

CANADA NEEDS OUR LADY BULLETIN

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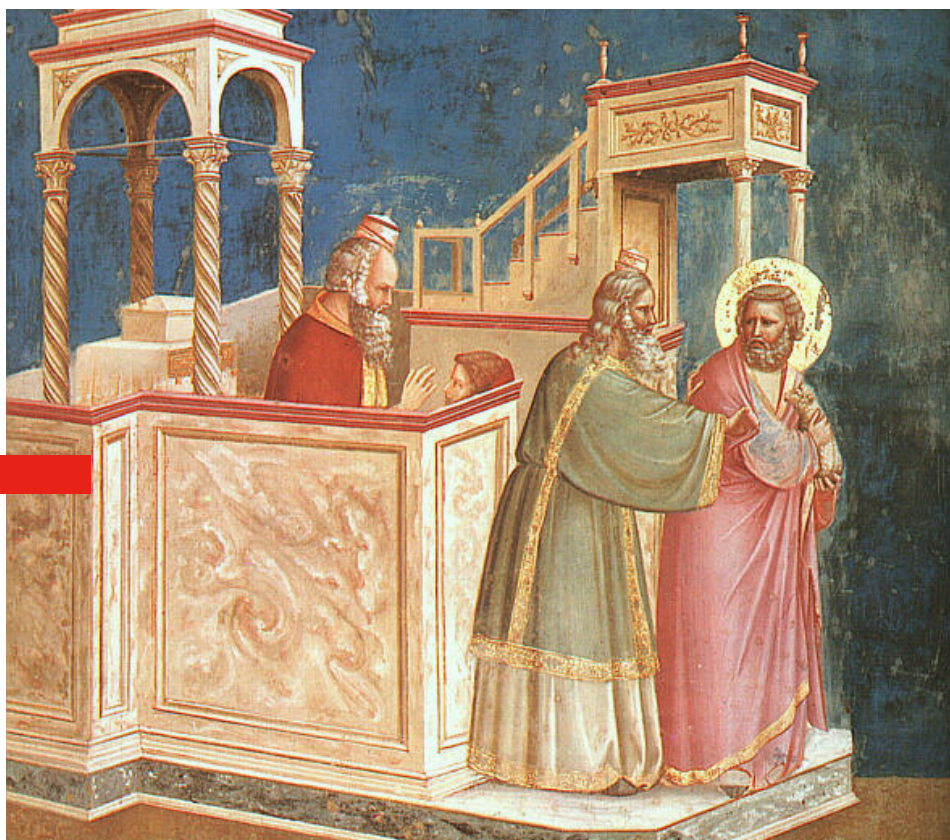
Saint Joachim and Confidence

St. Joachim's suffering reached a climax when God rejected his sacrifice. Nevertheless, this became the pinnacle of grace as well. The excerpts about Our Lady's father, Saint Joachim, are taken from *The Liturgical Year* by Abbot Guéranger, O.S.B.

BY PLINIO CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA

Like the first patriarchs, Joachim's wealth consisted chiefly of flocks and herds. His holy use of it drew down God's blessing upon it. However, Heaven seemed to deny him the greatest of all his desires. His holy spouse Anne was barren. Among all Israel's daughters expecting the Messiah, there was no hope for her. One day the victims Joachim presented in the Temple were contemptuously rejected. Those were not the gifts the Lord of the Temple desired of him; later on, instead of lambs from his pastures, he was to present the mother of the Lamb of God, and His offering would not be rejected.

During Old Testament times, the Jews scorned sterile couples. They prided themselves in the possibility that one of their descendents would be the Messiah



"Expulsion of Joachim from the Temple." Giotto. Scrovegni Chapel, Padua (Italy)

and derided those for whom this was impossible. Thus, the Jews looked down upon Saints Joachim and Anne.

Their disgrace was augmented when they reached the threshold of old age, still childless. It seemed that all their hopes were in vain. Nevertheless, Saint

Joachim prayed for God's mercy, and they had a daughter . . . and what a daughter she was!

This day, however, he was filled with sorrow and fled away without returning to his wife.



Canadian Society for the Defence of Christian Civilization (CSDCC)

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“St. Joachim and St. Anne with Mary as a child.” Willem van Herp (1614–1677). Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Museum of Art, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

Saint Joachim deeply felt the shame of his sacrifice’s rejection and fled into the mountains. He felt shame since his offering was rejected and despondent since his ardent desire that the Messiah come from his lineage was impossible. Faced with these sufferings, he felt tremendous sorrow and fled into the mountains without speaking to Saint Anne.

He hastened to the mountains where his flocks were at pasture, and, living in a tent, he fasted continually, for he said, “I will take no food till the Lord my God look mercifully upon me; prayer shall be my nourishment.”

This is a very beautiful way to pray. It is a way of storming Heaven with the certainty of being heard, forcefully taking the grace one desires. This is the type of violence that, according to Scripture, gains the Kingdom of Heaven. We must doggedly refuse to give up, even when God seems to deny our requests.

Once, when Saint Catherine of Siena was praying to Our Lord in the Blessed

Sacrament, she extended her hand and said, “I will not leave this place until You extend me Your hand.” Then, Our Lord mercifully opened the tabernacle, extended His Hand and pressed hers in It. What confidence the saints have! This is what makes them saints. This is how they obtain everything from Our Lady.

Meanwhile, Anne was mourning her widowhood and her barrenness. She thought her husband had died.

She prayed in the garden as Joachim was praying on the mountain. Their prayers ascended simultaneously to the Most High, and he granted them their request. An angel of the Lord appeared to each of them and bade them meet at the Golden Gate, and soon Anne could say, “Now I know that the Lord has greatly blessed me. For I was a widow, and I am one no longer, and I was barren, and lo! I have conceived!”

Our Lord wanted to purify them by culminating their long trial with extreme suffering. Consider their respective sit-

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uations. Saint Joachim went into the mountains after his sacrifice was rejected. Saint Anne mourned her presumed widowhood and barrenness in a garden.

When their respective pains reached their climax, the pinnacle of grace and consolation also arrived. Saint Joachim was still alive, and Saint Anne had conceived Our Lady, the channel for Our Lord’s coming. This should teach us the eternal lesson of confidence.

Sometimes everything seems lost, we find no way to proceed, and Providence treats us in an inexplicable way. These are the times we must confide most of all because it is when everything is explained. Happy are those whom the Lord leads in inexplicable ways. These will receive the greatest explanations.

We should ask Our Lady and Saint Joachim to grant us this confidence that can withstand anything, even the most inexplicable problems and greatest sadnesses.

Dom Prosper Guéranger, *The Liturgical Year* (Great Falls, Mont.: St. Bonaventure Publications, 2000) 13: 396–97.

The text above is taken from an informal lecture Professor Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira gave on August 15, 1963. It has been translated and adapted for publication without his revision.—Ed.

Canada Needs Our Lady is a special campaign of the Canadian Society for the Defence of Christian Civilization to win the hearts and minds of Canadians for Mary.

The Canadian Society for the Defence of Christian Civilization was incorporated on June 25, 2013 as a federal nonprofit organization “to advance religion by the promotion of the religious teachings, tenets, doctrines, morals, and observances of the Roman Catholic faith and their application to individuals, families, and society in Christian culture and civilization.”

Our charity number is
807291737RR0001.

Our Tax Receipt Policy:

We issue official Tax Receipts at the end of January to all donors whose total donations (received) during the preceding calendar year come to \$30 or more.

"We are happy to be hosting a Rosary Rally on October 15 at the local park in town, and we pray that there will be many more rallies across the country on that date, to pray for our beloved Canada to return to Christ through Our Lady and the power of her Rosary."

~ Fr. H.S.

"You sent a package with the Green Hope Rosary to my friend P.C.W. She passed this package on to me. I needed a rosary for a special young man and... here was your rosary! I am not passing on all your info to him. I am keeping it BUT your rosary just landed where Our Lady wanted it to! That is how the Holy Spirit works!!! I am sending a cheque and I will learn more about your Crusade. God keep you well and may He bless you."

Sincerely,
~ C.M.



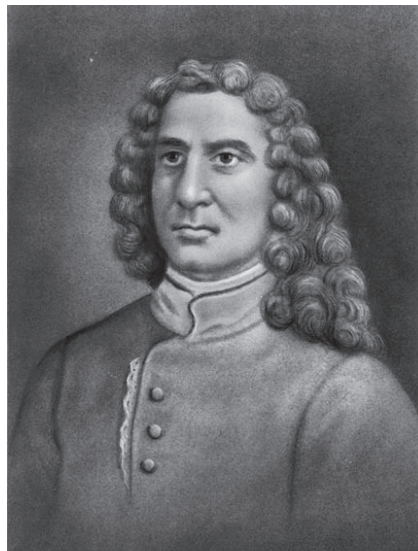
"Thank God for all your good works you are doing to help Mary get back into Canada. Sadly we are in a huge spiritual void here in Canada"

~ Michael and family

A Jesuit and Governor Montmagny Save the Lives of Two Iroquois Prisoners of War

As the successful warriors approached the little settlement of Sillery, immediately above Quebec, they [the Algonquin warriors] raised their song of triumph, and beat time with their paddles on the edges of their canoes; while, from eleven poles raised aloft, eleven fresh scalps fluttered in the wind. The Father Jesuit and all his flock were gathered on the strand to welcome them. The Indians fired their guns, and screeched in jubilation; one Jean Baptiste, a Christian chief of Sillery, made a speech from the shore; Piskaret replied, standing upright in his canoe; and, to crown the occasion, a squad of soldiers, marching in haste from Quebec, fired a salute of musketry, to the boundless delight of the Indians. Much to the surprise of the two captives, there was no running of the gauntlet, no gnawing off of fingernails or cutting off of fingers; but the scalps were hung, like little flags, over the entrances of the lodges, and all Sillery betook itself to feasting and rejoicing. One old woman, indeed, came to the Jesuit with a pathetic appeal: "Oh, my Father! Let me caress these prisoners a little: they have killed, burned, and eaten my father, my husband, and my children." But the missionary answered with a lecture on the duty of forgiveness.

On the next day, Montmagny came to Sillery, and there was a grand council in the house of the Jesuits. Piskaret, in a solemn harangue, delivered his captives to the Governor, who replied with a speech of compliment and an ample gift. The two Iroquois were present, seated with a seeming imperturbability, but great anxiety of heart; and when at length they comprehended that their lives were safe, one of them, a man of great size and symmetry, rose and addressed Montmagny:—



Charles Jacques Huault de Montmagny, governor of New France.

"Onontio,* I am saved from the fire; my body is delivered from death. Onontio, you have given me my life. I thank you for it. I will never forget it. All my country will be grateful to you. The earth will be bright; the river calm and smooth; there will be peace and friendship between us. The shadow is before my eyes no longer. The spirits of my ancestors slain by the Algonquins have disappeared. Onontio, you are good: we are bad. But our anger is gone; I have no heart but for peace and rejoicing." As he said this, he began to dance, holding his hands upraised, as if apostrophizing the sky. Suddenly he snatched a hatchet, brandished it for a moment like a madman, and then flung it into the fire, saying, as he did so, "Thus I throw down my anger! Thus I cast away the weapons of blood! Farewell, war! Now I am your friend forever!"

The two prisoners were allowed to roam at will about the settlement, withheld from escaping by an Indian point of honour. Montmagny soon after sent them to Three Rivers, where the Iroquois taken during the last summer had remained all winter.

**Onontio, Great Mountain*, a translation of Montmagny's name. It was the Iroquois name ever after for the Governor of Canada. In the same manner, Onas, Feather, or Quill, became the official name of William Penn, and all succeeding Governors of Pennsylvania. We have seen that the Iroquois hereditary chiefs had official names, which are the same today that they were at the period of this narrative.

— Francis Parkman, *The Jesuits in North America in the Seventeenth Century* (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1897), 2:101–3.

John Hunyadi Gives Today's Secularist Postchristian West an Unforgettable Lesson



19th century painting of Hunyadi in a green dolman. Painting by Béla Schäffer

Twenty days after this crowning victory of his career [the Siege of Belgrade]—while “all Europe was ringing with his name and bonfires in his honour were blazing in every city in Hungary”—John Hunyadi breathed his last. As often happened in besieged cities, a plague had broken out at Belgrade, and the fifty-year-old warrior-general had at last contracted it.

He was initially sent to recover in nearby Semlin (now Zemun, a municipality of Belgrade). When Hunyadi felt his demise draw nigh, he begged his old comrade, [Saint John] Capistrano, who had accompanied him to Semlin, to transport him to the local church for his final communion. The Franciscan told him to rest; the Eucharist would be brought to him. “Not so,” retorted the saviour of Belgrade. “It is not meet that the Master should come to his servant. It is for the servant to go and seek his Lord.” Then, “although his strength was failing,” writes Aeneas, “he ordered himself to be carried into church, where he made his confession in the Christian way, received the divine Eucharist, and surrendered his soul to God in the arms of the priests.”

Thus died John Hunyadi on August 11, 1456 and was buried in his hometown of Transylvania. Ten weeks later, Capistrano also died.

— Raymond Ibrahim, *The Defenders of the West: The Christian Heroes Who Stood Against Islam* (New York: Post Hill Press, 2022), 231–32.

Become a Rosary Rally Captain!

- What?* Public Square Rosary Rallies
- When?* October 14, 2023 at Noon local time
- Where?* In a public place, busy intersection, park, in front of Government buildings, etc.
- Who?* Faithful Catholics, young and old from all walks of life.
- Why?* To beg Our Lady of Fatima for the much-needed conversion of our country.

On October 14, thousands of Catholics will be taking part of a growing number of faithful Catholics who believe in Our Lady of Fatima’s message and attend her request to pray the Rosary. Our nation desperately needs conversion and the Rosary is the one prayer the Mother of God asked us to pray in order to obtain the change of hearts.

Sign up today to become a Rosary Rally Captain!

We will send you a free banner and rally manual. In time, contact your friends and family and invite them to join you at the place of your choice on October 14 at Noon local time. Rosary Rally Captains will each have a red rose delivered and offered to Our Lady in Fatima, Portugal in their name and for their own personal intentions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit: <https://canadaneedsourlady.org/sign-up/>
Call: 1-844-729-6279