



Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League

September 2020

Mass to CWL Intentions



Nowhere in Scripture is the place and date of birth of the Virgin Mary recorded. Nor are the names of her parents found in Scripture, although tradition tells us they were Joachim and Anne. It is not until the sixth century that there is certain knowledge of a liturgical commemoration of Mary's birth. This is not unusual. Mary lived a largely hidden life, and her theological and historical significance remained somewhat veiled until the Council of Ephesus in 431 formally declared her the Mother of God. Since that definition, every aspect of her life has become the source of a rich spiritual and theological heritage. The feast day is celebrated on September 8, nine months after the Feast of her immaculate conception.

See more on page 7



The month of September is dedicated to **Our Lady of Sorrows**, whose memorial the Church celebrates on September 15. September falls during the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time**, which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. It is used in the offices and Masses of Ordinary Time..

See more on page 7

2020 Pope's Intentions

September, 2020: The Protection of the Oceans: That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.



Care for our
Common Home

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 	3	4	5
6	7	8	9   Mtg, 7:00, Parish Hall Valerie & Roger Bonnefoy 	10	11	12  Hwy cleanup 9:00 am at Parish Parking Lot
13	14	15	16  Nettie & Ray Lambert  Lucille Chay 	17  Marie & Edward McCall Marie Ange Prevost 	18 	19
20  Delaney Kolowca	21  CWL National Day of Prayer for Christians in the Holy Land	22	23 	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 	Oct 1  CWL Day of Prayer for Home Missions		



Lacey's Address

Dear Fr. Jorge Mario and Ladies of the CWL:

Welcome back everyone! It's been a trying time for many of us throughout the past few months and it will most likely seem odd to many of to resume many of our pre-COVID routines. As a council, we will be resuming our monthly general meetings, with a few changes put in place. Firstly, our first meeting will be this September 9th at 7:00pm. It will be held at the Notre Dame de Lorette Parish Hall, located at 1282 Dawson Rd. It is a large hall and will allow us to properly social distance. There will be hand sanitizer available at the entrance and masks are recommended but not mandatory. Unfortunately we will also no longer be able to serve a luncheon at our meetings; instead, we urge you to bring your own beverage. Even with all this changes, we hope to see you there!

A few things from the past months as a recap... As documented in our July newsletter, many of us attended the highway cleanup followed by our tree planting in the church courtyard. The tree has been well tended during the summer months by Suzanne Moore and is doing wonderfully. We also at that time did a food drive for several Manitoban communities who were struggling during the pandemic.

A local mom to be of twins was gifted by our council with a mini baby shower. She received many diapers, clothing, furniture and many other items that are listed in this newsletter. She was very grateful and sends her many thanks.

A call was put out to our members for bottled water for Agape Table in Winnipeg and our members delivered again. Thank you all for your generosity in all of our drives, requests and donations!

Please remember to put this month's highway cleanup in your calendar for September 12th. We will all meet in the parking lot of the Notre Dame de Lorette church. Further instructions will be given at that time. Please remember to dress according to the changing weather. Thank you to Lucille Chay for organizing this event for us once again.

For the first time in our council's history, we will not be making cabbage rolls as the Parish Fall Supper has had to be canceled.

During the past few months, many of us have suffered the loss of loved ones with condolences having been sent. Most recently, I wish to express our deepest sympathy to Marie McCall on the loss of her son Carl.

On a more positive as well as personal note, I wish to welcome our council's newest member, my daughter, Megan Bernardin. She will be officially joining in January when she turns 16 and I promised we'll go easy on her to start!

Hope you all have a wonderful September!

Lacey Bernardin



Thank You



Currently collecting:

*Pill Bottles
Feminine Hygiene
Products & Toiletries
Tabs for Wheelchairs
Used Eyeglasses
Children's Sacramental
Clothing*



Dave from Agape Table expresses profound appreciation to Heather Kolowca who delivered donated toiletries and pill bottles on our behalf, followed by a load of bottled water.

A Social-Distancing Activity that helps our community!

Saturday, September 12, 2020

Raindate: September 19, 2020

**COME ON
DOWN AND
LEND A HAND!**

Refreshments served
at Lorette Parish Hall
Parking Lot
following Clean-up.

In keeping with Public Health orders, a maximum of 2 people will travel in a car to the start-up locations. Pilot drivers will ferry people back to their vehicles as needed. Face masks are recommended when travelling with someone else (exception is made for members of the same household).

Hwy 207 from McDougall Rd to Junction of Hwy 206
HIGHWAY CLEANUP
Meet 9:00 a.m. at Lorette Parish Hall Parking Lot



Sponsored by the Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League



Two of our posts on The Catholic Women's League of Canada Facebook page:



The Catholic
Women's League
of Canada

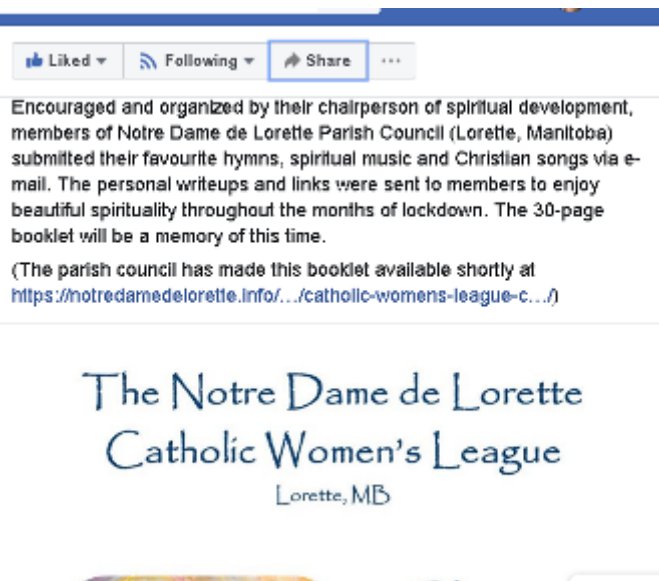
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All of us will have to render an account of our lives when we die. God will not be interested in who or what we were. No, only in this: how did we live? That will be the sole matter for judgment. A company director won't be able to pull rank on a waiter, and a fisherman's wife will be on a par with a millionaire's wife. Ships' officers will receive no preference over ships' cooks. All will be judged by exactly the same measure: did we use our talents well and for his glory? — **Takashi Nagai** from *A Song for Nagasaki*

Our Baby Shower for New Mom of Twin Girls

Thanks to Irene Bialek for helping us identify a new mom-to-be of twins who needed some help. And also thanks to Mae Ross for coordinating, cleaning and sorting all our donations. And let's not forget Gil Ross, Mae's husband who allowed his garage to be inundated! Thanks to Irene for delivering and keeping everything confidential.

Our members are so good and giving! Below are the items collected. Any unused items or those that would not fit in the home were donated to Thrifty Treasures, who also donated several items. We have since learned that Mom gave birth to healthy twin girls. How great is that!?

- Diaper bag
- 17 packs of wipes
- 4 boxes of disposable diapers
- new set of 6 - onesies (3 mos)
- New - 2: 0 to 3 mos sleepers
- New - 2 preemie sleepers
- New 1 - 3 to 6 mos onesie
- Ivory Detergent
- Baby Magic Bullet
- Nursing apron
- Nursing 'poncho'
- 6 bibs
- 4 crocheted blankets
- 2 crib sheets
- 11 receiving blankets
- 2 thick cotton blanket/pads
- Thick hooded towel
- 5 baby caps
- 1 pair slippers
- 2 pair booties
- 2 snuggle animals
- Many toys & misc items (washed)
- 1 large box of slightly used Preemie clothes
- 10 washable diapers with liners /covers
- Clothing was washed with Ivory Detergent

Furniture donated:

- Change station
- 2 cribs
- Glider rocker
- 3 play pens
- Baby Gate
- Baby Seat
- Play centre



"Wrapped in the Arms of our Mother"

In support of the 2022 National CWL Convention



Pashmina Orders

Contact Diane Nadeau
cwlpushmina@gmail.com

Payments by etransfer
to above email
or

Cheques payable to
2022 National CWL Convention

BLUE sold out
A few Cream available
Black and Blue coming this fall.



Have you ever been cool
at a meeting/convention?
Let Our Lady wrap you
in her arms with a
warm cuddly and soft
cashmere pashmina.
Available in cream or
CWL blue.
75" X 29"



The Catholic Women's League of Canada
presents the
Women in Mission, A Spiritual Retreat
with National Spiritual Advisor Bishop Stephen Jensen
September 16, 2020

Date: September 16, 2020

Time: 12:00 p.m. CDT

Join members from across Canada for an online spiritual retreat with National Spiritual Advisor Bishop Stephen Jensen. To register, go to: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2279017533766156557>

Freedom, we can say, is a springboard from which to dive into the infinite sea of divine goodness, but it can also become a tilted plane on which to slide toward the abyss of sin and evil and thus also to lose freedom and our dignity. — Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI) from *Signs of New Life*

"He did not ask that men should write down His Words into Scripture; He did not ask that His kindness to the poor should be recorded in history; but He did ask that men remember His Death. And in order that its memory might not be any haphazard narrative on the part of men, He Himself instituted the precise way it should be recalled. The memorial was instituted the night before He died, at what has since been called "The Last Supper." Archbishop Fulton Sheen (*Calvary and the Mass*)

Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows



Devotion to the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady has its roots in Sacred Scripture and in Christian piety, which always associates the Blessed Mother with her suffering Son. Today's feast was introduced by the

Servites in order to intensify devotion to Our Lady's Sorrows. In 1817 Pius VII — suffering grievously in exile but finally liberated by Mary's intercession — extended the feast to the universal Church.

OUR LADY OF SORROWS

The feast dates back to the 12th century. It was especially promoted by the Cistercians and the Servites, so much so that in the 14th and 15th centuries it was widely celebrated throughout the Catholic Church. In 1482 the feast was added to the Missal under the title of "Our Lady of Compassion." Pope Benedict XIII added it to the Roman Calendar in 1727 on the Friday

before Palm Sunday. In 1913, Pope Pius X fixed the date on September 15. The title "Our Lady of Sorrows" focuses on Mary's intense suffering during the passion and death of Christ. "The Seven Dolors," the title by which it was celebrated in the 17th century, referred to the seven swords that pierced the Heart of Mary. The feast is like an octave for the birthday of Our Lady on September 8th. — Excerpted from *Our Lady of Sorrows* by Fr. Paul Haffner (Inside the Vatican, September 2004)

This feast is dedicated to the spiritual martyrdom of Mary, Mother of God, and her compassion with the sufferings of her Divine Son, Jesus. In her suffering as co-redeemer, she reminds us of the tremendous evil of sin and shows us the way of true repentance. May the numerous tears of the Mother of God be conducive to our salvation; with which tears Thou, O God, art able to wash away the sins of the whole world.

As Mary stood at the foot of the Cross on which Jesus hung, the sword of sorrow Simeon had foretold pierced her soul.

THE SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY:

1. The prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:25-35)
2. The flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)
3. Loss of the Child Jesus for three days (Luke 2:41-50)
4. Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary (Luke 23:27-31; John 19:17)
5. Crucifixion and Death of Jesus (John 19:25-30)
6. The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross (Psalm 130; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37)
7. The burial of Jesus (Isaiah 53:8; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42; Mark 15:40-47)

Symbols: heart pierced with a sword; heart pierced by seven swords; winged heart pierced with a sword; flowers: red rose, iris (meaning: "sword-lily"), cyclamen.

<https://www.passionistnuns.org/passionist-calendar/2020/9/15/feast-of-our-lady-of-sorrows>



Mary was born to be the mother of the Savior of the world, the spiritual mother of all men, and the holiest of

God's creatures. Because of her Son's infinite merits, she was conceived and born immaculate and full of grace. Through her, Queen of heaven and of earth, all grace is given to men. Through her, by the will of the Trinity, the unbelieving receive the gift of faith; the afflicted are tendered the works of mercy; and the members of Christ grow in likeness of their Head. In Mary all human nature is exalted. We rejoice in her birthday, as the Church has done from the earliest times. This is one of the three birthdays in the Church Calendar — the Birth of Jesus (December 25), the Birth of John the Baptist (June 24) and the Birthday of Mary. All three were born without original sin, although Mary and Jesus were conceived without sin, and St. John was cleansed of original sin while in the womb at the Visitation of Mary.

According to the 1962 Missal of St. John XXIII Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite, today also commemorates St. Adrian. The liturgy of Our Lady's Birthday in Rome included a

Feast of the Nativity of Mary

procession from the church of St. Adrian in the forum. St. Adrian was a Herculian Guard of the Roman Emperor Galerius Maximian. After becoming a convert to Christianity with his wife Natalia, Adrian was martyred at Nicomedia on March 4, 306.

Historically it is the feast of St. Corbinian, a Frank who spent fourteen years as a hermit and then went to Rome, where Pope Gregory II consecrated him bishop and sent him to evangelize Germany.

Birth of Mary

On Our Lady's birthday the Church celebrates the first dawning of redemption with the appearance in the world of the Savior's mother, Mary. The Blessed Virgin occupies a unique place in the history of salvation, and she has the highest mission ever commended to any creature. We rejoice that the Mother of God is our Mother, too. Let us often call upon the Blessed Virgin as "Cause of our joy", one of the most beautiful titles in her litany.

Since September 8 marks the end of summer and beginning of fall, this day has many thanksgiving celebrations and customs attached to it. In the older form of the *Roman Ritual* there is a blessing of the summer harvest and fall planting seeds for this day.

The winegrowers in France called this feast "Our Lady of the Grape Harvest." The best

grapes are brought to the local church to be blessed and then some bunches are attached to hands of the statue of Mary. A festive meal which includes the new grapes is part of this day.

In the Alps section of Austria this day is "Drive-Down Day" during which the cattle and sheep are led from their summer pastures in the slopes and brought to their winter quarters in the valleys. This was usually a large caravan, with all the finery, decorations, and festivity. In some parts of Austria, milk from this day and all the leftover food are given to the poor in honor of Our Lady's Nativity.

Patron: All people named Mary, in any form.

Symbols: bruised serpent, sometimes encircling a globe; the lily; fleur de lis; virgin's monogram; pierced heart; crescent moon; sun and moon; starry crown; Mater Dei; rose; flowering almond; gilly flower; snow drop; hawthorn; the star; the balsam; the Ark of the Covenant; the mirror or speculum; apple; myrtle; palm, cypress and olive; closed gate; book of Wisdom; sealed book; rod of Jesse; lily of the valley; house of gold; city of God; vessel of honor; seat of wisdom.

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2020-09-08>



MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 15, 2020

TO: Parish Priests, Priest Moderators, Parish Life Directors, Parish Secretaries, Chairs and Co-Chairs of Parish Pastoral Councils of Urban Parishes

FROM: Most Reverend Albert LeGatt
Archbishop of Saint Boniface

SUBJECT: **Acknowledgment – Food Sharing Project**
Mamawewesini-ta (Eating Together)

Dear friends,

Warm greetings! On June 1, 2020, the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface undertook a Food Sharing Project (*Mamawewesini-ta*) with our Indigenous communities to help tackle the food shortage for many of their members.

On behalf of the Archdiocese of Saint Boniface and our Indigenous communities (as well as their Band Councils), I wish to sincerely thank you for responding so generously to this initiative and with such an enthusiastic interest. It is thanks to your tremendous efforts and contributions, whether by donating food or money, that this food drive was a huge success, and as such, greatly exceeded its goal. The recipients will be forever grateful.

We have recently been informed that both the Band Councils and Winnipeg Harvest are now able to provide the much-needed help to the families of our Indigenous communities. **For this reason, the collection of food by our parishes within the *Mamawewesini-ta* project has been suspended for the time being. Please inform your parishioners immediately.** If needed, we will resume this project toward the end of the Fall and will once again call on your generosity and solidarity in this effort.

Once again, my heartfelt thanks for manifesting God's compassion and boundless love for those in need. Testimonials of this nature truly allow us to indeed be "eating together" in a Christ-like manner. And so, together we continue our journey toward reconciliation.

May God bless you and your loved ones!

United in prayer,

+Albert LeGatt
Archbishop of Saint Boniface



FOUR MANITOBANS AMONG GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LIST OF 'REMARKABLE CANADIANS'

The Governor-General of Canada has recognized a small number of Canadians to be honoured for their excellence, courage, or exceptional dedication to service. Among those honoured are four Manitobans. On Canada Day, Julie Payette, the Governor-General of Canada, issued the list of 123 'Remarkable Canadians.'

Winnipeg's Catherine Ross was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal – a decoration given to Canadians for exceptional deeds that

bring honour to the country – for her work with **KIDS** Initiative.

Ross founded the Winnipeg-based not-for-profit that works with communities around the world to combat poverty, find sustainable food and water solutions, and improve access to health and education.

The idea to create **KIDS** Initiative was sparked more than 10 years ago when Ross went on an outreach trip to Kenya.

"It was the first experience travelling abroad, the first time ever experiencing extreme poverty, and so really getting a great sense for the lack of resources in developing communities and truly how fortunate we are here in Canada," she said.

"So, I came back with a huge passion and dream to be able to push this agenda forward in really wanting to see a bit more of a balance in terms of resources."

Ross said the team at **KIDS** Initiative is volunteer-based and is just finishing up on a project at a refugee camp, and recently secured funding from Global Affairs Canada to begin work on an HIV AIDS Resource Centre.

"I'm so honoured and so appreciative of it and the organization is just so grateful because it allows us to have a little bit of light shone on the organization," she said. "To be able to have people that maybe didn't know about us before have the opportunity to maybe learn a little bit more about what we're doing in hopes that maybe there will be some future support."

The rest of the article may be read at: <https://www.iheartradio.ca/cjad/news/four-manitobans-among-governor-general-s-list-of-remarkable-canadians-1.12871421>



5 THINGS NOBODY TOLD YOU ABOUT MARRIAGE

- 1 **IT'S NOT YOUR SPOUSE'S JOB TO GIVE YOU "HAPPILY EVER AFTER"**
You build a "happy ending" together, with love and effort.
- 2 **MARRIAGE IS REWARDING THING, BUT ALSO DIFFICULT**
It is important to love in the moments of joy and difficulty.
- 3 **YOUR HAPPINESS IS ALSO YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**
Your happiness does not depend solely on your spouse.
- 4 **CHILDREN ARE THE MOST REWARDING THING**
Nobody can really explain the joy a child brings.
- 5 **YOUR SPOUSE WILL CHANGE, THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO**
They will grow and mature. It's part of the circle of life.

INFORMATION FROM FAMILYSHARE.COM



SUN
6

REASONS TO REST ON SUNDAYS

In Exodus chapter 20 and the Catechism of the Catholic Church #2042:

It is important for us to have a creative outlet.

It's the space we need to commune with our Lord, both in the Holy Eucharist and also in restful prayer.

- 01 GOD COMMANDS IT
- 02 GOD RESTED TOO
- 03 YOU NEED IT
- 04 FAMILY AND FRIENDS
- 05 PRAYER TIME
- 06 THINGS YOU ENJOY

God rested on the seventh day after the creation of the world.

We are not God. Stress is hard on the body, and rest is essential.

Sundays offer a unique opportunity to spend time with those we love.

SOURCE: CATHOLICGENTLEMAN.NET



Netflix doesn't stop and they're going deeper and deeper into the obscene!

Netflix has already made a name for itself for releasing movies that degrade Jesus Christ (*The First Temptation of Christ*) and glorify sexual violence (*365 Days*). In *Cuties*, Netflix goes further into the obscene by hyper-sexualizing 11-year-old children.

According to the official description (since changed by Netflix after it received backlash) on the site, the film tells the story of **"Amy, 11 years old, becomes fascinated by a twerk team. To try to join them, she begins to explore her femininity and challenges her family traditions."**

Have you heard of twerking? Twerking is an ultra-sexualized Afro-American dance that

consists of moving one's buttocks, often with very light, or even practically non-existent, clothing.

Netflix is associating this practice with 11-year-old girls!

Netflix announced that *Cuties* is to be released on September 9th! Your help is urgently requested!

[Sign the petition to tell Netflix CEO Reed Hastings to stop their plans to broadcast Cuties on Netflix:](#)

https://citizengo.org/en-ca/181738-tell-netflix-remove-cuties?dr=17666784::1010186abd71d0ffc6fa96c72909d9f5&utm_source=em&utm_medium=e-mail&utm_content=em_link1&utm_campaign=EN_CA-2020-08-20-Global-FM-JS--Cuties_Netflix-.04_AA_RL_1_Retargeting&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiTIRrME5UbG1PR00yTm1ReilsluQiOiJYeVFZemhzOWNhTjRoQ0s1eDZIN0ZvRDhiWU14WHQ2akRqN_XpZZ0VleKxVUzNLMXNXZ0tOcFwvbzZiZ2F0SUIOdmxKRXdBTnlzU2toalpwckhpSHAYb0trcFerclo1ckN5c2dCRWILNU9NbEo2ZWWhcL2xEa01ZbWErZWhXYkpvaE8yZ2d2d3YrU2hUNHBmbUxcJXWEFrQT09In0%3D

This French movie, originally released in France on August 19, is just beginning to create a scandal on North American social networks, mainly because of the inappropriate advertisements Netflix has made to promote *Cuties* release in September.

In the various interviews she has given since the film's release, director Maimouna Doucouré mixes up a whole bunch of reasons

that pushed her to make *Cuties*. **From the denunciation of hyper-sexualization to the opposition to patriarchy, all these reasons are mixed and give the impression of total confusion in the movie's objective.**

In any case, the result is there: **a film in which 11-year-old girls are hyper-sexualized.**

The dissemination of *Cuties* on Netflix also contributes to the normalization of the sexualization of children in our media. With

the reach Netflix has, there is a social responsibility to ensure that the films they distribute do not contain themes that are grossly detrimental to the well-being of society and the development of young adolescents. By signing this petition, you will warn Netflix to stop neglecting this responsibility! Demand they stop the sexualization of children on their platform!

More information: *Cuties* trailer (YouTube)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yGaRRGL02YU>

Netflix accused of sexualizing children with promotion of upcoming film 'Cuties' (CTV News) <https://www.ctvnews.ca/entertainment/netflix-accused-of-sexualizing-children-with-promotion-of-upcoming-film-cuties-1.5072049>

The Eucharist is the Ultimate Mark of Christ's Church

We often speak of the four marks of the Church: one, holy, catholic and apostolic. Yet during our apologetic endeavors, it would be a missed opportunity to not bring the argument to a climax by unveiling the Eucharist as the mark of Christ's Church *par excellence*.

The Eucharist is the ultimate mark of Christ's Church, for the Eucharist not only is a visible sign of each mark but has the power to maintain the essence of what each mark represents. Thus, the Eucharist is the mark of the Church *par excellence*.

The Church Is One through the Eucharist

In October 2004, John Paul II graced the Year of the Eucharist with the apostolic letter *Mane Nobiscum Domine*. In it, the Holy Father recounts several instances in Scripture where Christ was leading his disciples to an understanding of a Church united in him through the Eucharist. In John 6:55, Jesus says, "My flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed." This was shocking to those who heard it, so much so that many left. Jesus asked the twelve if they too would go away. Peter, speaking for the twelve, said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." In other words, those who understood, while shocked by the reality of the words just spoken, refused to abandon Christ's teaching because they would be abandoning Christ himself.

St. Cyril of Alexandria understood the Eucharist's ability to unite us with Christ. He said, "As two pieces of wax fused together make one, so he who receives Holy Communion is so united with Christ that Christ is in him and he is in Christ."

The Eucharist is, therefore, the sign and cause of unity because the Eucharist is Christ. It was instituted by Christ as a means of drawing us to himself. The Eucharist expresses our unity and also brings it about when we receive him worthily. The fact that we share the same body and blood makes us sisters and brothers in Christ. Even at the natural level we realize that sharing the same blood forms a family bond. Those who are too ill to participate in the eucharistic celebration are often brought the Eucharist both as a sign of unity and to



The greatest commandments are to love God and neighbor, and the greatest expression of this love is found in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is Christ, and it recalls to us the love he has for us—a love so great that he was willing to become one of us, suffer incredible

physical and spiritual pain, and die a human death. Consuming Christ in the Eucharist has the capacity to make us more like him—and thus more holy. "For the partaking of the body and blood of Christ has no less an effect than to change us into what we receive" (*Eucharisticum Mysterium* 7).

Such thoughts help us to understand St. Teresa of Avila's words that "Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion for the world is to look out, yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good, and yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now."

The Eucharist also unites heaven and earth. Many who have lost a loved one may experience closeness to that person after receiving Communion or while in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. These feelings may be a result of a deep theological awareness that those who died in grace are alive in Christ; thus, our nearness to Christ in the Eucharist brings us nearer to them as well.

Another way of seeing this fusion of heaven and earth is to realize that when Christ instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper, its sacrificial dimension was revealed. Throughout history, Christ offers himself for the salvation of all mankind—but why? So, we can live with him eternally. As one family we, who share the same divine body and blood, will share in the heavenly banquet together—perfected in love and united in that love.

Augustine said of the Eucharist: "O sacrament of love! O sign of unity! O bond of charity! He who would have life finds here indeed a life to live and a life to live by."

The Church Is Holy through the Eucharist

By receiving this spiritual nourishment, we, Christ's body, are equipped to give of ourselves to each other and to him in a more perfect way. The visible structure of the Church maintains the succession of priests who can offer the sacrifice of the Mass and consecrate bread and wine into Christ's body and blood. "Just as the Church 'makes the Eucharist' so the Eucharist builds up the Church" (*Dominicae Cenae* 4).

The Eucharist also unites heaven and earth. Many who have lost a loved one may experience closeness to that person after receiving Communion or while in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. These feelings may be a result of a deep theological awareness that those who died in grace are alive in Christ; thus, our nearness to Christ in the Eucharist brings us nearer to them as well.

The Church Is Catholic through the Eucharist

Christ's presence in the Church makes it catholic, or universal. He is wherever the Church is, and wherever the Church is, there is the Eucharist.

As a universal Church, we have the responsibility of being Christ to others. This means that we not only must say what he said; we must do what he did. Jesus admonished sinners, showed mercy, asked for repentance, and demonstrated compassion and forgiveness. He also fed the hungry, healed the sick, and encouraged the poor. He did not deny anyone because of their race, sex, age, or state in life. Just as we are to be Christ to others, so we must see Christ in others. He can be found in everyone. When we see Christ in others, we find ourselves. In this way, the Church is also universal.

By participating in the eucharistic celebration, we are reminded that the loving sacrifice that he made for us he also made for everyone. All activities of the Church to spread the kingdom

(Continued on page 12)

of God are linked with the Eucharist and are directed back to it. St. Peter Chrysologus said, “The Eucharist is the link that binds the Christian family together. Take away the Eucharist and you have no brotherliness left.”

The Church Is Apostolic through the Eucharist

The Church is apostolic because her mission in and to the world is a continuation of the work of the first apostles, a mission given to them by Christ. Because this mission will go on until the end of time, the apostles had to make provisions for others to succeed them. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the bishops, who are the successors to the apostles, continue to teach and guide the Church today. All the members of the mystical body of Christ share in this mission and are called to activities that further God’s kingdom. This means that they are to spread the gospel of Christ through works of love in their state of life. “But charity, drawn from the Eucharist above all, is always ‘as it were, the soul of the whole apostolate’” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* 864).

The Church is governed by spiritual fathers representing God. Throughout the Old Testament, genealogies had great importance because they identified individuals as part of a succession of people who shared the same blood and, thus, were part of the same family. Christ continued this linkage by appointing apostles to succeed him, and he gave us the Eucharist so we could all share in the same blood that our brothers and sister in faith also shared.

God’s Presence within Us

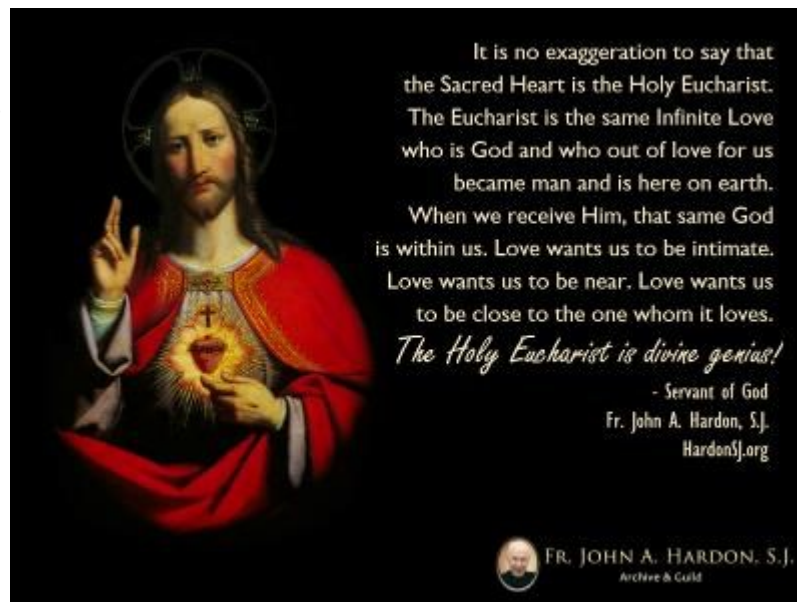
The Eucharist both symbolizes the oneness of Christ’s Church and causes and sustains it. Christ is God, who alone is perfectly holy.

Christ is present within the Church for which he dies, making it holy. The Church has been entrusted with the Eucharist, and therefore it has the means to make men holy by partaking in Christ. Christ’s Church is universal because he died for each and every one of us wherever we are, whoever we are, and whenever we lived.

St. John de Brebeuf, a Jesuit who was martyred bringing the Catholic faith to the natives of North America, contemplated the mystery of the Eucharist’s universality, saying:

The only external sign of our holy religion that we have is the Blessed Sacrament of the altar. . . It seems, moreover, that God supplies what we lack and rewards us with grace for having transported the Holy Sacrament beyond so many seas and having found an abode for it in these poor cabins.

By bringing the Eucharist to the New World, continents were spiritually united. The Eucharist is a memorial of Christ’s sacrifice for all men, and it keeps in our mind the dignity of all men because of Christ’s love for them. The Church’s ability to trace its roots to the apostles assures us that the successors to Peter are part of our family tree and that it is the true Church. The power to consecrate bread and wine has been passed on within the family as our spiritual treasure that keeps the Church’s four marks present and its identity authentic.



The reason, therefore, that the Eucharist is the ultimate mark of Christ’s Church, the mark *par excellence*, is because the Eucharist is Christ, who remains in the Church, sustains it, and, through its members, draws others to himself. Because of the Eucharist, the Church maintains its marks and grows in unity, holiness, catholicity, and apostolic works. The Eucharist was instituted because of the Church, and the Church is sustained and grows because of the Eucharist.

Articulating this truth to non-Catholic Christians would resonate in many hearts and draw them into this great mystery of our faith: Christ’s Real Presence among us. John Henry Cardinal Newman said, “A true Christian may almost be defined as one who has a ruling sense of God’s presence within him.” How much more within us can he be than through the partaking of the Eucharist?

https://www.catholic.com/magazine/print-edition/the-eucharist?utm_source=Catholic%20Answers%20Daily&utm_campaign=9f60233fa1-

What the first Christians knew as the “New Testament” was not a book, but the Eucharist. In a cultic setting, at a solemn sacrificial banquet, Jesus made an offering of his “body” and “blood.” He used traditional sacrificial language. He spoke of the action as his memorial. He told those who attended to repeat the action they had witnessed: “Do this in remembrance of me” (Luke 22:19). Thus he instituted the Christian priesthood and established the Church’s liturgy. He authorized clergy to do what he was doing: to make a memorial offering of his body and blood.

He called his action the “new covenant in my blood” (Luke 22:20). He declared it to be the New Testament—and the Testament was not a text but an action. He did not say “read this” or “write this,” but rather “do this.” By the time the Gospels and Epistles were written, the Church had already been faithful to Jesus’s instruction for decades. The New Testament was a sacrament at least a generation before it was a document. We learn this from the document itself.

It was in the Upper Room, where the Last Supper was celebrated, that the Apostles received the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (Acts 2). From there they brought the New Testament to the world, celebrating it everywhere they went. Not even half of the Apostles wrote books; some of them probably did not live long enough to read any of the Gospels; but all of them went forth and offered the Eucharist, as Jesus had commanded them. **Dr. Scott Hahn** from his book, *Consuming the Word*

Christ, the firstborn of God, is sacrificed for us [...] He completes each and every aspect of the Passover—He takes it, and He perfects it. And this idea that we have to receive the Lamb all of a sudden falls right into place, and we understand it. — **Dr. Scott Hahn** from his book *The Lamb's*

Who are the 7 women mentioned during the Eucharistic prayer at Mass?



After the consecration the priest will often mention the names of these women.

When a priest chooses Eucharistic Prayer I (also known as the “Roman Canon”), he has the option of reciting a short list of saints before and after saying the sacred words of consecration. It is an ancient list, one that has changed little throughout the centuries.

The first list highlights the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, the 12 apostles and 12 other saints of the early Church. Then after the consecration, the priest will recite another list of 15 saints, including 7 women.

Who are these women that the Church chose to mention in the Mass, which is often called the “the source and summit of the Christian life”?

St. Felicity – A young and pregnant slave girl of the 2nd century, Felicity was persecuted by the Romans for her Christian faith and sentenced to death with St. Perpetua in the amphitheater

at the public games.

St. Perpetua – Perpetua was a noblewoman of Carthage and was thrown into the same prison as Felicity for refusing to deny her Christian faith. She chronicled her experience in a diary up until the day of her death. This account was highly popular for many centuries after her death.

St. Agatha (of Sicily) – A young girl who chose Jesus for her spouse at a young age, Agatha was accused of being Christian in the 3rd century and put into prison. She survived several rounds of torture until she finally died. She was highly venerated in the Early Church and her intercession was believed to have protected an Italian city from a volcano one year after her death.

St. Lucy – Born in the 3rd century, at an early age Lucy dedicated her virginity to Christ, but her mother was not aware of it and arranged to have her married. Lucy refused on account of her private vow and the man she was supposed to marry turned her in on account of being a Christian. This led to a gruesome martyrdom, where her eyes were gouged out prior to being killed. Devotion to her spread rapidly throughout Europe, particularly in Scandinavia.

St. Agnes (of Rome) – Agnes was the daughter of wealthy and distinguished parents in Rome during the 4th century. She also dedicated

herself to God and refused to marry. At 12 years of age she was put to death for her refusal and for being a Christian. Her name means “lamb” and annually on her feast a pair of lambs are blessed by the pope, and their wool is shorn on Holy Thursday to create the pallium that a new metropolitan archbishop wears over his shoulders.

St. Cecilia – Similar to Agnes, Lucy and Agatha, Cecilia was a noble maiden of the 2nd century who dedicated her virginity to God. She was forced to marry but protected by a guardian angel, who helped preserve her purity. Eventually she was put to death for her Christian faith and is popularly known as the patron saint of music for her musical skills. It is also said that she frequently heard melodies from Heaven.

St. Anastasia – A Roman widow of the 4th century, after her husband’s death she dedicated her life to acts of charity and the practice of her Christian faith. During the persecution of Diocletian she was killed for her beliefs. Her feast was originally placed on December 25 and it was customary to commemorate her in a small way each Christmas.

<https://aleteia.org/2018/03/07/who-are-the-7-women-mentioned-during-the-eucharistic-prayer-at-mass/>



St. Felicity



St. Perpetua



St. Agatha



St. Agnes



St. Lucy



St. Cecilia



St. Anastasia

Caring for an elderly parent?

Here are 16 ways to make them happy



Giving the gift of love and patience is more transformative than we might know.

I had the privilege of caring for my elderly mother until she died at the age of 91. I cared for her daily until I moved to another city, and then I returned four times a year to be her caregiver for long stretches at a time.

I bathed her, took care of her when she was sick, changed her diapers, listened to her for hours on the same topic, consoled her when she cried, fed her, let her win at cards so she wouldn't get mad, prayed and talked about heaven with her ... and I wouldn't change those moments for anything.

Making an elderly person happy isn't hard. They can seem very demanding, but all they need is our time, patience, and love.

Here are some suggestions of ways to make an elderly parent happy ...

1. Take them to visit friends and family. If you can't, organize with someone who can. Friendships are always necessary at any age.

2. Stop arguing with them. Let them feel like they are right. It gives them security.

3. Let them live amidst their memories. Often, it's all they have left, and it's important to them.

4. Let them talk, even if they repeat the same story a hundred times. Listen and treasure their words, which are pure wisdom.
5. Make them feel like you need them, that they are useful to you and not a burden.
6. Let them do most things, and only help them as needed.
7. Play with them at what they most enjoy, and let them win (within reason).
8. Listen to music from their era. Let them tell you a story that has to do with this or that song.
9. Let them get mad and have their tantrums as if they were a child. But don't treat them like a child — treat them like an adult who deserves all your respect and understanding.
10. Motivate them to take care of their personal hygiene and upkeep. Encourage her to wear a little makeup, and motivate him to shave. What is their favorite lotion? Gift it to them.
11. Talk to them in a serene tone of voice. Say

thanks and tell them you love them. Tell them how much you value their life, time, and knowledge.

12. Get into their world. Get into their stories, as if they were happening now.
13. Touch them, hug them, spoil them, fill them with kisses ... Show them your tenderness and warmth.
14. Look at their photos and let them tell you the story behind them. Let yourself be surprised at what you hear.
15. Pray with them. Most older adults are quite good at it!
16. Simply ask: "What can I do for you today to make you happy?"

Many of us have had the immense blessing of caring for an elderly parent. If you haven't, try giving them some of your time. Yes, it can be very tiring and sometimes quite exhausting, but at the end of the day you'll go to bed with a smile on your face. There is nothing better than serving and spending time with our elders.

Love, take care of, and protect their weakness. Remember that everything in them is a big gift of life!

<https://aleteia.org/2018/05/14/16-ways-caregivers-can-make-their-elderly-parent-happy/>

How to find time for prayer in a busy schedule

This simple principle will revolutionize your prayer life and give you more time for prayer each day. We all live busy and hectic lives. Juggling work and family obligations is not easy, and unfortunately the first thing to get lost is our daily prayer.

We often have good intentions and want to pray on a daily basis, but putting that desire into action is difficult.

The good news is that **there is a simple secret that unlocks a daily habit of prayer.**

Author Jim Beckman, in his book *God, Help Me: How to Grow in Prayer*, observed a key principle in finding time for prayer. ***The way we spend our time tends to reveal what we place value on. One author I read on this topic observed with amusement that no one ever died of hunger because of not having time to eat. There are things we do with our time every day, and if we track our activity, we'll see what is truly important to us. If prayer is something we place value on, we'll make time for it.***

If we truly value prayer, we will make room in our daily schedule.

One way to do this is to **make prayer a priority and schedule it in first.** For example, when you look at your day, instead of thinking of all the things you need to do, first ask yourself, "When can I pray today?" Then you can work backwards and schedule in everything else. It is a simple principle, but one that we don't always like to follow. Ask yourself right now, "Is prayer a priority in my life?" If it is, then it should be reflected in your daily schedule.

Prayer to resist temptation

When you are struggling to resist a temptation, ask God for help.

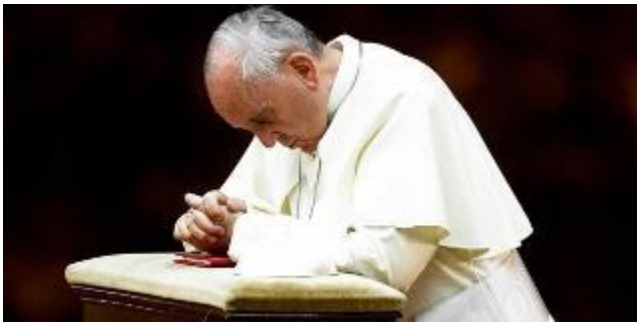
Temptations are not easy to resist, especially when they focus on areas in our lives that provide moments of physical pleasure. **Our will wants one thing, while God's will wants another.** It is impossible to fight against such a

temptation alone, and it is absolutely necessary to take this battle straight to God. Here is a prayer adapted from *My Prayer Book* that can be used in such a circumstance, asking God to help you resist temptations.

*I humbly ask you, Lord, through the infinite merits of your painful sufferings, give me strength and courage to **destroy every evil***

passion and temptation which sways my heart, to bless you in my greatest afflictions, to glorify you by the exact fulfillment of my duties, supremely to hate all sin, and thus to become a saint. Amen.

https://aleteia.org/2020/08/06/prayer-to-resist-temptation/?utm_campaign=NL_en&utm_source=daily_newsletter&utm_medium=email



Pope Francis' 8-step guide to discernment

"The voice of God is a voice that has a horizon, whereas the voice of evil leads you to a wall"

Being able to tell right from wrong is a clear element of not only moral conscience but of spiritual growth as well. In fact, it is one of the pillars of classic Ignatian Spirituality. Pope Francis, a Jesuit himself, once gave a **mini-lesson on discernment** (on the fourth Sunday of Easter 2020, dedicated to Jesus the Good Shepherd) in **eight relatively easy steps**. Here, we share with you **the most important excerpts of Francis' lesson**:

The Gospel says that "The sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out" (Jn 10: 3). The Lord calls us by name, He calls us because He loves us. But, the Gospel then tells us, **there are other voices, not to be followed**: those of strangers, thieves and brigands who mean harm to the sheep.

These different voices resonate within us. **There is the voice of God, who speaks kindly to the conscience, and there is the tempting voice that leads to evil.** How can we recognise the voice of the good Shepherd rather than that of the thief, how can we distinguish the inspiration of God from the suggestion of the evil one?

The 7-word prayer Pope Francis learned from his grandmother

Pope Francis recommends a simple prayer he learned from his grandmother. : **"Jesus, make my heart more like yours."**

One can learn to discern these two voices: they speak two different languages. That is, they have opposite ways of knocking on the door of our hearts. They speak different languages. Just as we know how to distinguish one language from another, we can also

distinguish the voice of God from the voice of the evil one.

AM I STILL FREE?

The voice of God never forces us: God proposes Himself, He does not impose Himself. Instead, **the evil voice seduces, assails, forces**: it arouses dazzling illusions, emotions that are tempting but transient.

AM I BEING FLATTERED?

At first it flatters, it makes us believe that we are all-powerful, but then it leaves us empty inside and accuses us: "You are worth nothing". **The voice of God**, instead, corrects us, with great patience, but always encourages us, consoles us: it **always nourishes hope**.

AM I LOOKING FORWARD?

The voice of God is a voice that has a horizon, whereas the voice of evil leads you to a wall, it backs you into a corner.

Jesus, make my heart more like yours.

AM I IN THE PRESENT MOMENT?

Another difference. The voice of the enemy distracts us from the present and wants us to focus on fears of the future or sadness about the past – **the enemy does not want the present** – it brings to the surface the bitterness, the memories of the wrongs suffered, of those who have hurt us, many bad memories. Instead, the voice of God speaks to the present: "Now you can do good, now you can exercise the creativity of love, now you can renounce the regrets and remorse that hold your heart captive". **It inspires us, it leads us ahead, but it speaks in the present: now.**

IS IT ABOUT MY EGO?

Again: the two voices raise different

questions in us. **That which comes from God will be: "What is good for me?"** Instead the tempter will insist on another question: **"What do I feel like doing?"** What I feel like: the evil voice always revolves around the ego, its impulses, its needs, *everything straight away*. It is like the tantrums of a child: everything, and now. The voice of God, instead, never promises joy at a low price: it invites us to go beyond our ego to find the true good, peace.

WHAT AFTERTASTE DOES IT LEAVE?

Let us remember: **evil never gives us peace**, it causes frenzy first and leaves bitterness later. This is the style of evil.

AM I SEEKING LIGHT OR HIDING?

The voice of God and that of the tempter, finally, speak in different "environments": the enemy prefers darkness, falsehood, and gossip; the Lord loves sunlight, truth, and sincere transparency.

AM I LED TO TRUST?

The enemy will say to us: "Close yourself up in yourself, besides no-one understands and listens to you, don't trust anyone!" **Goodness, on the contrary, invites us to open up**, to be clear and trusting in God and in others.

Dear brothers and sisters, in this time so many thoughts and worries lead us to turn inwards into ourselves. **Let us pay attention to the voices that reach our hearts. Let us ask ourselves where they come from. Let us ask for the grace to recognise and follow the voice of the good Shepherd**, who brings us out of the enclosures of selfishness and leads us to the pastures of true freedom.

May Our Lady, Mother of Good Counsel, guide and accompany our discernment.

https://aleteia.org/2020/05/04/popes-mini-lesson-how-to-discern-if-god-or-satan-is-speaking/?utm_campaign=NL_en&utm_source=daily_newsletter&utm_medium=mail&utm_content=NL_en

The Little-Known Title of Mary All Catholics Need to Invoke to Save the Church in Crisis

The Church is in crisis.

Whatever you make of specific accusations against Pope Francis or other clerics, there's no question the sex abuse crisis is tearing the Church apart. What is the way forward?

As Robert P. George and others have pointed, the current crisis can be understood, at least in part, as a crisis of infidelity – unfaithfulness. Do Catholics – clergy and lay – *really* believe the Catholic faith? And are they *really* willing to adhere to it?

Given the significant number of clergy who have either engaged in gross sexual immorality or covered it up, it seems the answer for many is “no.”

Which is why Catholics need to start invoking this little-known title of Mary: *Exterminatrix of All Heresies*.

Catholics can sometimes get a bit too sentimental about Mary. Yes, she's loving, warm, and embraces her children. But she's also completely dedicated to their salvation. And like any good “mama bear,” that sometimes means she needs to **fight**.

This title appears to be based on the teaching of Pope St. Pius X. In his 1904 encyclical *Ad Diem Illum Laetissimum*, the saintly pope writes, “And thus once again is justified what the Church attributes to this august Virgin that **she has exterminated all heresies in the world.**” (*Ad Diem Illum Laetissimum*, 22)

Here are two iconic depictions of Mary fighting off demons (who lead souls astray with heresy) with a club:

So let us invoke the help of the Blessed Mother, and, like her, fight for truth and holiness in the Church.

As Bp. Robert Barron recently said about the scandals, “**This is not the moment to abandon the Church. This is the moment to fight for the Church.**”

Amen!

Mary, Exterminatrix of All Heresies, pray for us!

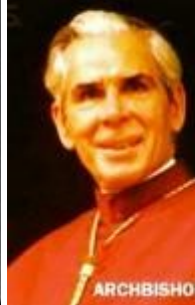
<https://churchpop.com/2018/08/31/the-little-known-title-of-mary-all-catholics-need-to-invoke-to-save-the-church-from-this-crisis/>



"A nation always gets the kind of politicians it deserves. If a time ever comes when the religious Jews, Protestants and Catholics ever have to suffer under a totalitarian state, which would deny to them the right to worship God according to the light of their conscience, it will be because for years they thought it made no difference what kind of people represented them in Congress, and because they abandoned the spiritual in the realm of the temporal."
~ Fulton J. Sheen



"If I Were Not A Catholic ..."



"If I were not a Catholic, and were looking for the true Church in the world today, I would look for the one Church which did not get along well with the world; in other words, I would look for the Church which the world hated..."
I am a Catholic.
ARCHBISHOP FULTON J. SHEEN

How God will judge my life I know not, but I trust He will see me with mercy and compassion. I am only certain there will be three surprises in Heaven. First of all, I will see some people whom I never expected to see. Second, there will be a number whom I expected who will not be there. And - even relying on God's mercy - the biggest surprise of all may be that I will be there. When the record of any human life is set down, there are three pairs of eyes who see it in a different light. 1. As I see it. 2. As others see it. 3. As God sees it.

Archbishop Fulton Sheen

"There are not more than 100 people in the world who truly hate the Catholic Church, but there are millions who hate what they perceive to be the Catholic Church."

~Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

(c) Connecticut Catholic Corner

The only difference between a sinner and a saint is found in their attitude toward their sins — the one persisting in them; the other weeping bitterly.

~Archbishop Fulton Sheen



Archbishop Fulton Sheen was more than the man on television, 92-year-old niece says

Denver, Colo., Apr 5, 2020 / 12:35 pm

(CNA).- Archbishop Fulton Sheen's niece has recounted her view of the famous Catholic television personality and author in a new book that aims to show his Christian devotion and his deep concern for the poor, even as he engaged with Hollywood celebrities, American leaders, and an audience of millions.

"I hope that you learn he was not just the man in the red robe on TV. He was a very humble man, and very religious," Joan Sheen Cunningham, co-author of the book "My Uncle Fulton Sheen," told CNA March 31. "His whole life was working for the Church. That was the most important thing about him. I certainly think he did his job well!"

Cunningham's book, published by Ignatius Press, is co-authored by Janel Rodriguez, author of the 2006 book "Meet Fulton Sheen."

Sheen was the oldest of four brothers. Cunningham was the eldest daughter of Sheen's brother, a lawyer and father of eight, who was the second oldest to Sheen.

"It's a history of my life, in a way," she said. "I'm 92, so that was a long time ago!"

At the suggestion of Sheen, Cunningham left Illinois at a young age to enroll in a private school in New York City, where she lived with friends of Sheen.

This allowed her to take part in weekend outings with her uncle for Mass, confession, and dinners with Hollywood stars and influential politicians.

Venerable Fulton Sheen was born in 1895 in Illinois and was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Peoria at the age of 24. He was appointed auxiliary bishop of New York in 1951 and remained there until he was named Bishop of Rochester in 1966. After he retired in 1969 at the age of 74, he was named titular Archbishop of Newport, Wales. He died at the age of 84 and was declared venerable by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012.

Cunningham's book puts Sheen's life in a new perspective. She recounts his family's devout Catholicism, his excellent academics and talent for public speaking, but also his deep distaste for farm life. He showed great fondness for France and the French



language but was sometimes hospitalized due to overwork.

The clergyman showed a great love for Christmas and for dogs. He famously clashed with the deeply powerful Cardinal Francis Spellman of New York.

Sheen is perhaps most famous for his roles as host of the "Catholic Hour" radio show, which he started in 1930, and the television shows "Life is Worth Living" and "The Fulton Sheen Program," which ran in the 1950s and 1960s, respectively. For a time, his television show was among the most popular on the airwaves.

Cunningham reflected on his influence.

"He wasn't teaching the rules of the Church. He was just teaching them how they should be," she said. "He wanted to follow the teachings of the Church and teach others about that. He was just following what his faith told him to do."

Cunningham couldn't think of anyone with as much influence as Sheen, saying this was because "he appealed to all kinds of people."

"Often the cardinals and the popes can write wonderful things about how one should behave and what you should do and the rules of the Church, but I think he went beyond the rules of the Church. He saw people as people. That was his universal appeal."

Sheen authored many books explaining Christianity and discussing Christian devotion. Proceeds from the book sales supported foreign missions. He headed the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for years.

Cunningham said this position was his favorite role. He proved to be capable at raising awareness of the Catholic missions in other countries and in fundraising for them. He would visit the missions in Africa and other parts of the world.

Sheen was also a man of deep Christian devotion.

"I think he prayed every day that he'd do whatever God wanted him to do," she said.

His life showed a strong devotion to the Virgin Mary and he would speak of her in many of his sermons. He helped popularize the Mary Dixon Thayer poem "Lovely Lady Dressed in Blue."

"I don't know how many statutes of the Blessed Mother I have, because every time he would see one, he'd have to buy it," Cunningham told CNA. "His chapel in his apartment was all done in blue for the Blessed Mother."

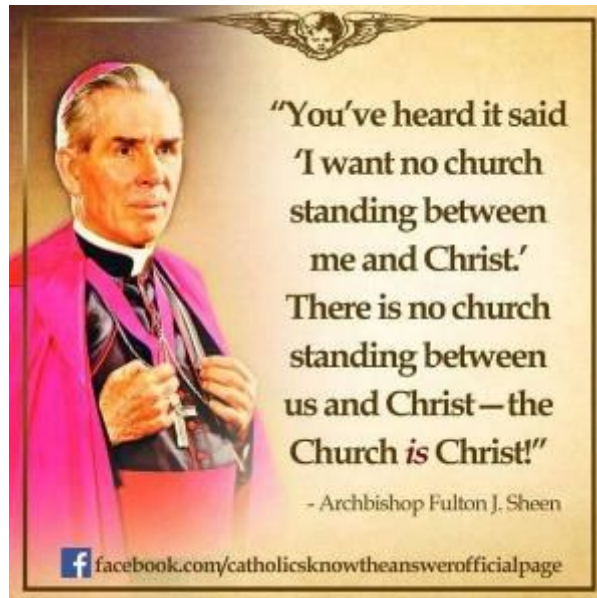
He went to confession weekly, engaged in frequent self-examination, and often prayed before the Blessed Sacrament.

She also recalled his kindness, sympathy, and his ability to listen and to understand people's difficulties.

"We would walk down the street in New York and there would be someone there begging. He couldn't help but stop and talk to them and give them some money," Cunningham said. "That was his way. He felt very badly to see so many poor people. He tried to tell people they should have a little sympathy for them and help them out."

Being in such close contact with her uncle taught her "great faith," she said.

"I certainly learned not to judge people by



(Continued on page 18)

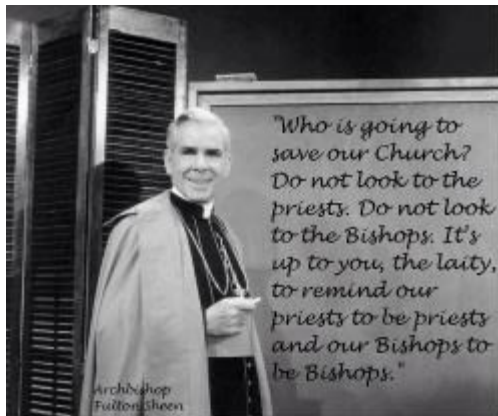
their religion or their race or anything like that. He was very open. He taught me that it doesn't matter if someone is important or just a regular person. You should treat them all the same."

"That I remember very well, growing up. I would meet people and he would never tell me if they were very important. I just had to be gracious and talk to them like anyone else. Then later I would find out they were somebody," she said.

Cunningham's book recounts meeting various famous people in Sheen's social circles: New York's Gov. Al Smith, the first Catholic to run for president; the actress and philanthropist Irene Dunne; the famous journalist, radio broadcaster and gossip columnist Walter Winchell; actress Loretta Young; and the former child star Shirley Temple.

Converts aided by Sheen included prominent people like writer and politico Clare Booth Luce, but also ordinary people, like a homeless leper named Victor. Sheen's work in engaging communists and communist polemics led to conversions of communist activists like Bella Dodd.

Another communist, Louis Budenz, personally



attacked Sheen in his paper, and Sheen replied in a pamphlet. A personal encounter with Sheen deeply affected Budenz, Cunningham said, and seven years later he converted.

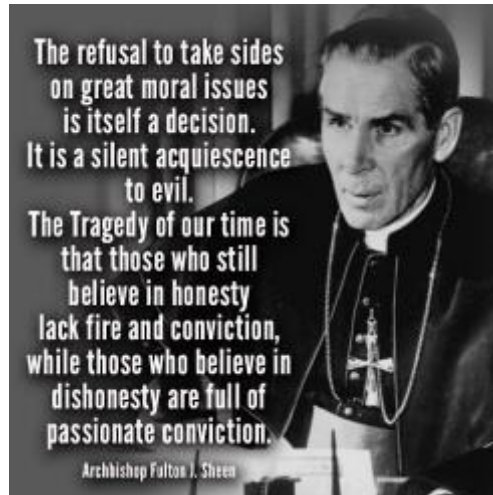
Cunningham's account tells of going with her uncle to see the movie "Snow White," to visit the ice-skating rink, and to taste sweets at cafes. She recounts her memories of his vocation story, and how he integrated his work as a broadcaster, professor and author with his priesthood.

"He had a wonderful, wonderful sense of humor. He was very kind and thoughtful about everything," she said. "I had an awful lot of fun with him, to be sure, from the time I was young to the time I had children. He was

always fun."

In some ways, Sheen was like a second father to Cunningham. He showed an ability to understand her and help her talk over questions and quandaries, even from a young age.

"if you had a quandary, he could help you find an answer to it," she said. "He was



understanding, and I think he wanted everyone to have a great faith in God and rely on God. He led me down the right path, when I would wonder about school, and of course my faith."

His engagement with people on the street, whether admirers, critics, self-proclaimed relatives, or fallen away Catholics, also touched Cunningham. Sheen was not universally popular. Sometimes he was the subject of an angry confrontation on the street.

"He would just pretend that they were being nice to him. He would overlook it," Cunningham said. "He always hoped that they would change their mind about it. A lot of people didn't like him, I'm sure, because of what he was teaching."

For Cunningham, more Catholics need to continue his legacy.

"It's too bad there aren't more people like him to carry on in the Church like he did. I think the world needs somebody like that," said Cunningham. "If there were more people who would approach others like he did, maybe things could be turned around."

She suspected her uncle would have this advice: "Pray to God to turn the world around. My uncle would say 'just pray pray pray'."

Cunningham recounts her family life and her marriage to a Georgetown Law student. Sheen gave them a copy of his book on marriage, "Three to Get Married" and helped the newlyweds find and set up their new

apartment—drawing on his clergy friends to help furnish the place.

Her book has won praise from Bishop Daniel Jenky of Peoria, Illinois, Fulton Sheen's hometown.

"This book should be essential reading for anyone interested in the life and heroic Christian witness of Fulton Sheen," Jenky said in a foreword to the book. "Reading Joan's fascinating account of her beloved uncle's story gives a richly human context to the inspiring life of this good, gifted and holy man."

The Peoria diocese opened the cause for Sheen's canonization in 2002, after the Archdiocese of New York said it would not explore the case. Jenky had suspended the beatification cause in September 2014 on the grounds that the Holy See expected Sheen's remains to be in the Peoria diocese. A lengthy legal battle followed, in which Cunningham sided with Peoria and Bishop Jenky due to the work they had put into the cause of beatification.

His beatification had been scheduled for Dec. 21, 2019, but it was postponed only weeks prior at the request of Bishop Salvatore Matano of Rochester, N.Y. The bishop was concerned that Sheen could be cited in investigations into handling of sexually abusive priests and alleged cover-ups during his three years as head of the diocese. Catholic News Agency reported in December that the concern focused on Sheen's handling of a priest who allegedly committed abuse or misconduct with adults in West Virginia, then returned to New York.

Cunningham hoped the conflict with the New York archdiocese could fade with time. She voiced disappointment with the last-minute cancellation and voiced sympathy with Sheen admirers who lost money on hotel and plane reservations.

She also acknowledged she did not understand the concerns that halted the beatification.

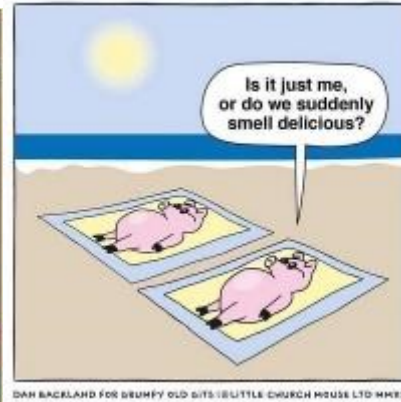
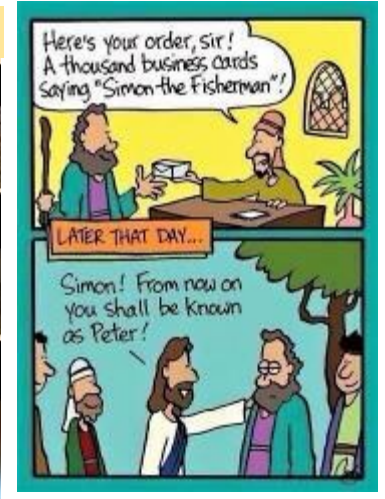
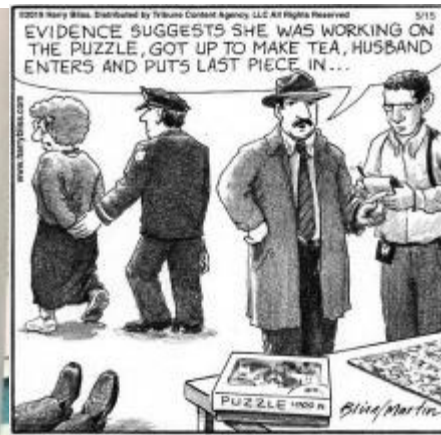
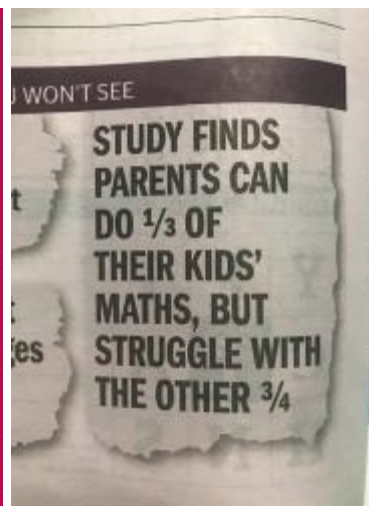
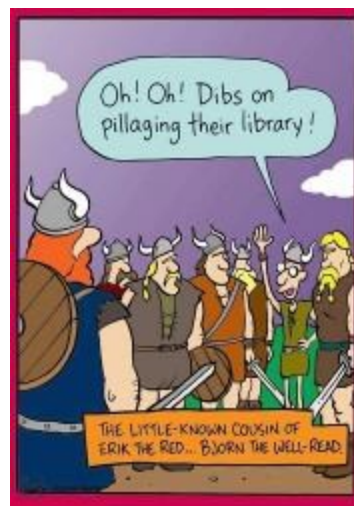
"My uncle had been investigated many times before Rome would even look at him as a possible candidate (for beatification)," said Cunningham.

https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/archbishop-fulton-sheen-was-more-than-the-man-on-television-92-year-old-niece-says-67561?hsenc=p2ANatz-8nej8z4iRUedRu20wtMyCCanoV-yEKxivyqrHRqI2O5bax8NQilAZTcUvPfwEVTLO0-msgyBsH390zXbRpF_RuEKCvW&hsmi=85778543

Let's Face it—We Need to Laugh. So here are two pages for you. You're Welcome!

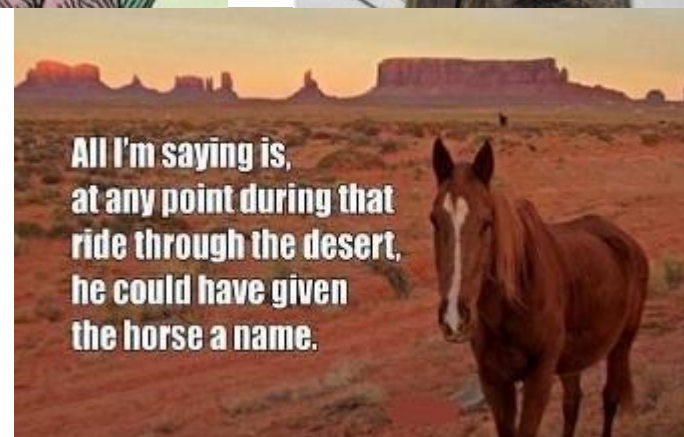
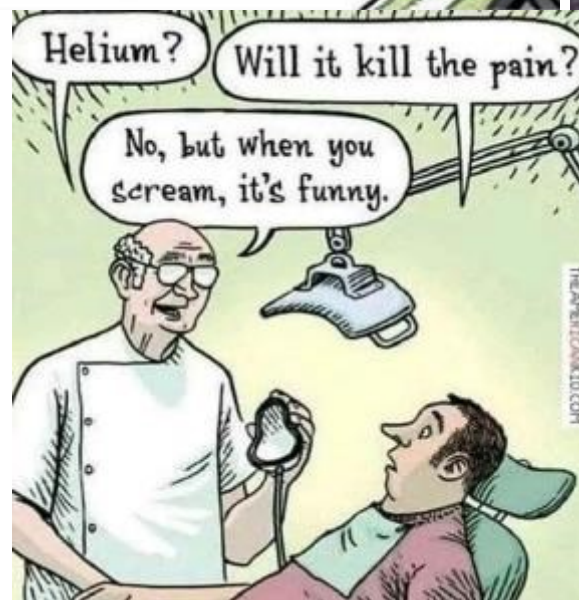


"O.K., now, when a teacher comes out, everybody look straight up."



Fingers prune underwater not because of them absorbing the water or washing away the oil, but because of an evolutionary trait caused by the brain to enhance the grip of your fingers underwater.

What has four letters, sometimes has nine letters, and never has five letters...



Coronaviruses? Riots? Why is the media not covering the fact that Racoons are breaking wild hogs and riding them into battle against the possums?



Covid 19 is a raccoon's conspiracy! Raccoon is the anagram of Corona! Look at this pic, they are building 5g towers and they make us wear masks to look like them.



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