

Jesus The Lord Our Saviour

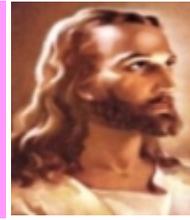
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(Not For Sale)



“ Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.” (Luke 1:45)

BLESSINGS OF GOD BE YOURS...



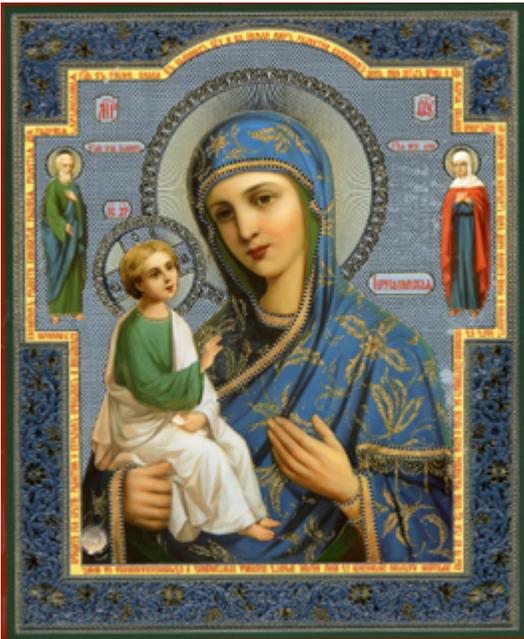
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“ Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.” (Luke 1:45)

Hail Virgin Mother Mary, my Mother and Queen! Hail O Immaculate Mother filled with love! O Mamma, You who fill my heart, I offer myself totally to You! My soul, my body, my thoughts, my freedom, my eyes, my ears, my feelings, my heart-felt desires , all belong to You!

**All that I possess is Yours O Mother .Be merciful to me and accept me as your Servant !
Mother grants me the grace to think and to speak in a manner pleasing to You and to Your Holy Son!**

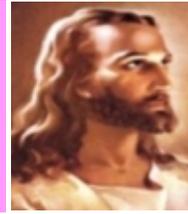
O Mother, God's will and wish alone is Your will and wish! Grant that the same may be fulfilled in me too Dear Mother !



**Thank You Mamma, Full of Grace! Mother preserve me! Mother, we Hail You!
We hail You for ever! May You be hailed every where! AMEN !**

Fr. V. Ignatius. S. J.

BELOVED IN CHRIST...



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“Rescue us from the evil one.” (Matthew 6:13)



Jesus our LORD taught His disciples to pray thus. It was only on realizing the great importance of this petition that He taught them like this. These days people from India and around the world, make several sacrifices and mortifications and go on pilgrimages thinking of Our Mother of Velankanni. This gives us immense joy and is greatly praise worthy as well.

At this juncture, it is only right we consider a basic Truth that Louis de Montfort expounds in his book, ‘True devotion to Mary’ especially the Third Principle. A true devotee of Mary should keep this truth in mind and act.

“We must rid ourselves of what is evil in us.”

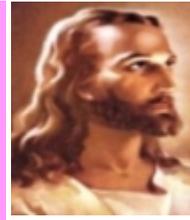
Will we ever pour freshly cooked broth in a vessel containing stale food? Will we ever preserve anything of value in a stinking dish? If we did that, even the good food would get spoilt!

The devotees of Our Blessed Mother should realize this. When the evil practices such as **Drunkenness, lustful behavior, malice, enmity, envy, stubbornness, selfishness beyond measure** all take possession of a person’s heart, then it is bound to stink.

Let us go for a good confession, shirk away all that is evil in us, and learn to stay away from the grandiosity of the evil one . Our Mother Mary stands aloft like the great Himalayas! She will rain down graces on us from Heaven above! She will cleanse us! She will always lead us along The Way!
I wish you joy!

Fr. V. Ignatius. S.J.

The School of Prayer of the Blessed Virgin Mary



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1. It is a historical fact that the Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God had appeared in several countries, and places. Loreto in Italy, Garabandal in Spain, La Salette in France, Fatima in Portugal, Guadalupe in Poprtugal. Names as these must be familiar to the learned.

Our Blessed Mother's apparitions have been a huge crowd- puller especially in the past two centuries. In this era when scientific developments have seen a mammoth growth, Our Blessed Mother's apparitions baffles even the scientist. In this age when due to the advanced scientific knowledge , man has leapt into space, has touched the moon , Mars and so on, it is in this very same period that Our Divine Mother comes from above, to teach mankind Divine Wisdom. The mystery of the Blessed Mother's apparitions have turned out to be Lessons in Prayer.

1. We shall here mention three of the most famous apparitions and the ones that draw crowds with a magnetic effect.
2. The apparitions of Our Blessed Mother in Lourdes, France in the year 1858.
3. The apparitions of Our Blessed Mother at Fatima in Portugal in 1917.
4. The current apparitions of Our Blessed Mother at Medjugorje in Yugoslavia Bosnia from 1981.

1. **Bernadette Soubirous was a poor girl born in a poor family at Lourdes, to whom Our Blessed Mother began appearing from February 11th 1858.**

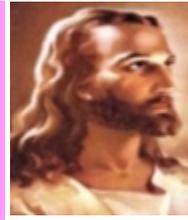
Our Blessed Mother appeared to her eighteen times and we have those messages. The little girl was just 13 then. She who had no knowledge of schooling began to be illuminated by Divine Wisdom. The little girl who saw the form of Our Blessed Mother, unable to even pronounce Her Name, called Her, 'Aqiro'. 'Aqiro' means 'that'. The then parish priest commanded her to find out the Name of 'that'.

Although the little girl queried about Her Name, 'Aqiro' did not answer her. On the eighth apparition, finally with a strong resolve to obtain 'Aqiro's' Name, she took a paper and pencil and asked, "Please write Your Name." Then 'Aqiro' without accepting the paper and pencil, lifted Her eyes up to heaven and said these words"

"Que Soy Era Immaculada Concepeiou"



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Our Saviour**



When the little girl heard this, she ran as if she had found a long lost treasure. She ran uttering those words in her mouth and headed towards the parish priest. All the 300 and more people who had gathered there that day wondered “ Is she mad” Devil?, fright?” they ran behind the girl. But the little girl who found the parish priest, went panting for breath and narrated all that ‘Aquiroy’ had mentioned. “Que Soy era Immaculada Concepcion”. I am the Immaculate Conception.’

This was a great surprise to the Parish priest. The priest wondered as to how this little girl with no scent of school and Catechism, managed to pronounce and was thus greatly surprised. He who did not believe till then, started believing in the apparitions of Our Blessed Mother. Just about four years ago in 1854, the then Pope who heads the Catholic Church proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception stating that the Blessed Virgin Mary was born without a stain of sin.

While several scholars and philosophers were researching on the depth of the meaning of this dogma, how did this term enter the mouth of this simple little peasant girl? Our Blessed Virgin Mother Herself taught this child this great truth. Not only the parish priest, but all those who heard the girl were greatly surprised.

(This was how even during the time of Jesus, the Good News was proclaimed to the simple people.)

Jesus , filled with the Holy Spirit, prayed thus:

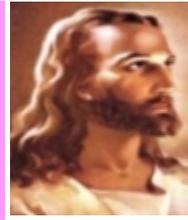
“ I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.” (Luke 10:21)

When Mother Mary was appearing to Bernadette, several scholars and those in authority came together. Even the simple folk came there. The sick came running anxiously. They asked that religious articles like the Rosary be blest during the apparitions. They touched Bernadette constantly. Those who drank from the spring that gushed forth from the cave eventually, got healed.

But the sickness of little Bernadette never got healed. She had asthma from the time she was very small. Even after the apparitions stopped, she underwent countless troubles even within her own family. She became the butt of ridicule for being a visionary. Simultaneously those from the universal Church, those from authority, theologians, and medical doctors all came together and bombarded her with an array of questions.

In the mean time she learnt to read, studied Catechism and also received Holy Communion from the parish Church.

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Our Saviour**

With guidance from her parents and some priests she joined a religious congregation (Sisters of Charity) as a nun at the age of 24. This religious congregation was present in Nevers, about 600 kilometers from Paris. She spent about ten years here in simplicity and in sickness. Some Rev. Sisters who found her lying on the bed often due to sickness, mocked her. Look at the one who saw the Queen of Heaven! A lazy, useless, burden.

Her asthmatic sickness which she had from childhood, worsened at the convent and her entire body became sore. She died at the age of 35, due to intense sickness. She came once to her native village after she joined the convent. That too out of compulsion from the authorities, only to show them the place and recount the details of the apparitions, and to answer their queries.

Bernadette meditated on the words of the Blessed Mother in her sickness and suffering. When Our Blessed Mother appeared to little Bernadette for the thirteenth time (18th March 1858), this was what She said: "You will not have joy in this life. I shall give it to you in the next." According to the words of the Blessed Mother, she who died solely suffering from physical ailments, when her body was opened after ten years with insistence from the church authorities, they found her body devoid of pain and decay.



The Virgin Mother who appeared to little Bernadette taught these important points:

- Purity of heart.
- Prayer with the heart.
- Forgiving heart.

When all these attributes combine together, we form the third attribute, "The People of God."

When the people of God live in purity, simplicity, in prayer and in a forgiving attitude, then God dwells in the midst of them. Then there is peace and joy. Our Blessed Mother's name is a sum up of these. "I am the Immaculate Conception." When we look on Her and imitate Her, we gain Salvation. It teaches us to live in communion with Christ.

The School of Prayer of the Blessed Virgin Mary



**Jesus The Lord
Our Saviour**



At Fatima...

It was the time of the first world war! All the people of Europe were under the grip of fear! Little kids who were living in a village close to Fatima in Portugal”

Lucia Dhos Santhosh(aged 10); Francisco Martho (aged 8) and Jacintha Martho (aged 6). These kids had taken their goats to graze in the fields.

On 13th May, 1917, these kids who were playing together, fearing the rain, huddled together in a nearby cave for shelter. Then a beautiful lady appeared in a tree opposite them. These children who had already had the apparition of an angel thrice, paid homage to the Blessed Mother in all fear and reverence. The angel who had appeared to them , had introduced himself as the ‘Angel of peace’. He had taught them a small prayer as well.

“My God! I trust in You. My God ! I adore You. My God! I believe in You. My God I love You.”

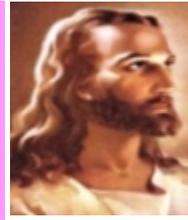
After several years, one of the three visionaries , Lucia described how Our Lady looked.

“ A Lady was dressed in white. She was brighter than the sun. She seemed like a bright light reflected from a glass of crystal clear water, and like the bright shining sun.”

Once Our Blessed Mother showed all the three of them in a vision, as to how the fires of hell looked. These children who were deeply affected due to this vision, prayed every day that they be saved from the fires of hell. Especially Francisco Martho and his little sister Jacintha prayed with fasting that souls should not fall into the fires of hell. Although a little boy, the message given by Our Blessed Mother had touched him deeply. He began fasting and praying ceaselessly for the salvation of souls. The poisonous fever that had spread throughout Europe attacked Francisco. Our Blessed Mother had already promised to take them home to heaven very soon. In the year 1919 on April 4th in his tenth year Francisco reached the heavenly abode. On 20th February 1920, Jacintha too reached the heavenly abode in her ninth year.

When Pope John Paul II visited the Basilica of Our lady of the Holy Rosary in Fatima on May 13th 2000, he beatified the two children. When the eldest of the three children asked Our Blessed Mother when she would be given the Eternal home: “You should wait a little longer. Jesus wishes to use you as an instrument to make people know and love me more. He wishes that devotion to my Immaculate heart spread through out the world.”

The School of Prayer of the Blessed Virgin Mary



**Jesus The Lord
Our Saviour**



When Lucia asked, “Should I be alone in this world?” Our Mother answered: “ It is not like that my child. You need not be disturbed for this. My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge.. That alone will lead you on the path towards God.”

Lucia’s life was based on renunciation and austerity. She embraced religious life at a very young age and joined and lived in the Carmelite order at Combra. She spent her life in prayer and in acts of penance. She reached the Holy Feet of God in her 97th year.

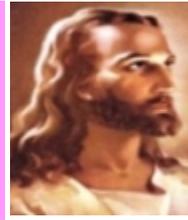
The significance of the apparition of Our Blessed Mother at Fatima rests on two more messages.

1. Our Mother mentioned that Russia would be converted. Right enough Russia got converted.
2. A secret was given by Our Blessed Mother to the Pope through Sr. Lucia. The crux of this Message was never revealed by the Vatican. But several people gauge that it pertains to a natural disaster of a mammoth degree and that it is something very terrible.

Generally speaking Our Blessed Mother revealed Herself as The Mother of the Holy Rosary at Fatima. She mentioned that Prayer, penance and acts of reparation for our sins is a must.

There is no age limit to Our Blessed Mother’s School of Prayer. Six years, eight years, ten years and ninety seven years are no age at all. A simple open mind and a heart full of love are the required characteristics to be equipped with this knowledge. There is place for the elders and youngsters, for the big and small in this school.

The School of Prayer of the Blessed Virgin Mary



**Jesus The Lord
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At Medjugorje...

1. There are six visionaries who see the apparitions of Our Blessed Mother at Medjugorje from the 24th of June 1981.

Jakov (aged 11), Ivan (aged 16), these two are young boys, and the other four are young girls. Ivanka (aged 13) Mirjana (aged 15), Vicka (aged 16) Maria (aged 16). These six youngsters were students in school. They are all of different characteristics and temperaments. They lived among the other village youngsters their same age. All about Medjugorje and of Our Blessed Mother's apparitions from then on till now can be viewed through the website. To state it in brief Medjugorje is the School of Our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary. She revealed Herself at the very start as 'The Queen of Peace.' When asked as to why She came to the earth, this was Her reply. She said, "I came to tell you that there is a God".

If we wish to know the contents of the Virgin Mother's text book in this School of Prayer, it can be classified under five heads.



1. Conversion

When John the Baptist came as a fore-runner to Jesus Christ, this was what he reiterated. "Repent. For the Kingdom of God is at hand." When Our Lord began His public ministry, this was His core theme. The Good News of Our LOD is based on this as the basic theme.

2. Be reconciled

A human being should feel sorry for the sins he has committed, ask forgiveness of God and be reconciled with Him. Not just that, if some one has committed a fault against them, they should forgive them with their whole heart. "Our Father in heaven... forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us." (Matthew 6:12) This is the basic prayer of Jesus.

3. Pray

The entire Life of Jesus was prayer. He prayed constantly, day in and day out, "Father, may Your will be done." He prayed in the desert too. He also prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. He prayed also when He was hanging on the Cross. This is exactly what the Mother of God teaches in Her School of Prayer. She teaches us to pray in such a way that Prayer is your joy! Prayer is your life! There is no interval for this. There is no holiday for the School of Prayer.

The School of Prayer of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Jesus The Lord
Our Saviour

Prayer is a life style in living in close union with Jesus Christ.
Our Mother of Medjugorje teaches us, "There is no greater joy than being united with my Son."

1. Fasting

Prayer life is grounded in sacrifice. The one who desires to live in close union with God, consecrates himself to the LORD through the Immaculate heart of Mother Mary. The Immaculate Heart of Our Blessed Mother and the Sacred Heart of Jesus are intertwined One with the Other. Our Blessed Mother's teachings show us the way to this unified life.

1. Peace

Divine Peace is a grace given by God. He is the fount from which it overflows. When a person succeeds in the four requisites, he will be victorious also in this. If the world should abound in this peace, then peace should be consistent in our personal lives and in our families. The basic requisite for this is to walk with God in front of our mind's eye. Our holiness, humility and consecrated life will place us as angels before the throne of God. Seraphims stood before the throne of the Almighty God.

"Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew." (Isaiah 6:2)

While each of these Seraphs looked on and gazed at the Holiness of God and exclaimed, "Holy! Holy! Holy is the God of Hosts!" they were astounded, exchanging glances with each other. They stood ready at all moments to carry out the commands of God, having consecrated themselves to God, in all humility. Our Lady's teaching of prayer trains us in this manner. She invites us all to join this School of prayer."

All the Messages given by Our Blessed Mother at Lourdes, at Fatima, at Medjugorje uplift our spirits. While She spoke to one at Lourdes, She spoke to three children at Fatima. Now Our Blessed Mother calls the people of the whole world through the messages She gives to the six young girls and boys at Medjugorje.

With the longing that all peoples should meet with the LORD beyond all barriers of caste and religion, Our Blessed Mother invites us with a Motherly and concerned heart, saying, "My dear children, pay heed to my voice."

Blessed are those who learn from this School of Prayer, by paying heed to the invitation of Our Blessed Mother Mary.

Fr. V. Ignatius.S.J.