



Fatima Prayer ~ A Prayer for Mercy and Peace

A Gift from our Blessed Mother

Trust Jesus with childlike faith and pray with that same sincere demeanor – humble, honest, reverent, and pure.

Our world needs it. Our Blessed Virgin Mary the Mother of God gave us this mindset 108 years ago today.

On July 13, 1917, Our Lady of Fatima appeared for the third time to the three little shepherd children, Francisco, Jacinta, and Lucia. In Fatima, Portugal.

After the Blessed Virgin Mary gave them a horrific glimpse of the fires of hell, she raised their gaze to the heavens and made a plea for them to recite a special prayer after each decade of the Rosary. Today we refer to it as the Fatima or Decade Prayer.

The Fatima Prayer became an official optional prayer as part of the rosary in the Church in October of 1930. It is

recited after each Glory Be at the end of each decade.

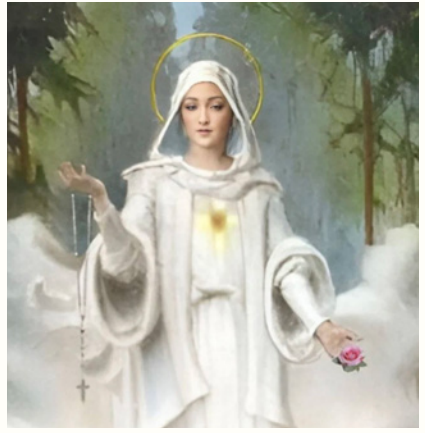
We recite the words of the prayer exactly as given by Our Lady of Fatima:

O my Jesus!
Forgive us our sins,
save us from the fires of hell.
Lead all souls to heaven,
especially those
who are most in need
of thy mercy.

Even though the prayer is short it reflects the heart of Mary and our faith with themes of sin, forgiveness, heaven, hell, and the saving grace and mercy of God. Upon their first reciting of the prayer to the moments of their passing, they shared this prayer with

others as promised to Mary in all of their humility to share with the world.

Let us say this prayer reverently and often, calling upon our Blessed Mother Mary to take our intentions to her son Our Lord, empowering us to promote peace in our families, communities, and world.



CHRIST IS EVERYTHING ~ ST. BONAVENTURE – FEAST DAY JULY 15



“If you learn everything except Christ, you learn nothing.

If you learn nothing except Christ, you learn everything.” – St. Bonaventure.

Saint Bonaventure devoted his life to spread the love of Christ through his writings and sermons. His theological works about the Gospel of Luke reveal St. Bonaventure’s strong devotion to St. Joseph.

The 13th Century friar wrote about St. Joseph’s incredible strength, humility, and, most important, the fact that he was chosen by God to fulfill the most crucial role in the life of Jesus and the Virgin Mary.

He emphasized that St. Joseph was a mighty man of

integrity, noting that Luke’s gospel declares Joseph as a “righteous man.” He further interprets Joseph as a descendant of David linking that lineage to the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. He notes as the Guardian of the Holy Family, it is Joseph that is the teacher of Jesus. Therefore, as guardian and protector of the Holy Family we need to revere Joseph as such.

In his sermons, St. Bonaventure, connected the gifts of the Holy Spirit to St. Joseph, defining that as head of the Holy Family it specifically took great piety, wisdom, and fortitude to guard them from evil. He would preach that after the Blessed Mother we need to look to Joseph to intercede for us for he took in God the Son as his own.

Beautiful Soul of the Americas

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Pray for Us



After her death she was called the Lily of the Mohawks, and just like the bloom of the lily her life was short but represents peace.

On July 14th we celebrate the feast day of St. Kateri Tekakwitha the first Native North American saint.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha was an Algonquin-Mohawk born in 1656 in Auriesville (formerly Ossernenon), New York. Her father was a Mohawk chief and her mother, Togakouita, a Catholic Algonquin woman. At the age of four, St. Kateri was orphaned. The family all contracted smallpox, she was the only one who survived. She was scarred all over her face and lost some of her vision.

Her paternal aunt took her in and raised her in the Mohawk village of Caughnawaga, which means At the Wild Water. The site in Fonda, New York, where she spent

most of her life was excavated around 1957 by volunteers and Conventual Franciscans and volunteers. The first shrine to her was erected near the grounds in 1980 (WWW.KATERISHRINE.COM).

Kateri's deep scars on her face left her embarrassed and relentlessly teased, so she often veiled her face. She was named Tekakwitha which in Mohawk means, "bumps into things," because of her poor vision. As a young girl and teen, she adamantly refused marriage, which was unthinkable. She wanted to dedicate herself to the faith of her mother.

Although her relatives did not approve, they allowed her as a teenager to study the Catholic religion with Jesuit missionaries. By the age of 20 she was baptized Catholic. The family shunned her, so she left her village to live in a Catholic mission 200 miles away near Montreal, Canada.

She spent her life as a loving and nurturing missionary. She loved teaching children prayers and telling them stories about the life of Jesus. She was very empathetic - nursing the sick, collecting items for the needy, and caring for the elderly. She wanted to become a religious sister but was denied.

She became known for extreme fasting and penance. Some friars believe this attributed to the rapid decline of her health.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha died during Holy Week in 1680. She was nearly 24. Witnesses recorded her last words were, "Jesos, konoronkwa," which means, "Jesus, I love you." On her death bed her emaciated and severely scarred face became full and smooth as a beautiful healthy child. In addition, a smile came upon her lips.

St. Kateri was beatified in 1980 and canonized in 2012 by Pope Benedict.

There is so much more to learn about her life, trials, mission, and devotion to the Blessed Mother and Jesus.

Learn more about her through various Catholic resources like Ignatius Press, Franciscan media, Sadlier, and your favorite Catholic resources in print and online.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, pray for us.

July 16 Is Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Mary & The Brown Scapular, Protect Us

The Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel should remind us that Mary, Mother of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ loves us and will protect us from evil.



Many Catholics wear the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel as a sign of great love for Our Lady and for her eternal protection.

Mount Carmel is not mentioned in the New Testament, but it is referenced by name in the Old Testament, first in Joshua 12:22 and 19:26; and

more notably in 1 Kings 18, where it is recorded that it was on Mount Carmel in the Holy Land that the Prophet Elijah proved the power of God.

Church historians believe religious hermits lived on Mount Carmel near the Fountain of Elijah in northern Israel even before the time of Christ on Mount Carmel. It is the mountain that overlooks the Mediterranean Sea.

The hermits remained on the mountain and were true believers in Christ.

Legend tells us that Mary is said to have appeared to St. Simon Stock on July 16, 1251, and gave him, a Brown Scapular saying, “This will be for you and for all Carmelites the privilege, that he who dies in this will not suffer eternal fire.”

By the late 12th century to the mid-13th century, they built a chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the 15th century the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was designed by the hermits to honor their patroness. It was worn as part of their habit.

In later years a devotional Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was created for lay Catholics and is still popular today.

According to the Vatican’s Congregation for Divine Worship, the Scapular is “an external sign of the filial relationship established between the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother and Queen of Mount Carmel, and the faithful who entrust themselves totally to her protection, who have recourse to her maternal intercession, who are mindful of

the primacy of the spiritual life and the need for prayer.”

It wasn’t until the 18th century that the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel entered the Calendar of the universal Church.

Saint Pope John Paul II wore his Brown Scapular ever since he was a young boy in Poland.

In 1981, while in the hospital after the assassination attempt, he did not allow it to be removed from his neck.

He explained his devotion:

“Two truths are evoked by the sign of the Scapular: on the one hand, the constant protection of the Blessed Virgin, not only on life’s journey, but also at the moment of passing into the fullness of eternal glory; on the other, the awareness that devotion to her cannot be limited to prayers and tributes in her honor on certain occasions, but must become a ‘habit’, that is, a permanent orientation of one’s own Christian conduct, woven of prayer and interior life, through frequent reception of the sacraments and the concrete practice of the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. In this way the Scapular becomes a sign of the ‘covenant’ and reciprocal communion between Mary and the faithful: indeed, it concretely translates the gift of his Mother, which Jesus gave on the Cross to John and, through him, to all of us, and the entrustment of the beloved Apostle and of us to her, who became our spiritual Mother.”



Editor’s note: The Brown Scapulars featured in the images with this post belonged to the late Donald Louis Klug and Carol Ann Klug, who were members of Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Wheeling (Mount Olivet, Marshall County), and shared by their son-in-law Rob Wickham, DWC Director of Website Development.

Many Present in His Presence

4.3-mile Procession Proves Fruitful



Many parishes across the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi in June with spectacular yet solemn, peaceful, and reverently prayerful processions, but one procession literally when the extra mile.

Saint Agnes Parish in Charleston, WV, lead a 4.3-mile Corpus Christi procession from St Agnes church all the way to one of the Diocesan's designated Year of Hope pilgrimage sites - The Basilica of the Sacred Heart Co-Cathedral.

More than 100 faithful of all ages participated with about 65 people walking the entire distance in extreme temperatures and humidity that day.

Local police officers guided the group as they made the trek that crossed the Kanawha River. On the way to the Co-Cathedral, there was a significant pause. The group stopped at the state Capitol where an altar was set up on the Capitol steps, Fr. Phillip Szabo and the faithful gathered prayed for government employees and elected officials.

Benediction was held at Sacred Heart. According to the

faithful in the state's capitol city, "Charleston has never seen such a powerful witness of our faith!"

In the St. Agnes Parish bulletin for last week, June 29th, Fr. Szabo shared as he noted, "just one of what I imagine will be many miracles that came from the procession:

"As we neared the Capitol building where we stopped to pray for our government leaders and bless the Capitol complex, we passed a woman who was kneeling on the sidewalk as we went by. She ended up following us the rest of the way and told us a very surprising story after

continue...

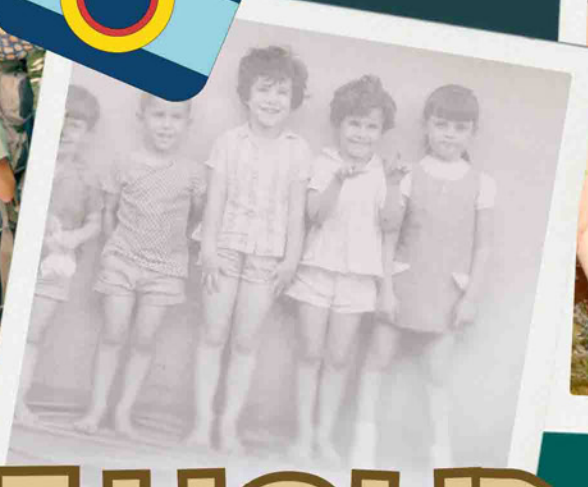


everything was over. She is a Catholic and explained that she had come to Charleston on that very day just to pray at the Capitol by herself, because of the increasing amount of unrest in the world.

“She had no idea that, on the one day she chose to pray at the Capitol, she would be met by Jesus Himself and all of us who were there to do the same thing!”

In closing, as Fr. Szabo says to his parishioners, “May God bless you all and may He bless us all with a growing love for His presence in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist!”





SHARE YOUR THROWBACK PICS!

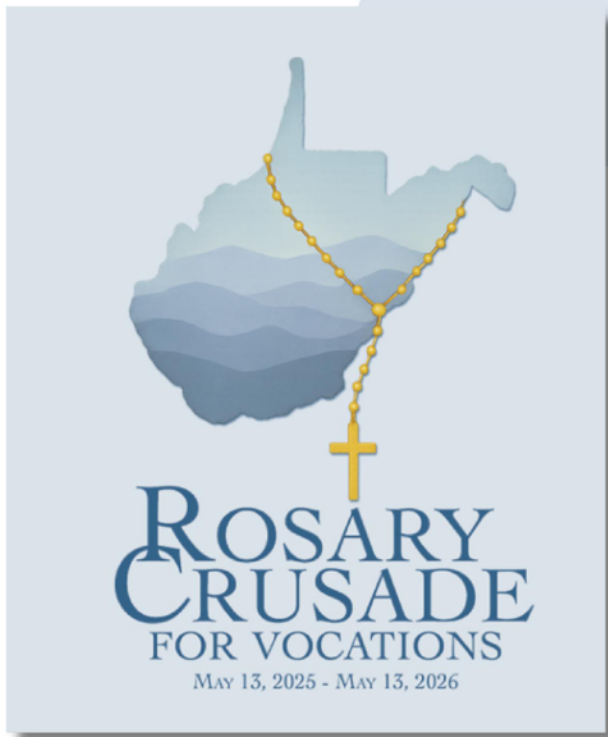
FROM OUR HUTTONSVILLE CATHOLIC CAMP



→ EMAIL: Joshua Criste
jcriste@dwc.org

ROSARY CRUSADE FOR VOCATIONS IN WV

SCAN ME!



From May 13, 2025, to May 13, 2026, faithful around the world can join our Rosary Crusade for Vocations in WV.

PRAYER WORKS!

Step up for Jesus and His Church!

Pledge. Share. Pray.

1. GO TO:
[HTTPS://WWW.IMMACULEE.COM](https://www.immaculee.com)
2. CLICK ON RETREATS TAB
3. SELECT ST. JAMES THE GREATER

Easy as 1, 2, 3!

RETREAT REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!

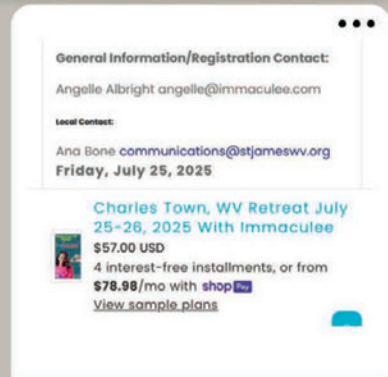
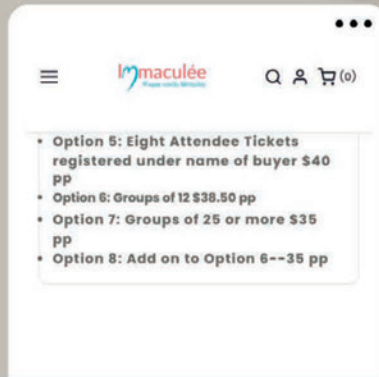
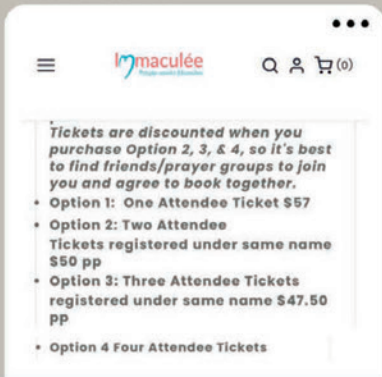
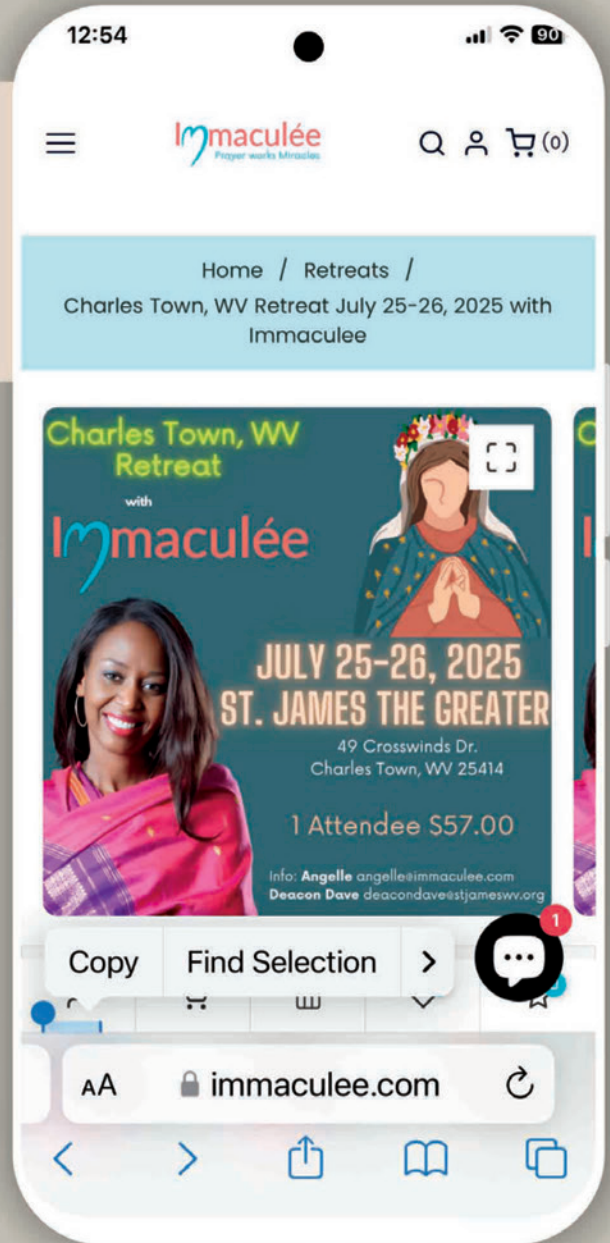
Prayer Does Work Miracles!
Rwandan Holocaust Survivor,
Immaculée Ilibagiza Retreat
July 25-26, 2025
at St. James the Greater,
Charles Town, WV

Immaculée shares her
messages of love, hope, &
mercy, while telling her story
and much more!

Group discount!

Tickets for the two-day event are \$57 for a single ticket. Group rates as low as \$35 per person for the two-day retreat!

scroll down on website to see details



See you there!

MORE INFO & OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION RECOMMENDATIONS CONTACT ANA BONE AT COMMUNICATIONS@STJAMESWV.ORG (304) 725-5558

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:10-14

Moses tells the people that God's law is planted in our hearts.

Responsorial: Psalm 69

"Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live."

or Psalm 19

"Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life."

Second Reading: Colossians 1:15-20

Saint Paul wrote the Cross unites us all with Christ.

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

Through the story of the good Samaritan, Jesus taught that even the stranger is to be loved as a neighbor. So just as Moses taught - take God's word to heart.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL SCRIPTURE TEXT](#)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Church, that we may be a visible sign of respect, kindness, and love for all humankind, ministering without discrimination to all those in need, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our political leaders, that they may take the lessons of the story of the good Samaritan to heart so that through what they say and do they may make this nation and the world a compassionate and cooperative place, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For paramedics, emergency responders, doctors, nurses, and all those who treat those who are ill or injured, let us pray to the Lord. . .

For our faith community, that we may put our faith into action by responding with mercy and compassion to those who are suffering, let us pray to the Lord. . .

Lord hear our prayer

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Berkeley Springs	FM	107.9
Clarksburg-Bridgeport	FM	97.5
Dunbar - Charleston	AM	1450
Eastern Panhandle - coming soon	FM	88.5
Grafton - Clarksburg	AM	1190
Keyser - coming soon	FM	98.9
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Liturgy of the Hours
LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Pray the prayer for this day, this hour!

EBREVIARY.COM LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to view a PDF version of the Liturgy of the Hours.



MASS ONLINE

Saturday 6pm Masses will continue to be livestreamed from the Cathedral of St. Joseph, and will be available on our website each Sunday at DWC.ORG.