



Notre Dame de Lorette Catholic Women's League

January, 2024



faith

service

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de Jésus



PRAYER FOR PEACE



Mother of God and our Mother, we come before you and we seek refuge in your Immaculate Heart. Mother of mercy, we appeal for mercy! Queen of Peace, we appeal for peace! Touch the hearts of those imprisoned by hatred; convert those who fuel and foment conflict. Dry the tears of children – at this hour, so many are weeping! – be present to those who are elderly and alone; strengthen the wounded and the sick; protect those forced to leave their lands and their loved ones; console the crestfallen; awaken new hope.

To you we entrust and consecrate our lives and every fibre of our being, all that we possess and all that we are, forever. To you we consecrate the Church, so that in her witness to the love of Jesus before the world, she may be a sign of harmony and an instrument of peace. To you we consecrate our world, to you we consecrate especially those countries and regions at war.

Your faithful people call you the dawn of salvation; Mother, grant that glimmers of light may illumine the dark night of conflict. Dwelling-place of the Holy Spirit, inspire the leaders of nations to seek paths of peace. Queen of all peoples, reconcile your children, seduced by evil, blinded by power and hate. You, who are close to all, shorten our distances. You, who have compassion on everyone, teach us to care for one another. You, who reveal the Lord's tender love, make us witnesses of his consolation and peace. Mother, Queen of Peace, pour forth into our hearts God's gift of harmony.
Amen.

Pope Francis, October 2023



Lucille's Letter

Dear Fr. Mario & my Sisters in The League,

Happy New Year! May God bless each and every one of us with the gifts we need to have a fulfilling, loving and faith filled year ahead. I trust your Christmas season was a happy, joyous and meaningful time spent with family and friends. The weather remains unseasonably mild but this calls for extra caution as the risks of respiratory illnesses and the risks of falls on icy surfaces are heightened as a result.

Thank you to all the members and their families who attended our Advent Gathering - a good time was had by all! A special thank you to Suzanne Moore for showing the PowerPoint presentation of Our Lady of Guadeloupe. Suzanne has forwarded this presentation to all members for viewing...it is quite fascinating.

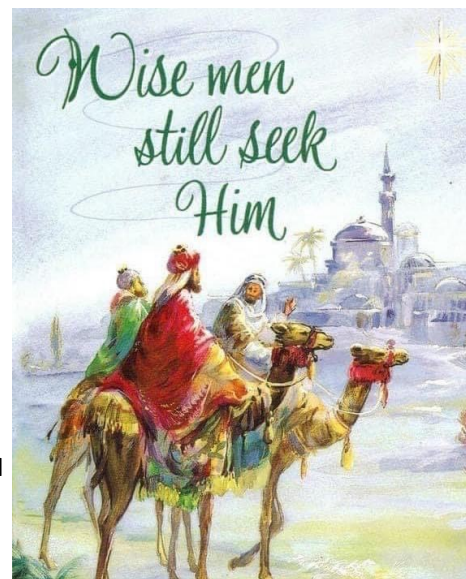
Thank you to CWL members who responded to the call to serve as an honour guard at the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th.

Congratulations to Jennifer and Toochukwu Opara on the healthy birth of their third daughter, Uchechukwu Opara born on December 20.



We bid farewell to Chisom Ibeme as she and husband Dominic have moved to Selkirk. We wish them all the best in their new location.

This will be the last message I pen as your CWL president for NDL. My term comes to an end in January with a new slate of officers taking over the reins. I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you for making the past 2 years as smooth and easy as you have. Your enthusiasm, your willingness to work together and your active participation made my responsibilities much easier to bear. My gratitude to the ladies on the executive knows no bounds! They are a smart, savvy, wonderful, always helpful, supportive and incredible group of women and it has been my honour and pleasure to work with them. I want to wish the incoming executive all the very best and to assure them that they will be working with the finest women of the CWL!



Lucille Chay

2024 Annual National Convention Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

CWL Pin Ribbon

Back by popular demand! Showcase your League pins with pride with this beautiful ribbon.

Dimensions:
1.5" x 6.5"
\$15.00
plus shipping.



CWL Christmas Ornament

Celebrate the birth of Jesus with this pewter Christmas ornament

Dimensions:
2.5" x 2"
\$20.00
plus shipping.



To order contact:
Margaret Schwab

Email:
cwl2024fundraising@gmail.com
Telephone:
(306) 227-8930

JANUARY

2024 Pope's Intentions

For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.



January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  <p>Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Mass to our Intentions</p>	2	3	4	5 <p>ADORATION: 5-6 pm Adrienne & Jacqueline</p>	6
7	8	9	10  <p>CWL Gen Mtg. 7:00 at hall</p>	11  <p>Valerie Bonnefoy</p>	12 <p>ADORATION: 5-6 pm Delaney & Suzie D</p>	13  <p>Fr. Mario</p>
14	15	16	17	18	19 <p>ADORATION: 5-6 pm Suzanne & Megan</p>	20
21	22	23  <p>Adrienne Dennison Sr. Anna Marie</p>	24	25	26 <p>ADORATION: 5-6 pm Connie & Gisele</p>	27  <p>Diocesan Executive Mtg</p>
28	29  <p>Megan Bernardin Irene Bialek Mary-Ann Novak</p>	30  <p>Carol & John Mravinec</p>	31			

The Catholic Women's League of Canada

Manitoba Provincial Council



December 2023

As I write this letter, I'm looking at a quilted mural of the Nativity. Mary presenting Christ our Savior and the Angels of our Lord God and St. Joseph looking on. I am sure Mary felt a bit overwhelmed by it all. I still remember when I gave birth to our children, the emotions, the task of raising a child really becomes the focal point of your life. I'm sure she felt them too! I have a vision of St. Joseph giving her a break and cuddling the infant Jesus and thinking of the words said to him by an angel of the Lord in a dream "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit (Mathew 1:18-24). I'm sure he had emotions he had to deal with also.

This scenario shows us of the unselfish act St. Joseph took accepting Mary and raising Jesus as his own. I also think of the people who take a child in their home even though it's not their own and help, love the child, knowing that the child will take their leave into adulthood with no guarantees into the outcome.

The year 2023 has been a year of changes, adaptations, learning new things, but our Lord God with the help of our Lady of Good Counsel send us in the right direction. Let us continue to pray for world peace, and to support each other as we embrace the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!

Lucille Rossington

Catholic Women's League of Canada
Manitoba Provincial Council
Acting President

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel", which means, "God is with us." (Mathew 1-24)

Greetings from Sr. Maryse Chartier, csc



Hola,

I hope this e-mail finds you in good spirits. As winter settles in the northern hemisphere, summer takes off in the southern. Dare I say that I miss winter?

Back in Lima at the end of August, I first renewed my residency permit.

Since mid-October, I've been in my

new mission environment, the small town of Tacna, on Peru's border with Chile. A semi-desert zone, a dry, sunny climate 30 kilometers from the Pacific Ocean (which I have yet to see). The sunsets are magnificent, almost as beautiful as those on the Manitoba plains. I help out at the Sisters of Holy Cross's afterschool programa ("biblioteca") in the afternoons: we welcome nearly thirty school-age children to help them with their homework and reinforce their reading skills. I also continue to give a distance English course to rural students. The Tacna work also includes a workshop where sewing is taught, mainly to women, to give them a means of earning a living. Many people have left the altiplano region to look for work in Tacna.

I also had the opportunity to renew my profession as a translator. In addition to the congregation's meetings, I had the chance to interpret at the meetings of the Congregation of Holy Cross (the name of the community of Holy Cross Fathers and Brothers) in Lima in mid-October. Except for the session on canon law, I think I did pretty well. It was also a grace to see another side of the Holy Cross charism. I also got to see the Holy Cross novices with whom I used to play volleyball when I was in the novitiate. And I can't hide the fact that four days off from washing dishes sometimes feels good!

Since September, I've been studying theology part-time again. I'm now preparing for a full-time semester of study starting in January 2024. Before landing in Ottawa, where some of my sisters have generously agreed to welcome me, I'll have the great joy of spending Christmas in Manitoba.

I'm a little short of inspiration—too many essays, perhaps? In any case, I'd like to thank you for your continued prayers, because although I like Tacna, the transition to a new place where you know almost nothing and nobody is never easy. And it takes humility to accept learning to adapt and to make mistakes.

Wishing you a luminous Advent season and wonderful preparations for the holiday season, I assure you of my prayers and affection. Maryse Chartier, csc



Advent Celebration, December 3, 2023





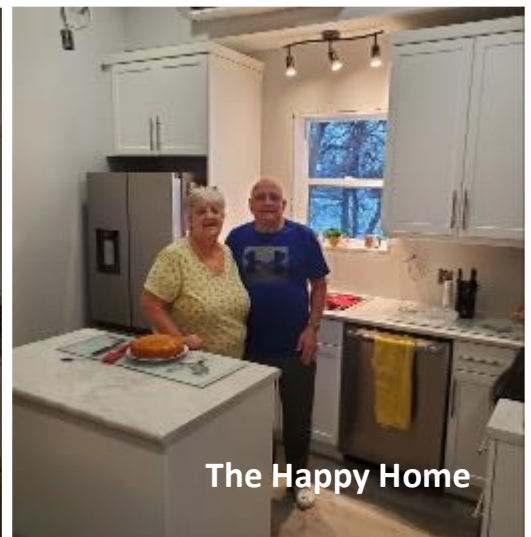
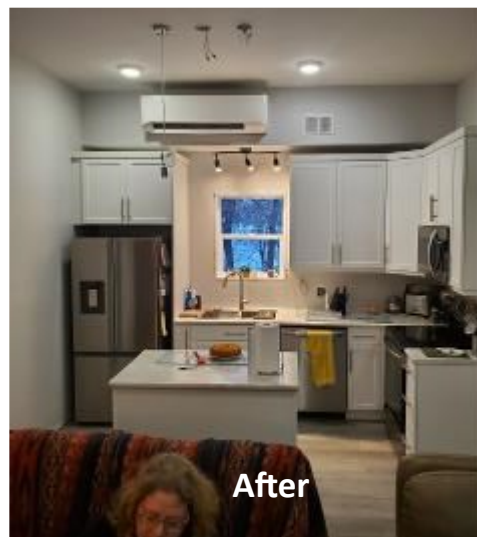
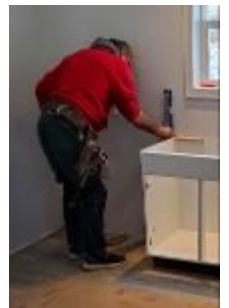
Life Culture Luncheon, December 12, 2023



A Christmas Blessing, December 21, 2023

I am pleased to report that Ralph & Faith have a new functioning kitchen for Christmas. Norman Ross was the main cabinet installer and I assisted. We worked at it for 2 plus days to ensure it was ready for Christmas. Faith was ecstatic to have running water in her new kitchen and showed off the cupboards and cabinets that still had some empty space. Faith already baked a cake. We have a very happy senior couple in our community today. A huge thank you to Norm for his expertise and to the KOC to have financed the installation. Keep Christ in Christmas.

Vivat Jesus, Leo Desmarais, Knights of Columbus



KIDS Initiative Leader Wins Award

Cat Ross Receives Meritorious Service Award in Ottawa, December 7, 2023



Cat Ross with proud parents, Mae (CWL member) and Gil Ross



Presented by Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governor General of Canada



The Meritorious Service Decorations (Civil Division)

The Meritorious Service Decorations recognize great Canadians for exceptional deeds accomplished over a limited period of time that bring honour to our country. They honour achievements in both military and civil divisions.

The Meritorious Service Decorations (Civil Division) were established to recognize remarkable contributions in many different fields of endeavour, from advocacy initiatives and health care services, to research and humanitarian efforts.

Past recipients have tackled poverty in their

community, improved education opportunities for children in Canada and abroad, or raised awareness of important causes and issues. They inspire us and make us proud.

Meritorious Service Decorations (Civil Division) recognize achievements in any field, from advocacy and health care services to research and humanitarian efforts. Recipients have tackled poverty in their community, improved education opportunities for children in Canada and abroad, or raised awareness of important causes and issues.

There are two levels: a cross and a medal. The

different levels reflect the scope and impact of the activity or deed. The MSD (Civil Division) is part of the Canadian Honours System and is one of the highest distinctions a Canadian civilian can receive.

The MSD (Civil Division) may be presented by the governor general or by lieutenant governors or territorial commissioners. Presentation ceremonies are held throughout the year, in communities across Canada. The medal is accompanied by a lapel pin for everyday wear and a certificate. A recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal is entitled to use the letters "M.S.M."

**Collecting Rosaries,
including broken ones which
will be repaired!**

**And Monetary Donations
For Northern Missions
September 1–May 28**



**To be used for sacramental
preparation in the Diocese**

**An initiative of the CWL of the
Keewatin-The Pas Diocese**

SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 11, 2024
HOLY EUCHARIST
PARISH HALL

Caritas Award Dinner

Growing in Faith Together: Journeying with

YOUTH

Youth are important to the Church of today and tomorrow. Their faith, creativity, dynamism, and vitality are a surge of hope that can change the world.

The 2024 Caritas Award dinner will honour those who have dedicated their time, talents, and energy in supporting the youth ministry.

THE CATHOLIC FEDERATION OF MANITOBA LA FÉDÉRATION CATHOLIQUE DU MANITOBA SYNDICATO CATHOLIQUE DU MANITOBA
Supporting Catholic Values - Always

THE 2023 CATECHISM IN A YEAR IMPACT



MORE THAN
54 Million
DOWNLOADS



"What a gift!"



1.4 Billion minutes
of listening to Catholic truths

1 Podcast

in all categories, Jan 2023



187.6k members

in our Facebook group



5 TIMES TO MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS



During personal prayer.

—As an introduction/ invocation to the Blessed Trinity.



When passing a church.

—To honor the blessed Sacrament present inside.



When you hear a siren.

—To heal those who are in danger of dying.



When passing a cemetery.

—As a prayer for the Holy souls.



When you see an accident.

—As a protection for those who are in peril.

What Did the Holy Family's Journey to Bethlehem Entail?

A Closer Look at the Modern Reality



Can you imagine making this journey?

The liturgical season of Christmas has only just begun!

Christmas begins with the Nativity of Our Lord and ends on the Baptism of the Lord.

There are many things to bring to prayer as we enter into this season of celebration and thanksgiving for the gift of the Christ child.

One thing worth contemplating is the journey to Bethlehem leading up to Jesus' birth.

Immaculate Conception Parish in Worcester, Mass., shared a powerful image on social media providing a glimpse of the reality behind this journey.

The post caption reads,

"It is worth reflecting on the trip that Joseph and Mary had to take from their hometown in Nazareth to Bethlehem. Today this trip takes 31 hours walking over 90 miles over paved streets and crossing many towns AND with Google Maps to guide you. But back then, this journey was most likely over rough terrain and packed with highwaymen (robbers,) with the additional difficulty that this route is full [of] steep hills they would have to navigate. Our Lady and St. Joseph, pray for us!"

Wow!

Can you imagine making this journey? I often wonder what Joseph and Mary endured, spoke about, held in their hearts, and the love they shared.

We are told of the events leading up to the birth of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke 2: 1-7:

"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town.

And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn."

But, as Dave Armstrong explains in a thought-provoking article from the National Catholic Register, the details are often assumed,

"Luke 2:5-6 never claims that 1) that the Blessed Virgin Mary was 8-9 months pregnant on the journey, or 2) that she delivered the baby Jesus as soon as they arrived in Bethlehem (like all the movies

assume). All we know from these two verses is that 1) she was pregnant while making the journey, and 2) she delivered the baby Jesus in Bethlehem.

We know not a thing about how far along in her pregnancy she was, or



how long they were in Bethlehem before she bore baby Jesus. It's all mere groundless assumptions and speculations. We're just so used to thinking about it in a certain way that we overlook the fact that certain things aren't definitively stated."

There is a lot of mystery surrounding these events, but one thing is certain: the journey to Bethlehem led to the birth of our Savior!

Mother Mary and Saint Joseph, Pray for Us!

https://www.churchpop.com/what-did-the-holy-familys-journey-to-bethlehem-entail-a-closer-look-at-the-modern-reality/?utm_campaign=ChurchPop&utm_medium=email&hsmi=288267049&hsenc=p2ANqtz-8bNkNFqPXA4SdFhWS8OnKnzC6Mfo8vOpN3KYfOwmXN9vMvVWfB3hyVAzzhO7kj2848bdHipyPsgzG7qSL5YN7B0BdpgA&utm_content=288267049&utm_source=hs_email

Was Jesus a Palestinian? Setting the History Right

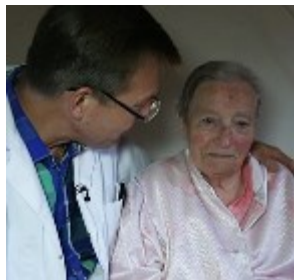
by Steve Ray (from the post of Dave Haworth) should be corrected.

"Was Jesus a Palestinian, immigrant son of an unmarried mother? Every Christmas we get swamped with all kinds of crazy ideas — attempts to debunk Jesus, Mary, Israel and the Catholic Church.

This year we have heard repeatedly that Jesus was a Palestinian. Even scholarly works seem to assert the same.

Was Jesus a Palestinian?

The answer is, NO! The word "Palestinian" originates from the word Philistine, and it was applied by Rome in the 2nd century to the land of Israel — Galilee, Samaria, and Judea. Jesus, living in the first century was a Judean Jew, not a Palestinian. He would've never heard the Roman imposed word in his lifetime. Anyone who uses that word in relation to Jesus is being anachronistic and



Canada is set to offer assisted suicide to Canadians with mental illnesses, The New York

Times reported on Wednesday.

The law would make Canada one of the few countries that allow individuals struggling with mental illness to seek assisted suicide through a doctor, according to the NYT. It is set to go into effect in March, and has drawn condemnation from lawmakers and mental health professionals, the latter of whom fear it will undercut their efforts to help their patients and prevent them from committing suicide.

"I'm trying to keep my patients alive," Dr. John Maher, an Ontario-based psychiatrist, told the NYT. "What does it mean for the role of the physician, as healer, as bringer of hope, to be offering death? And what does it mean in practice?"

The land surrounding Jerusalem, the land known to Jesus was called Judea. We find the word "Palestinian" zero times in the Bible, but we find the word Judea 45 times. If one wants to be historically and biblically accurate, they would never say Jesus was a Palestinian Jew. They would say he was a Jew from Judea. In fact, the word Jew itself originates from the word Judea.

Was Jesus born to an unwed mother?

Anyone who says that Jesus was born to an unmarried woman has no clue what they're talking about. Even today in the Middle East betrothal means legally married, though the spouses have not yet moved in together. Marriage is a two-step process. To be betrothed is to be legally contractually married. However, about a year later the groom comes for the bride and takes her into his home. Today there is a ceremony that that seals the deal. This is hardly unwed. Mary was not an "unwed mother".

Were they exiles and immigrants?

Also no. They had family, in Nazareth, and Bethlehem and in Egypt. There was a large Jewish community in Egypt — modern day Cairo. All of these areas were in one Empire,

under the Roman Empire and therefore you could travel between them "without a passport".

They were hardly exiled to another country or illegal immigrants. And when King Herod died, they left their Jewish community in Egypt and went back to their Jewish community in Nazareth.

Be very careful what you listen to. The secular, modern media has every reason to spew their secular propaganda. They have every reason to deceive us in the promotion of their anti-Christian agenda. They try to deceive us. They are also very ignorant of the facts.

Frankly we should just say "no thanks" — and then rebuke them!"

https://catholicconvert.com/_trashed-4/



Canada Set to Allow Doctors to Euthanize Mentally Ill People

Canada made assisted suicide legal in 2016 and currently offers the service to citizens who suffer from terminal illnesses or physical and chronic disorders, according to the NYT. Approximately 13,200 Canadians died by assisted suicide in 2022, a 31% increase from the year prior; roughly 45,000 people in total have died from assisted suicide since the law was enacted in 2016, according to CBC.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's government has defended the planned expansion of assisted suicide to mentally ill individuals, citing a 2019 Quebec court ruling that mandates its approval, according to the NYT. Canada's Conservative Party has decried the expansion, warning it will fuel a "culture of death," and many Canadians feel the focus should be instead on expanding the country's underfunded psychiatric care services.

Defenders of the new law argue that it would be inhumane not to offer assisted suicide to individuals who struggle with severe mental

health issues, according to the NYT. Some psychiatrists and doctors argue that an individual will only be eligible for assisted suicide after they have consulted with multiple doctors, who must deem their mental health complications irreparable.

But others in the psychiatry field say that these consultations cannot truly determine whether or not these individuals' mental state is beyond healing, according to the NYT.

"The research that we have shows psychiatrists are no better at identifying who's not going to get better," Maher told the NYT. "The challenge for us is it's not a short-term process. When people have been sick for years, healing takes years."

The law is scheduled to go into effect in March 2024, but its ratification could be stonewalled by Canada's parliament, which has delayed it over the last three years following the Quebec court's ruling, according to the NYT.

<https://www.lifenews.com/2023/12/27/canada-set-to-allow-doctors-to-euthanize-mentally-ill-people/>

Rescued by Mother Teresa, Minnesota man now shares his incredible stories of two nuns



Patrick Norton pictured with a magazine cover of Mother Teresa, who picked him up from the streets of Bombay as an infant. Later he was adopted by an American family. | Credit: Photo courtesy of Patrick Norton

In 1962, when he was just an infant, Patrick Norton was abandoned on the streets of Bombay, India, where Mother Teresa found him. She brought him to the St. Joseph nursery and eventually he was transferred to Our Lady's Home in Mumbai, where he joined 250 orphaned boys.

"We went to Mass 365 days a year and always prayed the rosary at 7 p.m.," Norton, now 61, recalled. His faith life was rich, but his earthly life was very poor.

Norton remembers sleeping on the floor and having tough times. "I was so hungry sometimes that I ate my homework paper and eraser. Other boys did that too," he told CNA.

Once, when there was no food, Norton said they all prayed an extra rosary, pleading to Our Lady for help. "I remember big trucks came and brought us donations: powdered milk and dried eggs and flour," he said.

"Sometimes, we went to the apartment next to the orphanage to dig in the garbage for toys," Norton recalled. "One time, I found a

piece of paper from a magazine. It said 'U.S.A.' There was a house in the picture. It looked so nice."

Norton showed it to one of the priests. "Throw it out," he said. "You're never going to go there."

Norton instead took some wet rice and, using it as glue, he stuck the picture on his wall. "I prayed to God that one day, I would ... go there," he said.

Months passed. One night during the war between Pakistan and India, the boys were ushered out into the night by the two nuns and two priests who cared for them, hoping they would be missed by the bombings. The boy gazed up at the stars and moon, a reprieve from the explosions around him. "I said, 'God, forget about the war. Look how beautiful your world is,'" he recounted. "Then I heard a voice: 'I'm going to bring you to one of the greatest nations in the world.'"

And so, it came to pass.

One day, Norton was told that he and another boy named Martin would be adopted by a large American family: Judge John Henry and Marjorie Norton, who had nine children and had then adopted five more. There were many delays, but finally, Norton left for Connecticut on Oct. 25, 1976, at the age of



14, and was embraced by his new family.

"There were 14 of us," Norton said. "We were on 'Good Morning America' on TV. My father was asked: 'Why did you adopt so many kids?' He answered: 'I wanted to thank God for all he has given us.'"

An early photo of Patrick and Martin with their American father after their adoption. Credit: Photo courtesy of Patrick Norton

Norton's devotion to the Catholic faith and the rosary continued with his new family.

"Every evening after supper, we'd all gather for the rosary," Norton said. As a teenager in his new home, he would cut out pictures of the Blessed Mother from issues of **SOUL Magazine** with the message to pray the rosary daily. "I'd ride my bike to outside phone booths and hang the pictures up," Norton shared. "It was my way of evangelizing."

When Norton was 21, working as a maintenance superintendent of two buildings, a favorite spot he went for breakfast was Johnny's Restaurant in Fairfield, Connecticut. "Once, I asked the owner how business was going," Norton said. "He told me it was very slow. I said, 'Johnny, put a picture of the Blessed Mother in your window.' He did, and business became very busy. Later, I saw that he added a picture of Jesus in the window."

As a young adult, Norton met his future wife, Sandy, on a pilgrimage, and eventually they married, moved to Minnesota, and had three children — Maria, Anna, and Joseph. Amazingly, Sandy recalled seeing the Norton family on "Good Morning America" when she was a teenager.

https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/256375/rescued-by-mother-teresa-minnesota-man-now-shares-his-incredible-stories-of-two-nuns?utm_campaign=CNA%20Daily&utm_medium=email&hsmi=288187240&hsenc=p2ANqtz--AX9JBqWL3JVxyvltazl16BexHDAhSBA0dvVdsdvLdLQ4vHcVYszlMFubj1iPATtTk2soTeuxBYil1Nbmu279IGSg&utm_content=288187240&utm_source=hs_email

Them: It's no longer BC and AD. Now we say BCE and CE.

Me: Do you hear that everyone, now we refer to the eras as Before Christ's Era, and Christ's Era.

Them: But that's not wha...

Me: Let us rejoice, for we live in the era of Christ!



Private prayer for Benedict XVI's intercession



A Brazilian bishop authorized the first prayer to ask for Benedict XVI's intercession.

Only a few weeks after Pope Benedict XVI's death, Brazilian bishop Dom Antônio Carlos Rossi Keller of the Diocese of Frederico Westphalen authorized a private

prayer to seek the intercession of the deceased pontiff.

He explained his reasoning

*Only the Church can officially say whether **Benedict XVI will be canonized or not, if he lived the Christian virtues in a heroic degree. So this is a filial prayer, it is not an official prayer of the Church, it is a prayer of the sons and daughters who knew the pope through his person, his writings, his teachings, and they realize that he is a man who loved God very much, loved the Church very much, served with generosity and dedication, to the point that when he realized he no longer had the strength to govern the Church, he humbly withdrew.** For these reasons, I composed this prayer, naturally with the value of personal piety, and it should not be said publicly, only individually. I believe that many graces will be granted through the intercession of Benedict XVI.*

The prayer is intended as a private prayer and does not guarantee that Benedict XVI would ever be canonized a saint.

However, it is among the first steps in the long road to canonization.

If the cause for his canonization was ever approved, **Benedict XVI would join a long list of popes in the last century** who have been canonized.

Below is Aleiteia's translation of the Brazilian bishop's prayer. Any graces or miracles attributed to Benedict XVI's intercession must be communicated to the [Vicariate of Rome](#)

Prayer to Benedict XVI

Almighty and ever-living God,
you inspired in the heart of your servant, Pope Benedict XVI,
the sincere desire to encounter you and proclaim you,
becoming a humble "Cooperator of Truth"
and offering himself as a servant for Christ and the Church.
Grant that I may love Christ's Church
and follow in my life the eternal truths that it proclaims.
Deign, Lord, to glorify your servant Pope Benedict XVI,
and grant me through his intercession the grace that I now ask of you.
Amen.

Pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be.

https://aleiteia.org/2023/02/07/bishop-authorizes-private-prayer-for-benedict-xvis-intercession/?utm_campaign=EM-EN-Newsletter-Daily-&utm_content=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendgrid&utm_term=20231230



A Catholic Approach to the New Year

received and seeking forgiveness for shortcomings. We also look ahead with a hopeful heart, praying for God's guidance and grace in the year to come.

Hope

The kind of hopes we bring into the new year are not just personal. Oftentimes, they extend to the wider world. **We pray for peace, for justice, for the healing of our planet and its people.** We remember God's promise of a renewed creation, and this hope fuels our commitment to working toward a better future. Hope is thus not just some vague daydreaming, but a stark resolution to build the Kingdom of God.

Faith

Our faith in God's unfailing love is **the compass guiding us through the uncharted territory of the New Year**. In more ways than one, faith is, in the end, all we have. We trust that even in times of uncertainty, when we need to *fly blind*, God will be with us, leading us through darkness and toward light. This faith strengthens our resolve to face

challenges with courage and compassion.

Charity

Charity is not just about giving alms. It implies **actively building bridges of love and understanding in the world**. In the spirit of the New Year, we recommit ourselves to serving those in need, to reaching out with kindness and empathy, and to making a positive difference in the lives of others.

As Catholics, we step into the New Year not just with resolutions, but **with a renewed sense of purpose, guided by the light of hope, faith, and charity**. We pray for a year filled with God's grace, where we can be instruments of his love and build a brighter future for ourselves and the world around us. The New Year is a time for both reflection and anticipation, an opportunity to deepen our faith, strengthen our hope, and to let love shine brightly in the world.

https://aleiteia.org/2023/12/30/a-catholic-approach-to-the-new-year/?utm_campaign=EM-EN-Newsletter-Daily-&utm_content=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sendgrid&utm_term=20231230

As the final bells of December fade, a fresh year stretches before us. There are enduring pillars to help us greet this new chapter.

As the final bells of December fade, a fresh year stretches before us. Renewed enthusiasm mingles with anxiety. What will the New Year hold? How can we navigate its uncertainties with (at least some) grace and purpose? For Catholics, the answer lies not in resolutions fleeting as confetti, but in **the enduring pillars of hope, faith, and charity**.

The New Year isn't considered a major religious holiday in Catholicism. (January 1 is, instead: the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.) It is nothing like Christmas or Easter. And still, it is a significant occasion marked with thanksgiving and anticipation. **We acknowledge the passage of time**, reflecting on the past year with gratitude for blessings

Your childhood was not complete



Unless you've been chased by a rooster.

Me calling God to make sure I signed up for the blessed and highly favored package and not the trial and tribulations package for 2024.



When the Priest's Homily sounds like he's been following me around all week



GOES TO CONFESSION



DOESN'T USE THE SCREEN

memegenerator.net

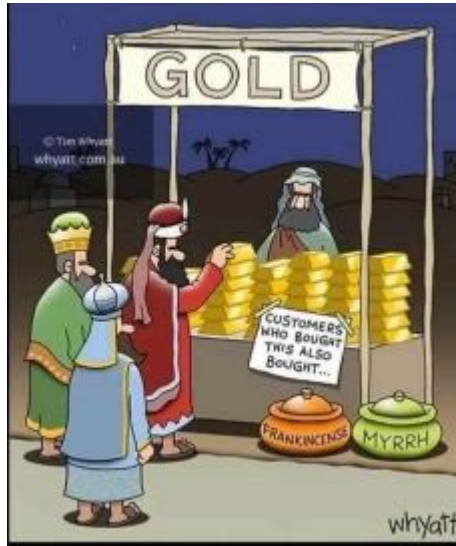
Every time it snows, we get Cardinals in the back yard. Really freaks out the dogs.



I always wanted to be a Gregorian Monk..



But I never had the chants.



Lord, we could not convert the natives.



I know.



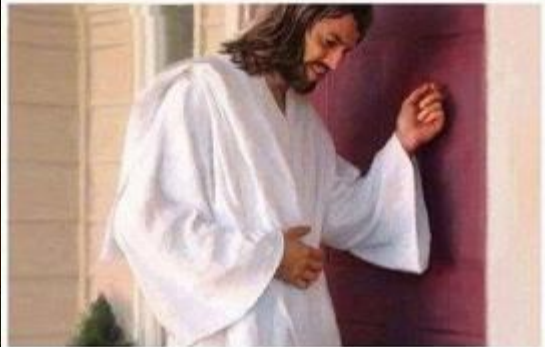
Mom, could you go there?



Yes.

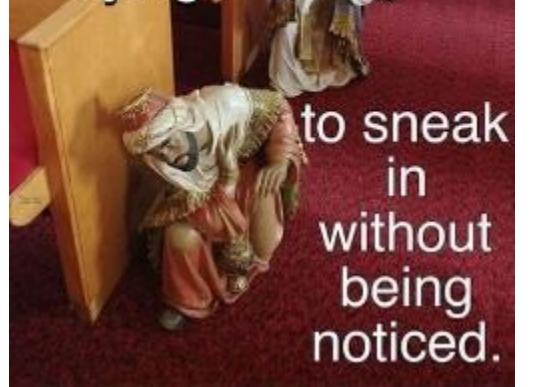


"Hey, Debbie? It's me, the Lord. Listen, you need to stop telling the doctor your health is in my hands, you're going to have to watch your carbs and get your A1C checked on the regular, ok?"



Jonah sailing to Spain. 753 B.C. Colorized.

When you are late for Mass and trying



Praying publicly:



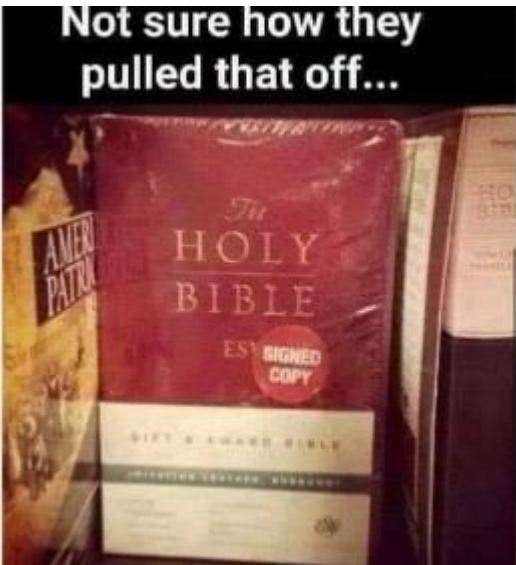
Never mind what (or how) he's done to the car, look at his trousers. LOOK AT THEM!!!!



Me taking finals



AND THE LORD SAID UNTO JOHN, "COME FORTH AND RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE." BUT JOHN CAME FIFTH AND WON A TOASTER.



Jesus fed 5000 but only 500 followed him after lunch. He had 12 disciples but only 3 went further in the garden, and only 1 stood with him at the Cross. The closer you get to the Cross, the smaller the crowd gets.

Me: I'm Catholic.
Them: Oh yeah? Name more than 10 Popes!
Me: John.
Them: That's on me, I set the bar too low.



MehGyver @AndrewNadeau0

MARY: Well, I just had a baby... in a barn. So, thanks to everyone who brought gifts. The gold, the perfumes. All things babies love. Also the child who inexplicably played drums, like, right in my face. This...this was great.



My plans for New Year's Eve

