

OUR LADY OF SORROWS – ST. ANTHONY

ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY



March, April, May and June, 2020

MISSION STATEMENT: Our Lady of Sorrow-St. Anthony Rosary Altar Society is a parish confraternity whose members seek to enhance the spiritual, social and cultural life of our parish through liturgical service, prayer and devotion to the gospel teaching, while honoring the desire of our Lord to better know, love and venerate His Mother. Members of the Rosary Confraternity pledge to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary and to secure her patronage by recitation of the Rosary for the mutual spiritual benefits of all members throughout the world.

OFFICERS 2018 - 2020

Natalie Baranowski, President 890-1577
Toni Levandowski, Vice President 588-4768
Sharon Conte, Secretary 586-1438
Joyce Berryman, Treasurer 587-8791

Dear Rosary Altar Members and People of the Parish,

Our Blessed Virgin Mary is always an example to us; let us follow her in our faith to her Son, Jesus Christ, as we travel through our Lenten journey.

With Mother's Day close behind the Easter Season, we should remember to honor all Mothers as Jesus honored his own Mother.

Let us always remember to pray for our Priests, Deacons and all of the people of God's Church.

Sincerely yours in Our Lady,

Natalie Baranowski, President



GENERAL INFORMATION – Our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and our Lord is expressed in a variety of ways, including: private recitation of the rosary, monthly group recitation of the rosary, attendance together at mass on the first Sunday of each month, prayer services throughout the year, and an annual Day of Recollection. We imitate Mary's willingness to help and serve others by laundering/ironing the altar linens, cleaning/refilling the holy water fonts, making rosaries for the missions, hospitals, schools and our military, making prayer shawls and distributing them to local nursing homes, hospices and all those who desire a shawl and we also make donations to the needy. We also supply baked goods for the annual celebration of St. Joseph Day. In addition, we conduct a Palm Cross Sale and a Christmas Wreath Sale to help fund the above activities as well as scholarships to our OLS graduates and donations to the Church for its needs.

CORPORATE SUNDAY is held on the first Sunday of every month. The Rosary is recited following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows from July to December. From January to June, Corporate Sunday is held at the St. Anthony Campus with recitation of the rosary at 9:00 a.m. followed by the 9:30 a.m. Mass. All parishioners are invited to recite the Rosary for our parish community, world peace, an end to abortion and terrorism; for the intentions of the Pope and for the special intentions of all those in attendance.

MONTHLY MEETING are held on the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Meeting Room at OLS. Because of Labor Day, the September meeting is held on the second Monday. Meetings are not held in January, July or August. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to attend any meeting.

ROSARY MAKERS GROUP – Anyone interested in learning to make rosaries, please contact Betty Adamczyk at (609) 586-6771. Rosaries are sent to the missions, soldiers and given to the First Communicants of our parish. We will send rosaries to those in need as supplies allow.

PRAYER SHAWLS – The Prayer Shawl Group meets at 1:30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month in the Church Meeting Room at OLS. Prayer shawls are made for patients in area hospitals, assisted living facilities and nursing homes. If you or anyone you know is interested in making prayer shawls, please contact Joyce Farina at (609) 888-0437. If you have any completed prayer shawls or if you wish to donate yarn, call Joyce and she will make arrangements to meet with you. We also ask that you refrain from dropping off any completed prayer shawls or yarn at the parish office; be sure to call Joyce instead.

NEW MEMBERS – New members are always welcome to attend any of our meetings and will be greeted warmly and friendly. Being a Rosarian honors Mary as the Mother in whose care Jesus has placed us, and our Lady's blessings will be without measure. Once you are inducted into the Confraternity, you are a lifetime member. The Confraternity is a National Confraternity so if you move you can become a member of your new Parish. If you are considering joining the Rosary Altar Society and have questions, please feel free to contact Melissa Demko at (609) 502-3670, or any Board Member.

WHAT IS A CHAPLET

A chaplet is a personal devotional prayer prayed in many ways. It can be prayed in private or in a group, in silence or out loud, in an ordinary setting or in church and in a language you are comfortable with, your vernacular, Greek or Latin.

There are many types of chaplets; the most common, the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Both of these are said using Rosary Beads. Other Chaplets have their own arrangement of beads for example the Chaplet of the Holy Spirit has an image of the Holy Spirit, 3 beads another image of the Holy Spirit at the junction of the beginning of the circle of beads and begins with 2 beads and 5 groups of 7 beads before ending with 2 beads. The Chaplet of Our Lady of Sorrows has the image of Our Lady of Sorrows, 3 beads, the first image of the Seven Sorrows at the beginning of the circle of beads and 7 beads each set of 7 beads preceded by the image of the next Sorrow. The Serenity Prayer Chaplet is the only Chaplet that I found that is not broken down into sequences of beads. It is a crucifix followed by a medallion of the Blessed Mother and a circle of 12 beads and a prayer is said on each bead for a special intention.

Almost all Chaplets are broken down into sets of sequences of beads; these sets of sequences can consist of 7 or 10 beads. When the sequence consists of 10 beads it is known as a decade. Depending on the Chaplet, there can be 3, 6, 7 or 9 sequences.

Other Chaplets you can find are Chaplets that honor God such as: Chaplet of the Heavenly Father, Chaplet of Trust in God the Father, Chaplet of the 5 Wounds of Jesus, etc.

Chaplets to the Blessed Mother in many of Her names such as: Chaplet of the Ten Virtues of the Blessed Mother, Chaplet of Our Lady of Tears, Chaplet of the Immaculate Conception, etc.

There are also Chaplets to almost any Saint you can imagine such as: Chaplet of St. Anthony, Chaplet of St. Michael the Archangel, Chaplet of St. Dominic, etc.

Overall, there are hundreds of Chaplets. There are Chaplets to God as a Trinity, to God in each Person, to the Blessed Mother in Her many special names and devotions and to Saints and their intentions.

What makes praying Chaplets such a special prayer is the repetition of prayer, the beads helping us to keep track of our prayers and giving meaning to our prayer intentions. These prayers even if recited in a group have deep personal meaning.

Devotion to the Rosary was honored by many who we know as Saints from our day such as St. John Paul II, St. Mother Teresa and St. Padre Pio to name a few. May we try to follow in their footsteps and find our own personal Chaplet to keep us headed to Heaven.

By: Natalie Baranowski

Ref: Sunday Visitor

Saint Joseph, the Head of the Holy Family Part 2

The Coronation of Saint Joseph by Juan de Valdés Leal (1622–1690):



In part one of the article back in Advent I discussed many important facts about Saint Joseph such as why he is in the hierarchy of the Saints right after Our Lady, what his various roles are including protector of the Church, and of course the important role he played in the Nativity narratives of Saint Luke and Saint

Matthew. I ended that article with the intriguing statement that this particular article would explore his role in the Passion. What you say? He was long dead by then wasn't he? Yes it is true by the time of Christ's Passion and glorification he was indeed dead. However I have in my research uncovered some very startling and Church noted facts that indicate Saint Joseph was very much aware of what would ultimately happen to his foster son and his anguish over it.

Let us begin by taking a look at a passage from a short Christmas book given to me by a friend and member of our Monday Night Bible Study entitled "A Walk One Winter Night" by Al Andrews. It's a small book that tells the story of a discouraged and Christmas season stressed out man who takes a walk in his neighborhood one cold wintry night and comes across a Nativity scene on a neighbor's front lawn. Having seen this type of front yard Nativity scene every Christmas season and thinking nothing of it, this time he is mesmerized by it and for good reason as soon the figures talk to him. The statues remain the same but voices seem to be coming out of them. The man upon seeing the plastic image of Saint Joseph thought in his mind that Saint Joseph always wears brown because brown is a fitting color for someone who never gets top billing. He also thinks Saint Joseph is just there and does not seem to have any purpose. Some of the words of Saint Joseph to the man will have particular relevance to the rest of this article. Here they are:

"Joseph continued, "Yes, I wear brown, but it is for stealth. I blend in with my surroundings, and from my vantage point, my eyes scan every opening in this

place for anyone who is out to do us harm. And no one will get by me. Let them try."

These are the words of a man's man someone who will stand successfully in your way if you (Satan, demon or human) should try to harm either his wife Mary or her son. Clearly he has a purpose and that is to protect these two people who are most precious to him and he takes this God given assignment very seriously.

Our Lady of America:



Now let us see how Joseph actually knew about the Passion and his anguished thoughts about it. To do so we must discuss apparitions of our Lady under her title "Our Lady of America" that took place in Ohio in the late 50's. These were private revelations to Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil (1916-2000) and at the time were fully known by her spiritual director Archbishop Paul Leibold who was the Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati at the time and later he would become the Archbishop. He gave his imprimatur (mark of approval or endorsement) to her initial booklet (1960) and its reprinting (1971) published with the revelations she received. Let me also state that as of this writing the apparitions have not reached the final level of official approval by the Pope and no Catholic is forced to believe in apparitions (even those with full approval). Still, if one weighs the credibility of these purported apparitions to Sr. Mildred, a number of things stand out. First, Sr. Mildred never sought publicity (hunger for the limelight is a discrediting sign). Second, she submitted Our Lady's messages to her Episcopal superiors and was obedient to their direction. Third, the message itself was granted an imprimatur of a bishop of the Church and was accepted by other bishops. Finally, there is the fact that the message is so clearly in accordance with Holy Scripture.

Now along with Our Lady Saint Joseph himself appeared during these apparitions and what he said at the time is of prime importance to the thesis of this article. In fact his words can be labeled as the "Sufferings of Saint Joseph".

His words show his knowledge of the Passion and its impact on him in his capacity as the protector of his family.

Sister Mary Mildred wrote not only the messages in her diary but also gave short commentaries. She described how St. Joseph first visited in October 1956 about one week after Our Lady first appeared. She did not see him this time (she would later) but like the man in the above story she did hear his words to her. Here is part of what he said and it is very revealing:

“My heart suffered with the Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Mine was a silent suffering, for it was my special vocation to hide and shield, as long as God willed, the Virgin Mother and Son from the malice and hatred of men.

“The most painful of my sorrows was that I knew beforehand of their passion, yet would not be there to console them. “Their future suffering was ever present to me and became my daily cross”.”

Saint Joseph while he was alive knew what was coming that first Good Friday and it tore him apart knowing that he would not be there to console Mary and Jesus on Golgotha. He even states that God had given him the duty to hide and shield Mary and Jesus from the malice and hatred of men. That hatred and malice was in strong evidence starting with the arrest of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane that first Holy Thursday Night and it continued along with its fruits of torture and agony up until that moment at 3:00 PM Friday when the Lord said “It is finished” the “it” being he had fulfilled the mission that God the Father had given him. That mission was to pay the sin debt for all of humanity thus paving the way to heaven and eternal union with the Trinity once again.

Saint Joseph in no way is a minor figure in the Gospels who disappears after a short time.

Certainly Our Lord and Our Lady suffered mightily during the events of that first Holy Week particularly on Good Friday and now we know that Saint Joseph too by his own words suffered along with them in his own way. He had no control over events as God with his plan of salvation was totally in charge. Yet Saint Joseph agonized over the fact he would not be there on Golgotha with his wife and foster son when they would need him most, and his heart broke every day of his life knowing that. It is very clear now how Saint Joseph was involved in the Passion even though physically he was not there.

Saint Joseph Pray for Us!

Len Commini for the Rosary Altar Society March 2020

Sources:

A Walk One Winter Night by Al Andrews

St Joseph's Apparition in the United States, Joseph Pronechen for the National Catholic Register March 19, 2019

BIRTHDAYS ARE SPECIAL, it celebrates another year of achievements, and a year to look forward to new goals and accomplishments. Let us celebrate the following Rosarians as they march on to a new year of wonder.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS – 9 – Barbara Dohrenwend, 12 – Carolyn Hawkes, 14 – Queen Okike, 25 - Joyce Berryman, 27 – Deoke (Dee) Ali

APRIL BIRTHDAYS – 6 – Jennifer Petro, 15 – Joan Farletta, 17 – Fran Valpatic, 19 – Judy Komlosi, 23 – Jeannie Casto, 26 – Mary Ellen Sullivan, 30 – Irene Foy and Rose Bartuska

MAY BIRTHDAYS – 3 - Lucille DiBiase, 23 – Louise Dechan

JUNE BIRTHDAYS – 9 – Donna Povia, 11 – Jean Fell, 16 – Gerri Hoffman, 17 – Mary Halasz, 20 - Blanche Migliarese, 22 – Irene Scaramozzino, 30 – Mary Ann Sullivan

JULY BIRTHDAYS – 3 – Helen Imbalzano, 5 – Ericka Betencourt, 15 – RoseMarie Peissner and Diane DeCara, 23 – Charlie Peterson-Victor, 27 – Eileen Demko

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS – 7 – Jennifer Carr, 8 – Sharon Conte and Teresa Kmiec, 22 – Carol Inglese, 26 – Suzanne Groth, 31 - Michele Bailey

MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday – March 1 – Corporate Sunday at St. Anthony 9:00 a.m. Rosary followed by 9:30 a.m. Mass

Sunday – March 1 – Palm Cross Sale Begins

Monday – March 2 – Monthly Meeting/Lenten Prayer Service

Monday – March 9 – Prayer Shawl Group Meeting

Thursday – March 19 – St. Joseph Table

Sunday – March 22 – Palm Cross Sale Ends

Saturday & Sunday – March 28 & 29 – Palm Cross Distribution

FEAST DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Saturday – March 17 – St. Patrick's Day

Monday – March 19 – St. Joseph's Day

APRIL CALENDAR

Monday – April 5 – Corporate Sunday at St. Anthony 9:00 a.m. Rosary followed by 9:30 a.m. Mass

Wednesday – April 6 – Monthly Meeting/Speaker

Monday – April 20 – Prayer Shawl Group Meeting 1:30 P.M. at OLS Church Meeting Room

FEAST DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Sunday – April 5 – Palm Sunday

Sunday – April 12 - Easter

MAY CALENDAR – MONTH OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER

Sunday – May 3 – Corporate Sunday at St. Anthony - 9:00 a.m. Rosary followed by 9:30 a.m. Mass

Monday – May 4 – Monthly Meeting/May Crowning/Induction of New Members

Monday – May 11 – Prayer Shawl Group Meeting 1:30 p.m. at OLS Church Meeting Room

FEAST DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Sunday – May 10 – Mother’s Day

Thursday – May 21 – Ascension Thursday

Monday – May 25 – Memorial Day

Sunday – May 31 - Pentecost

JUNE CALENDAR

Monday – June 1 – Monthly Meeting/End of Year Dinner

Sunday – June 2 – Corporate Sunday at St. Anthony - 9:00 a.m. Rosary followed by 9:30 a.m. Mass

Monday – June 10 – Prayer Shawl Group Meeting – 1:30 p.m. at OLS Church Meeting Room

FEAST DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Wednesday – June 13 – Feast of St. Anthony

Thursday – June 14 – Flag Day

Sunday – June 16 – Father’s Day

REMINDER – NO MEETINGS IN JULY OR AUGUST JULY BEGINS OUR CORPORATE SUNDAYS AT OUR LADY OF SORROWS, ROSARY IS FOLLOWING THE 8:00 a.m. MASS THEY ARE SCHEDULED FOR JULY 5 AND AUGUST 2