



*Blessed Miriam Teresa
League of Prayer Bulletin*



Volume 77 No. 3

Convent Station, N.J.

October 2022



*“MAY THE ROSARY NEVER FALL
FROM YOUR HANDS.”*

~ SAINT POPE JOHN XXIII



APOSTOLIC POSTULATION

for the cause of Canonization of the Blessed

Miriam Teresa Demjanovich, SC
of the

Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth,

**His Eminence
Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, CSSR**
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The Most Reverend Kurt Burnette
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Sister Maureen Corcoran, SC
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THE BLESSED MIRIAM TERESA LEAGUE OF PRAYER BULLETIN

Purpose of the League: To honor the Blessed Trinity through the Immaculate Heart of Mary by spreading the knowledge of Blessed Miriam Teresa's life and mission, and by working for her cause.

President.....Sister Maureen Shaughnessy, SC

TEAM

Sister Mary Canavan, Sister Maureen Corcoran, Doctor Mary Mazzarella and Linda Amitrano. Consultants: Father Terrence Moran and Sister Noreen Neary.

Obligations: 1. Daily recitation of 26 Glorias in honor of the Most Holy Trinity for the success of the cause. (an Our Father may be substituted.) 2. A small sacrifice daily.

Spiritual Privileges: for the intentions of League Members. 1. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered 100 times each year. 2. Special private prayers are offered every day by the Sisters of Charity.

The *BULLETIN* is published four times a year. The current cost is fifteen dollars a year.

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As our summer days flow into the cool breezes and autumnal colors of Fall we also have entered the month of October which as Catholics has traditionally been known as the month of The Rosary. In keeping with our past memories our bulletin is focused on the rosary and its meaning in our lives.

The mysteries of the rosary were known to us as the Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious meditations on the life of Jesus with His mother Mary. In 2002 St. John Paul II gave us the Luminous Mysteries, also known as the Mysteries of Light, because Jesus is the light of the world. Our hope is that the articles will whet your desire to pick up your beads and join the numbers of people who faithfully pray the rosary.

Matthew Kelly's article on the rosary is a thoughtful reflection on how a chance meeting of Jim Castle and Mother Teresa on an airline flight transformed his life, developed a new found devotion for the rosary and created within a deep desire to share his newly discovered grasp of what really counts.

The Luminous Mysteries are included in an article which attempts to link their focus and how Blessed Miriam Teresa might have meditated on them even though they were not named during her lifetime. Certainly the mysteries they incorporate were meditations for her at times in prayer. Reflections of others share the beauty of this prayer and the meaning it has given in their lives.

~ Sister Maureen Corcoran, SC

THE ROSARY

by Matthew Kelly

Jim Castle was tired when he boarded his flight one night in Cincinnati. The forty-five-year-old management consultant had put on a weeklong series of business meetings and seminars, and now he sank gracefully into his seat, ready for the flight home to Kansas City.

As more passengers boarded, the plane hummed with conversation, mixed with the sound of bags being stowed. Then, suddenly, people fell silent. The quiet moved slowly up the aisle like an invisible wake behind a boat. Jim craned his neck to see what was happening and his mouth dropped open.

Walking up the aisle were two nuns clad in simple white habits with blue borders. He immediately recognized the familiar face, wrinkled skin, and warm eyes of one of the nuns. This was the face he'd seen so often on television and on the cover of *Time*. The two nuns halted, and Jim realized that his seat companion was going to be Mother Teresa.

As the last few passengers settled in, Mother Teresa and her companion pulled out rosaries. Jim noticed that each decade of the beads was a different color. The decades represented various areas of the world, Mother Teresa told him later, adding, "I pray for the poor and dying on each continent."

The airplane taxied to the runway, and the two women began to

pray, their voices in a low murmur. Though Jim considered himself a not very engaged Catholic who went to church mostly out of habit, inexplicably he found himself joining in. By the time they whispered the final prayer, the plane had reached cruising altitude.

Mother Teresa turned toward him. For the first time in his life, Jim understood what people meant when they spoke of a person possessing an aura. As she gazed at him, a sense of peace filled him; he could see it no more than he could see the wind, but he felt it, just as surely as he felt a warm summer breeze. "Young man," she inquired, "do you pray the rosary often?"

"No, not really," he admitted.

She took his hand, and her eyes probed his. Then she smiled. "Well, you will now." And she dropped her rosary into his palm.

An hour later, Jim entered the Kansas City Airport, where he was met by his wife, Ruth. "What in the world?" Ruth asked when she noticed the rosary in his hand.

They kissed and Jim described the encounter. Driving home, he said, "I feel as if I met God's daughter."

Nine months later, Jim and Ruth visited Connie, a longtime friend of theirs. Connie told them she had ovarian cancer. "The doctor says it's a tough case," said Connie, but

I'm going to fight it. I won't give up.

Jim clasped her hand. Then, after reaching into his pocket, he gently twined Mother Teresa's rosary around her fingers. He told her the story and said, "Keep it with you, Connie. It may help."

Although Connie wasn't Catholic, her hand closed willingly around the small plastic beads. "Thank you," she whispered. "I hope I can return it."

More than a year passed before Jim saw Connie again. This time, face glowing, she hurried toward him and handed him the rosary. "I carried it all year," she said. "I've had surgery and have been having chemotherapy, too. Last month, the doctors did a second-look surgery, and the tumor's gone. Completely!" Her eyes met Jim's. "I knew it was time to give the rosary back."

The following fall, Ruth's sister Liz fell into a deep depression after her divorce. She asked Jim if she could borrow the rosary, and when he sent it, she hung it over her bedpost in a small velvet bag.

"At night I held on to it, just physically held on. I was so lonely and afraid," she said, "yet when I gripped that rosary, I felt if I held a loving hand." Gradually, Liz pulled out of her depression and found a new perspective on life and mailed back the rosary. "Someone else may need it," read that note that accompanied it.

Then one night a year or so later, a stranger telephoned Ruth. She'd heard about the rosary from a neighbor and asked if she could borrow it to take to the hospital where her mother lay in a coma. The family hoped the rosary might help their mother die peacefully.

A few days later, the woman returned the beads. "The nurses told me a coma patient can still hear," she said, "so I explained to my mother that I had Mother Teresa's rosary and that when I gave it to her she could let go; it would be alright. Then I put the rosary in her hand. Within minutes, we saw her face relax! The lines smoothed out until she looked so peaceful, so young." The woman's voice caught. "A few minutes later, she was gone." She gripped Ruth's hands, looked deep into her eyes, and said, "Thank you."

Is there special power in those humble beads? Or is the power of the human spirit simply renewed in each person who borrows the rosary? Jim only knows that requests continue to come, often unexpectedly. He always responds, though whenever he lends the rosary, he says, "When you're through needing it, send it back. Someone else may need it."

Jim's life has also changed since his unexpected meeting on the airplane. When he realized Mother Teresa carries everything she owns in a small bag, he made an effort to simplify his own life. He says, "I try

to remember what really counts – not money, or titles, or possessions, but the way we love others.”

Permission granted to reprint; Rediscover Catholicism by Matthew Kelly, p.259-261.



Christmas Concert Fundraiser
Saturday, December 17, 2022
3:00 PM

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THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES OF THE LORD

by Sister Maureen Corcoran, SC

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Unlike ourselves Jesus went to the River Jordan around the age of 30 to be baptized by John the Baptist. Blessed Miriam was baptized and chrismated at home on March 31, 1901, five days after her birth.

The sacrament of Baptism is our gateway to Christian discipleship; we are initiated into the grace of our Triune God who desires to be an intimate part of our lives each and every day. As the Holy Spirit breathed life into Jesus throughout his ministry God affirmed Miriam as a beloved child and blessed her with his unending love. Her response was faith-filled as she knew the Holy Spirit lived within her. Joyfully she acclaimed who she was truly created to be. This acceptance in faith enlivened her to deepen her relationship with our God through prayer where she received the strength to live her mission in our world as fully as possible.

THE WEDDING AT CANA

Don't you think Mary and Jesus were delighted to be invited to a wedding to celebrate the joy of this couple along with so many other townsfolk? No thought, I'm sure, entered Jesus' mind that at this joyous gathering he

would be called upon to "save the moment."

Mary approached Jesus with the awareness that the wine was running out and with the hope he could/would alleviate the couple's embarrassment. Responding to his mother's concern, 6 stone jars were filled with water. As it was being shared among all the party-goers Jesus' act of kindness turned into a miracle; the water turned into wine. This miraculous event truly made a difference – providing comfort and delight for the couple and dispelling any anxiety that could have ruined the joy of the occasion.

In various ways Blessed Miriam anticipated apparent needs throughout her lifetime that manifested themselves in her family life, school life and several social interactions. Such awareness graced her interactions with the people she encountered.

TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS

Mountain top experiences are realities that encourage us, support us, and enable us to faithfully grasp the goodness of Christ Jesus especially when times in our lives are touched by sorrow or depression. They are meant to be sources of strength and reassurance that our God is always

with us, no matter what life throws at us. Blessed Miriam certainly knew this as she lovingly cared for her family as homemaker, cook and gently nursed her dying Mother. As God the Father identified Jesus as his beloved Son with tremendous love and instructed us to listen to him, we know Miriam took this to heart. She allowed herself to listen wholeheartedly so that Jesus' way became her guide as she lived each day. She grew in sensitivity to the many ways God spoke to her through other people and events in her life. Are we able to do the same amidst all the clamors that vie for our attention through the media? This is a great challenge in our world. Where do we find our fulfillment, happiness, and peace? Listening to Jesus calls us to have a strong faith and limitless trust in God.

PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM

God's kingdom was the primary focus of Jesus' Mission. As he prepared to return to his Father in Heaven, he entrusted this sacred mission to his apostles and to all of the disciples who followed – meaning US in our time and place on earth. We are meant to uncover our God-given gifts to use them in our day-to-day activities so that through our example and words God's Realm is revealed to some degree here on earth making God's presence more evident. Our

incorporation into the Body of Christ, as the life-giving waters were poured over us at Baptism, calls us to be concrete signs of Christ Jesus in our daily lives...to be leaven for others. We need one another on life's journey – to inspire and be inspired, to challenge and be challenged, to direct our energy to the Christian Vision and not get stymied by self-importance and self-worth. Blessed Miriam immersed herself into God's will; she shows us that following the Will of God is more significant than doing what we want. Her heart was filled with a deep love for Jesus. Her choices brought joy and fulfillment to her daily living and ultimately to eternal life with our Triune God.

PRAYERS FOR FAVORS

FOR Cure for cancer (17), Financial issues (2), Miracles (2), Vocation (1), Injury from Car Accident (1), Conversion (3), Peace (2), Eye Condition (4), Peace in Ukraine (2), Baby Health (5), Prayers (10), In Thanksgiving (1), Personality Disorder (1), Heart Attack (1), Hip Replacement (1), Depression (1), Brain Surgery (2), Back Surgery (1), Breathing Disorder (1), Severe Emphysema (1), Lung surgery (1), Special Intention (1).

REFLECTIONS ON THE ROSARY

Do you remember receiving a rosary as a gift for your First Holy Communion? During the years of the pre-Vatican II era most of us witnessed people praying the rosary during Mass. This prayer enabled them to feel connected to God because they didn't know the prayers in Latin. Even in Nursing Homes, Rehab Centers, and hospital beds you see rosary beads in the hands or on the bed giving comfort to the patients. Keeping people connected to Christ Jesus and the key moments in our Christian heritage gives people the strength to accept their joys and struggles and imitate the way of Jesus... integrating his virtues in their daily lives.

“The Rosary is a Well-Spring of continual Spiritual Enrichment for me – ever revealing a New Insight into The Life of the Lord while often including His Holy Mother as well as many significant others with whom I often identify and who have been chosen to participate in His Plan of Salvation for me”.

Sister Rose Marie O'Brien, SC

A Gift from my Mom

I learned to love the Rosary from my mother who every night ended her day with reciting it. She would ask me to recite it with her and I would. She had great devotion to our Blessed Mother and through it she had many intentions answered. Through her love and devotion to saying it faithfully, she converted my dad, who was not a Catholic, through Mary's intercession.

Through my mom's faithfulness to saying the rosary I have great devotion to our Lady's request in saying it daily also. Thanks Mom!

Sister Mary Jane Timmermans, SC

When I was asked if I would consider submitting an article on the Rosary for the sister Miriam Teresa bulletin, I had no idea how this would be accomplished. I decided to ask Sister Miriam to help me as I did when asked to compose a hymn in her honor.

In the book Greater Perfection, reference to the rosary is made only once. However, because of her profound knowledge of Scripture, it

seems (at least, to me), that her meditations on each mystery of the Rosary must have been extraordinary.

My mother had special devotion to the Rosary. She was also a faithful member of the Rosary Society of St. Mary's Church in Plainfield, N.J. for many years. One day, she shared this with me: "When I leave the church after the 8:00 Mass each morning, I begin praying the 26 Glorias (Glory be to the Father, etc.) I finish just as I approach our front door." Our house was two blocks from the church. Our pastor, Rev. Harold Colgan was a co-founder of the Blue Army of Our Lady, whose members have special devotion to the Rosary.

In closing, I have happy memories of the years when I was S.M.T. Director at St. Vincent the Martyr School in Madison, N.J. and of the many tours I conducted here at her shrine (crypt).

Sister Regina Bernard McCartney, SC

I have been a Rosarian for most of my adult life. Each time my husband Bill and I moved to a new community we joined the parish Catholic church, and I joined the Rosary Society in that church. For 30 years I belonged to the Rosary Society at Our Lady of Peace in New Providence, NJ. The exception was when we moved to Spring Lake Heights and we were parishioners in St. Catharine's Church; there was no Rosary Society. So, I joined the group in St. Mark Church in Sea Girt. It was a wonderful group, and I was very active in all the activities both spiritual (communion breakfast Masses, retreats, days of recollection) and fundraisers.

When I relocated to Livingston in 2014, I quickly became an active member of St. Philomena Rosary Society. Regrettably, during the pandemic all activities were suspended but hopefully all will begin again this fall.

My years in all these societies have been the most rewarding experiences. In addition to the spiritual rewards, I have met the most wonderful, generous, and welcoming ladies. These ladies work diligently and giving of their time in all projects that help their church in fundraising, community affairs and in all the needs of their local parish, keeping a smile for all they meet.

When I moved to Livingston, I knew very few people and I attended Mass on the Monday night of the meeting. I had no idea where the meeting place would be. I asked a very nice lady leaving the church and she told me she was also going and took me by the arm, and we walked over to the proper building. She introduced me to several members, and all made me feel very welcome. Maria and I are good friends.

I am happy and proud to be a Rosarian (in four different parishes) and I will continue to be a member and help on projects if I am able to.

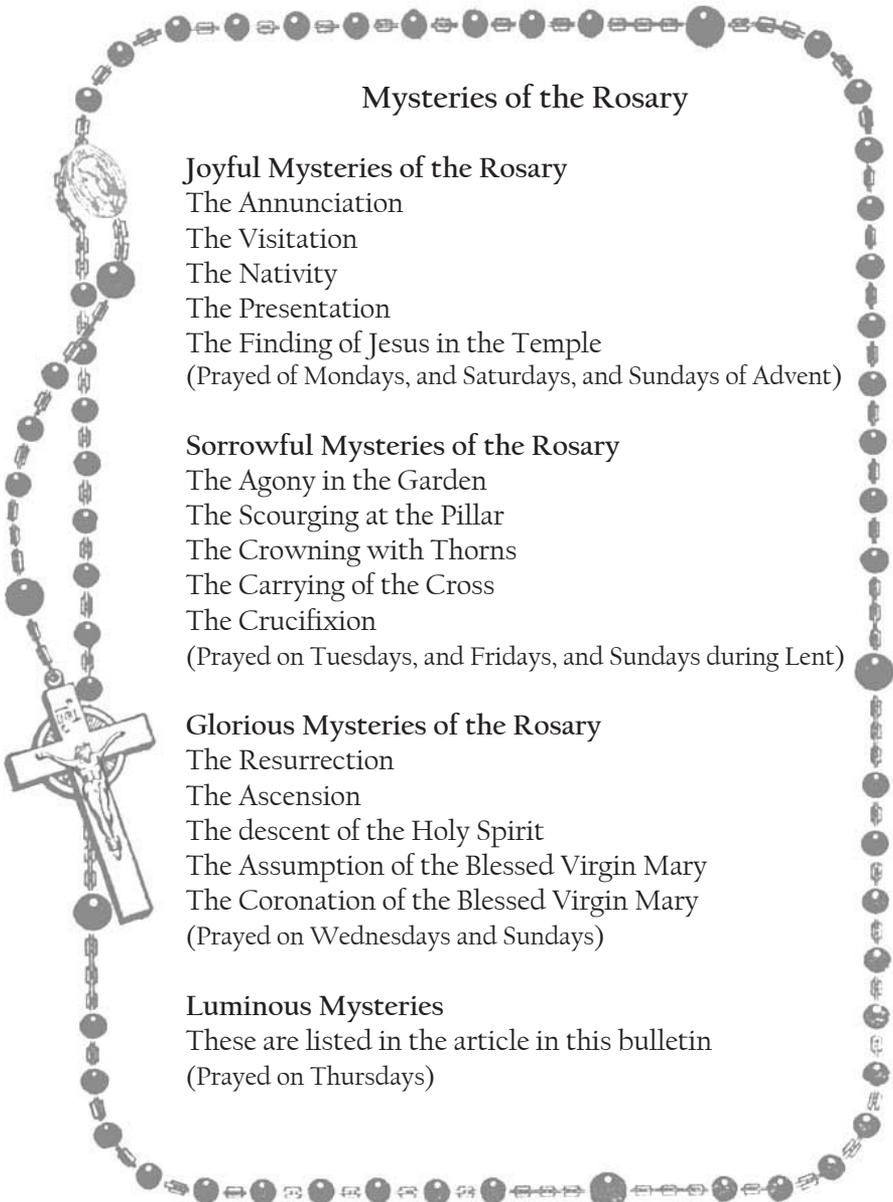
Joyce McManus, Seton Associate

PRAYERS FOR DECEASED



MARION THERESE BOUDREAU, SC
JANE CAVANAUGH, SC
GRACE REAPE, SC
ELENA FRANCIS ARMINIO, SC
M. NICOLETTA GARGANA, SC
URSULA MARY KENDIG, SC
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CARL STUDER
DR. JOSEPH FENNELLY



Mysteries of the Rosary

Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary

The Annunciation

The Visitation

The Nativity

The Presentation

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple

(Prayed of Mondays, and Saturdays, and Sundays of Advent)

Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary

The Agony in the Garden

The Scourging at the Pillar

The Crowning with Thorns

The Carrying of the Cross

The Crucifixion

(Prayed on Tuesdays, and Fridays, and Sundays during Lent)

Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary

The Resurrection

The Ascension

The descent of the Holy Spirit

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

(Prayed on Wednesdays and Sundays)

Luminous Mysteries

These are listed in the article in this bulletin

(Prayed on Thursdays)



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