



CRUSADERS of MARY NEWSLETTER

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Devotion to the Holy Rosary

by St. Louis de Montfort

This *Miraculous Way* in which the devotion to the Holy Rosary was established is something of a parallel to the way in which Almighty God gave His law to the world on Mount Sinai, and obviously proves its value and importance.

Inspired by the Holy Ghost, instructed by the Blessed Virgin as well as by his own experience, Saint Dominic preached the Holy Rosary for the rest of his life. He preached it by his example as well as by his sermons, in cities and in country places, to people of high station and low, before scholars and the uneducated, to Catholics and to heretics.

The Holy Rosary which he said every day was his preparation for every sermon and his little tryst with Our Lady immediately after preaching.

One day he had to preach at Notre Dame in Paris, and it happened to be the feast of St. John the Evangelist. He was in a little chapel behind the high altar prayerfully preparing his sermon by saying the Rosary, as he always did, when Our Lady appeared to him and said:

"Dominic, even though what you have planned to say may be very good, I am bringing you a much better sermon." Saint Dominic took in his hands the book Our Lady proffered, read the sermon carefully and when he had understood it and meditated on it, he gave thanks

to the Blessed Mother.

When the time came, he went up into the pulpit and, in spite of the feast day, made no mention of Saint John other than to say that he had been found worthy to be the guardian of the Queen of Heaven. The congregation was made up of theologians and other eminent people who were used to hearing unusual and polished discourses; but Saint Dominic told them that it was not his wish to give them a learned discourse, wise in the eyes of the world, but that he would speak in the simplicity of the Holy Spirit and with His forcefulness.

So he began preaching the Holy Rosary and explained the Hail Mary word by word as he would to a group of children and used very simple illustrations which were in the book Our Lady had given him.

Carthagena, the great scholar, quoting Blessed Alan de la Roche in *De Dignitate Psalterii*, describes how this took place:

"Blessed Alan writes that one day Father Dominic said to him in a vision: 'My son, it is good to preach; but there is always a danger of looking for praise rather than the salvation of souls. Listen carefully to what happened to me in Paris so that you may be on guard against this kind of mistake: I was to preach in the great church dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and I was particularly anxious to give a brilliant sermon, not out of pride, but because of the high intellectual stature of the congregation.

'An hour before the time I had to preach, I was recollectedly saying my Rosary — as I always did before giving a sermon — when I fell into ecstasy. I saw my beloved friend, the Mother of God, coming towards me with a book in Her hand.

"Dominic," she said "your sermon for today may be very good indeed, but no matter how good it is, I have brought you one that is very much better."

'Of course I was overjoyed, took the book and read every word of it. Just as Our Lady had said, I found exactly the right things to say in my sermon, so I thanked Her with all my heart.



St. Dominic, the great preacher

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Is This the Peace Promised by Our Lady?

Some of the Vatican bureaucrats and their influential allies claim that Our Lady's request for the Consecration of Russia has been fulfilled and Russia has been converted and that therefore we have peace in the world.

Is This an Example?

While standing guard at a military checkpoint entering Palestinian territory, Israeli soldiers fired at a diplomatic vehicle bearing the Vatican Flag on the fender and diplomatic license plates. The passenger, Bishop Marcuzzo, was on his way to visit a sick priest. After notifying the proper authorities of this unprovoked attack, the bishop was promised a safe return.

Devotion to the Holy Rosary

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'When it was time to begin, I saw that the University of Paris had turned out in full force, as well as a large number of noblemen. They had all seen and heard of the great things that the good Lord had been doing through me. So I went up into the pulpit.

'It was the feast of Saint John the Apostle but all I said about him was that he had been found worthy to be the guardian of the Queen of Heaven. Then I addressed the congregation: "My Lords and illustrious Doctors of the University, you are accustomed to hearing learned sermons suited to your aesthetic tastes. Now I do not want to speak to you in the scholarly language of human wisdom but, on the contrary, to show you the Spirit of God and His Greatness."

Here ends the quotation from Blessed Alan, after which Carthage goes on to say in his own words:

"Then Saint Dominic explained the Angelic Salutation to them, using simple comparisons and examples from everyday life."

Blessed Alan, according to Carthage, mentioned several other times when Our Lord and Our Lady appeared to Saint Dominic to urge and inspire him to preach the Rosary more and more in order to wipe out sin and to convert sinners and heretics.

In another passage Carthage says:

"Blessed Alan said Our Lady revealed to him that after She had appeared to Saint Dominic, Her Blessed Son appeared to him and said:

'Dominic, I rejoice to see that you are not relying upon your own wisdom and that, rather than seek the empty praise of men, you are working with great humility for the salvation of souls.

'But many priests want to preach thunderously against the worst kinds of sin at the very outset, failing to realize that before a sick person is given bitter medicine, he needs to be prepared by being put in the right frame of mind to really benefit by it.

"This is why, before doing anything else, priests should try to kindle a love of prayer in people's hearts and

On his way back, the bishop once again saw guns aimed in his direction. He was fortunate enough to find a safer route back to Nazareth.

The Israeli Army, concerned about public opinion, officially stated the soldiers "reacted in the wrong way" and would be prosecuted.

Peace Continues ...

The new year was celebrated in St. Lucia, a mostly-Catholic island in the Caribbean, with an attack, during Communion, which took the life of an elderly nun and severely burned others.

Machete wielding members of a Rastafarian cult

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especially a love of my Angelic Psalter. If only they would all start saying it and would really persevere, God, in His mercy, could hardly refuse to give them His grace. So I want you to preach My Rosary."

In another place Blessed Alan says:

"All priests say a Hail Mary with the faithful before preaching, to ask for God's grace. They do this because of a revelation that Saint Dominic had from Our Lady. 'My son,' She said one day 'do not be surprised that your sermons fail to bear the results you had hoped for. You are trying to cultivate a piece of ground which has not had any rain. Now when Almighty God planned to renew the face of the earth, He started by sending down rain from Heaven — and this was the Angelic Salutation. In this way God made over the world.

'So when you give a sermon, urge people to say My Rosary, and in this way your words will bear much fruit for souls.'

"Saint Dominic lost no time in obeying, and from then on he exerted great influence by his sermons."

This last quotation is from the *Book of Miracles of the Holy Rosary*.

I have been very glad to quote these well-known authors word for word in the original Latin, for the benefit of any priests or other learned people who might otherwise have doubts as to the marvelous power of the Holy Rosary.

As long as priests followed Saint Dominic's example and preached devotion to the Holy Rosary, piety and fervor thrived throughout the Christian world and in those religious orders which were devoted to the Rosary. But since people have neglected this gift from Heaven, all kinds of sin and disorder have spread far and wide.

"Those who say it (the Rosary) fervently and frequently will gradually grow in grace and holiness and will enjoy the special protection of Our Lady and the abiding friendship of God. No one can live continually in sin and continue to say the Rosary — either he will give up sin or he will give up the Rosary." — Bishop Hugh Boyle ■

News from the Apostolate

Father Gruner Events Update

Rosary Rallies in Detroit, Philadelphia, and New Jersey this year have been a great success! We were fortunate enough to have at least 400 people attend each Rally. Father Nicholas Gruner spoke on the Message of Fatima and how it is more urgent today than ever.

He also spent time answering all the questions that people asked. Hundreds of attendees were invested in the Brown Scapular, met Father Gruner, and had their books signed or religious objects blessed by him. Many were so happy that upon leaving their eyes filled with tears.

In the months to come we plan to travel to New Hampshire, New York, Texas, and Chicago, to mention just a few. We may be coming to your area too!!!!

Green Scapular Workshop

Plans are in the works to have students spend the summer making Green Scapulars in Our Lady's workshop that we are setting up in one of the garages at the Fatima Center. One of Our Lady's volunteers, who lives here at the Fatima Center will be supervising the work.

International Libraries

Recently, two ocean container shipments of books have gone to people who are setting up libraries for both seminarians and lay people in India and Africa.



Distribution

Between January and March of this year, over 1.7 million pieces of Russia Consecration material has been sent out. We plan to distribute another 2 million pieces in the near future.

The Green Scapular

By the end of March of this year, 40 volunteer kits had been sent to foreign priests to distribute among their parishioners.

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IS THIS THE PEACE PROMISED BY OUR LADY?

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attacked the Catholic Church members after prompting by a religious vision.

And the Peace Goes On ...

Just before the new year, a priest, Father Inocencio, was shot and killed. This senseless attack took place on the island of Jolo and was perpetrated by men who are suspected of being members of the rebel militia fighting for a Muslim state in the Philippines.

... And On

There is only one country in Asia without Catholic Churches. And Afghanistan has added to the "shariah" (civil Islamic law) to maintain the status quo.

To convert to Christianity, preach the Gospel, or proselytize in that country could result in being condemned to death. There is a term of 5 years in prison for selling offensive books for the propagation of "false beliefs." These harsh measures are in place against those who seek to "corrupt Muslims by offering them economic incentives if they convert to Christianity."

...And On

The Auxiliary Bishop of Boma recently spent 13 days in prison without specific formal charges.

The police force in charge of "anti-patriotic Activities" have been accused of making random arrests which are detrimental to religious.

Priests and missionaries have been subjected to imprisonment even though, according to *Avvenire*, the Bishops' newspaper in Rome, these arrests of men of the Church are a real "persecution" which they are suffering for being "the only free and non-aligned voice in the recent vicissitudes of the Democratic Republic of the Congo."

Lead by Example

The time has come for *everyone* to say they have had enough. No more lies. No more silence. No more cover-ups. The Catholic Church has to take its rightful place as leader of men. And it must lead by example.

We have to go to our bishops and insist they officially and publicly inform the Pope they will support him in the Consecration of Russia, exactly as Our Lady requested. Only then will we have real peace throughout the world. ■

Since the first of the year, over 51,000 Green Scapulars and 25,000 Brown Scapulars have been distributed to faithful Catholics like yourself, in mission countries, through our volunteers, and at our Rallies and Special Events.

Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Orphanage

January is the month when the Archbishop goes to St. Paul's Parish, where the orphanage is, to Confirm the children and give First Communion to those who are judged ready to receive. This year was no exception. All the children being blessed with these sacraments received a gift of special clothes for the occasion and a prayer book.

Poor children in the area surrounding the orphanage, who would otherwise not have the opportunity of education, are now being screened to fill the 30 scholarships your pledge gifts have helped make possible. Screening is also being done to place seven more children in Our Lady's Orphanage in order to cause our extended family to grow.

Brown Scapular Workshop in India

The process for pricing supplies and finding the workers is now actively being done in India to help set up our very first Brown Scapular workshop. Between January and March of this year, over 25,000 Brown Scapulars have been distributed by Our Lady's Apostolate.

Fatima: Chronology of a Cover-Up

Fatima: Chronology of a Cover-Up was updated and taken to Rome for distribution to Cardinals, Bishops and priests during the induction of 44 new Cardinals. Father Gruner traveled to Rome to meet as many of the new Cardinals as possible and distributed these during his visit there. The pamphlet is currently being translated to German, and will be posted in that language on our website at www.fatima.org. ■

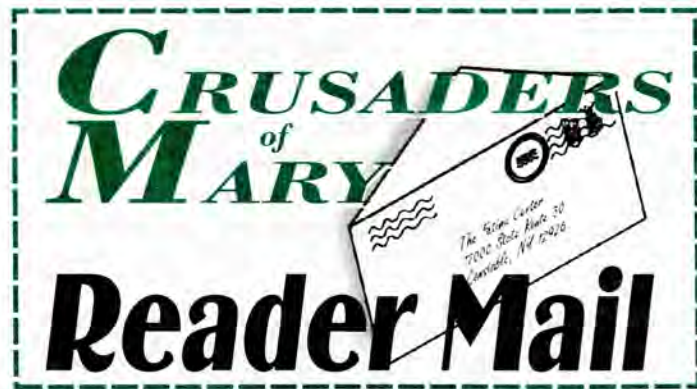
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Dear Rev. Father Nicholas,

Thank you very much for the very interesting story regarding the Green Scapular and thank you for the enclosure of the Green Scapular. I wear the Brown Scapular.

I have been praying for years to the Blessed Mother for miracles of faith and conversion for four people.

I pray the Rosary every night for you to keep you strong and healthy so that you can continue your Apostolate for Our Lady of Fatima.

Your letter was so beautiful and heart warming and reduced me to tears. I am well aware of your struggle to get Our Lady's Message to everyone in the world.

I don't worry about your spiritual strength but I do worry about your health. Our Lady will not let you down. She will watch over you and keep you as only She and Her Divine Son Jesus can.

God bless you, Father Nicholas and may you gain in strength daily. I fear for the consciences of the Vatican bureaucrats. They must not have very peaceful slumber time.

Let us pray to Blessed Jacinta and Francisco to intercede for us and Pope John Paul II for the Consecration of Russia.

Helen P., CA

Dear Father Gruner,

Thank you for the very good experience of the World Peace 2000 Conference in Canada. Thank you, in particular, for sponsoring my ticket for the occasion and for looking after my accommodation, etc.

So many enriching things happened and were said during the Conference. I would really like to share these experiences with my brother bishops here in Zimbabwe. For this reason I would be most grateful if you could send me a written account of the different talks and the video tapes.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop A.M.