



1ST SATURDAY DEVOTION NEWSLETTER

October 2017

GUARDIAN ANGEL STORIES



Opus Sanctorum Angelorum
Work of the Holy Angels

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In this Issue

Guardian Angel Stories	1
Overview for the Month	
Feasts for October	
Cenacle Corner	2
Highlight of the Month	3
God Touched Me	5
Spiritual Army News Dispatch	
Upcoming Events	6
Spiritual Enrichment Recommended	7
Thank You	11
Devotion Schedule	

Nocturnal First Aid

This story occurred during the Great Depression in the early 1930's in Chicago. It was told to me by a priest, Dr. Brown's brother.

In the wee hours of the morning Dr. Brown was jarred from sleep by the insistent ringing of the phone. He remembers groggily groping for the receiver; a husky, strained voice implored: "Is this Dr. Brown?"

"Yes, I am he."

"Could you come quickly? It's urgent, a matter of life and death!"

"Yes, I'll come. Where do you live?"

"Seventeen Alan Street, please, come quickly."

Dr. Brown dressed quickly, got his things together and was soon headed off to Alan Street; how lonely it was traveling alone through the dark streets at night. The neighborhood towards which he drove was on the "far side of the tracks", where even during the day one might not feel too comfortable walking around.

Dr. Brown found the house easily enough, a single residence; only it was peculiar that no lights were on. He went to the door and knocked; after a pause, he knocked again. Still there was no answer. His third knock, however, elicited a gruff response, "Who's there?"

"It's Dr. Brown. I received an urgent call for medical help. Is this seventeen Alan Street?"

"Yes it is, but nobody called you, get out of here!"

As he withdrew, he scanned the street searchingly for lights that might indicate where his help was really needed. Seeing none, he reproached himself again, thinking he had failed to jot down the right street number. Or perhaps, it was just a bad prank. In any case, there was nothing he could do but return home. And as there was no follow up phone call, he simply forgot the matter in the days that ensued.

Several weeks later, though, he received another call during the day from the emergency ward at the hospital. The nurse explained that a man, a certain John Turner, who had just suffered a severe accident and was clearly dying, was begging to speak with Dr. Robert Brown. "Doctor, could you come by quickly? He doesn't have much time. He will not tell us why he needs to speak to you."

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Continued on Page 8

OVERVIEW FOR THE MONTH

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The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. The Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7. October falls during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green.

During October, as in all of Ordinary Time (formerly known as Time After Pentecost), the Liturgy does not

focus on one particular mystery of Christ, but views the mystery of Christ in all its aspects. We follow the life of Christ through the Gospels, and focus on the teachings and parables of Jesus and what it means for each of us to be a follower of Christ. ☐

FEASTS FOR OCTOBER

The feasts on the General Roman Calendar celebrated during the month of October are:

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 1 | Twenty-Six Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday | 19 | Isaac Jogues, John de Brébeuf and companions (USA), Memorial |
| 2 | Guardian Angels, Memorial | 20 | Paul of the Cross, Opt. Mem. |
| 4 | Francis of Assisi, Memorial | 22 | Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday |
| 5 | Faustina Kowalska, virgin, Opt. Mem. | 23 | John of Capistrano, Opt. Mem. |
| 6 | Bruno; Bl. Marie Rose Durocher (USA), Opt. Mem. | 24 | Anthony Claret, Opt. Mem. |
| 7 | Our Lady of the Rosary, Memorial | 28 | Simon and Jude, Feast |
| 8 | Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday | 29 | Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday |
| 11 | St. John XXIII, Opt. Mem. | | |
| 14 | Callistus I, Opt. Mem. | | |
| 15 | Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday | | |
| 16 | Hedwig; Margaret Mary Alacoque, Opt. Mem. | | |
| 17 | Ignatius of Antioch, Memorial | | |
| 18 | Luke, Feast | | |

The feasts of St. Thérèse (October 1), St. Teresa of Jesus (October 15) and St. John Paul II (October 22) are superseded by the Sunday liturgy. ☐

OUR CENACLE CORNER

*Seeking a deeper relationship with God
through meditation of passages from Holy Scriptures*

FEEDING OF THE MULTITUDES

GOSPEL OF ST MATTHEW AND ST LUKE

HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

WHERE DID THE ROSARY ORIGINATE?

"TURN THEN MOST GRACIOUS ADVOCATE ..."

BY D.D. EMMONS THE CATHOLIC ANSWER

Except for the Our Father, no Catholic prayer or devotion may be more revered than the Rosary.



Many say the Rosary daily, reciting this prayer not only in church but during special times and places we set aside. Many keep the beads in their pocket, hang them in cars, put them on bedposts. They may be part of the essentials carried every day, such as keys, wallets or purses. When lost or misplaced, many may feel incomplete until the beads are found or a new set is in their possession. But when did this whole idea of counting

beads while praying begin? Where did the Rosary originate?

For centuries long before Christ, the faithful said prayers in a repetitive manner and found different methods of keeping count, often by using rocks or pebbles. By at least the ninth century, monks were reciting all 150 psalms, at first every day, but later every week as part of their prayers and devotions. One way they kept track was to count out 150 pebbles and then place one pebble in a container or pouch as they said each psalm. People living near the monks wanted to mimic this devotion, but due to lack of education couldn't memorize all the psalms. Printed copies, even if individuals could read, were not available as the printing press was centuries away. So Christians began to pray 50 or 150 Our Fathers (or Paternosters) each week instead of the psalms. In order to keep count of the Our Fathers, they often used string with knots in it instead of counting on rocks. Later the knots gave way to small pieces of wood and eventually to the use of beads.

St. Dominic

There has long been a tradition in the Church that St. Dominic de Guzman (1170-1221) is the source of the Rosary. In the 12th century, the Albigenses heresy was widespread in Europe, especially in southern France and Italy. The Albigenses denied the mystery of the Incarnation, rejected Church sacraments and condoned many secular activities considered evil by the Catholic faith. Among the efforts by the Church to combat this heresy was the organization of the mendicant orders, including one led by St. Dominic. The Dominicans, as they became known, tried to reverse the vile teachings of the

Albigenses by roaming the countryside preaching against the heresy, trying to influence the fallen away back into the Church. Tradition has it that St. Dominic's efforts were most effective following a visit from the Blessed Virgin Mary in the year 1214. Neither Dominic nor his order ever made this claim.

St. Dominic The Crosiers

The legend spread from an alleged dream of Blessed Alan de la Roche in the 15th century, more than 250 years after Dominic died. De la Roche was a respected writer and theologian of his time (c. 1428-1478) and instrumental in spreading the Rosary devotion throughout the Western Church. In his dream, Mary gave Dominic the Rosary and instructed the saint to preach the Rosary as part of his effort to thwart heresy. According to de la Roche, Mary said to Dominic, "If you want to reach these hardened souls and win them over to God, preach my Psalter." The Psalter refers to the Angelic Prayer, the Hail Mary. Among those who related this beautiful story is St. Louis Marie de Montfort in the book "God Alone: The Collected Writings of Saint Louis Marie de Montfort."

While many Church scholars do not give credence to de la Roche's story, numerous popes have advocated Dominic as indeed the source of the Rosary. In the 18th century, the Bollandists, a religious community that researches and verifies Church facts and historical allegations, questioned the role of Dominic in the Rosary story. The future Pope Benedict XIV (r. 1740-58), at the time a member of the Vatican Sacred Congregation of Rites, responded to the Bollandists: "You ask whether St. Dominic was really the illustrator of the Rosary, you declare yourselves perplexed and full of doubt upon the subject. But what account do you make of the decisions of so many sovereign pontiffs — of Leo X, of St. Pius V, of Gregory XIII, of Sixtus V, of Clement VIII, of Alexander VII, of Innocent XI, of Clement XI, of Innocent XIII, of Benedict XIII, and of many others who are all unanimous in declaring the Rosary to have been instituted by St. Dominic himself?" (Augusta T. Drane, "The History of St. Dominic, Founder of the Friars Preachers," Longmans, Green and Co., London, 1891, p. 136, and other sources.)



St. Dominic The Crosiers

Rosary Evolution

Notwithstanding papal advocacy for Dominic's role, there are divergent views regarding the evolution of this most beautiful of Marian devotions. Many scholars and theologians conclude that it is the outgrowth from the early monks saying the psalms, but some differ in regard to the identity of individuals contributing to the growth throughout the centuries. Despite the different views, there is widespread agreement on certain facts.

The Rosary includes six of Catholicism's most familiar prayers: the Apostles' Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, the Glory Be, the Fátima Prayer ("O My Jesus") and the Hail Holy Queen. The inclusion of these prayers in the Rosary did not happen overnight but was a lengthy evolution down through the centuries. Originally, the Our Father was said 150 times as a replacement for the psalms, saying the prayer on each bead of the Rosary string. A Glory Be was normally part of the prayer. During the 11th century, St. Peter Damian (d. 1072) suggested praying 150 Angelic Salutations, the Hail Mary, as an alternative prayer to the Our Father. The Hail Mary at that time consisted of Gabriel's angelic salutation to Mary, "Hail Mary full of Grace the Lord is with you" (see Lk 1:28-31), and the exchange between Mary and Elizabeth during the visitation, "Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb" (Lk 1:39-45). The name of Jesus ("blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus") was included sometime later. In 1365, a Carthusian monk named Henry of Kalkar (1328-1408) divided the 150 Hail Marys into 15 groups of 10 beads each. He placed an Our Father between each group or decade (10 beads); the prayer was thus made up of 10 Hail Marys, repeated 15 times with an Our Father in between each set.

In the mid-15th century, another Carthusian monk, Dominic of Prussia (1382-1461), introduced a similar devotion that included 50 Hail Marys with 50 individual thoughts or phrases about Jesus and Mary. A different thought or phrase would accompany each Hail Mary.

Around 1480, the evolution continued when "an anonymous Dominican priest ... retained the pattern of the decades that Henry of Kalkar suggested but focused them on fifteen episodes in the life and work of Mary and Jesus, not on fifty or one hundred and fifty of them. Instead of meditating on a Mystery for the space of a single Hail Mary, people could meditate more deeply for the time it took to recite ten Hail Marys devoutly; and instead of circling the Mystery by meditating on a myriad of details, they would approach the details by focusing on the heart of the Mystery itself." (Kevin O. Johnson, "Rosary: Mysteries, Meditations and the Telling of the Beads," Pangaeus Press, Dallas, 1997, p. 199). By now there were 15 groups of 10 beads, 15 decades. Each decade, instead of each bead, was accompanied by a meditation on the life of Christ and Mary.

Completion of the Hail Mary

By the first part of the 15th century the Hail Mary consisted of: "Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus." The third part, known as the petition ("Pray for us Holy Mother of God...") is traced back to the Council of Ephesus in 431. At that council, Church leaders officially defined Mary as not only the Mother of Jesus but as Theotokos (God-bearer, the Mother of God).

On the night this proclamation was made, the citizens of Ephesus marched through the town joyfully chanting, "Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners." This petition, including the words "now and at the hour of our death" would become part of the prayer by the time Pope St. Pius V (r. 1566-72) issued the papal bull *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices* in 1569 encouraging the universal use of the Rosary.

Since Pope Pius V issued that document, only the Fátima Prayer has been added to the Rosary. The Fátima prayer, given to the Portuguese children during the Fátima apparition in 1908, is widely used, but it is not universal. The Rosary made up of 150 beads, promoted by Pope Pius V, is still subscribed to by the Church but is, of course, different than the popular Rosary with 50 beads that many of us carry in our pockets.

From the 16th century until the 21st century there were three sets of mysteries: the Joyful, the Glorious and the Sorrowful. But in 2001 Pope St. John Paul II added the Mysteries of Light. The intent was to include meditations on the time in Jesus' life between His incarnation (a Joyful Mystery) and His passion (a Sorrowful Mystery).

We Catholics instinctively turn to the Rosary in times of crises and life's sorrows, in the midst of personal and even public tragedies.

How many soldiers have repeated the Hail Mary over and over on the battlefield? In our darkest hour, even the hour of our death, we plead for the intercession, the blessing and comfort of the Blessed Mother using this 700-year-old devotion which ends, in part, "Turn then most gracious advocate thine eyes of mercy toward us ..." □

A regular contributor to The Catholic Answer, D.D. Emmons writes from Mount Joy, Pennsylvania.

GOD TOUCHED ME

TRUST IN THE LORD, WITH ALL YOUR HEART!

*"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,
plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."
(Jeremiah 29:11)*

By Gerrard Gier

On September 1, 2016, I was told at work that I was going to be laid off and that my last day was going to be September 30, 2016. I really thought that I would be at this organization longer than the three years that I worked there. Especially since I had helped so much in terms of implementing new technology, reducing costs, energizing the culture, and changing the business architecture. I also helped the company gain financial help by restructuring costs within my department as well as obtaining grants.

I wasn't shocked when I was informed, but I was disappointed in the direction the organization was going in. With no severance and a low amount of savings I still wasn't worried that I would have a problem finding another job. In the past, after having been laid off, I usually would find a job within 2-3 months. I began my job search, but I did think conservatively and felt that I was not going to find a job by the end of the year and would have to look at the beginning of 2017 for possible opportunities.

December came and my wife and I went on a pre-planned trip to the Holy Land along with the Spiritual Army of God the Father. The Holy Land had always been on my list of "must see" places. It was my first big pilgrimage and I was excited to be able to see all the actual places from all the stories mentioned in the bible and to trace the footsteps of Our Lord during His life and ministry. We offered our petitions of finding a job during the trip and trusted in God's plan for us.

I did have a faith and trusted in the Lord that I would find an opportunity that was best for our family as well as my career. As the new year started, I made sure to keep my faith and restarted my job search with great zeal, applying to places that I would be overqualified, as well as changing career positions and industries. Since I was contacted by a lot of head hunters, contractors, and recruiters for potential job opportunities, I felt that I could land a job fairly quickly. Weeks went by and then I finally realized that a lot of these contacts for positions were just "inquiries" and not really amounting to any solid leads or job interviews.

A couple of months went by and in March, I started to feel a little worried since our savings was being depleted and nothing looked promising. Since I was a young IT

executive professional, consultants and recruiters started asking me to change my resume into a more "project management" and "information security" type positions. Although these were jobs I could do and had past experience in, they were not aligned to what my prior position was and my career path. This moment in time really tested my faith. I continued to pray with my family and was grateful to receive thoughts and prayers from friends and family, which helped me feel that God had a purpose for me and that in time He would reveal His grace to me.

During April, May, and June, I listened to different recruiters and various consultants and made some changes to my resume so as to modify it towards lower level positions compared to management level positions. At this point in time I changed my focus from continuing my career path at the management level, to finding any position so that I could help the family start paying bills. Finally, (during the month of June) after 10 months since my lay off and applying for hundreds of jobs and dead end job inquires, I got my first official job interview for an information security position. Unfortunately, I was not offered the job, but it was a good experience in that it helped me discern what I truly wanted for my next job. In this moment, I felt God was telling me to keep looking.

Another two months of job searching passed and in early August I got another job interview for a similar information security position, but in a different industry from my prior job. Fortunately, in this case, I got asked to do a second interview on August 15. Although it was a potentially prestigious position which I was very capable of doing, during the interview something in my heart was telling me it didn't feel right. I called my wife after the interview to tell her how it went. And as I began telling her about it I felt uncertain of the position itself, I got a call from another recruiter for a position that was the same level position as my prior job, and in the same industry too! God definitely has impeccable timing! This was actually a position that I was really interested in and felt that it was the kind of job I was looking for.

Continued on Page 10

SPIRITUAL ARMY NEWS DISPATCH

THE SPIRITUAL ARMY'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Spiritual Army of God the Father is pleased to announce the continuance of financial assistance extended to the following deserving students: Michael Ray P. Palma, Jr. and Patrick Salmasan. Michael is studying at the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart seminary in Manila while Patrick is in his senior year in Bachelor of Science, major in Information Technology at Jose Rizal University in Mandaluyong, Metro Manila. The Spiritual Army of God the Father Scholarship program provides financial assistance to full-time college students who will meet the criteria set by the ministry. The awarding of scholarship is renewable every semester subject to fulfillment of requirements and availability of funds. •

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PILGRIMAGE

On December 9 – 13, 2017, The Spiritual Army of God the Father devotees embark on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. For the first time the devotees will celebrate the feast of our Lady in Mexico, where it all began. The Lady asked to be called "the ever-virgin Holy Mary of Guadalupe".

Background: It is believed that the name "Guadalupe" came about because of the translation from Nahuatl to Spanish of the words used by the Virgin during the Apparition to Juan Bernardino, the ailing uncle of Juan Diego. It is believed that Our Lady used the Aztec Nahuatl word of coatlaxopeuh which is pronounced "quatlasupe" and which sounds remarkably like the Spanish word Guadalupe. Coa meaning serpent, tla being the noun ending which can be interpreted as "the", while xopeuh means to crush or stamp out. So Our Lady must have called Herself the one "who crushes the serpent." We must remember that the Aztecs offered annually at least 20,000 men, women, and children in human sacrifice to their gods. The early Mexican historian Ixtlilxochitl estimated that one out of every five children in Mexico was sacrificed. The climax of these ritual killings came in 1487 for the dedication of the new, and richly decorated with serpents, temple of Huitzilopochtli, in Tenochtitlan (now Mexico City), when in a single ceremony that lasted for four days and four nights, with the constant beating of giant drums made of snakeskin, the Aztec ruler and demon worshiper Tlacaellé presided over the sacrifice of more than 80,000 men. Certainly, in this case, the Virgin Mary crushed the serpent (as it is written in the Book of Genesis, "a woman shall crush your head") by putting an end to these barbaric human sacrifices, and a few years later, millions of the natives were converted to Christianity.

Today, the ancient serpent is certainly achieving big hits in its attack upon human life. Millions of unborn children are killed every year around the globe, in procedures that in some countries are not only legal but are also officially supported and financed. This is why Our Lady of Guadalupe has been chosen by the Church as the Protectress of the Unborn, to put an end to abortions. (Source: <http://www.michaeljournal.org/articles/roman-catholic-church/item/theapparition-of-our-lady-of-guadalupe-in-1531/?guadalupe.htm>).

Continued on Page 10

UPCOMING EVENTS

TOY DRIVE FOR THE LOS ANGELES CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

PLEASE DROP OFF
YOUR NEW UNWRAPPED TOYS
EVERY 1ST AND 3RD SATURDAYS
AT THE CONVENT OF THE SISTER
DISCIPLES OF THE DIVINE MASTER

PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, MEXICO

DECEMBER 9-13, 2017

DAILY ACTIVITIES AND OTHER
INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE AT
WWW.SPIRITUALARMYOFGOD.ORG

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON POTLUCK & GIFT EXCHANGE IN LOS ANGELES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2017
CONVENT OF THE SISTER DISCIPLES
OF THE DIVINE MASTER
1:00 – 3:00 PM

CHRISTMAS PARTY

IN LAS VEGAS
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2017
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
BANQUET ROOM | D'PINOY JOINT
6820 W. FLAMINGO ROAD
LAS VEGAS, NV 89103
CALL EVELYN @ 702 274 4315
FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

INFANT JESUS CELEBRATION

JANUARY 19-21, 2018
SAINT FRANCIS DESALES
LAS VEGAS, NV

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RECOMMENDED

SEEKING INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS THROUGH THE BIBLE

HOW TO DEAL WITH IRRITATION

By Son Helper

What bugs us? Whether it's a neighbor singing on top of her or his voice at 7:00 on a Saturday morning or a co-worker who snaps her gum all day or a mate who always sees the hole in a doughnut, one is forced to deal with nagging irritations.

The most important principle to remember if you are to deal with minor irritants successfully is to view them as "helpers" in one's spiritual growth. Each time one confronts an abrasive person or circumstance, one must either lay down his personal rights or enforce them. This involves a denial of self and a yielding to the Lordship of Christ. One's choice in such situations advances his growth in godliness or neutralizes it. He chooses the way of humility and servanthood as Jesus did, or he proclaims his selfishness loud and clear. Irritations reveal the true nature of self. If accepted as God's agents for maturity and obedience, it will scrape away the layers of pride, ego, and selfishness and reveal the gentleness of genuine spiritual beauty. □



"I have come to redeem humankind. Gather everyone who is with Me and prepare to stand against those who come to destroy your connection with God Almighty! Start and continue spreading My Words. Do not back down. Go forward and spread the good news of My Father. The strength of heaven will be with you".

*Jesus of Nazareth Your Loving God
09022017*

"I am your Mother Mary. Pray continuously for the world faces more torments from humanity. Tribulations are the result of human greed for power. Pray my children, pray unceasingly for God listens to people with contrite hearts! Feel everything around you for God's thunderous words will roar soon, very soon!"

*Mary, Your Lady of Fatima
09092017*

"I am your Mother Mary. The world and humanity face a great challenge of power struggle as given by God in His scriptures. Many doubt but this is happening fast and unfolding before the eyes of the whole humanity. This is the time to pray unceasingly before the throne of God and invoke the passion and sufferings of my son Jesus.

*Pray my children with all your heart and soul. Pray with your heart and love for HIM.
The signs will be stronger as days come forward.*

I will be with you my children. Beads of my rosary I ask you to pray every day."

*Mary, Your Lady of the Rosary
09162017*

Guardian Angel Stories

Dr. Brown agreed to go, yet he was rather puzzled, for he knew no one by the name of John Turner. This conviction was verified by the patient, who said: "Dr. Brown, you don't know me, but I just had to speak with you before I die and beg your forgiveness. You will recall having received a telephone call several weeks ago in the dead of the night."

"Yes, I remember the call, but..."

"It was I who called you." The dying man explained: "I had had no work for months and months. I had sold everything of value in the house, and still could not feed my family. I could not bear the imploring, hungry looks in my children's eyes. In my desperation, I resolved to call a doctor for help in the middle of the night. My plan was to kill him, take his money and sell his instruments."

Though horrified, Dr. Brown could not help but protest: "Yes, but I came, why didn't you kill me?"

"I was expecting that you would come alone, but when I saw that big, powerful young man at your side I was afraid; and so I just sent you off gruffly. Please forgive me."

"Yes, of course," muttered Dr. Brown in a daze.

A cold chill had come over him; he had had no inkling that what had seemed to him like an irksome error or even a bad prank had been really such a close call with death. And even less had he suspected that his Guardian Angel (to whom he ever after attributed this intervention) had saved his life that night; for indeed, the "powerful young man" had appeared only to his would be assailant, who now dying, was imploring his forgiveness.

How awesome are the ways of God. How often our Angels preserve us from harm without our ever adverting to the fact.

St. Michael to the Rescue

What follows is a copy of a letter written by a young Marine to his mother while recovering from a wound suffered on a Korean battlefield in 1950. The Navy Chaplain Father W. Muldy, who had talked to the boy, his mother, and to the Sergeant in charge of the patrol, vouched for the veracity of the story.

Dear Mom,

I wouldn't dare write this letter to anyone but you, because no one else would believe it. Maybe even you will find it hard, but I have got to tell somebody.

First off, I'm in a hospital. Now don't worry, you hear me? Don't worry! I was wounded, but I am okay. The doctor says that I will be up and around in a month. But that's not what I want to tell you.

Remember when I joined the Marines last year? When I left, you told me to say a prayer to St. Michael every day. You really didn't have to tell me that...ever since I can remember, you always told me to pray to St. Michael the

Archangel. You even named me after him. Well, I always have! But when I got to Korea I prayed even harder.

Remember the prayer that you taught me?... "Michael, Michael of the morning, Fresh corps of Heaven adorning..." You know the rest of it. Well, I said it every day...sometimes when I was marching or sometimes resting. But always before I went to sleep. I even got some of the other fellas to say it.

Well, one day I was with an advance detail way up on the front lines. We were scouting for the Commies. I was plodding along in the bitter cold...my breath was like cigar smoke.

I thought I knew every guy in the patrol, when alongside of me comes another Marine I never met before. He was bigger than any other Marine I'd ever seen. He must have been 6'4" and built in proportion! It gave me a feeling of security to have such a body nearby.

Anyway, there we were, trudging along. The rest of the patrol spread out. Just to start a conversation, I said, "Cold, ain't it?" And then I laughed! Here I was, with a good chance of getting killed any minute, and I'm talking about the weather!

My companion seemed to understand. I heard him laugh softly. I looked at him, "I have never seen you before. I thought I knew every man in the outfit."

"I just joined at the last minute," he replied. "The name is Michael."

"Is that so?" I said surprised. "That's MY name, too!"

"I know," he said...and then went on..."Michael, Michael, of the morning..."

I was too amazed to say anything for a minute. How did he know my name, and a prayer that YOU had taught me? Then I smiled to myself: Every guy in the outfit knew about me! Hadn't I taught the prayer to anybody who would listen? Why, now and then, they even referred to me as "St. Michael"!

Neither of us spoke for a time, and then he broke the silence. "We are going to have some trouble up ahead."

He must have been in fine physical shape, for he was breathing so lightly that I couldn't see his breath. Mine poured out in great clouds! There was no smile on his face now. Trouble ahead, I thought to myself...well, with the Commies all around us, THAT is no great revelation!

Snow began to fall in great thick globs. In a brief moment, the whole countryside was blotted out. And I was marching in a white fog of wet, sticky particles. My companion disappeared.

"Michael!" I shouted in sudden alarm.

I felt his hand on my arm, his voice rich and strong. "This will stop shortly."

His prophecy proved to be correct. In a few minutes, the snow stopped as abruptly as it had begun. The sun was a hard, shining disc. I looked back for the rest of the patrol.

There was no one in sight. We lost them in that heavy fall of snow. I looked ahead as we came over a little rise.

Mom, my heart just stopped! There were seven of them! Seven Commies in their padded pants and jackets and their funny hats. Only, there wasn't anything funny about them now. Seven rifles were aimed at us!

"Down, Michael!" I screamed, and hit the frozen earth. I heard those rifles fire almost as one. I heard the bullets.

There was Michael...still standing!

Mom, those guys COULDN'T have missed...not at that range! I expected to see him literally blown to bits! But, there he stood...making no effort to fire himself! He was paralyzed with fear ...It happens sometimes, Mom, even to the bravest. He was like a bird fascinated by a snake!

At least, that was what I thought THEN! I jumped up to pull him down, and that was when I got hit. I felt a sudden flame in my chest. I often wondered what it felt like to be hit...now I know!

I remember feeling strong arms about me, arms that laid me ever so gently on a pillow of snow. I opened my eyes, for one last look. I was dying! Maybe I was even dead. I remember thinking, "Well, this is not so bad."

Maybe I was looking into the sun. Maybe I was in shock. But it seemed I saw Michael standing erect again...only this time his face was shining with a terrible splendor! He seemed to change as I watched him. He grew bigger, his arms stretched out wide. Maybe it was the snow falling again, but there was brightness around him like the wings of an Angel! In his hand was a sword...a sword that flashed with a million lights!

Well...that is the last thing I remember until the rest of the fellas came up and found me. I don't know how much time had passed. Now and then, I had but a moment's rest from the pain and fever. I remember telling them of the enemy just ahead.

"Where's Michael?" I asked. I saw them look at one another. "Where's who?" asked one.

"Michael...Michael...that big Marine I was walking with just before the snow squall hit us."

"Kid," said the sergeant, "You weren't walking with anyone. I had my eyes on you the whole time. You were getting too far out! I was just going to call you in when you disappeared in the snow."



He looked at me curiously. "How did you do it, kid?" "How'd I do WHAT?" I asked...half-angry, despite my wound. "This Marine named Michael and I were just..."

"Son," said the sergeant kindly, "I picked this outfit myself, and there just ain't another Michael in it! You are the only Michael in it!"

He paused for a minute. "Just how did you do it, kid? We heard shots, but there hasn't been a shot fired from YOUR rifle...and there isn't a BIT of lead in them seven bodies over the hill there."

I didn't say anything. What COULD I say? I could only look open-mouthed with amazement.

It was then the sergeant spoke again. "Kid," he said gently... "Every one of those seven Commies was killed by a sword stroke!"

That is all I can tell you, Mom. As I say...it may have been the sun in my eyes...it may have been the cold or the pain. But that is what

happened!

Love,

Michael ☐

Opus Sanctorum Angelorum, the Work of the Holy Angels, is an international movement within the Catholic Church faithful to the Magisterium. It is ordered to promoting devotion to the holy angels and a covenant bond with them through a consecration approved by the Church, so that the holy angels may lead us more effectively to God. The Work is under the overall direction of the Order of Canons Regular of the Holy Cross, under which has also been erected the Confraternity of the Holy Guardian Angels. The Sisters of the Holy Cross is aggregated to the Order and, though autonomous, forms with it one spiritual family.

TRUST IN THE LORD, WITH ALL YOUR HEART

I got asked to come in for a job interview on August 21. A week had passed and I had not heard back from the organization about how my second interview went, but I was focused on being prepared and ready for this new interview. Since I just had another interview the week prior, I felt very prepared for this one. The interview went very well and the hiring manager and I developed a really good rapport. Unlike my prior two interviews, I felt that this was the place I was meant to be. Perhaps the last 11 months of job searching was coming to an end? After finishing the interview, I was about to call my wife to let her know how well the interview went. I suddenly got an email notification. I read the email and finally heard back from the organization about how my second interview went . . . I did NOT get the job.

Oddly enough, I wasn't saddened or worried about this news because I felt like this new position could be "the one." The very next day I received a call from the hiring manager that I was being offered the job! Thanks be to God!

As I reflect on the trials and tribulations of the past year, I realize that God was always there to comfort me and to guide me on the path I needed to take. I prayed more than in the past and through my dark times I felt I got closer to God the Father by speaking to Him more and talking to Him about my frustrations and anxieties. I held fast to my faith, knowing that God would provide when the time was right and that the outcome would be what would be best for myself and my family.

I'd like to take this moment to also give thanks to all my friends, family, the Spiritual Army, my kids, and my wife, for all their unceasing prayers. God's grace has shined on me, bringing me closer to Him, and touching me in a way that has deepened my relationship with Him. Throughout this trial in my heart I heard Him say, "I have a plan for you my son. Trust in me and I will show you the life of the world to come!"

*"My past, O Lord, to Your mercy;
my present, to Your Love;
my future to Your providence."
St. Padre Pio*

***If you have any personal articles
or God's miracle in your life
you want to share with the devotees,
we may be reached at
the following e-mail addresses
and phone numbers:
evelyn.pua@spiritualarmyofgod.org
alice.a@spiritualarmyofgod.org
(702) 274-4315 and/or (213) 385-7798***

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PILGRIMAGE

Current: A total of 53 pilgrims joined and have paid Proximo Travel in full. Because of this, Proximo Travel has given out three (3) more free trips, in addition to the free trip for our accompanying priest, Father Edwin. These three free trips were raffled out on September 16 to all devotees who have signed up for the said pilgrimage and have paid in full. The winners are: Christa Marie Baguio from the Philippines, Jonathan J. Ramos from Los Angeles, and Josefina L. Dasani, from Pennsylvania. Josefina is the daughter of our Los Angeles long-time devotee, Regina Lim. Mother and daughter are looking forward to their first pilgrimage together. What a special and blessed bonding time indeed!

Proximo Travel will be sending out the travel documents to the pilgrims in a timely manner. Daily activities and other information are available in our website at www.spiritualarmyofgod.org.

Let us all be one as devotees of our blessed Mother now that we have responded to the invitation of OUR LADY OF THE AMERICAS TO JOIN HER ON HER GUADALUPE FEAST DAY!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of Americas, protect us, and protect the unborn! ☐

THANK YOU

... a small and simple phrase that comes from a grateful heart!

Psalm 106:2

THE 2000 HAIL MARY DEVOTION

The Spiritual Army of God the Father acknowledges with thanks our generous October sponsors of the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion. We are grateful that we have merited their partnership and support in providing a venue of spirituality and fellowship for the devotees of God the Father.

Las Vegas, Nevada

Gary & Maria Sheets

Los Angeles, California

Vic & Alice Araneta
Edith & Miles Avanzado
Frank & Lorma Batino
Germey Consebido | Florita Gajito
Carolina Pineda

FOR PRAYERS HEARD AND PETITIONS GRANTED

Thank you, Eternal Father, for Your Will that transformed our sorrow into joy, our tears of anguish into tears of thanksgiving. Our physical and spiritual re-creation, through Your Healing Hands, kept us enclosed and revived in our hope for renewed lives as we look up to the heavens praising You, in Jesus' most Holy Name, through the intercession of Mary, our Blessed Mother, and of the angels and saints.

I am very grateful to God's loving and guiding hand in making us, that is, Tia Aida, my daughter Christina and myself, in overcoming the humanly impossible hurdles in our month's trip to Japan and the Philippines.

- Glecya Mananzan Rosario

God Almighty Father thank you for all the blessings bestowed upon us. We feel very blessed for being invited to the monthly devotional prayers of the Spiritual Army of God the Father prayer group. This devotion is a very powerful and spiritual way of spending some of our retirement days. The support of the group through prayers is a tremendous help in facing and dealing with trials and challenges in our daily lives especially during the course of treatment of my illness.

With God's grace and blessings, our prayers and those of our relatives and friends, I was able to go through my therapy without any major bad side effects and am now in remission, slowly regaining back my strength & health.

Thank you our dear Lord, for listening to our prayers and granting our requests.

- Rally & Norma Valeroso

I thank God for giving me some options of job positions to choose from and then, get the position I chose. I pray that God may continue to guide me and make my work go smoothly. This night shift position has enabled me to turn my sleepless nights into a productive and interesting time, as well as financially advantageous. The best part is that from work, I am able to attend the 8:00 a.m. Mass, then, visit and clean my daughter's grave site.

I also thank God for the non-stop attendance of Travel Conventions and Conferences that are work related, religious and other personal subject matters. It is such a boost to be around various people and groups, most specially The Spiritual Army of God the Father.

The anguish, pain, and sorrow of not having Kristen around anymore will remain forever BUT now with GOD'S LOVE & GLORY, we feel her company all the time! She truly lights and guards; rules and guides us! ♥♥♥♥

- Aida Tuazon

Thank you God the Father for all the blessings poured on me and DI. I praise you, I bless you too.

- Ching T.

DEVOTION SCHEDULE



THE SPIRITUAL ARMY OF GOD THE FATHER

cordially invites you to the following devotions:

IN LOS ANGELES:

1st Saturday Devotion

The Convent of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master | 501 N. Beaudry Avenue | (213) 250-7962
Holy Mass starts at 8:30 A.M. | 1st Saturday Devotional Prayers follow.

Devotion to God the Father

Every 1st Sunday of the Month | The Monastery of the Angels | 1977 Carmen Avenue on Gower | (323) 466-2186
12:30 P.M. - Rosary to the Father | 1:15 P.M. - Holy Mass
2:00 P.M. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

2000 Hail Mary Devotion – October 21, 2017

at the Convent of the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master | starting at 8:30 a.m.
Please call Victor at (213) 385-7798 if you wish to become a Sponsor of the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion.

IN CHINO HILLS:

Sacred Heart Devotional Group for Departed Souls

Every 1st Friday of the Month | 16657 Tourmaline Street | Chino Hills, CA 91709
Devotional Prayers start at 8:30 P.M.

IN LAS VEGAS:

Sacred Heart and Precious Blood of Jesus Devotion for Departed Souls

Every 1st Friday of the Month
at The Cenacle House in The Enclave 8455 W. Sahara Avenue #172 | Las Vegas, NV 89117
Devotional Prayers start at 2:30 P.M. Fall and winter schedule starting November will start at 1:30 P.M.

1st Saturday Devotion

at Saint Frances de Sales Parish | 1111 Michael Way | Las Vegas, NV 89108 at 8:00 AM
Devotional Prayers follow.

and

at The Cenacle House in The Enclave | 8455 West Sahara Avenue #172, | Las Vegas, NV 89117 at 1:00 PM
Cenacle will be at 10:00 AM before the devotional prayers.

Please call Evelyn at (702) 274-4315 for entry to The Enclave or for more information.

Devotion to God the Father

Every 1st Sunday of the month from 2:00 to 3:30 P.M.
at The Cenacle House in The Enclave | 8455 West Sahara Avenue #172, | Las Vegas, NV 89117

2000 Hail Mary Devotion – October 14, 2017

*Please call (702) 274-4315 for
dates and venues for the coming months or for more information or if you wish to Sponsor the Devotion.*

Mother of Perpetual Help Novena & Rosary Prayers

Every Wednesday of the month after the 7:30 AM Mass (*except during the Holy Week*)
St. Francis de Sales Parish | 1111 Michael Way | Las Vegas, NV 89108

IN THE PHILIPPINES

2000 Hail Mary Devotion - Metro Manila Area

Letty Rollan has organized the 2000 Hail Mary Devotion in various areas of Metro Manila through the members of the "Mother Butler." Please call her U.S. Vonage phone (510) 779-6652, text her at Manila #916-384-9300, and/or call her Manila landline 939-4677. Mention Mila Lumba's name to be recognized.