



CRUSADERS of MARY Newsletter

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"Spread Devotion to Mary, Help of Christians and You Will See what Miracles Are." — St. John Bosco

Novena in Honor of Mary, Help of Christians

Day One

O Mary, Thou didst readily agree to the Angel's request when he asked Thee to be the Mother of God's Son, and throughout Thy life, Thy one desire was to do the will of Thy Father in Heaven. Help me always to be obedient and humble. May I, like Thee, always have the generosity to follow Jesus, wherever He calls.

To be said every day

Hail Mary, full of grace ...

Pray for us, O Immaculate, Help of Christians.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, place deep in our hearts the love of Mary, our help and the help of all Christians. May we fight vigorously for the faith here on earth, and may we one day praise Thy victories in Heaven. Grant this in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Our Lord. *Amen.*

Day Two

O Mary, by Thy visit to Thy cousin, Saint Elizabeth, Thou joyfully spread the good news of the coming of Jesus among men. May many young people generously

follow Thine example, and give their lives totally to the service of Thy Son as priests, brothers and sisters.

Day Three

O Mary, ever since the wedding feast of Cana, Thou hast always been the powerful help of all those who have asked Thine aid and protection. By Thy prayers, keep me free from all dangers and help me always to rise above my faults and failings.

Day Four

O Mary, by Thy presence at the foot of the cross, Thou comforted and strengthened Thy Son as He offered His life to the Father. Be with me at the hour of my death, and when I die lead me quickly to the joys of Thy Son's kingdom in Heaven.

Day Five

O Mary, by Thy presence in the upper room Thou strengthened and encouraged the apostles and disciples as they waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. May I always be open to the gifts of the Spirit, and may my faith always be deep and living.



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The Our Father ... by St. Louis de Montfort

We make as many acts of the noblest Christian virtues as we pronounce words, when we recite attentively this divine prayer.

In saying "Our Father Who art in heaven," we make acts of faith, adoration and humility. When we ask that *His name be hallowed* and glorified we show a burning zeal for His glory, and when we ask for the spread of His Kingdom we make an act of hope; by the wish that *His will be done on earth as it is in heaven*, we show a spirit of perfect obedience.

In asking for our *daily bread* we practice poverty of spirit and detachment from worldly goods. When we beg Him to *forgive us our sins* we make an act of sorrow for them. By *forgiving those who have trespassed against us* we give proof of the virtue of mercy in its highest degree.

Through asking *God's help in all our temptations*, we make acts of humility, prudence and fortitude. As we wait for Him

to *deliver us from evil* we exercise the virtue of patience.

Finally, while asking for all these things — not for ourselves alone but also for our neighbor and for all members of the Church — we are carrying out our duty as true children of God, we are imitating Him in His love which embraces all men and we are keeping the commandment of love of neighbor.

If we mean in our hearts what we say with our lips and if our intentions are not at variance with those expressed in the Lord's Prayer, then, by reciting this prayer, we hate all sin and we observe all of God's laws. For whenever we think that God is in heaven — infinitely removed from us by the greatness of His majesty — as we place ourselves in His presence we should be filled with overwhelming reverence. Then the fear of the Lord will chase away all pride and we

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News from the Apostolate

Both our Philippines and India offices have been filling the volunteer orders and mailing them out to volunteers in their own countries. This requires us to keep those offices supplied with magazines, prayer cards and other literature, which means that our shipping department has a mammoth job at least twice each year. The cost of shipping in bulk is less than mailing individual orders.



The benefits of this work is very far-reaching. By providing the goods to offices in their own countries, the volunteers can get materials for distribution much quicker and at a lesser cost to Our Lady's Apostolate. Priests and bishops who request materials for distribution on special occasions, such as first Communion and Confirmations, can be supplied in time. In the past this was a great heartache as the international mail caused a delay in our receipt of the requests and the cost to airmail sacramentals and literature was so high we could not supply the amounts asked for and get them there for those special days.

Our Madras office has been on the Internet, so communications are simplified greatly. Within the next few months, our Philippines office will also go on the Internet. Our plans for these far-away places is that they will continue to grow and expand, providing information about Fatima and sacramentals to the people through volunteers, priests and bishops.

In India, a volunteer who makes beautiful small Rosaries has agreed to send her Rosaries to our office there for distribution to the priests and bishops who request them. Indian government policies make it difficult for large shipments of sacramentals to be received in that country, consequently we are investigating ways of making these items through cottage industries such as our Brown Scapular factory or purchasing in bulk at cheaper prices for free distribution. □

In the Beginning ... A Pilgrimage to Rome

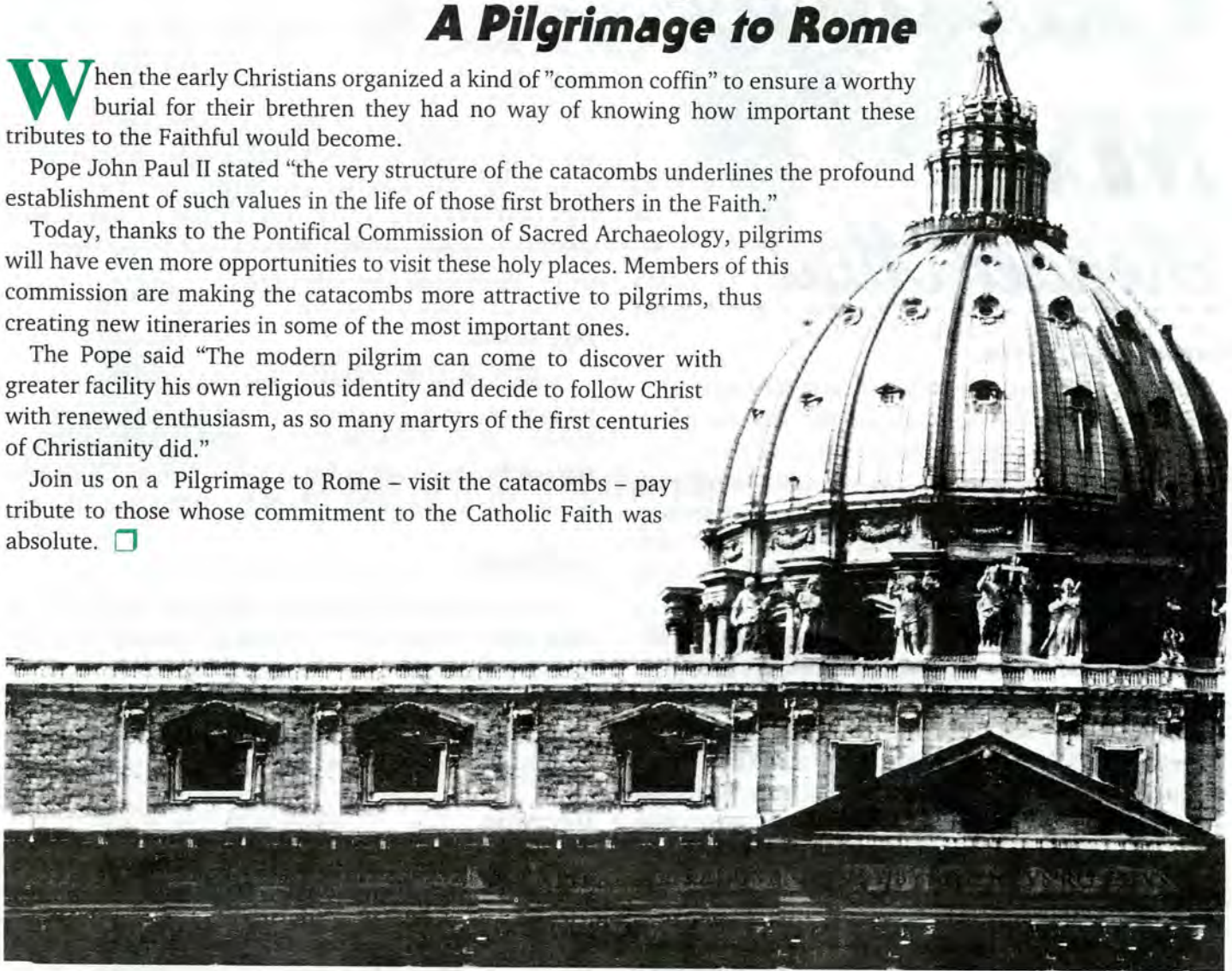
When the early Christians organized a kind of "common coffin" to ensure a worthy burial for their brethren they had no way of knowing how important these tributes to the Faithful would become.

Pope John Paul II stated "the very structure of the catacombs underlines the profound establishment of such values in the life of those first brothers in the Faith."

Today, thanks to the Pontifical Commission of Sacred Archaeology, pilgrims will have even more opportunities to visit these holy places. Members of this commission are making the catacombs more attractive to pilgrims, thus creating new itineraries in some of the most important ones.

The Pope said "The modern pilgrim can come to discover with greater facility his own religious identity and decide to follow Christ with renewed enthusiasm, as so many martyrs of the first centuries of Christianity did."

Join us on a Pilgrimage to Rome – visit the catacombs – pay tribute to those whose commitment to the Catholic Faith was absolute. □



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will bow down before God in our utter nothingness.

When we say the name *Father* and remember that we owe our existence to God by the means of our parents and even our knowledge to our teachers who hold the place and are the living images of God, then we cannot help paying them honor and respect, or, to be more exact, honoring God in them. Nothing then, too, would be further from our thoughts than to be disrespectful to them or hurt them.

We are never further from blaspheming than when we pray that the *Holy Name of God may be glorified*. If we really look upon the Kingdom of God as our heritage we cannot possibly be attached to the things of this world.

If we sincerely ask God that our neighbor may have the

very same blessings that we ourselves stand in need of, it goes without saying that we will give up all hatred, quarreling and jealousy. And of course if we ask God each day for our *daily bread* we shall learn to hate gluttony and lasciviousness which thrive in rich surroundings.

While sincerely asking God to *forgive us as we forgive those who trespass against us* we no longer give way to anger and thoughts of getting even — we return good for evil and really love our enemies.

To ask God to *save us from falling into sin* when we are tempted is to give proof that we are fighting laziness and that we are genuinely seeking means to root out vicious habits and to work out our salvation.

To pray God to *deliver us from evil* is to fear His justice and this will give us true happiness. For since the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom, it is through the virtue of the fear of God that men avoid sin. □

CRUSADERS of MARY Reader Mail



NOVENA IN HONOR OF MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS
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Our Lady's Workers,

... I am a New York Police Officer. In my line of work, I see the absolute worst that society has to offer. However even the worst of our society have a soul that God wants them to save. As we all know, our anti-Catholic, naturalistic, paganistic, Godless society has no concern for the salvation of souls, much less acceptance of true Traditional Catholic principles. That is why I am contacting you. As someone who works within the system and who has countless arrests to his name, I daily see the almost absolute despair of a large segment of our society. This is not to say that I am a "bleeding heart" for there can be no mercy without justice. What I am saying is that in my own small way I want to offer these souls the truth. That is why I am asking if it would be possible to obtain a large number of Green Scapulars (50-100) that I could begin distributing, and anything else that you may think would be beneficial in this endeavor. I will close by saying that I am no stranger to the Brown Scapular or the Green Scapular. Father Gruner himself enrolled me in the Brown Scapular and my grandmother converted from being a Methodist to Catholicism on her deathbed because of the Green Scapular that was placed in her room during her last months. My grandmother also obtained the immense grace of being enrolled in the Brown Scapular and dying with it around her neck. I hope to hear from you soon and be assured that Father Gruner and all those working in his Apostolate are in my prayers.

Yours in the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Tom, via the Internet

From the Editor: *If you are interested in distributing Brown or Green Scapulars, please contact our Volunteer Hotline 1-800-845-3047.*

Day Six

O Mary, throughout Her long history Thou hast always defended Thy Son's Church from the attacks of her enemies. Be with Her now during this present time. Help each one of us to be Her loyal subjects and to work without ceasing for that unity of peace and love for which Thy Son so fervently prayed.

Day Seven

O Mary, Thou hast always been the special guide and protectress of Saint Peter's successor, the Bishop of Rome. Keep our present Holy Father in Thy loving care. Defend him from all harm; and give him all those gifts he needs to be the faithful shepherd of Thy Son's flock.

Day Eight

O Mary, the wonderful way Thou hast helped Saint John Bosco's work to grow and spread, shows that Thou hast a great love for the young. As Thou watched over the Child Jesus at Nazareth, so now watch over all young people, especially those most in need, and help them to grow daily in love of Thy Son.

Day Nine

O Mary, Thou so often showed great courage during Thy life here on earth. Help all those who are suffering pain and persecution as they try to worship Thy Son. Obtain for me a deep love of Jesus, so that my life may always be pure, my service of others generous and loving and my death a truly happy one.

Spiritual practices recommended by St. John Bosco:

1. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father, Blessed and praised every moment be the Most Holy and Divine Sacrament. (Three times.)
2. Hail Holy Queen ... Mary Help of Christians pray for us. (Three times.)
3. To approach the Sacraments at least once during the Novena.
4. To make an offering towards work of charity.