



Our Lady of Fatima “Family” Rosary Calendar Newsletter

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Oct-Dec 2017

Holy Father’s Intentions

October	November	December
Month of the Holy Rosary	Month of the Holy Souls	Month of Immaculate Conception
That all workers may receive respect and protection of their rights, and that the unemployed may receive the opportunity to contribute to the common good.	That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, and with other religions.	That the elderly...may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

For the Holy Father’s prayer requests related to current events or urgent prayer needs, please go to the **Apostleship of Prayer** (www.apostleshipofprayer.org/reflectionsmonthly/).

Be Not Afraid

Throughout the centuries of Christendom, a recurring message appears. The angel Gabriel at the annunciation said, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.” (Luke 1:30). Another heavenly visitor, the Angel of Portugal, repeated this greeting during his first visit to the three shepherd children (1916), saying “Do not be afraid. I am the angel of peace. Pray with me”. Once again we hear the message, this time by the one who initially received the greeting, when at her first apparition in Fatima on May 13, 1917, Our Blessed Mother said to the children, “Do not be afraid; I will not harm you”.

Why should we have no fear? Because man has been redeemed by God. The power of Christ’s Cross and Resurrection is greater than any



evil which man could or should fear (*Threshold of Hope*, 1994).

St. Pope John Paul II made these words a focal point of his papacy and stated “Do not be afraid” as the first words issued after his election as pontiff. While at the Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Poland, June 7, 1997, he recalled these words, relating them to the abandonment of self-giving. In this "dialogue of

abandonment," there is established between man and Christ a *special bond that sets love free*. And "there is no fear in love...perfect love casts out fear" (1 Jn 4:18).

John Paul II related his "Be not afraid" theme to *trust in Jesus*. He renewed once more the entrustment of his pontificate to the merciful Lord by praying: "Jesus, I trust in You!" Anyone can look at the image of the merciful Jesus, His Heart radiating grace, and hear in the depths of his own soul what Blessed Faustina heard: "*Fear nothing. I am with you always*" (*St. Faustina Diary*, 586). And if this person responds with a sincere heart: "*Jesus, I trust in You,*" he will find comfort in all his anxieties and fears.

My Immaculate Heart Will Triumph

Mary, the Mother of God, is our hope. The Church proclaims it every day at the end of every rosary and at the end of the Church’s night prayer (Compline). Today, no other words draw our attention to this reality more than the promise Our Immaculate Mother made to the world on July 13, 1917 when she said: “*I shall ask that on the First Saturday of every month, Communions of reparation be made in atonement for the sins of the world...in the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph...*”

She will triumph because there is such an inseparable union between



the Hearts of Jesus and Mary that we come to the Sacred Heart of Jesus only *through* the Immaculate Heart of Mary – for the Sacred Heart of Jesus came to us *through* the Immaculate Heart of Mary. We see this reality

mystically continued at the Cross where the life-giving Blood and Water, which flowed from the pierced Heart of Jesus, is communicated to His Mystical Body through the pierced Heart of Mary to Whom Jesus entrusted His Church.

St. John Paul II’s encyclical letter *Redemptoris Mater*, sets out the strong biblical and theological foundations for why total consecration to Mary is at the heart of the Christian life. This letter helps us understand why Her Immaculate heart will triumph.

Source: Peter Howard. Heroic Families. June 4, 2015.

Silence and the Importance of Prayer

The Words of Jesus can only be properly understood if we enter into His silence (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI). In today’s noisy and distracting world that seems to have so much power over us, we need to read and reflect on *The Power of Silence against the dictatorship of noise* written by Robert Cardinal Sarah.

Hope in Our Lord

Cardinal Burke encourages Catholics to never give up hope “no matter what confusion or even divisions enter into the Church.” He emphasized the way to save our soul is to “cling...to what the Church has always taught and practiced”... “Our Lord is our Chief Priest and Guide, and therefore we should have confidence in leading a Christian life. We should have hope in Him.”

The October 13, 1917 Apparition

The 100th anniversary of the miracle of the Sun that occurred on October 13, 1917 is a time to reflect on the hope for the World. Our Lady requested that a chapel be built at the apparition site in her honor. She announced “I am the Lady of the Rosary” then stated “Continue to pray the Rosary everyday”.

The praying of the Rosary can not be over emphasized. By doing so, we can avoid the prophecy of tragedies. We note that the apparitions took place four centuries after the start of the Protestant Reformation in 1517, and two centuries after the founding of the first Grand Lodge of the Freemasons



Some 70,000 witnessed the sun spin rapidly then zigzagged toward the terrified crowd. After about 10 minutes, it returned to its original location in the sky. This phenomenon was accompanied by numerous miraculous healings. The event has been called “the miracle of the sun”.

in London in 1717. Following these two historical events, there was a shift from Catholicism to religious indifference. Furthermore, on the

very day of the miracle of the sun in 1917, the Petrograd Soviet took military control in Russia, paving the way for atheistic communism to begin its ruinous domination of much of the world, persecuting the Church and leading to the cruel deaths of millions.

We needed a reminder that God is Almighty. The spectacular miracle of the sun should then remind us of the necessity for repentance and penance with which we should respond to His gift of grace, for the salvation of our souls and of the world.

Source: Fr Andrew Pinsent, Catholic Herald, May 11, 2017.

Plenary Indulgence During the Centenary Year of the Fatima Apparitions

A special plenary indulgence, granted by Pope Francis, can be gained on October 13, 2017 by visiting an image of Our Lady of Fatima solemnly displayed for public veneration in any church, oratory or other proper places. During the visit, pray the Our Father, recite the Creed and invoke Our Lady of Fatima. Further, the person must be truly penitent and animated with charity and must go to confession, receive Holy Communion and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father. For a more complete list of three ways to gain this plenary indulgence, visit : <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/three-ways-to-obtain-an-indulgence-for-the-100-year-fatima-anniversary-78258/>

Christmas—Our Hope Comes from Christ!

The birth of Jesus gives us a visible and understandable hope because it is founded on God. “Hope never stops...it makes us walk forward.” (Pope Francis, Christmas 2016)

Through Christ’s birth “Hope entered the world” Pope Francis said, explaining that the true meaning of Christmas is found in the act of God fulfilling His promise of salvation in becoming Man. God “doesn’t abandon His people,” but draws near even to the point of taking on a



human form. “In this way God demonstrates His fidelity and inaugurates a new kingdom, which

gives a new hope to humanity: eternal life.”

Advent will be here soon and Nativity scenes will be erected. The Christmas crèche is a perfect place to reflect, pray and contemplate the birth of Christ and also to reflect on the Blessed Mother who is the Mother of Hope. Then turn to St. Joseph, who stood by Mary and obeyed God and gave Jesus His name (Pope Francis).

Have a grace filled Advent & a Blessed Christmas

MEMBERS CORNER

- ◆ Our website for *Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Calendar* is now available. Visit **OLOFRC.org** for the Fatima story, Fatima prayers, information about the Rosary Calendar and the Newsletter, as well as back issues of the OLOFRC Newsletter.
- ◆ November is the month of Holy Souls. Please pray for the soul of all our deceased Rosary Calendars members and especially : Paul DeFuria (WV), Sr. Antonia Bina (NE), Donald Reynders (NC), George Freitas (HI), and Dorothy Freitas (HI).
- ◆ New members: Fr. Boniface (MO), Mary Barnett (MO), Doreen Lewis (NV), Louann P. Cao (NE).
- ◆ **Mission news: Still in need of Rosaries.** Thanks to St. Joseph’s Parish, HB in Missouri for their financial support and St. Mary of the Angels, Wein, MO for collecting religious articles. We sent rosaries and holy items to Tanzania and Uganda since our last Newsletter. Thank you Joan Weydert, Cecilia Schmitt & Sandy Gladbach for coming together to make rosaries.

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/VA)
Fr. A. M. Benzinger (India)

The Dominican Nuns of the
Perpetual Rosary, Fatima,
Portugal

Deceased Spiritual Advisors:

Fr. James Keenan (NC)*
Rt. Rev. George Lynch (NY)
Fr. John Cain (TN)
Fr. John DeMarchi (Fatima)
Fr. Gerard Leicht (HI)
Fr. Joseph Robeck (HI)
Msgr. Benedict Vierra (HI)

Msgr. Roy Peters (HI)
Fr. Lawrence Speichinger (MO)
Fr. George Svoboda (Canada)
Fr. Edwin Duffy (HI)
Fr. Charles Schmidt (NY)

*Founder of the Rosary Calendar

OLOFRC’s Mission

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

Contact Information

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