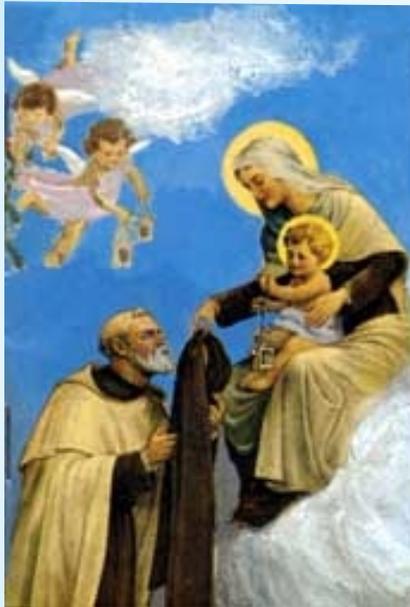




Mother of God

Mediatrix of All Grace

Monthly Bulletin Vol.2 1st July 2018 No 7.



CONTENTS

Editorial.....	1
Why entrust the World to Her Immaculate Heart ?.....	3
Playing the waiting game.....	4
Our Lady, Queen of Peace.....	7
"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened..".....	12
The Scapular - Mary's Gift of Protection.....	14

“ ... I desire that you bring forth this Scapular..and that great graces would flow through this ‘Garment’ ...” Our Lady at Batim.
- By Dr Christopher Dias,
www.thebatimmessage.com

On the 16th of July we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. She is depicted with Baby Jesus in her arms, while in one hand she holds out a brown Scapular. St. Simon Stock, an aged general of the Carmelite Order, had appealed to Our Lady for her protection over his oppressed congregation. On this day in 1251, She appeared to him at Cambridge, England, and presented to him the brown scapular, which became the prototype of all the others. Mary assured him that all who were duly invested with it and wore it faithfully with filial love and confidence in her power and goodness, would feel her powerful intercession and obtain the grace of final perseverance and her motherly protection of death.

During his Apostolic Visit to Chile in January 2018, Pope Francis has highlighted devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary as "Our Lady of Mount Carmel", who is revered there as 'Patroness and Queen of Chile'.

The title "Our Lady of Mount Carmel" refers to Mary as she is revered in the Carmelite tradition. The Carmelite devotion of the brown scapular - a small cloth garment worn in honour of Mary - has spread to millions of people worldwide.

To obtain the full benefit of the Brown Scapular devotion, one must be validly invested in the Brown Scapular. We often see a priest investing an infant with the Brown Scapular at the Baptismal rite. The investiture "enrols" the wearer in the Confraternity of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. A Catholic can be invested in the Brown Scapular by a priest, using Scapular blessed by a Priest. After a proper investiture in the Scapular, a person need not have subsequent Scapulars blessed. Once invested, you are invested until death.

There are many different Scapulars but the World Apostolate of Fatima promotes only the Brown Scapular because of the tremendous Sabbatine Privilege and also because Our Lady appeared at Fatima on October 13, 1917 as Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

The Blessed Virgin's last appearance at Lourdes was on July 16, 1858, Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Our Lady thus urges us by her many Apparitions to place ourselves under the mantle of Her protection. It is of the greatest importance for Catholics living today as we enter into humanity's darkest hour, to be consecrated by the Scapular to our Heavenly Mother. A prophecy attributed to St. Dominic further underlines this importance... "one day through the Rosary and the Scapular She will save the world."

For us children of Mary, wearing the Scapular is fulfilling one of the conditions requested by Our Lady. We acknowledge that we are consecrated to Her by wearing the Scapular.

As we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on the 16th of this month, let us pledge to become apostles of the Brown Scapular, wearing it ourselves and helping others to do the same.

At Batim, Our Beloved mother makes us aware of Her scapular and it's message. On 31st May 2011, Our Lady speaks to Iveta: "...I desire that you bring forth this Scapular, just like the one I made known to Dominic My beloved son. It shall have The Image of I WHO AM THE MOTHER OF GOD with the CHILD JESUS and Dominic My beloved son receiving The Scapular with the brown (fabric) as a remembrance of, My brown Mantle attached to it.

"On the second part, shall be the same as The Mediatrix Medal's front and back reveals. In this way it shall be that in these times I shall protect and conquer souls for God. This promise is for those who wear it: shall walk hand in hand and in My Shadow. No evil shall snatch them from ME, their Heavenly Mother.

The two parts revealed shall be bound together with a white cord, to

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Why entrust the World to Her Immaculate Heart? -Pope John Paul II.

On the cross, Christ said: 'Woman, behold your son!' With these words He opened in a new way His Mother's Heart. A little later, the Roman soldier's spear pierced the side of the Crucified one. That pierced heart became a sign of the redemption achieved through the death of the Lamb of God.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary, opened with the words "Woman, behold your son!" is spiritually united with the heart of her son opened by the soldier's spear. Mary's Heart was opened by the same love for man and for the world with which Christ loved man and the world, offering Himself for them on the cross, until the soldier's spear struck that blow.

Entrusting the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary means drawing near, through the Mother's intercession, to the very fountain of life that sprang from Golgotha. This fountain pours forth unceasingly redemption and grace. In it reparation is made continually for the sins of the world. It is a ceaseless source of new life and holiness.



Entrusting the world to the Immaculate Heart of the Mother means returning beneath the cross of the son. It means entrusting this world to the pierced Heart of the saviour, bringing it back to the very source of its redemption. Redemption is always greater than man's sin and the 'sin of the world'. The power of the redemption is infinitely superior to the whole range of evil in man and the whole world.

The Heart of the Mother is aware of this, more than any other heart in the whole universe, visible and invisible. And so she calls us. She not only calls us to be converted: she calls us to accept her motherly help to return to the source of redemption.

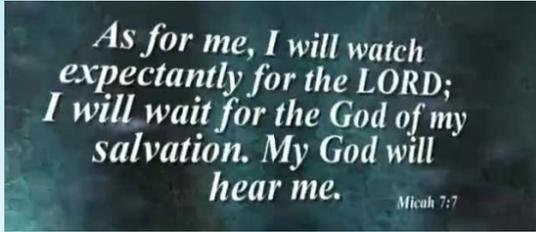
Entrusting ourselves to Mary means accepting her help to offer ourselves and the whole of mankind to Him who is holy, infinitely holy; it means accepting her help- by having recourse to her motherly Heart, which

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Playing the waiting game

By David Torkington, Catholic Herald 3rd July 1998.

Sometimes the saints say things that make me feel like giving up the spiritual life for good and taking up scuba diving instead. Only yesterday I was reading St. Catherine of Siena who said something that made me angry mainly because I didn't want to hear.



She said that patience isn't so much a virtue as a test of all true virtue. If you haven't got any patients then it's ten to one you haven't got any virtues worth writing about either. Well, that brought me and my pious

pretensions down to size. But, what's more important, it made me think. It made me think about why I get so impatient to wait for any thing, whether it's for the post to come, a train or plane to arrive or for my turn at the supermarket checkout to come.

The truth of the matter is I hate waiting for any thing, because I'm not in control. And who doesn't like being in control, not only of events, but of other people too? In short we want every one to be at our beck and call. We want everything to revolve around us and to be at our service, when, where and how we choose.

To say a person is impatient is just another way of saying that they are arrogant, full of themselves and full of their own importance. Now it's not particularly pleasant to realize that you are several million light years away from sanctity, but at least it's a beginning. But what's to be done about it?

That's the important thing. The answer is to be found in prayer. At least, that's what St. Catherine said. Now, she doesn't just mean praying inside of prayer itself. Most of us give up prayer before we've really started because nothing happens, and we are too impatient to learn to wait on God. All the saint's say the same thing: you only really learn patience, and prayer is the best place to do it.

St. Lucas is a case to point. What he has to say about prayer is particularly important, because he is merely handing on the teaching of Jesus himself. He not only tells us how to address God, but what we ought to say to him and what we ought to ask for. But his most profound teaching on prayer is this: no matter where you begin or how you progress, the time will come when you have done all that you can do, and then you will have to learn to wait on God, that he, not us, is in control. He comes when he chooses, not when he choose. Our job is to be ready at all times to receive him.

Waiting on God is easy when he seems to be close at hand, listening to all we have to say and granting any request that we make of him. But the real test of love is when we are prepared to go on loving, go on giving, go on waiting when he seems far away, when he doesn't seem to be listening at all, or granting what we ask.

St. John of the cross was made a Doctor of the Church because he has written more profoundly than anyone else about the prayer when we have to wait on God in what he calls the “dark night of the soul”, which was the title of his most famous book.

He makes it quite clear that anyone who preservers in prayer will inevitably come to the place where one has to wait on God amid the dryness, aridity and darkness, where there will not only be many distractions, but temptations against faith hope and charity.

When there's no experience of the presence of God for prolonged periods of time, you begin to ask, not just where is God, but is there a God, and if there is no God what hope is there?

Only the person who is prepared to persevere waiting on God despite these temptations will be purified and refined in such a way that they are ready and prepared to receive the one who comes when you least expect him. This is the place where saints are made, as they learn to remain patiently waiting on God come what may. It is the only place that we will learn true patience too, by practicing patience in adversity as best as we can.

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beneath the cross was opened to love for every human being, for the whole world- in order to offer the world, the individual human being, mankind as a whole, and all the nations to Him who is infinitely Holy. God's holiness showed itself in the redemption of man, of the world, of the whole mankind, and of the nations: redemption brought about through the sacrifice of the cross.

“For their sake I consecrate myself,” Jesus ad said (Jn. 17: 19).

By the power of the redemption the world and man have been consecrated. They have been consecrated to Him who is infinitely holy. They have been offered and entrusted to love itself, merciful love.

The Mother of Christ calls us, invites us to join with the Church of the living God in the consecration of the world, in this act of confiding by which the world, mankind as a whole, the nations, and each individual person are presented to the Eternal Father with the power of the redemption won by Christ. They are offered in the Heart of the Redeemer which was pierced on the cross.

The Mother of the Redeemer calls us, invites us, and helps us to join in this consecration, this act of confiding the world. By joining in it we shall be close as possible to the Heart of Jesus pierced on the cross.

JOIN OUR LADY'S INTERNATIONAL PRAYER GROUP ON 3 DAYS

(1) FIRST SATURDAYS COMMUNION OF REPARATION:

(1) Confession, (2) Holy Communion (3) Recitation of Five Decades of the Rosary and (4) Keeping company to Our Lady for a quarter of an hour while meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary (5) with the intention of making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the sins committed by mankind.

Church of St Simon and St Jude, Batim, Tiswadi, Goa Velha Goa 403108 India

1.00pm: +Stations of the Cross, **2.00pm:** +Holy Rosary, +Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, +Divine Mercy, +Consecration, +Confessions, **3.30pm:** +Holy Mass.



(2) 13TH OF EVERY MONTH:

- ▶ For the proclamation of the 5th Dogma, Our Lady Mediatrix of all Grace, Co-Redemptrix and Advocate. offer maximum Hail Mary's as possible for this intention and get friends to join as possible in their place.



(3) 1st OF EVERY MONTH:

For Holy Father Pope Francis I and also Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI.

- ▶ offer maximum Hail Mary's as possible for this intention and get friends to join as possible in their place.



Our Lady: "...Only remember, if you pray for My intentions all your intentions are also in them. I will reward you according to the Will of God for each of your intentions that lay in your souls..." (September 12th 2012 Wednesday 9:00am Holy Name of MARY Feast day)

www.OurLadyBatim5thDogma.com www.StJosephCommunityCentre.com +919822981418

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

Compiled by Dr Celcio Dias

Pope Benedict XV called the First World War as the ‘suicide’ of Europe. After diplomatic efforts were exhausted, he called for the children of the world and especially of the warring nations to unite in prayer and to receive Holy Communion on the 30th of July which was the second anniversary of the declaration of war; in Reparation for the crimes of men and in Supplication for Peace. In a letter dated 5 th May 1917, he ordered the invocation: Queen of Peace, pray for us! to be inserted universally into the Litany of Loreto. Just eight days later, the Most Holy Virgin, Queen of Peace, appeared to the three shepherd children in Fatima to help save the world from terrible wars and persecutions wrought by mankind’s sinfulness.



Peace is a blessing of Christ and does not come from the world, to pursue peace entails suffering and persecution (Matthew 10:34-39). Mary brought forth the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:5). It is peace of heart that puts anxiety and fear to flight, since it is the fruit of the complete teaching brought us by the Holy Spirit and partakes of the joy of heavenly hope (John 14:26-28).

Pope Pius XII, in 1954 instituted the liturgical Feast of Queenship of Mary and issued the Encyclical *Ad Caeli Reginam* (“To the Queen of Heaven”): The Blessed Virgin Mary should be called Queen, not only because of Her Divine Motherhood, but also

because God has willed Her to have an exceptional role in the work of our eternal salvation. The royalty of Mary is a participation in the royal dignity of Jesus Christ, but in a limited and analogical way. It includes:

- (1) A pre-eminence, of primary of excellence, because the Blessed Virgin “surpasses in dignity all creation.” according to the words of St. Germanus (d. 733).
- (2) A royal power, which authorizes Her to distribute the fruits of the Redemption.
- (3) An inexhaustible efficacy of intercession with Her Son and the Father: She pleads strongly for us with a Mother’s prayers, and what She seeks She finds, nor can She ask in vain.

On March 21, 1981 the Church gave us a new rite for crowning an

image of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She deserves to be Queen because She is:

- (1) the Mother of the Son of God and the Messianic King;
- (2) the loving Associate of the Redeemer;
- (3) the perfect follower (or disciple) of Christ and
- (4) the most excellent member of the Church.

MARY'S QUEENSHIP IN OUR TIME:



(1) Mary is Queen because in Her earthly life, She fulfilled through Christ's Grace a mission that She continues to carry out even more in heaven – a mission that has three aspects:

(a) Mary conquered the powers of evil from the first moment of conception.

She was never under bondage to sin and always gave God's message Her total consent. By Her Assumption, She already shares in Christ's victory even over the last enemy, death (see 1 Corinthians 15:26), and with Christ, She works continually for the world's deliverance from sin.

(b) Mary understood Her life as a service, in which consists royalty, according to the Gospel (Luke 22:24-40). She did not construe Her Divine Motherhood as expression of sovereignty but declared Herself "servant of

the Lord" (Luke 1:38), worshipping the one God and completely given to service for His plan of salvation as the perfect response to Lucifer's cry of: "I will not serve." Mary's response to Elizabeth (Lk 1:46-55) – praise, humility, service and mercy – directly opposes that of Satan, who is proud, egotistical, filled with hatred and accusations, and seeks his own glory and autonomy. She faithfully obtained that 'state of royal freedom' proper to Christ's disciples: to serve means to reign!' (Encyclical *Redemptoris Mater*, no. 41).

(c) Mary accepted to render possible the realization of the Kingdom of God, welcoming the Angel's message concerning the Davidic Messiah who would reign forever over the house of Jacob (Luke 1:32-33). She knew that the oracle of Nathan (2 Samuel 7:12-16), to which Luke's text refers, envisaged above all the Messianic benefits of the religious order, such as peace, justice, piety and deliverance.

(2) The Queenship of Mary should take on a deeper Gospel inspiration. The Kingship of Christ is not expressed by the domination, imposition and egoistic pursuits of a worldly kingship but in the rejection of violence and in the love

and service of the truth, until the total call of giving of self (John 18:36-37). Mary is one who has inherited the Kingdom of God, because She shares in the power communicated by the Spirit for liberating the world from its evils (cures and conversions of life obtained at Marian Shrines attest to this) and for bringing people to Divine filiation and Christian maturity.

(3) She asks us to renew the Covenant with Christ (John 2:5), intercedes for us with Her Son and exercises a universal Motherhood toward disciples beloved by Jesus (John 19:25-27).

(4) The Queenship of Mary is opposite of oppression and servitude, because it means Her participation in a work that rouses hope and is expressive of a merciful and furthering love. The Faithful can find in Her the secret to their own royal identity as children of God and the model for giving the Lord an ever greater place in their lives

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

The Second Vatican Council sets forth the requirements of the kingly office of the laity based on the royal dignity of the baptized: (1) sharing in Christ's Kingdom; (2) conquering sin; (3) serving Christ in others to bring them to Him and (4) reigning by serving and (5) showing concern for the spread of the Kingdom. Mary is our Model in all of these requirements. Her Queenship should inspire us to follow Her lead in a Queenship of service, as St John Paul II has so well indicated: "Mary is glorified as 'Queen of the Universe.' Our Lady, Queen of Peace Feast is usually celebrated on 22 September.

The Virgin Mary told Lucia: "Be not afraid, My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and your safe path to God". She offers us Her Immaculate Heart as a sure refuge, while showing us how in these particular times, God has desired for the triumph to come through Her. In Fatima, She told St Jacinta: **"Tell all the world that great Grace comes through the Immaculate Heart of Mary"** and **"that God has entrusted to the Immaculate Heart the peace and conversion of the world!"** Sister Lucia took very seriously that part of the Secret as revealed on 13 July 1917: By dedicating ourselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary through the Communion of Eucharistic Reparation of the First Saturdays, wars, famines, and persecutions of the Church could be averted, besides obtaining the Grace of final perseverance. **"Peace or war depends on [the Five First Saturdays] devotion along with the Consecration,"** she wrote.

Our Lady, Queen of peace, pray for us!

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION IN HONOUR AND
REPARATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY,
BATIM, 2nd JUNE 2018 - Dr. Celcio Dias**

Fr Johnsie Pereira, Parish Priest of St Ann's Church, Talaulim (Santana), Goa was the celebrant for the First Saturday Service Eucharist. He also exposed the Most Holy Blessed Sacrament and heard confessions. About 150 of the faithful attended the service.

In his homily, Fr. Pereira stressed that Our Beloved Mother's concern is always for her children. In this sermon on the Gospel, Fr Pereira noted that "*..when Jesus did not return home, Mary along with Joseph go in search of Jesus*" thus expressing a mother's concern for her son's welfare.



"At a very young age, Jesus was proclaiming the Word of God. When the disciples mention to Jesus that his mother and father are here for him, Jesus replied that those who do the Will of God are His sisters, brothers and mother. Jesus was concerned about His Mother, but also proclaimed the Kingdom of God.

Our heavenly Mother too is very much concerned about us - all Her children. So, She appears in many places to bring us back to God.

Once a mother who was a farmer, had to take her two year old child along with her to work through a forest. After travelling a long distance in the forest she got bitten by a snake. She wrapped her child in a cloth. The hunters who heard the child's cries located them. The mother told them that she was bitten by a snake and requested them to take her child home As she was being attended to, she passed away. This is the concern of the mother - making sure her children are always safe.

We have all gathered here because of Our Heavenly Mother's concern for us. Let us pray for this Motherly protection for us her and may she grant eternal peace to those departed. "

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reveal that when you wear it, you are united to I WHO AM THE MOTHER OF GOD, Our Lady of Mt (Mount) Carmel, Mediatrix of All Graces. This is My Motherly promise to all My beloved children. I love you dearly and desire to bring you to heaven when your exile on Earth is completed. Amen...”

Further on October 13th, 2014, Our Lady promises us that great graces would flow through this 'Garment' - 'The Garment of Grace, the Scapular under the title of the Mediatrix of All Graces, I Who am She..”

In assuring the title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel at Batim, and by holding out the scapular to us, as it were, the Blessed Virgin was telling us that it still pleases her that we were in her mantle and that she will continue to bless and protect in a special way those who wear the scapular with faith and confidence.

THE SABBATINE PRIVILEGE

The Sabbatine Privilege is Mary’s promise to release from purgatory by the First Saturday after death all those who: 1) Wear the Brown Scapular, and are consecrated to Her Immaculate Heart. 2) Observe Chastity according to their state in life. 3) Say the little office of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary is an ancient prayer of the Church, consisting mostly of psalms and hymns commemorating the role of Mary in the great mysteries of our Faith. However the recitation of the daily rosary has now been permitted as a substitute for this Little Office and it also fulfills the request of Our Lady of Fatima for this prayer.

SCAPULAR AND PLENARY INDULGENCE

Pope Leo XIII... “Encouraged the wearing of the Scapular by granting a plenary indulgence, applicable to the souls in purgatory to all who visit a Carmelite /Church on the Scapular Feast (July 16th)..”

MARY’S GIFT OF THE SCAPULAR

“Mary’s gift of clothing is just a simple garment sufficient to cover the traces of original sin in us; but its very simplicity is also a witness to the fact that Her own beautiful mantle covers our souls. The Scapular bears a double witness to

- ▶ Mary’s protection against the ravages of flesh occasioned by the fall.
- ▶ Mary’s influence as a Mediatrix of Graces who covers souls with the likeness of Her Son’s Redemption.” -Bishop FULTON J. SHEEN.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened...”

- By Annabelle Mendonca

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” -- Mt. 11:28-29.

The greatest desire of God is to communicate His life to us, not against our wish, but with our collaboration, by respecting our freedom and allowing us to suffer. Whoever we are, young or elderly, male or female, or whatever we do, we are all affected by suffering: we experience it in our own lives or see it in our society.



If we open the Gospels, we find out how the public ministry of Jesus began after His temptations in the desert. The first thing He did was to go to those who suffered in their bodies or their souls. He was moved with deep compassion at the sight of those who were in pain. He went to the extent of taking upon Himself the suffering of those He met in view of alleviating them. The liberation that Jesus proclaimed to the people had to do with the sufferings of their bodies as well as their souls. “The blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them.” (Mt. 11:5).

When Jesus went from village to village to proclaim the good news of salvation, He was sensitive to every kind of distress. “Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them.” (Mk.10: 51). Sometimes Jesus took the sick persons aside, “away from the crowd”, while in other instances He healed them before the crowd or in the synagogues before His enemies or in the presence of His disciples. His intention was not to perform these miracles in hiding, but to avoid satisfying the curiosity of those who wanted to see flashing signs. That is why He requested those He healed not to tell anyone about what had happened.

The healing miracles that Jesus performed were not the result of His prayer alone. Jesus healed people by the power of His word, counting on the sick person’s faith. Before healing them, He often asked the sick whether they believed that He could do this for them. Then He laid His hands on them,

touched the wounded limbs, applied saliva and asked them to go and wash. Sometimes the sick people themselves rushed to Him in order to touch Him. But more important than these gestures were the words that He spoke: words of challenge (“what do you want me to do for you?”), words of comfort (“do not cry”), words of encouragement (“go in peace”), and especially words of authority (“I am willing; be clean.”). People could see that great power came out from Him.

‘Where does suffering come from?’ -- ‘Why do we have to suffer?’ -- ‘Is suffering a punishment for our sins?’ are a few questions many tend to ask. Yet the answer given by Jesus to the people who questioned Him remains very mysterious (Jn. 9: 1-7). “This happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life.” Is suffering necessary for the work of God to be displayed? What is the work of God? -- The perfect fulfilment of human beings. This blind man had not yet found his fulfilment. We too, are in the same situation. If we suffer, it is so that God’s grace may abound.

It is through the blind that Christ reveals the light of God in the most striking way. With them, we can see where He leads us.

It is through the deaf that He makes us hear the will of God. With them, we can welcome the good news of salvation and communicate it to others.

It is through the paralysed and the lame that we learn to walk on the path of truth. With them, we make real progress in the spiritual life.

It is through the lepers that He reveals the face of the Son of God. With them, we have the courage to lose our life in order to save it.

The healing of the blind man reminds us that the way, the truth and the life of God are revealed to us through the experience of those who suffer. By becoming one like us, Jesus experienced the joys of human life, but also its anguish, its fears, its injustices, and finally a cruel death. It is not easy to realise that God revealed His love for us by inviting us to share in His divine life, but through the experience of suffering and death. But His resurrection is our only hope. That is what Jesus wanted to teach us – ultimately, we have to look at Jesus in order to understand how suffering leads to glory.

Let us meditate on the passion and death of our loving Saviour and derive strength and courage at the foot of the cross. “Death was not God’s doing. He takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living” (Wis. 1: 13). Jesus came into the world, so that suffering and death might be “swallowed up in victory” (1Cor 15: 54). We have been left on earth for a purpose, as St. Peter writes, “Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us” (1Pet. 2:11,12).

THE SCAPULAR -- MARY'S GIFT OF PROTECTION

- By Annabelle Mendonca

Breathless in nervous excitement, I watched my friend open the gift representing weeks of thought, planning, designing, selection of colour and creation. Would she be pleased and surprised at my creativity as I anticipated?

Gift giving is a complicated business. Most of us have our own unspoken, even unconscious set of gift-giving rules. Price limits, appropriate occasions, reciprocal obligations, gift-to-gift value comparisons. My plan to give a gift begins in my heart.

Gift giving, at its best, is an art of the heart. A gift is intended to be an offering which lovingly communicates: "I care for you", "Thank you." "Congratulations!" "Happy Birthday, I'm glad you were born!" "I missed you, I was thinking about you while we were apart." In its purest form, gift giving is motivated not by rules, but by an overflowing loving and grateful heart.

A gift is a medium to carry a message. Its substance is of little importance. A purchased item or a personal creation: fresh-out-of-the-oven cake, a bouquet of flowers, a hand-painted card, an hand-embroidered quilt, a letter, a photograph. Even a few words scribbled on scrap paper may be worth far more than an extravagant purchase because of the love it communicates.

Gift receiving, too, is an art, it seems. Great gift receivers do not measure the worth of the gift by the cost, but by the intended message of love. They do not compare their gifts to the ones others receive. They never imply the gift is untimely, impractical, or not useful. Such receivers elevate the joy of giving.

As I ponder my feelings of rejection and disappointment over a gift not joyfully received, I think of how Mary must feel when we do not receive her gift of the Scapular to each one of us, her children. Without saying to Mary that we venerate her, love her, and trust her, we tell her all these things every moment of the day by simply wearing the Scapular. Mary taught us the value of the Scapular. When we use it as a prayer, Our Lady draws us to the Sacred Heart of her Divine Son. It is well, therefore, to hold the Scapular in the hand while addressing to Our Lady.

"Whosoever dies clothed in this (Scapular) shall not suffer eternal fire". This is Mary's promise made on July 16, 1251 to St. Simon Stock. Pope Benedict XV granted an indulgence of 500 days each time the Scapular is kissed. This devotion and garment can be traced back to the Old Testament, to the great prophet Elias and the remaining faithful living in the caves of Mount Carmel.

Let us then attach great importance to our brown Scapular, it is an assurance of our protection and salvation. St. Alphonsus says: "Just as men take pride in having others wear their livery, so the Most Holy Mary is pleased when we wear her Scapular as a mark that we have dedicated ourselves to her service."

"O Queen, who art the beauty of Carmel and the mediatrix of all graces, pray for us."

THE FATIMA PRAYERS

PARDON PRAYER: My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee.

ANGEL'S PRAYER: O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg the conversion of poor sinners.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER: Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament!

SACRIFICE PRAYER: O Jesus, it is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

DECADE PRAYER: O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy.



‘God wishes to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world. If what I say is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace.’

How Do I Start the First Saturdays?

On July 13, 1917, Our Lady appeared for the third time to the three children of Fatima and showed them the vision of hell. In this vision Our Lady said that *‘God wishes to establish in the world devotion’* to Her Immaculate Heart and that She would come to *ask for the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays...*

What Do I Have to Do?

The devotion of First Saturdays, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima, carries with it the assurance of salvation. However, to derive profit from such a great promise of Our Lady, the devotion must be properly understood and duly performed. The requirements as stipulated by Our Lady are as follows:

(1) Confession, (2) Communion, (3) Five decades of the Rosary, (4) Meditation on one or more of the Rosary Mysteries for fifteen minutes, (5) To do all these things in the spirit of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and (6) To observe all these practices on the First Saturday of five consecutive months.

The idea of the Five First Saturdays is obviously to make us persevere in the devotional acts for these Saturdays and overcome initial difficulties. Once this is done, Our Lady knows that the person would become devoted to Her Immaculate Heart and persist in practicing such devotion on all First Saturdays, working thereby for personal self-reform and for the salvation of others. Our Lady has assured us that She will obtain salvation for all those who observe the First Saturdays for five consecutive months in accordance with Her conditions.

For more details please email: ourladybatim@gmail.com

Dates to Remember - July 2018

- 3rd: St. Thomas, Apostle
7th: First Saturday Service at Batim (See below for details)
16th: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
25th: St James, Apostle
26th: St. Joachim & St. Anne, parents of Blessed Virgin Mary
31st: St Ignatius Loyola

PRAYER PETITIONS AND TESTIMONIES

- + Your prayer petitions may be submitted online at: thebatimmessage.com
These prayer requests will be placed at the feet of Our Lady of Fatima in the the Church of Sts Simon & Jude and offered during the First Saturday Mass at Batim.
- + Your testimonies may be submitted online at:
ourladybatim5thdogma.com or emailed to: ourladybatim@gmail.com

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION IN HONOUR OF AND IN REPARATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Church of St Simon and St Jude, Batim,
Tiswadi, Goa Velha, Goa 403 108 India.

- 1.00 pm:** +Stations of the Cross
2.00 pm: +Holy Rosary, +Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, +Divine Mercy Prayers, +Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, +Confessions.
3.30pm: +Holy Mass.

Services are held in Konkani and English

CONTACT DETAILS FOR TRANSPORT BY BUS:

Margao, Petrol pump closest to Main Post Office 11am,
Mob: 9420712310
Panaji: Caranzalem near Post Office at 1145 am, near Don Bosco at 12pm,
Tel: 08322456306
Mapusa: From St Joseph's Chapel, Near Police Station at 11.45 am, Mob: 9822167665
Calangute: From Calangute Church at 1130 am,
Mob: 9421241248

In conformity with the directives of Pope Urban VIII, we have no intention of anticipating the judgement of the Holy Apostolic See and of the Church on Apparitions, reported by us, but not yet recognized; indeed, we submit to, and accept; her final decision without reservation.

Printed and Published by The Batimessage.com

This newsletter is available online. A printed copy of this newsletter is also available FREE (except where otherwise indicated) at the Prayer Services in Batim, Goa.
An archive of previous issues is available on the website: www.thebatimmessage.com
Your prayerful support and donations - however small - is greatly appreciated!

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For Private Circulation