

CRUSADERS OF MARY

Newsletter

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The Miraculous Medal

The Immaculate Virgin Mary promised many graces to those who invoked Her and wore Her medal of the Immaculate Conception. This medal has had such profound effects that it has been termed the Miraculous Medal and has spread throughout the entire world. Countless documented cures, conversions and graces have been bestowed by the Blessed Virgin Mary through the instrumentality of Her Medal, and the following is just one example of the cures wrought by Our Lady through the Miraculous Medal.

A young religious, twenty-seven and a half years old and eight years professed, in an Order specially consecrated to the Blessed Virgin (Paris), had been kept in the infirmary by various maladies, for the space of five months. At the very time she appeared convalescent, an accident of the gravest nature happened; her left thigh bone became disjunct and shrunken, the limb was attacked by paralysis, and the sick religious lay upon her bed one month, without experiencing the slightest alleviation from human remedies. Two physicians and a surgeon being consulted at various times, pronounced the displacing of the bone due to an irritating humor; but they could not check it, even by means of cauterizing and issues, so that after a long and painful treatment, she remained a cripple. She now had recourse to the Blessed Virgin as a child to its good mother; a religious of the house having brought her one of those medals called miraculous, she received it gratefully, applied it to the afflicted member and commenced a novena to the Blessed Virgin. All human remedies seemed unavailing; she lost her appetite and was unable to sleep. She was also racked with high fever; however, having snatched a little repose during the Wednesday night after beginning the novena, she was suddenly awakened by a very painful commotion,



which re-established the bones in their place; the leg which had been shortened about six inches, became lengthened almost even with the other, and recovered its usual strength. On visiting her the next morning, the physicians were greatly astonished, but gave orders that she should not yet leave her bed. On Sunday, the last day of the novena, the fact of the cure was established beyond a doubt. The religious rose quite naturally, and, without any assistance, ran to kiss Mary's statue, placed over the infirmary fireplace; then, dressed in her habit, and accompanied by the Mother Infirmarian, she descended about a dozen steps to the chapel to adore the Blessed Sacrament, after which she repaired to the community room, where the Superior with her Mothers and Sisters were assembled, to give her the kiss of congratulation. This touching scene was terminated by the recitation of the *Te Deum* and *Sub Tuum*. No trace of disease remained, except a slight weakness for a few days, and as this was only felt in the sound limb, it was evidently the result of her having been six months in bed.

Two of the physicians acknowledged, with all the Community, that it was a supernatural favor. One of them has even declared in a certificate of May 4, 1834, that without wishing to characterize a fact as extraordinary, he observes that in this circumstance there are: 1st, spontaneous disjuncting; 2nd, spontaneous diminution, three days of convalescence, and these last two are, to the extent of his knowledge, without parallels in the records of surgery. The religious has never had another attack of this infirmity."

— taken from *The Miraculous Medal: Its Origin, History, Circulation, Results* by Father Aladel, C.M. ¶

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Persecutions Continue after 1984 Consecration

The sword is sharpened, and furbished. It is sharpened to kill victims. (Ezekiel 21:9-10)

"He (God) is about to punish the world for its crimes, by means of war, famine and persecutions of the Church and of the Holy Father.

"To prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to My Immaculate Heart. ... If My requests are heeded, Russia will be converted and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church." (Our Lady of Fatima, July 13, 1917)

On May 13, 1982, one year after the attempt on his life, Pope John Paul II consecrated the world, but not Russia, at Fatima. *L'Osservatore Romano* explained that he had "tried to do everything possible in the concrete circumstances."

On March 25, 1984, the Holy Father once again consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This time he prayed after doing the consecration "Enlighten especially the peoples of which You Yourself are awaiting our consecration and confiding," publicly acknowledging that Russia was still not consecrated to Her Immaculate Heart.

False Claims

Certain highly placed Vatican officials, who claim to be repeating the words of Sister Lucy while not allowing her to speak for herself, insist that the consecration of the world in 1984 was sufficient. Everyone knows Russia is part of the world, they remind us, (therefore God didn't really have to be that specific) thus even Pope John Paul II was wrong in his assessment of his own consecrations.

Actions Speak Louder Than Words

In this "era of peace," since 1984, highlighted by the al-

leged revelation of the Third Secret on June 26, 2000, Catholics should be living in the triumph of the Immaculate Heart. The terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and Washington must have been acts of peace, not war.


The April 7, 2002 killing of a priest in Bogota, Colombia, while he was celebrating Mass was not an act of persecution against the Church because, we are told, Russia is consecrated.

Father Stefano Caprio, a priest who has been working in Russia for the past 12 years was deprived of his visa after leaving Russia to visit his parents in Italy. But since Russia is no longer spreading her errors and persecution is no longer taking place, there is an obvious explanation. Wouldn't we all like to hear it!

The kidnapping (and release, on April 11, 2002 – some reports claim after a ransom was paid) of an Italian missionary in the Philippines by an Islamic group shouldn't have happened in this "period of peace" promised by Our Lady. But it did.

There's More

According to Father Faltas, the custodian of Bethlehem's Basilica of the Nativity, Israeli soldiers have shot at the basilica, the sacristy and the monastery's kitchen. Father Bini, Minister General of the Order of Friars Minor, in Rome, reports that "the supplies of water and food have run out; the removal of a body of the young Palestinian killed has not been permitted; it is not possible to provide suitable care to the other gravely wounded Palestinian."

We are not living in the period of peace promised by Our Lady once Her request for the consecration of Russia is fulfilled. It's our solemn duty to tell our bishops we support Our Lady and Her Fatima Message and we want them to publicly proclaim the same. It is our duty to work and pray for the collegial Consecration of Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. 


Reason Helps Us to Rise Above Life's Instability

by St. Francis de Sales

When God said, "Let us make man to our likeness," (Gen. 1:26), He thereby bestowed on him reason and the use thereof, so that he would be able to discuss and consider good and evil, distinguish one from the other, and know which things should be chosen and which rejected.

By the use of reason, man can remain firm and constant amid all the various events and accidents of this mortal life. Let the weather be fine or let it rain, let the air be calm or let the wind blow, the wise man pays no attention to it, knowing well that nothing in this life is stable and permanent, and that this is not a place of rest.

In affliction he does not despair but waits for consolation; in sickness he does not torment himself but waits for health, or if he sees that his illness is such that death must follow, he thanks God, hoping for the repose of the immortal life that follows upon this one. If poverty overtakes him he does not distress himself, for he knows very well that riches do not exist in this life without poverty; if he is despised, he knows well that honor here below has no permanence, but is generally followed by dishonor or contempt.

In short, in all kinds of events, in prosperity or adversity, he remains firm, steadfast, and constant in his resolution to aspire and to strain after the enjoyment of eternal blessings. 

St. Teresa of Avila

Feast Day — October 15
1515-1582

St. Teresa is regarded as one of the greatest women of history and one of the most illustrious saints of the Church. Teresa loved to read of the saints and martyrs, and when only seven, she set out with a brother for the land of the Moors in the hope of being martyred, for, as she said, "I want to see God, and to see Him I must die first."

At fourteen, she lost her mother, and for a time was given to reading romances of chivalry and to worldly chatter, things she later called her "great sins".

At twenty, she expressed her wish to become a Carmelite nun at Avila, but her father at first refused to let her go. He relented, however, and Teresa in due time made her profession.

As a nun she was allowed and enjoyed worldly contacts, but she finally came to understand that she had to give herself wholly to God. She made a general confession, and from then on her life was one of prayer, illuminations, ecstasies, apparitions, but also of sufferings, both bodily and mental.


She was also favored with extraordinary manifestations, such as the mystical espousals and nuptials with Christ. She desired intensely to die so as to be united with

her Divine Love, but she also desired to suffer, so much so that she uttered the famous words: "Lord, either to die or to suffer; I beg nothing else for myself."

At the instigation of St. John of the Cross and with his help, she set about reforming the Carmelite Order, and despite persecutions, ridicule, slanders, and other difficulties she achieved a reform in Spain and Portugal and built many new convents. At Toledo she had only three ducats to start building. "Teresa and three ducats are nothing," she said; "but God, Teresa, and three ducats are enough to succeed."



She left a number of deeply spiritual and mystical books: an *Autobiography*, relating her visions and revelations; a *Way of Perfection* for the direction of her nuns; a book of *Foundations* for their encouragement; and the *Interior Castle*, a mystical theology of great penetration.

She died at Alva de Tonnez. 

ST. TERESA BOOKS YOU CAN BUY...



The Autobiography of St. Teresa of Avila — Scrupulously accurate translation describes her life and the extraordinary workings of grace within her soul. Describes her own spiritual struggles, spiritual laxity, her vision of her potential place in Hell, the great assistance she received from St. Joseph, her many mystical graces — including visions.

B0778 Special price for members of the Crusaders is \$33.20 CDN funds or \$21.53 US including S & H charges.

The Interior Castle or the Mansions by St. Teresa of Avila — Practical advice regarding the early struggles and the temptations to turn back. Describes each of the seven "Mansions."

Aridity in prayer, sweetness in prayer, Prayer of Quiet, Prayer of Union, practice of virtue, Spiritual Espousals, preparation for Spiritual Marriage, the wound of love, locutions, intellectual and imaginary visions, raptures, the Humanity of Our Lord, God's presence, the roles of "Martha and Mary," and more.

B0782 Special price for members of the Crusaders is \$23.67 CDN funds or \$15.94 US including S & H charges.

The Way of Perfection by St. Teresa of Avila — Spiritual advice regarding relatives, confessors, health, the snares of Satan, supernatural vs. natural love, etc. How to begin a life of prayer. Contemplation is mental and vocal prayer. "Our Father" phrase by phrase, showing its meaning.

B0783 Special price for members of the Crusaders is \$23.67 CDN funds or \$15.94 US including S & H charges.

CRUSADERS OF MARY



Reader Mail

Dear Father

Two years ago, my wife was scheduled to have a stent placed in the interior artery of the left side of her brain. During the procedure by the Neurovascular Group at the California University of San Francisco Hospital, the procedure had to be postponed and a stent put in her left carotid artery instead.

Because of the deteriorating neurological symptoms the brain procedure was rescheduled for April 25 of this year. Two weeks before the procedure, we received a Green Scapular in the mail. My wife placed the Scapular in her purse and we began saying the simple prayer inscribed. After a five hour operation, when she was released from the recovery room, the neurovascular surgeon came to us to report the results.

He had no explanation for what had happened and was very surprised. He fully expected the narrowed artery in her brain to have further narrowed, causing the degenerated neurological problems she experienced with her speech and right side movement difficulties. Instead of narrowing, the artery had opened up and no stent was required. I attribute this wonderful surprise to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Green Scapular.

Thanks and praise be to God and His Mother.

Sincerely,
E. Metzner, CA

Dear Father Gruner,

Enclosed is a small donation in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary. The special Rosary Issue of *The Fatima Crusader* is the best one I have ever read! My children and I use the Rosary intentions article by Joseph Cain (pp 42-43) every time we pray the Rosary.

There are copies of this issue of *The Fatima Crusader* in the chapel of the local Catholic school.

Thank you again for reminding us of the true way of peace and how to keep our Faith.

Sincerely in Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
M. Farber, VT

Dear Father Gruner

Thank you for the latest issue of *The Fatima Crusader* —

a truly memorable and impressive one.

I'm sorry it's been so long since I wrote to you. I have had a few worrying events in my own life to contend with which have kept me preoccupied. But now that they've been sorted out to some extent, I can bring my mind back to the important issues.

I have been praying hard that the Holy Father will find the courage to call his rebellious Vatican officials to order and put an end to the intolerable persecution you're being subjected to. When you say you feel as if you are in hand-to-hand combat with the devil himself, I'm sure that's *exactly right*. You are! Who else but the devil hates Our Lady so much that he can keep up an endless, no-holds-barred war against Her? The most dismaying thing of all is to realize how many of the Vatican hierarchy are fighting on his side. Which of them, I wonder, will usurp the Chair of Peter?

It seems a good idea to give the Green Scapular a new lease of life, and perhaps this is just the right time to put Our Lady's "secret weapon" as you once called it, into operation. I could use another six of them, as I know so many Catholic families whose children have fallen away from the Faith. (In fact, I hardly know of one that hasn't!)

I would also like three more copies of the *Crusader* magazine. It's so packed with relevant, hard-hitting information ... I would like to give one to our priests to read, though I doubt if it will make much impression. They are all sound asleep!

What a truly remarkable letter you received from Robin H. — a real gift from Heaven. How it must have cheered you up! Especially as she/he is not even a Catholic. Isn't it exciting to think of the millions of prospective converts you can reach over the Internet, sending Our Lady's message and devotions right across the world. No wonder our enemies are getting desperate! I suspect that the success you are having now is, in no small measure, the fruit of all the suffering you have endured over recent years. Let us pray that Our Lady of Fatima will continue to receive worldwide publicity so that all those who are seeking the truth may find it.

With all my prayers and best wishes,
Yours in Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
P. Pralle, New Zealand

We'd Like to Hear From YOU!

Crusaders of Mary Newsletter

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