

Our Lady of Fatima "Family" Rosary Calendar and Newsletter

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Apr—Jun 2015

Apr	May	Jun
Holy Father's Intentions		
That people may learn to respect creation and care for it as a gift of God.	Thatwe may care for our neighbors who suffer, especially the sick and the poor.	That immigrants and refugees may find welcome and respect in the countries to which they come.
That persecuted Christians may feel the consoling presence of the Risen Lord and the solidarity of all the Church.		

Priests Serving a Consecrated Life

Pope Francis dedicated this year to people in the consecrated life. Priests are serving us in many ways. St. Pope John Paul II stated "The priest is first of all a *minister* of the Word of God. He is consecrated and sent forth to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom to all, calling every person to the obedience of faith and leading believers to an everincreasing knowledge of and communion in the mystery of revealed and God. as communicated to us in Christ... He proclaims the Word in his capacity as 'minister', as a sharer in the prophetic authority of Christ and the Church" (Magnificat, V16. No. 12. P. 123).

One of the many challenges of a priest today is the concept of "relativism", that is, how society sets their principles and moral bases on how they perceive right and wrong without regard to the commandments of God.



Relativism is dangerous because it is false. The basis of the falsehood is that relativism suggests that objective truth does not exist. However, "God has revealed the truth about the human condition in the person of Jesus Christ, and the truth is valid and

binding across time, culture, and personal experience" (Pope Benedict XVI).

We must pray in thanksgiving for the many priests who are dedicated to their vow consecrated life. One excellent example of such a priest is Fr. Richard Frank, a pastor of three small parishes in North Central Missouri. His homilies focus on the truths of our faith. continually stresses the importance of the sacrament of reconciliation and living moral lives...always keeping God as the focus.

Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue His work in bringing young, bright men to the consecrated life. As Fr. Frank stated, his role as a consecrated priest "is to save souls".

Consecrated Women

Women have played an enormous role in the catholic church. Women were the last remaining at the cross and the first at the empty tomb.

A few women were such great saints known for their defense and explanation of the truths of the Catholic Faith that they were named Doctors of the Church. They are Saint Catherine of Siena, Saint Teresa of Avila, Saint Therese of Lisieux, and Saint Hildegard of Bingen.

Thousands of others have served God as teachers, nurses, founders of religious orders and hospitals, as well as in numerous other vocations.

A great example of what can be done with the help of God is the establishment of the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN). EWTN has had 34+ years of success in bringing the







Mother Angelica

Word (Jesus Christ) to all. This great feat was accomplished by Mother Angelica, a Poor Clare cloistered nun, dedicated to the perpetual Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Another great in our recent history was Mother Teresa, founder of the Missionaries of Charity whose mission was to serve "the poorest of the poor". For over 45 years Mother Teresa served the poor, the sick, the dying and the orphaned. Since her death in 1997, Mother Teresa has become a role model for people enduring the dark night of the soul.

Pope Francis entrusted the Year of Consecrated Life to the greatest woman in history, the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Pope stated "Let us look to her, the highly-beloved daughter of the Father, endowed with every gift of grace, as the unsurpassed model for all those who follow Christ in love of God and service to their neighbor".

Jubilee Year of Mercy



The Holy Father, Pope Francis decided to call an extraordinary Jubilee that is to have the mercy of God at its center. This Holy Year will begin on December 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and will end on November 20, 2016, the Sunday dedicated to Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – and living face of the Father's mercy.

The Pope has "often thought about how the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy. It is a journey that begins with a spiritual conversion...We want to live this Year in the light of the Lord's words: 'Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful (Lk 6:36)' ".

His Holiness is "convinced that the whole Church will find in this Jubilee the joy needed to rediscover and make fruitful the mercy of God, with which all of us are called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time. From this moment, we entrust this Holy Year to the Mother of Mercy, that she might turn her gaze upon us and watch over our journey".

Children are Never a Mistake

At his General Audience on April 8, 2015, Pope Francis continued his catecheses on the family, this time focusing on children. He stressed that "[children are] the greatest blessing which God has bestowed on man and woman". He noted that many children suffer from rejection, abandonment, hunger and poverty. Because of this suffering, "there are those who say it is a mistake to bring these children into the world...But children are never a mistake, and their sufferings are only reasons for us to love them even



more." Unfortunately, some of these poor suffering children are exploited for commerce or violence and many more are denied an education or medical care. Jesus responded to the children and their parents who brought them to Him: "Let the children come to Me... for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 19:14). The Pontiff concluded "How beautiful the trust of these parents, and the response of Jesus! And there are many extraordinary parents who daily make sacrifices for their children. The Church offers her maternal care to all children and their families, and she brings them the blessing of Jesus. May we always care for our children, not counting the cost, so that they may never believe themselves to be mistakes, but always know their infinite worth."

Quote from Pope St. Pius V

"All the evils of the world are due to lukewarm Catholics"

Members Corner

- During this year dedicated to those who have consecrated themselves to the service of God, please pray for those Consecrated Women who are members of the Rosary Calendar: The Daughters of St. Paul & The Dominican Sisters-Hawaii, Irish Dominicans & Daughters of the Church in Fatima, Poor Clares in Pittsburgh & New Mexico, Sr. Grace Duc (Lovers of the Holy Cross Los Angeles), Daughters of St. Francis, Lacon, Illinois, Sr. M. Deborah Ugbene, Sr. M. Roberta Ochs OSB, Sr. Milla Derby, Sr. Epiphany-Canada, Sr. M. Julianna F.S.M., Sr. Mary Eudes, Sister Helen Agnes, Sr. Andrea OSB, Sr. M. Antonia Bina & Sr. Catarina.
- We thank Paul DeFuria for his generous support of the Rosary Calendar.
- **ROSARIES NEEDED:** Rosaries are requested monthly for Tanzania. Fr. Gowa recently was appointed Fatima Director of his district and will be visiting villages to spread Our Lady of Fatima's message. A special thanks to St. Joseph's-St. Ann Society and Sylvia Cottle for providing over 450 rosaries. The missions will be praying for you.
- Congratulations Sr. Olga Poluch, Daughters of St. Francis (DSF), Lacon, IL. She will be 90 years old on June 25 and is the oldest member of the DSF.



Our Rosary Calendar Spiritual Directors and Advisors

Spiritual Directors:

Fr. Thomas Choo (HI) Fr. Matthew Kibuka (NY) Fr. Javan Saxon (NC) Fr. Pat Labassano

(Philippines)

Spiritual Advisors: Fr. Andrew Ing (CA) Msgr. John Williams (NC/CA) Fr. A. M. Benzinger (India) Rt. Rev. George Lynch (NY)

The Dominican Nuns of the Perpetual Rosary, Fatima,

Deceased Spiritual Advisors:

Fr. James Keenan (NC)* Fr. John Cain (TN) Fr. John DeMarchi (Fatima) Fr. Gerard Leicht (HI) Fr. Joseph Robeck (HI) Msgr. Benedict Vierra (HI) Msgr. Roy Peters (HI)

*Inspired the Rosary Calendar

Fr. Lawrence Speichinger (MO Fr. George Svoboda (Canada) Fr. Edwin Duffy (HI)

Fr. Charles Schmidt (NY)

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Our Purpose

To spread Our Lady of Fatima's message by praying: the Rosary daily, for our Holy Father, for the end of abortion, Our Holy Church, and family members. You are encouraged to: for five months, on first Saturday's, go to confession, receive Holy Communion, recite the Rosary, and meditate for 15 minutes on the mysteries of the Rosary.