just five and done. For our fulfillment of this Devotion, we should continue to make one set of five after another. This is a lifetime process of Devotion.

The other part of the request was the Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We know that on March 25, 2022, the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord, Pope Francis with the Bishops and in many Dioceses of the world, priests, made the Consecration of Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for peace in the world and the war in Ukraine to end. In 1984, the Consecration was made by Saint John Paul II and accepted by heaven according to Sr. Lucia. But the time between Our Lady's original request, June 13, 1929 and Saint John Paul's Consecration had allowed the errors of Russia to influence the world.

So what can you do to make the Five First Saturdays? Receive Communion at a Saturday morning Mass or Communion Service. You can also receive Communion for the intention of Reparation at the Saturday Vigil Mass if unable to do so earlier. Make a Confession as soon as possible if not that Saturday. Pray one set of Mysteries of the Rosary (Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful or Glorious) and keep Our Lady company for 15 minutes meditating on the Mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to her. For those unable to perform the Devotion in person, the Marians of the Immaculate Conception offer the elements of the Devotion via their Facebook and YouTube channels.

**Can we choose the better part?** This Devotion can change hearts, minds and souls, and wars... and offer reparation to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart. Let's listen and pray the Five First Saturdays that Our Lady and the Child Jesus asked of us. See World Apostolate of Fatima for more info: [www.wafusa.org](http://www.wafusa.org), [www.bluearmy.com](http://www.bluearmy.com)).



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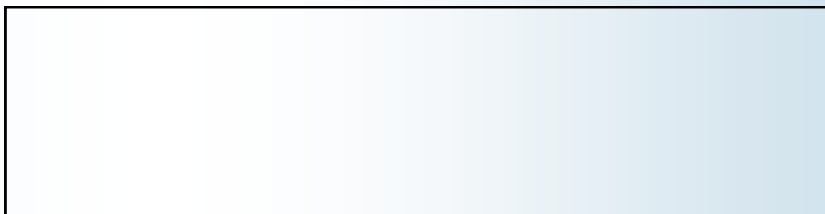
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## **CNY Marian Center is Pleased to Present**

*May is the month of Mary and brings us May Crownings, First Communions and beautiful bouquets of flowers offered to Our Lady. It is also a good time to learn about and begin First Saturdays Devotion. Inside this month you'll read about this month's feasts and why Our Lady requested of us, Five First Saturdays and how we can accomplish this life saving, event changing, soul saving devotion. In conjunction with the Devotion, you can find Pope Francis' Consecration of Ukraine and Russia on our website's welcome page.*

In respect to Bishop Lucia's request for parishes to pray the Rosary before or after Masses during Lent, the Marian Center makes rosaries and will give them to parishes, prayer groups and individuals. Please contact us if you have any need for rosaries and/or pamphlets. 315-452-4698 or [cnymariancenter@gmail.com](mailto:cnymariancenter@gmail.com).

And if you would like to join us in prayer over our TelePrayer line, just dial 516-597-9459. Our schedule of prayer calls is: 3:00 M-F Divine Mercy Chaplet; 4:00 Tues. St. Michaels Chaplet and Prayers; 4:00 Wed. Seven Sorrows and Joys of St. Joseph; 4:00 Fri. Seven Sorrows Rosary of Our Lady; 10:10 Sat. Weekly Rosary

**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](http://www.cnymariancenter.com); Call 315-452-4698; Email: [cnymariancenter@gmail.com](mailto:cnymariancenter@gmail.com)**

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### **Important Notice to Our Readers**

#### **Priests and parishes are invited to join the Diocese of Syracuse in a solemn Novena of Prayer for Vocations**

The Novena begins Friday, May 27th, concluding on Saturday, June 4th at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse with a Holy Hour for Vocations at 10:00AM, led by Bishop Lucia.

All parishes are welcome to participate in the days leading up to the closing Holy Hour in their parishes with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and hourly Rosary for Vocations for as many hours as they are able to perform. Numerous parishes can participate on the same days and times.

The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will also be available to participating parishes for prayer and veneration during their selected times (based on sign-up). The Image will be present at the CNY Marian Center upon its arrival May 25-26.

Please contact Dr. Patsy Iannolo, 315-458-4622, with questions or to provide a contact name and number to participate. Further schedule details regarding locations and livestream will be posted on the CNY Marian website and Facebook. Rosaries and other materials will be provided.

**May 2022 ed.**