



# Central New York Marian Center, Inc.

Promoting The Gospel Through The Marian Messages

May 2023

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

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

“Dear children!

May this time be a time of prayer for you.”



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.

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).

**St. Joseph The Worker  
May 1, 2023**

To foster deep devotion to Saint Joseph among Catholics, and in response to the “May Day” celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists, Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker in 1955. This feast extends the long rela-



tionship between Joseph and the cause of workers in both Catholic faith and devotion. Beginning in the Book of Genesis, the dignity of human work has long been celebrated as a participation in the creative work of God. By work, human kind both fulfills the command found in Genesis to care for the earth

(Gn 2:15) and to be productive in their labors. Saint Joseph, the carpenter and foster father of Jesus, is but one example of the holiness of human labor.

In his encyclical *Laborem Exercens*, Pope John Paul II stated: “the Church considers it her task always to call attention to the dignity and rights of those who work, to condemn situations in which that dignity and those rights are violated, and to help to guide [social] changes so as to ensure authentic progress by man and society.”

Saint Joseph is held up as a model of such work. Pius XII emphasized this when he said, “The spirit flows to you and to all men from the heart of the God-man, Savior of the world, but certainly, no worker was ever more completely and profoundly penetrated by it than the foster father of Jesus, who lived with Him in closest intimacy and community of family life and work.”

**Feast Day of Sts. Philip and James,  
Apostles  
May 3, 2023**

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 in our adversities.

#### 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 1:43ff).

#### 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, 2023

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



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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 18, 2023

**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 Kings 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**).

At the end of His earthly life Jesus ascends triumphantly into heaven. The Church acclaim Him in His holy humanity, invited to sit on the Father's right hand and to share His glory. But 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, supernatural life which you have, in your love, planned and prepared for me.

## Pentecost Sunday May 28, 2023

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 **Psalm 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 Upper 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 feast itself lasts three days. The first day is known as **"Trinity Sunday"**; the second day is known as **"Spirit Monday"** (or "Monday of the Holy Spirit"); and the third day, Tuesday, is called the **"Third Day of the Trinity."** The Afterfeast of **Pentecost** lasts for one week, during which fasting is not permitted, even on Wednesday and Friday. In the Orthodox Tradition, the liturgical color used at **Pentecost** is **green**, and the clergy and faithful carry flowers and green branches in their hands during the services.

## The Visitation of The Blessed Virgin Mary May 31, 2023

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).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Alice and Nelson Kirkpatrick started our Rosary Making Ministry a number of years ago.** Why is this such an important ministry to the CNY Marian Center? It helps us bring the stories in the lives of Jesus and Mary to everyone, children through adults.

The Four Mysteries of the Rosary focus on different areas and are prayed on particular days of the week. The Joyful Mysteries (Monday & Saturday) tell us about the conception, birth and childhood of Jesus. The Luminous (Thursday), added by St. Pope John Paul II, pray about the ministry years of Jesus. The Sorrowful Mysteries (Tuesday and Friday) lead us through His passion and death. In the Glorious Mysteries (Sunday and Wednesday), we pray about the Resurrection of Jesus and Glories of Jesus and Mary.

Our Rosary Makers work with children in Catholic School and Faith Formation classes, adults in parish and prayer groups, and nursing home residents. Come and join us on Fridays 10AM-Noon (except First Friday) to learn to make rosaries. We supply the materials if you are experienced but would like to work at home. *Please contact us if you need rosaries or would like to make them through the Alice and Nelson Kirkpatrick Rosary Makers. 315-452-4698. We look forward to your help spreading the Gospel through the Rosary.*



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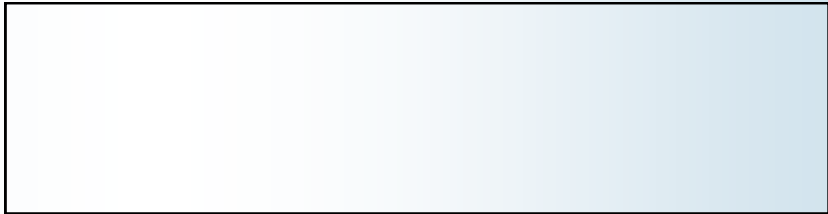
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## **CNY Marian Center is Pleased to Present**

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

Come and join Hank Donahue and friends at the CNY Marian Center Mondays 7PM to pray an Intercessory Rosary. Dial 516-597-9459 to join our Saturday 10:10AM Rosary. Sign up on the website popup for MailChimp updates for the May Crowning celebration. Inside you'll read about our Rosary Making Ministry and the Feasts of the month of May.

**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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May 2023

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