



# Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages

July 2023

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Currently we are blest to be celebrating our 30th year!

## The Monthly Message of Our Blessed Mother from Medjugorje: May 25, 2023

**“Dear children! I am calling you to go into nature and to pray for the Most High to speak to your heart and that you may feel the power of the Holy Spirit so as to witness the love which God has for every creature. I am with you and intercede for 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 [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.

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, 2023

**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." Best-known 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, 2023

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**.

## Memorial of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin (USA) July 14, 2023

**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, 2023

The feast was assigned to July 16 because on that date in 1251, according to Carmelite 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 its 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 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**.



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ter 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-indulged 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, 2023

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.

## Feast of St. James, Apostle July 25, 2023

In Spain, he is called *El Senor Santiago*, the patron saint of horsemen and soldiers, and his great shrine at Santiago de Compostela in that country has been a place of pilgrimage for centuries. He is one of those that Jesus called *Boanerges*, "son of thunder," the brother of John the Evangelist and the son of Zebedee the fisherman from Galilee.

St. James the Greater and his brother John were apparently partners with those other two brothers, Peter and Andrew, and lived in Bethsaida, on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee. How and where James first met Jesus, we do not know; but there is an old legend that makes Salome, his mother, a sister of Mary, and if this were the case, he would have known Jesus from childhood.

Along with Peter and his brother John, James was part of the inner circle of Jesus, who witnessed the Transfiguration, were witnesses to certain of His miracles, like the raising of the daughter of Jairus, and accompanied

Him to the Garden of Gethsemani. Like his brother, he was active in the work of evangelization after the death of Jesus, and one legend, very unlikely, even has him going to Spain after Jesus' resurrection.

His prominence and his presence in Jerusalem must have been well known, for scarcely a dozen years after the Resurrection, he became involved in the political maneuverings of the day and was arrested and executed by King Herod Agrippa. This was followed by the arrest of Peter also, so his death must have been part of a purge of Christian leaders by Agrippa, who saw the new Christian movement as a threat to Judaism.

Jesus had foretold this kind of fate when He prophesied that James and his brother John would "drink of the same chalice" of suffering as Himself. The two brothers had asked to be seated at the right of Jesus and at His left in His kingdom, and Jesus told them that they would be with Him in a far different way than they expected.

James's death is the only biblical record we have of the death of one of the Apostles, and he was the first of that chosen band to give his life for his Master.

## St. Joachim and St. Anne Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary July 26, 2023

It was in the home of **Joachim and Ann** where the **Virgin Mary** received her training to be the **Mother of God**. Thus, devotion to Ann and Joachim is an extension of the affection Christians have always professed toward our **Blessed Mother**. We, too, owe a debt of gratitude to our parents for their help in our Christian formation.

According to the 1962 Missal of **St. John XXIII** the Extraordinary Form of the **Roman Rite**, today is the feast of **St. Ann; St. Joachim's** feast in this rite is celebrated on August 16.

Who does not know about the great shrine of **Ste. Anne de Beaupre** in Canada, where miracles abound, where cured cripples leave their crutches, and where people come from thousands of miles to pray to the grandmother of **Jesus**? Our information about **Mary's** parents comes from an apocryphal Christian writing, the **Protoevangelium Jacobi (or Gospel of James)**, written about the year 170. According to this story, Joachim was a prominent and respected man who had no children, and he and his wife, Anne, looked upon this as a punishment from God. In answer to their prayers, **Mary** was born and was dedicated to **God** at a very early age.

**St. Anne** has two great shrines, that of **Ste. Anne d'Auray in Brittany, France**, and that of **Ste. Anne de Beaupre near Quebec in Cana-**



**da.** We know little else about the lives of **Mary's** parents, but considering the person of **Mary**, they must have been two very remarkable people to have been given such a daughter and to have played so important a part in the work of the Redemption.

There is a church of **St. Anne in Jerusalem** and it is believed to be built on the site of the home of **SS. Joachim and Anne**, when they lived in Jerusalem.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Upcoming Events:** Spiritual Warfare presentation, Gospel Music fundraiser with Eileen Rose, Mary in Sacred Art video from Kristen Popov, Pilgrimage experiences for Lourdes and Rome, Czechoslovakia, and Pietrelcina, If you can't come to us, invite us to come to you. We love to pray the rosary, bring rosaries, teach and make rosaries, share First Class Relics and the Pilgrim Rosary of Our Lady of Medjugorje with prayer groups and parishes. Watch our website and weekly MailChimps for event dates and times.

**Here are updated pictures of the new stone Rosary in our Garden Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.** Thank you to Bette Allman, her family, friends and our volunteers for this labor of love. Let us know if you can help with watering, gardening or maintenance on the physical area surrounding the garden.





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

**Can you help us clean up our mailing list? Check your label and if there is misspelling or incorrect addressing, contact us with the corrections so we can utilize better mailing features from the USPS. Or let us know if you would like to change from postal mailing to the emailed newsletter.**

**We continue to make and provide rosaries to parishes, hospitals, nursing homes, small groups and individuals. Please keep our ministry in prayer.**

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