



Our Lady of Fatima “Family” Rosary Calendar Newsletter

Vol. 28, No. 1

Jan-Mar 2019

January	February	March
Month of the Holy Name of Jesus	Month of the Holy Family	Month of Saint Joseph
-Pray for Pope Francis and his concerns for young people to follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord. -Pray for the end of Abortion.	-Pray for Pope Francis and all our Holy Cardinals, Bishops and Priests to preserve in God’s service. -Pray for the sanctification of families.	-Pray for Pope Francis and his concerns for persecuted Christian communities around the world. -Pray for the Grace of a Holy Lent.

Prepare for a Holy New Year

On New Year's Eve, we anticipate the entry of the new year with a set of expectations. We typically make resolutions to accomplish new goals. For these resolutions to properly guided, we must turn to Jesus Christ Our Lord in order to keep our focus on our spiritual life. This spiritual focus allows us to grow more deeply in our faith and the purpose of our existence. It is also good to resolve to enhance our devotion to the Blessed Mother because it is through her that we are united to Jesus and the Trinity.

Saint John Paul II Message for Life (EVANGELIUM VITAE-1995)



O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life. Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born; of the poor

whose lives are made difficult; of men and women who are victims of brutal violence; of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy. Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time. Obtain for them the grace

to accept that Gospel as a gift, the joy of celebrating it [the Gospel] with gratitude throughout their lives and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build, together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life.

We Must Respect Life

It is impossible to understand how people can take any human life. Life is so precious and brief. Aborting a baby denies that child the opportunity to be a witness for God. Likewise, to euthanize someone prevents them from fulfilling their mission on earth. Everyone, regardless of their physical and mental condition, has a role to play for God’s Kingdom.

The theme, *Unique from Day One*, for the 2019 March for Life in the USA clearly supports this argument for life. Every life is unique from the very beginning of conception and continues until death. We can see this uniqueness in a very clear way through the use of forensic science. Fingerprint

March for Life 2019
January 18, 2019
Washington, D.C.



identification is one of the most important criminal investigation tools due to two features: their persistence and their uniqueness. A person’s fingerprints do not change. The ridges which create fingerprints are formed while inside the womb and grow proportionally as the baby

grows. These fingerprints are unique to an individual. Even identical twins have different fingerprints.

As amazing as this scientific evidence is, humans are also created with unique talents. Every life, therefore, is crucial for the accomplishment of God’s plan.

A strong stand must be taken for life. As Saint Pope John Paul said, killing a human being in the womb leads to the destruction of the conscience. Obviously, silencing the conscience enables one to commit acts such as abortion and wage war on those who are not able to defend themselves. **We must defend life.**

Our Lady of Good Success

In 1611, the Bishop of Quito, Ecuador, approved an apparition of the Blessed Mother, “Our Lady of Good Success”. The visionary was Mother Mariana de Jesus Torres who saw Mary at her Conceptionist Royal Convent in Quito in 1594.

The apparitions continued for the next 40-years. During this period, the Child Jesus prophesized, to Mother Mariana, that the Dogma’s of the Immaculate Conception and the Assumption would be proclaimed during a time when the Church would be strongly attacked. The attacks prophesied by Our Lady to Mother Mariana involved a grave crisis in the Church, particularly at the end of the 19th century and during the 20th century. Satan would employ the sins of blasphemy, impurity and heresy to achieve the goals of his reign. Our Lady foretold many aspects of faith including:

- the loss of importance associated with the sacraments,
- the faithful would not hold the sacraments in high esteem,
- a tremendous loss in the number of vocations,
- the clergy of the Catholic Church would become lax and perverse,
- a worldwide campaign against the virtues of chastity and purity,



-fewer vocations to the priesthood,
-priests would become careless in their sacred duties.

Looking around us, we can see that the prophecies have come true. The Dogma of the Immaculate Conception was proclaimed by Pope Pius IX in 1854 and the Dogma of the Assumption was proclaimed by Pope Pius XII in 1950. Clearly

evident now is the loss of vocations, the decline in faith, acceptance of impurity and many other sins. The reverence of the Holy Eucharist is greatly diminished. The long lines for confession have disappeared.

However, the Blessed Mother did not leave us with a message of doom in these apparitions but rather one of hope. Our Lady’s ending note was: When everything will seem lost and paralyzed, there will be *“the happy beginning of the complete restoration. This will mark the arrival of my hour; when I, in a marvelous way, will dethrone the proud and cursed Satan, trampling him under my feet and fettering him in the infernal abyss.”* It is the promise echoed by Our Lady again at Fatima in 1917: ***“In the end, My Immaculate Heart will triumph.”***

Footnote:

Mother Mariana died in 1635. Her tomb was opened in 1906, and her body and habit were found to be whole and incorrupt. In 1986, a cause for her beatification was launched. In 1991, the archbishop of Quito petitioned Rome for and received a canonical coronation of Our Lady of Good Success as “Queen of Quito.”

St. Louis de Montfort and His Devotion to the Blessed Mother

St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort was one of the most important promoters of Marian devotion, especially the Rosary, and consecration to Our Lady as a sure means of growing in grace and in love for Jesus her Son and our Lord. In his book, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, St. John Paul II wrote, “Thanks to St. Louis de Montfort, I came to understand that true devotion to the Mother of God is actually Christocentric, indeed, it is very profoundly rooted in the mystery of the Blessed

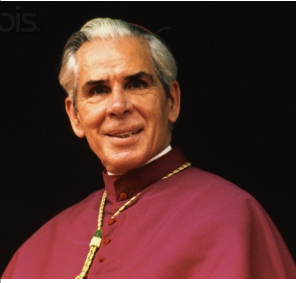
Trinity, and the mysteries of the Incarnation and Redemption.”

St. Louis wrote “Our entire perfection consists in being conformed, united and consecrated to Jesus Christ. Hence the most perfect of all devotions is undoubtedly that which conforms, unites and consecrates us most perfectly to Jesus Christ. Now, since Mary is of all creatures the one most conformed to Jesus Christ, it follows that among all devotions that which most consecrates and conforms a soul to

our Lord is devotion to Mary, His Holy Mother, and that the more a soul is consecrated to her, the more will it be consecrated to Jesus Christ.”



Eternity



Bishop Fulton Sheen in his book entitled *Go to Heaven*, states “hell is related to an evil life as blindness is related to the plucking out of an eye. Heaven...is related to a good life as knowledge to study”. God freely offers us “grace” for which we have the freedom to choose or reject. The choice becomes our eternal destiny. Just as we need food to keep our bodies healthy, we need “to admit truth to the mind and power to the will” (Bishop Sheen) in order to share in God’s Divine Nature. As we know and are reminded in the Psalms, life is



brief. Upon death, we are judged according to our works. This reality is commonly overlooked today in society. Bishop Sheen wrote “Our souls can profit much from meditation upon it [judgement] and its two important features; namely, its necessity and its nature”.

Eternity will be something that we have never seen, heard or imagined. The voice of God said “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither has it entered into the heart of man what things God has prepared for them that love Him.” The reference to the heart implies that there is a missing piece of our heart kept by God when we were created. We can never be fully happy nor completely in love or even wholehearted until we return to God in heaven so He can replace that missing piece. Only then we can be eternally happy.

How can we work toward this eternal happiness? We start our journey through faith. Faith does not grow by itself. Reading and mediating on sacred scriptures and other relevant religious documents enables us to grow in our faith as we discover their meaning. This effort has to be employed daily. Pray, study the sacred scriptures and contemplate all the special gifts God has given to us.

Ash Wednesday and the Meaning of Lent

The Church celebrates **Ash Wednesday** this year on **March 6** marking the beginning of her Lenten journey towards **Easter (April 21)**. We are asked by Holy Mother Church to live this period of forty days as a pilgrimage of repentance, conversion, and renewal. Pope Benedict XVI reminded us during his papacy that, in the Bible, the number forty is rich in symbolism. “It recalls Israel’s journey in the desert, a time of expectation, purification and closeness to the Lord, but also a time of temptation and testing. It also evokes Jesus’ own sojourn in the desert at the beginning of His public ministry, a time of profound closeness to the Father in prayer, but also of confrontation with the mystery of evil.” The Church’s Lenten discipline is meant to help deepen our life of faith and our imitation of Christ in His paschal mystery. In these forty days, may we draw nearer to the Lord by meditating on His word and example and conquer the desert of our spiritual aridity, selfishness and materialism. May this Lent be a time of grace in which God leads us, in union with the crucified and risen Lord, through the experience of the desert to the joy and hope brought by Easter.



Meditation for Lent

Stay with us, Lord! (cf. Lk 24:29). With these words, the disciples on the road to Emmaus invited a mysterious Wayfarer to stay with them. As the sun was setting on that first day of the week, the incredible occurred. According to His promise, *Christ had risen*; but the disciples did not yet know this. Nevertheless, the words spoken by the Wayfarer along the road made their hearts *burn within them*. So they said to Him: “Stay with us”. Seated around the supper table, *they recognized Him* in the “breaking of bread” - and suddenly He *vanished*. There remained in front of them *the broken bread* and the gentle sound of *His words* echoed in their hearts .

The *Word* and the *Bread* of the Eucharist, the mystery and the gift of Easter, remain down the centuries as a constant memorial of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ! On Easter Day, together with all Christians throughout the world, we too repeat those words: Jesus, crucified and risen, *stay with us!* Stay with us, faithful friend and sure support for humanity on its journey through history! *Living Word of the Father*, give hope and trust to all who are searching for the true meaning of their lives. *Bread of eternal life*, nourish those who hunger for truth, freedom, justice and peace.

Stay with us, *Living Word of the Father*, and teach us words and deeds of peace: peace for our world consecrated by Your blood and drenched in the blood of so many innocent victims: peace for all of humanity, still threatened by wars. Stay with us, *Bread of eternal life*, broken and distributed to those at table: give also to us the strength to show generous solidarity towards the multitudes who are even today suffering and dying from poverty and hunger, decimated by fatal epidemics or devastated by immense natural disasters. By the power of your Resurrection, may they too become sharers in new life.

Stay with us now and until the end of time. Grant that the material progress of peoples may never obscure the spiritual values which are the soul of their civilization. Sustain us, we pray, on our journey. In You do we believe, in You do we hope, for You alone have the words of eternal life (*Jn 6:68*)! (St. Pope John Paul II)

Bishop Robert Morlino, Diocese of Madison, Enters Eternal Life



Bishop Robert C. Morlino, Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin, died November 24, 2018 of an apparent heart attack while undergoing medical tests at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison. As Bishop of the Diocese of Madison, he was a strong supporter of the Roman Catholic Church teachings. He was installed as the fourth bishop of Madison in August 2003. He gained a national reputation for his strong opposition to abortion and same-sex unions, the Wisconsin State Journal reported. During his 15-year tenure as leader of a diocese covering 11 counties in southwestern Wisconsin, many young men studied to become priests and Latin Masses made a comeback in some areas. The Very Rev. Richard Heilman told parishioners Sunday (November 25, 2018) at St. Mary of Pine Bluff Catholic Church in Cross Plains that Bishop Morlino accepted the challenge of leading a diocese in an area dominated by liberal politics. Fr. Heilman, one of the vicars

forane in the Diocese of Madison, described Bishop Morlino as "a saint in our midst" and a "St. Athanasius against the rampant modernism in our times." Fr. Heilman said Bishop Morlino was "a dad to me and countless others." We thank God for his inspiration and leadership.

Not Too Early to Pray for 2020 Election

Let us begin petitioning God through prayer for guidance to elect officials who respect life from conception to natural death; and who respect the institution of the family, religious liberty, and our Christian family.

MEMBERS CORNER

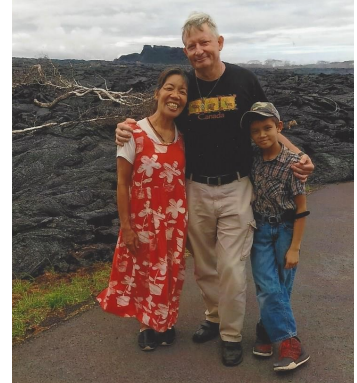
- ◆ New members: Pat Kelly (MO).
- ◆ Recent notices of deceased members: John Serrao (HI).
- ◆ Mission request: Priests in Tanzania and Uganda need rosaries. A box of religious article was recently sent to them.
- ◆ John Moylan family is trying to start over after Hawaii volcano took their home:



Family at their home before volcanic eruption in Hawaii

Letters of support can be sent to:
John Moylan family
P. O. Box 1135
Pahoa, HI 96778

They especially need our prayers.



The family is now displaced because their home, once directly behind them, is now covered with 70 feet of lava.

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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