

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUGUST 20, 2006 - PENTECOST XI
ST BERNARD, ABCD - WITHIN THE
OCTAVE OF THE ASSUMPTION

Today is the Third Sunday of the Month.
 The **Blessing of Expectant Mothers**
 follows all Masses.

THIRTEEN TUESDAYS OF SAINT ANTHONY

Our **Thirteen Tuesdays** devotion in honor of St. Anthony of Padua continues this week at **5:35 PM**, right before the 5:45 PM evening Mass. Come to participate in this powerful devotion.



Friday, August 25th, the Mothers' Union is sponsoring a Ladies' Evening of Recollection with 5:45 PM Mass, Benediction, and a Spiritual Talk with opportunity for questions and discussion. Confessions will be heard before the talk. Refreshments conclude the evening.

LADIES' NIGHT OF RECOLLECTION

SUNDAY CATECHISM

ENROLLMENTS NEXT SUNDAY!

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS: It is that time again! Time to arrange for the instruction of our young flock in the catechism of The Faith. If anyone knows where the summer went, please call the Church Office. I seem to have misplaced it.

Registration will be held Sunday, August 27th, and again Sunday, September 3rd in Helfta Hall.

All returning teachers and anyone else interested in fulfilling the duties of this very important apostolate should contact Kathy in the Church Office no later than August 22nd, if you please. An organizational meeting will be scheduled to discuss class format/structure, communication, attendance requirements and other particulars.

Parent, it is of the utmost importance that our young ones be fully armed in the rudiments of the Faith in these tumultuous times. We look forward to seeing you at registration.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of the Month. **Confessions** will be heard *before and during* all Masses.

Set your missal: August 27th. Pentecost XII with the commemoration of St. Joseph Calasanctius, C. **PREFACE:** Trinity.

HOLY HELPER VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, August 26th: Katie Bischak, Regina Gilliam & Beth Brueggemann.

Pro-life The Rosary Confraternity will meet at the Auburn St. Abortion Clinic, Saturday August 26th, to recite the Rosary in reparation for the crime of abortion. We will meet at 10:00 AM following the 7:30 AM Mass and a light breakfast. Everyone is invited to attend.

In the midst of the second world war Pope Pius XII put the whole world under the special protection of our Saviour's Mother by consecrating it to her Immaculate Heart, and in 1944 he decreed that in future the whole Church should celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on August 22, formerly octave day of the Assumption. This is not a new devotion. In the seventeenth century, St. John Eudes preached it together with that of the Sacred Heart; in the nineteenth, Pius VII and Pius IX allowed several churches to celebrate a feast of the Pure Heart of Mary, fixed first on the Sunday in the octave of the Assumption, and later on the Saturday following the feast of the Sacred Heart.

Pius XII instituted the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary for the whole Church, so as to obtain by her intercession

"PEACE AMONG NATIONS, FREEDOM FOR THE CHURCH, THE CONVERSION OF SINNERS, THE LOVE OF PURITY AND THE PRACTICE OF VIRTUE."

(DECREE OF MAY 4, 1944)

Wishers AUGUST 27, 2006

7:30 AM Kent Maki, John Wiesman, Joe Andreotta, Tom Kamphaus
 9:00 AM Jim Gebel, Richard Smith, Dale Wilker, Bernie Brueggemann
 11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Kirby Bischel, Dennis Hille, John French
 5:45 PM John Seyfried

Servers AUGUST 21, - AUGUST 27, 2006

*TUE 8/22 5:45 PM HIGH: M. Briggs, G. Keaveney
 *WED 8/23 6:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpson
 *FRI 8/25 5:45 PM LOW: Briggs, Bayer, Rütze, Keaveney
 *SAT 8/19 7:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpson
 11:30 AM LOW: Lotarski's
 *SUN 8/20 7:30 AM LOW: D. & S. Brueggemann
 9:00 AM HIGH: MCs: J. & A. Lotarski; AG: S. Cozzens, S. Schappacher; TH: A. French; TORCH: G. Wnek, B. Lotarski, T. Simpson, S. Cozzens
 11:30 AM LOW: A.D. Kinnett, Miller
 1:10 PM VESPERS & BENEDICTION: Miller
 5:45 PM LOW: C. R. VanderRyt

Collection Report
 SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2006 \$5339.00

Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!

✠ POETRY CORNER

The living and active word of God
 cuts more keenly than any two-edged sword.

Of it Our Saviour said:
*I have not come to send peace
 but the sword.*

A polished arrow too
 is that special love of Christ
 which not only pierced Mary's soul
 but penetrated through and through,
 until the tiniest space in her virginal breast
 was permeated by love.

Thenceforth she would love
 with her whole heart
 her whole soul
 and her whole strength
 and be full of grace.

It trans-pierced her thus
 that it might come down
 even to us
 and of that fullness
 we might all receive.

She would become the mother of the love
 whose father is the God who is love.

And when that love was brought to birth
 He would place His tent in the sun
 that the Scripture might be fulfilled:
*I will make you the Light of the Nations
 that you may be my salvation
 to the ends of the earth.*

This was fulfilled
 through Mary
 who brought forth in visible flesh
 Him
 whom she conceived invisibly
 neither from the flesh
 nor by means of the flesh.

In the process
 she experienced through her whole being
 a wound of love
 that was mighty and sweet.

And I would reckon myself happy if
 —at rare moments—
 I felt at least the prick of the point of that sword.

Even if bearing only love's slightest wound
 I could still say:
I am wounded with love.
 —ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX

✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	08/21/06	ST JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL, W 11:30 AM Low Mass <i>Poor Souls (Dom Wright Family)</i>
TUES	08/22/06	IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY - ST TIMOTHY & COMP, MM 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>†Darla Novicky (Joe & Kathy Bayer)</i> 5:35 PM <i>Thirteen Tuesdays of St. Anthony - X</i> 5:45 PM High Mass <i>Birthday Intentions of Dale Wilker (Debbie Wilker)</i>
WED	08/23/06	ST PHILIP BENIZI, C - VIGIL OF ST BARTHOLOMEW, AP 6:30 AM Low Mass <i>†Ruth & Joe Praszak - Parents (Sheila Hagerty & Joe Praszak)</i> 11:30 AM High Mass <i>†Special Intention (Barbara Kolenich)</i>
THUR	08/24/06	ST BARTHOLOMEW, AP 11:30 AM High Mass <i>Holy Souls In Thanks & For Our Intentions (MIM C. Bellavia)</i>
FRI	08/25/06	ST LOUIS, KING, C 5:15 PM <i>Confessions & Rosary</i> 5:45 PM High Mass , Novena, Benediction, Confessions <i>Special Intention (H.O. & Becky Hinton)</i> 7:00 PM <i>Ladies' Evening of Recollection</i>
SAT	08/26/06	OUR LADY'S SATURDAY - ST ZEPHYRINUS, PM - OUR LADY HEALTH OF THE SICK Confessions 7:15 AM 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>Pro-Life (Rosary Confraternity)</i> 11:30 AM Low Mass <i>Dr. & Mrs. John Powell - 50th Wedding Anniversary</i> 4:30 PM <i>Confessions</i>
SUN	08/27/06	PENTECOST XII - ST JOSEPH CALASANCTIUS, C <i>Seven Joys of Our Lady - Little St Hugh of Lincoln, M</i> CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD BEFORE AND AFTER ALL MASSES 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>Poor Souls for Zack & 3/8 Marines in Ramida</i> 9:00 AM High Mass <i>In Honor of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart for the Poor Souls in Purgatory (MAW)</i> 11:30 AM Low Mass <i>For the Conversion of My Children & Grandchildren (Timothy Hopkins)</i> 1:10 PM <i>Vespers & Benediction</i> 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>For the People of St. Gertrude's</i>

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

We seem to have had an excellent attendance for Our Lady's Assumption. Certainly, the church and altar never looked more beautiful than they were for our Blessed Mother. Over thirty children processed as angels for Our Lady, and many of them stayed for breakfast and took home a little shrine—craft project. May Our Blessed Lady reward the many, many hours of work which made all of this possible.



Over sixty souls processed with us and prayed the Rosary for peace last Sunday night in West Chester—a very good number. Quite a few passers-by stopped to stare for a moment, or longer. One always hopes to do some good this way. Next month we hope to add a banner with our church name on it. We are close to concluding our third season of Fatima Rosary Processions in West Chester.

Speaking of Our Lady and peace, I was struck by how *peaceful* it was in world events on August 15th. For the first time in over a month, there were no headlines about the latest wars, nor (for the first time in a week) was there further word about "Terrorist plots." We do Our Lady, and our powerful prayers a disservice by just *presuming* they would never be heard. Remember how the old prayers after Mass, offered up for decades for the end of the persecution in Soviet Russia, were suddenly and unexpectedly answered in 1991? Pray on, "prayer warriors," pray on!

Let us reconsecrate ourselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Tuesday, and receive Holy Communion in her honor. Ladies, see you on Friday evening.

May God bless you with a peaceful week. I send my own blessing home with you from Milwaukee, where I am offering Mass and confirming this morning. Thank you to Father Cekada for offering the three morning Masses here.

—Bishop Dolan

"...With the very core of our being then, with all the affections of our hearts, and with all our prayers, let us honor Mary, because this is the will of Him who wills that we possess all things through Mary."

—ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX

✠ THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Since the first drop of Christ's Blood came, in a manner of speaking, from the heart of Mary, it was fitting that her heart should have been all pure. But, as in devotion to the Sacred Heart, this term refers to the Blessed Virgin in her entirety. The word "immaculate" emphasizes what Mary means to us who lost grace through our first parents. She is, as the Protestant poet Wordsworth exclaimed: "Our tainted nature's solitary boast." Most of the world's population (including Mohammedans) believe that she was immaculate, or sinless. Devotionally we try to apply this "immaculateness" to ourselves that we may the more worthily, confidently, easily plunge ourselves into the Sacred Heart of Christ.

THE SIGN OF OUR PERFECT CONSECRATION TO MARY'S IMMACULATE HEART

The modern form of devotion to Mary is Consecration. Pius XII consecrated the entire world to Her Immaculate Heart and, by word and example, he encouraged this form of devotion to Her. In 1950, in his letter commemorating the Seventh Centenary of the Brown Scapular, he wrote the now famous words concerning the Scapular: "...may it be to them a Sign of their Consecration to the Most Sacred Heart of the Immaculate Virgin, which (consecration) in recent times we have so strongly recommended."

Also in 1950, Sister Lucia was asked why Our Lady held the Scapular in Her hands in the final vision at Fatima, and she answered: "Because She wants everyone to wear the scapular."

When pressed for a further explanation. Sister Lucia said: "...because it is our sign of consecration to Her Immaculate Heart."

✠ MARY AND THE MOSLEMS AND AUGUST 22ND

According to Shia tradition, legitimate Islamic rule can only be established following the reappearance of the Twelfth Imam, a kind of Shia messiah. Khomeini taught that the Twelfth Imam would appear only when the believers had vanquished evil.

Ahmadinejad (President of Iran) is driven by the desire to bring about his arrival on earth through promoting Armageddon. *The night before 22 August* is when the Prophet Mohammed is said to have ascended to heaven from Temple Mount, when a 'great light lit up the night sky' over Jerusalem. The date on which Ahmadinejad has said he will respond to the EU's ultimatum over his nuclear programme is 22 August. Will his response be to light up the sky over Jerusalem?

—THE SPECTATOR, 8/5/06

Combine this with the plans of the Zionists, One-Worlders and many Fundamentalist Protestants who support Israel, hoping it will one day hasten Armageddon; and surely you see the need for prayer to Mary's Immaculate Heart for peace.

Bishop Sheen has written some very interesting insights concerning "Mary and the Moslems," (a chapter in *The World's First Love*).



Mary and the Moslems

Moslemism is the only great post-Christian religion of the world. Because it had its origin in the seventh century under Mohammed, it was possible to unite within it some elements of Christianity and of Judaism, along with particular customs of Arabia. Moslemism takes the doctrine of the unity of God, His Majesty and His Creative Power, and uses it, in part, as a basis for the repudiation of Christ, the Son of God. Misunderstanding the notion of the Trinity, Mohammed made Christ a prophet, announcing him, just as, to Christians, Isaias and John the Baptist are

prophets announcing Christ.

The Christian European West barely escaped destruction at the hands of the Moslems. At one point they were stopped near Tours and another point, later on in time, outside the gates of Vienna. The Church throughout northern Africa was practically destroyed by Moslem power, and at the present hour, the Moslems are beginning to rise again.

If Moslemism is a heresy, as Hilaire Belloc believes it to be, it is the only heresy that has never declined. Others have had a moment of vigor, then gone into doctrinal decay at the death of the leader, and finally evaporated in a vague social movement. Moslemism, on the contrary, has only had its first phase. There was never a time in which it declined, either in numbers, or in the devotion of its followers.

The missionary effort of the Church toward this group has been, at least on the surface, a failure, for the Moslems are so far almost unconvertible. The reason is that for a follower of Mohammed to become a Christian is much like a Christian becoming a Jew. The Moslems believe that they have the final and definitive revelation of God to the world and that Christ was only a prophet announcing Mohammed, the last of God's real prophets.

At the present time, the hatred of the Moslem countries against the West is becoming a hatred against Christianity itself. Although the statesmen have not yet taken it into account, there is still grave danger that the temporal power of Islam may return and, with it, the menace that it may shake off a West which has ceased to be Christian, and affirm itself as a great anti-Christian world power. Moslem writers say, "When the locust swarms darken vast countries, they bear on their wings these Arabic words: 'We are God's host, each of us has ninety-nine eggs, and if we had a hundred, we should lay waste the world with all that is in it.'"

The problem is, How shall we prevent the hatching of the hundredth egg? It is our first belief that the fears some entertain

concerning the Moslems are not to be realized, but that Moslemism, instead, will eventually be converted to Christianity—and in a way that even some of our missionaries never suspect. It is our belief that this will happen not through the direct teaching of Christianity, but through a summoning of the Moslems to a veneration of the Mother of God. This is the line of argument:

The Koran, which is the Bible of the Moslems, has many passages concerning the Blessed Virgin. First of all, the Koran believes in her Immaculate Conception and, also, in her Virgin Birth. The third chapter of the Koran places the history of Mary's family in a genealogy which goes back through Abraham, Noah, and Adam. When one compares the Koran's description of the birth of Mary with the apocryphal Gospel of the birth of Mary, one is tempted to believe that Mohammed very much depended upon the latter. Both books describe the old age and the definite sterility of the mother of Mary. When, however, she conceives, the mother of Mary is made to say in the Koran: "O Lord, I vow and I consecrate to you what is already within me. Accept it from me."

When Mary is born, the mother says: "And I consecrate her with all of her posterity under thy protection, O Lord against Satan!"

The Koran passes over Joseph in the life of Mary, but the Moslem tradition know his name and has some familiarity with him. In this tradition, Joseph is made to speak to Mary, who is a virgin. As he inquired how she conceived Jesus without a father, Mary answered: "Do you not know that God, when He created the wheat had no need of seed, and that God by His Power made the trees grow without the help of rain? All that God had to do was to say, 'So be it, and it was done.'"

The Koran has also verses on the Annunciation, Visitation, and Nativity. Angels are pictured as accompanying the Blessed Mother and saying: "Oh, Mary, God has chosen you and purified you, and

✠ MARY AND THE MOSLEMS AND AUGUST 22ND (CONT'D.)

electd you above all the women of the earth." In the nineteenth chapter of the Koran there are forty-one verses on Jesus and Mary. There is such a strong defense of the virginity of Mary here that the Koran, in the fourth book, attributes the condemnation of the Jews to their monstrous calumny against the Virgin Mary.

Mary, then, is for the Moslems the true *Sayyida*, or Lady. The only possible serious rival to her in their creed would be Fatima, the daughter of Mohammed himself. But after the death of Fatima, Mohammed wrote: "Thou shalt be the most blessed of all the women in Paradise, after Mary." In a variant of the text, Fatima is made to say: "I surpass all the women, except Mary."

This brings us to our second point, namely, why the Blessed Mother, in this twentieth century, should have revealed herself in the insignificant village of Fatima, so that to all future generations she would be known as "Our Lady of Fatima." Since nothing ever happens out of heaven except with a finesse of all details, I believe that the Blessed Virgin chose to be known as "Our Lady of Fatima" as a pledge and a sign of hope to the Moslem people, and as an assurance that they, who show her so much respect, will one day accept her Divine Son, too.

Evidence to support these views is found in the historical fact that the Moslems occupied Portugal for centuries. At the time when they were finally driven out, the last Moslem chief had a beautiful daughter by the name of Fatima. A Catholic boy fell in love with her, and for him she not only stayed behind when the Moslems left, but even embraced the faith. The young husband was so much in love with her that he changed the name of the town where he lived to Fatima. Thus, the very place where Our Lady appeared in 1917 bears a historical connection to Fatima, the daughter of Mohammed.

The final evidence of the relationship of Fatima to the Moslems is the enthusiastic reception which the Moslems in Africa and India and elsewhere gave to the Pilgrim statue of Our lady of Fatima,

as mentioned earlier. Moslems attended the Church services in honor of Our Lady; they allowed religious processions and even prayers before their mosques; and in Mozambique the Moslems, who were unconverted, began to be Christian as soon as the statue of Our Lady of Fatima was erected.

Missionaries in the future will, more and more, see that their apostolate among the Moslems will be successful in the measure that they preach Our Lady of Fatima. Mary is the advent of Christ, bringing Christ to the people before Christ Himself is born. In any apologetic endeavor, it is always best to start with that which people already accept. Because the Moslems have a devotion to Mary, our missionaries should be satisfied merely to expand and to develop that devotion, with the full realization that Our Blessed Lady will carry the Moslems the rest of the way to her Divine Son. She is forever a "traitor," in the sense that she will not accept any devotion for herself, but will always bring anyone who is devoted to her to her Divine Son. As those who lose devotion to her lose belief in the Divinity of Christ, so those who intensify devotion to her gradually acquire that belief.

Many of our great missionaries in Africa have already broken down the bitter hatred and prejudices of the Moslems against the Christians through their acts of charity, their schools and hospitals. It now remains to use another approach, namely, that of taking the forty-first chapter of the Koran and showing them that it was taken out of the Gospel of Luke, that Mary could not be, even in their own eyes, the most blessed of all the women of heaven if she had not also borne One Who was the Saviour of the world. If Judith and Esther of the Old Testament were prefigures of Mary, then it may very well be that Fatima herself was a postfigure of Mary! The Moslems should be prepared to acknowledge that, if Fatima must give way in honor to the Blessed Mother, it is because she is different from all the other mothers of the world and that without Christ she would be nothing.

NOVENA PRAYERS TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it know that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions; but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Our Father

Hail Mary (3 times)

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

St. Joseph, pray for us.

Glory be to the Father, etc.

ST. ANTHONY AND OUR LADY

("St. Anthony burned with the most intense love towards the blessed Mother of God.")

Glorious Saint Anthony,
Now thou art still dearer to me,—
Dear and precious on account of thy love
for Our Lady.
To love Mary was thy constant endeavor;
To preach Mary, thy greatest joy;
To defend the mysteries of her life was thy
greatest pride;
To lead all to her, thy object;
To be a perfect servant of Mary, thy honor.
In the struggles of thy soul, Mary was thy
first thought.
Dying, thy last song went out to her.
O glorious Saint of Padua, hear my prayer,—
Make me a true child of Mary;
let me belong to her in joy and sorrow;
Help me imitate her in humility, purity
and love for Jesus.
Let me cling to her in life and death.
May the name of Mary be my last utterance;
May I be zealous in promoting her honor;
May I come to her in heaven,
To praise with her and thee, Jesus,
And the Blessed Trinity for ever and ever.

MOST HOLY TRINITY! Thy divine providence and love has given us the Blessed Virgin as mother, guide and mediatrix. How can I thank Thee sufficiently? Grant me, as Thou didst to Thy servant Saint Anthony, the grace to love her in childlike simplicity, to promote her glory and to imitate her virtues. May her powerful intercession help me to conquer Satan, the world and the flesh, so that I may see Thee in heavenly bliss.

Praise, thanks and honor be to Thee, O Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Forever. Amen.