

AUG  
2020

life.

**Topic of the Month:**  
**MERCY BEHIND BARS**

**CHURCH TEACHING:**

"We are still a long way from the time when our conscience can be certain of having done everything possible to prevent crime and to control it effectively so that it no longer does harm and, at the same time, to offer to those who commit crimes a way of redeeming themselves and making a positive return to society. If all those in some way involved in the problem tried to . . . develop this line of thought, perhaps humanity as a whole could take a great step forward in creating a more serene and peaceful society."

Pope John Paul II, July 9, 2000

**PRAYER:**

*Merciful Father, we pray for victims of violence and their families, that they may experience our love and support and find comfort in Your compassion and in the promise of eternal life. We pray for those on death row, that their lives may be spared, that the innocent may be freed and that the guilty may come to acknowledge their faults and seek reconciliation with you. We pray for the families of those who are facing execution, that they may be comforted by your love and compassion. Compassionate Father give us wisdom and hearts filled with your love to build a society that truly chooses life in all situations.*  
Amen.

HERE and AROUND the ARCHDIOCESE...

- AUGUST 9 St. Josephine Bakhita's Intercessors Rosary Against Human Trafficking  
Immediately after 8am Mass in the Church
- AUGUST 26 Greek ST. MARY OF JESUS CRUCIFIED (Mariam Baouardy)

**\*\*\* EVERY WEDNESDAY, 8:30 am - 10:30 am:** Join **St. Edward's to pray and witness** at the **ABORTION FACILITY** at 2701 Gen. Pershing (near Baptist Hospital)

**VISIT the RESPECT LIFE TABLE in the BACK of CHURCH for MONTHLY UPDATES**

**MERCY BEHIND BARS - SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY**

- \*\*\* Pray** for victims of crime and their families, prisoners and their families, those who have been released from prison, the end of the death penalty, for those on death row
- \*\*\* Pick up a Prison Prayer Partner Prayer Card** on the Respect Life Table
- \*\*\* Pick up a copy of the Louisiana Catholic Bishops' Statement on Capital Punishment** on the Respect Life Table or visit [www.laccb.org/news/Death%20Penalty%20Statement%204-18-17.pdf](http://www.laccb.org/news/Death%20Penalty%20Statement%204-18-17.pdf)
- \*\*\* Write to write to Senators and Representatives** as the Congress considers proposals around policing and restorative criminal justice.
- \*\*\* VISIT:** <https://respectlife.arch-no.org/capital-punishment>

**MERCY BEHIND BARS - CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY**

- Provide Packages of Mercy:** Care packages should include things such as new underwear, socks, bath towels, face towels, shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste, soap, lotion, razors, household cleaning supplies, plus a note of encouragement.  
--- **Cornerstone Builders Reentry Program** provides care packages to those who have just been released from prison & have no family.  
For more info, contact Ronnie Moore at [rmoore@ccano.org](mailto:rmoore@ccano.org) or 504) 451-8351  
--- **Women Determined** provides needed items for women who are returning to society after incarceration. For more info, call (504) 320-8352.

Christ has no body but yours,  
No hands,  
No feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which  
He looks with compassion on  
this world,  
Yours are the feet with which  
He walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with  
which He blesses all the world.  
Yours are the hands, yours are  
the feet, yours are the eyes,  
you are His body.  
Christ has no body now on  
earth but yours.

**Saint Teresa of Avila**

**If you desire to use  
your God-given**

**IDEAS,**

**TIME,**

**TREASURE,**

**or**

**TALENT**

**to help the Church in  
areas of**

**POVERTY, RACISM,**

**IMMIGRATION,**

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE,**

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING,**

**or any**

**RESPECT LIFE ISSUE,**

**Call us at 504-874-9225**

## SAINT OF THE MONTH

### ST. MARY OF JESUS CRUCIFIED

(Mariam Baouardy) – August 26



Mariam Baouardy was born Jan. 5, 1846 into a poor Greek Melchite family in Ibillin, a town near Nazareth, Galilee. Her 12 older brothers had all died in infancy, and her birth was an answered prayer to Our Lady. Her parents died when she was 3, and Mariam was raised by an uncle, who moved her with him to Egypt when she was 8. When she was 13, he arranged a marriage for her. When she refused, he punished her by hiring her out as a domestic servant. A fellow servant befriended her to convert her to his Muslim religion. Once Mariam convinced him she would never abandon her Catholic faith, he responded by cutting her throat and leaving her for dead. The Virgin Mary rescued her and treated her wound. Mariam went back to working as hired help, moving to France with her master. Eventually she entered a Carmelite cloister, taking the name Sr. Mary of Jesus Crucified. Throughout her life, she experienced supernatural events: levitations, the stigmata, and knowledge of consciences. She helped found monasteries in India and in Bethlehem, where she died on Aug. 26, 1878. She was canonized on May 17, 2015 and **named patroness of prisoners and of Peace in the Holy Land.**

#### PRAYER TO ST. MARIAM

*St. Mariam, Lily of Palestine, you modeled humility, deep fraternal charity, forgiveness, and total surrender to the Holy Spirit. Given the difficult situation for Christians in the Holy Land, we ask your intercession for all our Eastern brothers and sisters, that they will hold fast to their faith in the midst of their painful persecutions. Be a sign to them of fidelity, hope and peace, urging them to stay united with Jesus. We pray in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.*