



Graces Dispensed by the Hands of Mary

"All gifts, all virtues and all graces are dispensed by the hands of Mary to whomsoever when and as She pleases". —St. Bonaventure

To understand the statement of St. Bonaventure that "... all virtues, ... graces are dispensed by ... Mary to whomsoever when and as She pleases", we need only recall the words of the Angel to Her at the Annunciation: "Full of Grace."

The plenitude of grace in Mary, Who was, by a special favor of God, conceived free of Original Sin through the Redemptive Sacrifice of Her Son before the Redemption even took place in human history, unites Her soul to God in a way we sinful mortals can barely imagine. Mary is a creature of God, created out of love like the rest of us. But in Her creation we see at work the love of God in a most singular fashion — higher than in all creation combined. Mary is the new

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Eve. The true Mother of all the living. In the case of Mary, however, God's creation cooperated with Him in His designs — not only for Her own good, but for the good of all mankind.

"Be it done unto Me according to Thy word," said Mary at the Annunciation, and the greatest drama of Salvation History was underway.

Her will and the will of God were one. It is in this fact that we find grounds to comprehend how it is that God has given to Mary the liberty to dispense all virtues and graces to whomsoever and whenever

She pleases. One might as well say "What He wills, when He wills, as He wills it." In other words, Mary's will is His will, for Her role is as She Herself chose it to be, and defined it with the sublime statement: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord."

Mary serves Her Lord and Master, of Whom She is both spouse and mother, as His "handmaid", so that the dispensing of virtues and graces is to whomsoever, whenever, and as God Himself pleases.

St. Bonaventure, Bishop & Confessor

St. Bonaventure entered the Franciscan Order. He lectured at the University of Paris, where he was acquainted with St. Thomas Aquinas. Known as the Seraphic Doctor, he became General of the Franciscan Order and Cardinal of Albano. He is considered the greatest exponent of mystical theology in the Middle Ages. He died in 1274.

At no time in the history of the Catholic Church, in the defining of articles of the faith and in the teaching of the Magisterium, is Mary ever placed on a par with God, Her Creator. This misconception of non-Catholic critics is a knee-jerk reaction to seeing a creature like the rest of us accorded as much honor as is Mary by Catholics.

Catholics honor Mary as the daughter of the Father,

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News from Fatima Center's Broadcast Department

New Stations:

Beginning April 16, 2000, we began airing on WORD Network on Direct TV via 18" mini dish. WORD is a religious station which broadcasts coast to coast in the United States to 2.1 million cable homes which means approximately 4,830,000 people could tune in to Our Lady's Television Program, *Fatima: The Moment Has Come*.

Broadcast Time Changes:

On Sunday, September 3rd, our broadcast time with ONTV changed from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

This is a great change for us as it is morning prime time. This is the first time we have had the opportunity to be on at this time in Canada for a reasonable rate. We hope that all who watch us at our new time will call us and let us know they are watching.

Father Gruner Profiled by TV Ontario's Studio 2:

TV Ontario's Studio 2 learned about Father Gruner's struggle with Vatican bureaucrats and asked if they could produce a documentary profile on Father and his case. The resulting 20-minute profile helps to dispel many of the myths that have arisen over the years about the priest who leads the world's largest Fatima Apostolate promulgating the full Fatima Message. The program has earned high praise from viewers for the quality, candor, and unexpected intimacy of the profile.

The Best of Fatima: The Moment Has Come Video:

We are currently in the process of preparing the second Best of *Fatima: The Moment Has Come* Video which we plan to again offer to all members of the League of the Immaculate Heart. This second edition will contain the best-loved and most popular moments from Our Lady's national television program and will feature many of the world's leading experts on Fatima, the Catholic Faith, world history and current events.

Our Lady's Radio Program on the Web:

Currently we have 500 *Heaven's Peace Plan* Radio programs on the Web. The technical staff from our Television Department converted our Radio programs to a real audio format and then our Webmaster put these up on our Website www.fatima.org. We have another 100 converted and hope to get these up in the very near future. ❖

Spiritual Maxims of St. Francis de Sales

- Be patient with everyone, but above all with yourself.
- Do all by love and nothing by force; love obedience rather than fear disobedience.
- You can only give God what you have.
- What we are in God's sight, that we are and no more.
- Our victory does not lie in our not feeling imperfections, but in not consenting to them.
- Do not desire crosses, save in proportion to the measure wherewith you have borne those that have already been sent you.
- The business of finding fault is very easy, and that of doing better very difficult.
- My tongue, while I speak of my neighbor, is in my mouth, like a lancet in the hand of the surgeon who

wishes to make an incision between the nerves and the sinews.

- God makes the lame and the blind to come to His banquet, to show us that two eyes and two legs are not needed for going to Paradise.
- Marriage is an Order in which the profession must be made before the novitiate.
- The well-being of a household depends on parents' words, but far more on their behavior.
- We must fight back with affection and not with reason.
- We must love our friends notwithstanding their imperfections, but we must not love their imperfections.

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Television/Radio Program Guest Profiles



Elizabeth Holdsworth

Mrs. Holdsworth is a wife and mother of two boys, aged 16 and 13. She and her husband have

been married for twenty-three years and have always lived in Fort Erie, Ontario. Elizabeth and her family are active volunteers in the community and in their parish. She has worked with Father Nicholas Gruner at Our Lady's Apostolate for many years now and feels blessed to be able to work for such a worthy cause.

Greg and Marilyn Ohme

Mr. and Mrs. Ohme discuss a modern day Rosary Miracle on Fatima: *"The Moment Has Come"*. Their

19-year-old daughter, Juliann, was cured of a fatal bacterial disease (meningococcal meningitis) which affects the base of the spine and spreads to and swells the brain, usually causing death within six to eight hours.

Hundreds of people were praying for Juliann, and saying the Rosary for her and begging the Blessed Mother to let her live. Through the power of the Rosary, Juliann has resumed full time employment, she's stronger spiritually and she's brought conversions to the Faith.

This past summer, Juliann joined Our Lady's Apostolate in Fatima, Portugal, and helped distribute thousands of petitions and prayer cards. ❖

SPIRITUAL MAXIMS

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- The crosses that we shape for ourselves are always lighter than the ones laid upon us.
- Nothing appeases an enraged elephant so much as the sight of a little lamb.
- We must be prepared to see weeds growing in our garden and also have the courage to pull them out.
- Observe God's ways and not your own.
- Blessed are the hearts which can bend; they shall never be broken.

- Take care of your health, that it may serve you to serve God.
- One kind word wins more willing service than a hundred harsh orders or stern reproofs.
- Consider what God is doing and what you are doing.
- We must, if possible, avoid making our devotion troublesome to others.
- Bearing with the imperfections of our neighbor is one of the chief characteristics of our love for him.
- Consideration of others is as much the offspring of charity as fasting is the sister of obedience.
- There is nothing small in the service of God.
- Ask for nothing and refuse nothing. ❖

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Never has the Message of Fatima been more relevant and urgent than it is today! As a Catholic, you need to know the full Message of Fatima.

Hosted by Father Nicholas Gruner, known to millions as the Fatima Priest, these broadcasts feature many of the world's leading experts on Fatima, the Catholic Faith, world history and current events. Father and his guests provide a unique perspective both on the world today and the world-to-come.

Prayer

O God, Who, for the saving of souls didst will that Blessed Francis, Thy Confessor and Bishop, should become all things to all men, be pleased to grant that we, being filled with the sweetness of Thy love, guided by his teachings, and helped by his merits and prayers, may attain the joys of everlasting life. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen



Dear Sister/Brother in Jesus through Mary,

Please, I would like to get *The Fatima Crusader*. I took a copy from a friend and it has helped me in sharing in our prayer group with our members.

May God bless you in this good work. I am sincerely yours in Jesus through Mary.

Mrs. Christina O., Nigeria

Dear Father Gruner,

I was so happy to receive your letter.

It touched me a great deal that you included me in your prayers when you were in Fatima in May ...

Your deadline of October 2000 is near at hand and I will do my utmost to send as much as I can. I've always had great devotion to Our Lady (my birthday is May 1st) and as a child attending Catholic school, we always had a procession to crown Our Lady.

My prayers will include Our Lady's request for the Consecration of Russia. Please, Father Gruner, continue to pray for me ...

I think the beatification of Jacinta and Francisco is just wonderful.

Again, thank you for writing to me. Your letter has given me new hope for the days to come and it comforts me to know that you care.

Sincerely, Donald M., California.

Dear Reverend Father,

Thank you for sending me the book entitled *Fatima Priest* and the video tape about your ministry and the Fatima Message. After reviewing these, I am forwarding them to my Bishop.

My prayers are with you as you struggle to bring the Fatima Message to the world. In God's time all will be accomplished according to His Will. He it is who governs all things accordingly. It is in Him that Salvation, Glory, Power and Might dwell in the Fullness of Grace. We have only to trust and obey.

May the tears of the Blessed Virgin Mary be your

treasure. And may God bless you with grace beyond measure.

In the Peace of Christ,

Thomas D., Florida

Greetings!

Thank you very much for your e-mail informing me in advance that the materials I requested have been sent.

From now on, I will be a frequent visitor of Our Lady's web site and do some reading about Fatima and Our Blessed Mother. I do print the articles and give them to my friends for their own reading also.

Thanking you once again,

Flora T. (via e-mail)

GRACES DISPENSED
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the Spouse of the Holy Ghost and the Mother of the Son. It is in Her perfect submission to all three Persons of the Blessed Trinity that we recognize Her great attributes. At Fatima, the world was placed in the care of Her Immaculate Heart precisely because of Her obedience to God. And because of that obedience do we entrust Her completely with our spiritual salvation and the salvation of the world. ❖

We Want to Hear From YOU!

You are such an important part of Our Lady's Peace Plan. Because of you, through the means of the television media, we are able to spread Her message to millions more souls. We love to hear from you; your comments and suggestions for programs. Maybe you even know someone who would make a very interesting and inspirational guest. Or, maybe you have some news for our Immaculate Heart Newsletter. Send them in. We're looking forward to hearing from you. ❖

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