



Our Lady of Fatima “Family” Rosary Calendar Newsletter

Vol. 27, No. 3

Jul-Sep 2018

Holy Father’s Intentions

July	August	September
Month of the Blessed Sacrament	Month of Mary	Month of the Sacred Heart
That priests find help and comfort in intimacy with the Lord and in friendship with their brother priests.	That economists and politicians may protect the family as one of the treasures of humanity.	That young people in Africa may have access to education and work in their own countries.

Pray for the End of Abortion and for the Holy Father

Editors Visit the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help

On June 9, 2018, the editors of *Our Lady of Fatima Family Rosary Calendar* and their family visited the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, Wisconsin. This Shrine is the only site in the United States where an apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary has been approved by the Church.

On October, 1859, the Blessed Mother appeared to Marie Adele Brise, a 28 year old immigrant from Belgium. Our Holy Mother appeared to Adele three times. At the last apparition, Adele asked, “What more can I do, dear Lady?” Mary’s direction was simple: “Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation....Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the sign of the Cross, and how to approach the sacraments; that is what I wish you to do. Go and fear nothing. I will help you.”

Adele devoted the rest of her life to spreading Mary’s good news. Her commitment continues to be as inspiring as it is humbling to the thousands of visitors that journey to the Shrine



Our Lady of Good Help Chapel



Don & Mary Ann Schmitt with Granddaughter Maria Blaney

every year.

Most Reverend David L. Ricken, Bishop of Green Bay appointed a commission in 2009 to formally investigate the

apparitions that occurred on the site. He approved the apparitions on December 8, 2010 in a formal declaration at the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Beginning in 2011, The Fathers of Mercy (Auburn, KY) began serving the sacramental needs of the Shrine pilgrims.

August 15, 2018 Celebration

There is an annual legacy of the Feast of the Assumption (August 15) at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help. Mass for this special feast will be at 11:00 AM with the Most Rev. David L. Ricken, Bishop of Green Bay, as the principal celebrant. There will also be a Rosary procession. The rector, Fr. John Broussard, invites all of us to join the celebration of Mary’s Assumption.

Bishop Ricken urges the faithful to frequent this holy place. Echoing his encouragement, we also encourage you to visit this beautiful shrine where our 6-year old granddaughter lead us in the Rosary in the Rosary Walk.

Church-Confirmed Marian Apparition Sites

There are nearly 500 Marian shrines located on five continents. Of these, 12 have apparitions that have been officially approved by the Catholic Church. They are:

- 1) Tepeyac, Mexico (1531). Mary appeared to Juan Diego near present day Mexico City.
- 2) Quito, Ecuador (1594). Our Lady appeared to Mother Marina de Jesus Torres.
- 3) Laus, France (1664-1718). Benoitte Renchurel experienced daily apparitions lasting 54 years.
- 4) Rue du Bac, France (1830). The Blessed Mother appeared to Sister Catherine Laboure and gave her the Miraculous Medal.
- 5) Lourdes, France (1858). The "Immaculate Conception" appeared to Bernadette Soubirous.
- 6) Champion, Wisconsin, USA (1859). Mary appeared to Adele Brise three times.
- 7) Fatima, Portugal (1917). Our Lady appears to Lucia dos Santos, Jacinta Marto and Francisco Marto on the 13th of each month from May until October (except August, the apparition occurred on August 19).
- 8) Tui, Spain (1929). Mary appeared to Lucia dos Santos again to repeat her requests made in 1917.
- 9) Beauraing, Belgium (1932-1933). A group of children saw visions of Mary between November and January.
- 10) Banneux, Belgium (1933). The Blessed Mother appeared to Mareitti Beco eight times.
- 11) Akita, Japan (1973). Sister Agnes Katsuko Sasagawa received three messages from Our Lady.
- 12) Kibeho, Rwanda (1980). Mary appears at an all-girls Catholic High School.

***We will be featuring information on each apparition in the upcoming newsletters. Our Lady of Good Help is featured on page 1 of this issue.**



Praying the Memorare



The Memorare is a prayer that reminds us that we have a wonderful advocate and protector in the Mother of our Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Memorare invites us to ask the Blessed Mother for her assistance and her grace, especially when we feel most troubled in our daily lives. Mary's wonderful role in assisting in our salvation has been praised by many Saints and Church fathers alike over the centuries. St. Lawrence Justinian summed up the feelings of many of them when he once referred to the Blessed Mother as "the ladder of paradise, the gate of heaven, the truest mediatrix between God and man."

The author of the Memorare is traditionally attributed to the abbot St. Bernard of Clairvaux from the 12th century. The text of the modern Memorare, "At the feet of your Holiness, most sweet Virgin Mary", was composed in the 15th century, 300 years after Saint Bernard's death. Another Bernard, the French priest Claude Bernard, used it extensively in his ministry to the poor and to prisoners in the 17th century.

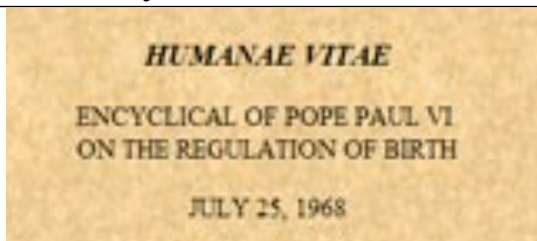
We are always welcome to ask His mother to help us. In fact, this delights our Lord!

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee, I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Humanae Vitae 50th Anniversary



The prophetic encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, written by Blessed Pope Paul VI and published on July 25, 1968, has received a lot of press this year. Pope Paul VI led the Catholic Church from 1963 until his death on August 6, 1978. He will be canonized on Oct. 14, 2018.



Faced with the issue of whether to change the Church's longstanding opposition to artificial birth control, Paul VI penned his landmark encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, delivering a strong "no" to change and reaffirming the Church's teaching on contraception. (The entire document can be accessed by typing in "Humanae Vitae" in your search engine

and select Humanae Vitae (July 25, 1968) | Paul VI.) We highly encourage you to read this encyclical.

A Prophetic Vision

The pope made predictions in the document that artificial contraception would lead to:

- a "general lowering of morality"
- loss of respect for women
- giving authority to government agencies to apply solutions [for birth control] without considering morality

We see now how prophetic he was and shows us how God gave him wisdom, love and courage in his ministry as pope. The evidence of his prediction is overwhelming: for example, pornography, high divorce rate, cohabitation, sex scandals and the list goes on.

Some documented statistics on the effects of a contraceptive culture are (Data from World Bank, The Centers for Disease Control, the Pew Forum and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops):

- In 1960, 72% of the adults were married and in 2011, 51% of the adults were married.
- There were 426,000 Catholic marriages in 1970 and there were 151,000 in 2015.
- Birth rate decreased by 50% from 1968 to today.
- In 2016, only 8% of Catholics considered using contraceptives to be morally wrong (compared to 4% of all Americans) and 51% of Catholics considers abortion to be morally wrong (compared to 44% of all Americans).

Moral standards have truly been lowered as we can see from the statistics shown above. The human fetus is not respected as evidenced by the millions of abortions. In fact, the culture of death, as stated by Saint John Paul II, is pervasive in society.

Even though *Humanae Vitae* is rejected by many in contemporary society, the soon to be saint Pope Paul VI showed us the need to practice the virtues of chastity, modesty and self-control along with a deep respect for others. "Pope Paul has shown us the way of wisdom, love and courage. Let us follow his lead." (Archbishop William E. Lori).

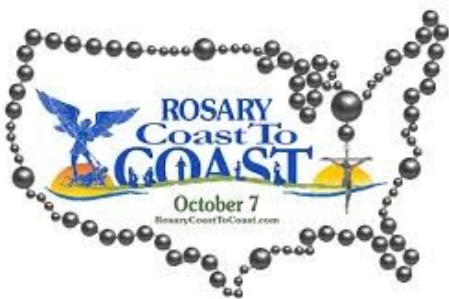
Acute Relevance of *Humanae Vitae* Today

Bishop John Keenan of Scotland stated in the *National Catholic Register* (July 22-August 4, 2018) that "for the Church to withstand the culture of death, a 'new catechesis' and the strength of 'associations' are needed to equip Catholics to take their faith into the public square". As Catholics, we need to respond to this call for catechesis through evangelization. Cardinal John Henry Newman (1801-1890) (United Kingdom) stated that effective catechesis forms Catholics to know exactly what they believe and why they believe it, to be able to see their faith as a connected whole and to give an account of it to anyone who inquires of them, or a defense of it to anyone who questions it. Bishop Keenan emphatically stated that our global culture needs to use *Humanae Vitae* as its guide in order to continue existing. To better help us understand Pope Paul's encyclical, St. John Paul II wrote his theology of the body.

Progress in Morality

In spite of dissent over the teaching of *Humane Vitae*, there is a growing number of Catholic Colleges embracing the promotion of chastity and dignity. St. John Paul II played a major role in this awareness (John Grabowski, Moral Theologian, Catholic University of America). Clearly, the message of *Humanae Vitae* must be heard and implemented into our daily prayers and life for our culture to survive.

Rosary Coast to Coast



In 2017, the Church in Poland gathered around the borders of their country in prayer and reparation. Shortly after, this coast to coast effort of prayer spread to Ireland, the British Isles and now, the United States. American Catholics will have a Rosary Coast to Coast on October 7, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. According to Fr. Rick Heilman (co-organizer and priest in the Diocese of Madison, WI), the nationwide Rosary Coast to Coast will begin August 15 (Feast of the Assumption) as a 54-day novena leading up to the October 7 feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Rosary Coast to Coast will take place at 4 pm Eastern, 3 pm Central, 2 pm Mountain, 1 pm Pacific in order to have full participation simultaneously in all time zones. The National Rosary Rally will take place, as well, in front of the US Capitol on October 7 beginning with Mass at St. Peter's on Capitol Hill followed by a Rosary

procession to the Rally site. The Rosary Rally will be live-streamed.

Bishop Robert Morlino of Madison, Wisconsin clearly states why we need to be in the moral battle for the sake of God: "We are very far from looking like the Kingdom of God. We've got to get to work. The secular world is very hostile toward us right now and so we have to respond with strength and with charity; always with the Love of Jesus. What better way to thank God for His Blessings in sustaining us so far and to ask for His Healing and for the conquest of evil in our own country and in our own culture than participating in a Rosary Coast to Coast."

Novena for Our Nation

The time is now to call upon God, through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary, to heal our country and return it to holiness. The "Novena for Our Nation" will be prayed for all our spiritual battles. Just a few of these battles include laws and court rulings in conflict with God's laws, especially the disregard for the rights of the unborn, elderly and weak in our society and the attacks on marriage and family values. Society and many levels of government continue to demonstrate intolerance towards biblically based religious belief and practice; conflicts with First Amendment constitutional rights, and persecution of traditional religious expression. We are called upon to help turn our country back towards God. To do so, prayer is essential to change hearts, change families, change our communities and change our country. There is no stronger weapon in this Spiritual Battle than the Rosary. (rosarycoasttocoast.com/)

"And one day, through the Rosary and Scapular, Our Lady will save the world." -St. Dominic

MEMBERS CORNER

Hawaii Volcano Destroys Rosary Calendar Members Home

Hundreds of homes on the island of Hawaii have been destroyed since Kilauea began erupting on May 3, 2018. One of those homes belonged to Rosary Calendar member John Moylan and his family. They not only lost their home and personal belongings, they also lost their source of income. John has a landscape and lawn care business that was focused on Leilani Estates. The lava flowing from fissure 8 has destroyed most of Leilani Estates resulting in the loss of his clients leaving the family to rely on savings to live. The family wrote "Please join us in praying for God's mercy and help...God has His reasons, and we ask for strength and wisdom and guidance." Please pray for them and if you are able to assist them financially, they would be most grateful. (John Moylan, P O Box 1135, Pahoa, HI 96778).



- ◆ We thank Lydia Thomas and Terri Van Dee for their donations to help spread Our Lady's message.
- ◆ New members: We welcome Diana Manchak (CO), Candace Bell Haskell (NJ), and Mary Ellen Crippin (MO).

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

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