

CANADA NEEDS OUR LADY BULLETIN

www.CanadaNeedsOurLady.org

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Filial Confidence in Our Lady

The starting point of a lively devotion to Her

A lively devotion to Our Lady usually begins when help is received from her, giving birth to confidence in the soul. Generally speaking, those I have met who have a true devotion to Our Lady began with some help or support from Our Lady to the person.

BY PLINIO CORRÊA DE OLIVEIRA

The person is in trouble—sometimes spiritually, sometimes materially, or something else—and turns to Our Lady for help. Our Lady saves him from those difficulties but does more. She brings something to his soul in the order of imponderables and grace whereby he experiences her maternal, smiling, and kind goodness. He has a lively hope that she will come to his aid again in other difficult circumstances. The continuous pleading for all kinds of graces—most of all for the love of God, which is the grace we should pray for the most—develops in a way that Our Lady becomes ever more exorable, maternal, and her assistance more meticulous, as the person grows in this experience of the kind and smiling providence she endows on him.

People often find themselves asking Our Lady's help for real trifles, little

insignificant things. She will grant them because she is a mother who likes to give her children things great and small and who smiles with special tenderness when she is asked for "unimportant" things.

Here we see a prime example of confidence, a dawning of the true understanding of our relationship with Our Lady. Even if the soul may have to pass very long and tough trials and periods of dryness and difficulties, something of that confidence remains. It accompanies the person throughout his life like a constant light, also in the last and most bitter throes of death.

I would highly recommend that you at least ask from Our Lady the grace to grant some concessions and put you on this special way, full of love and gentleness, where you live in a sort of intimacy with her and can ask her for these personal small requests and favours. Sometimes she will even do the following: when we



Theophilus realizes what he has done; he is plunged into a whirlwind of torment, darkness, self-loathing. With no one to turn to, he goes to a church with a statue of the Virgin and prays incessantly. She agrees to intervene and successfully obtains his pardon, retrieves, and returns the damning contract he signed with the devil.

ask her for something which she is not planning to grant because we are supposed to pass this trial, and Our Lady wishes it to be this way—well, Our Lady will not give us what we asked for, but she will strengthen us to bear what is to come. This will turn out to be much bigger than expected, and when everything is over, she will grant something better than what we requested.

Medieval legends present the real aspect of Our Lady

Medieval devotional books and legends—some of which are real, others imagined but all enjoyable and interesting—on devotion to Our Lady in that golden age, show Mary Most Holy's special grace and kindness in the handling of souls. It does not matter whether the



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story is true regarding the persons who play a role in it; what is important is the real aspect of Our Lady it shows. Even though they are only legends, they are theological and Marian and let us “feel” very well how Our Lady is.

I remember an episode told in the book of St. Alphonsus Liguori, *The Glories of Mary*. A man in the Middle Ages had a strong desire to see Our Lady and would have given everything to look at her, even if it would mean that he had to go blind. He had an inspiration, or an angel came and let him know that if he accepted to become blind for the rest of his life, he would be granted the grace of seeing Our Lady. The man accepted. Our Lady appeared to him in radiant beauty and tremendously kind, regal, and full of affection, and he was ecstatic. When the vision faded, he found that he was blind in only one eye. However, he still felt such longing for Our Lady that he made a new request and was asked again: “Do you consent to become blind in the other eye?” He hesitated a little . . . but then said, “I do. I want so much to see her again that I agree to become blind in the other eye!” Thus, Our Lady appeared again and spoke to him; and when the vision went away, he could see perfectly well with both eyes!

I do not need to know whether this story occurred because I know that this is how Our Lady is! In other words, she can let us go through dire straits to test our love and take away the sight of one of our eyes or allow that we experience some anguish, but in the end, we see her smile. We may have to go through the necessary trials, but everything ends with a smile of hers.



Another much better-known story, and many of you probably remember it—still I enjoy telling it here—is about the famous juggler of Our Lady. He was a man who was an artist in juggling; the only thing he knew how to do well was to juggle with five wooden balls in his hands or something of the sort. Wishing to please Our Lady and not knowing anything else, he went to a church at a time when no one was there and presented his juggling act to her; and Our Lady appeared to him and smiled to show how pleased she was.

The Starting Point of a Lively Devotion to Her: A Filial Confidence in Her

The same works for us: When we present our offerings to Our Lady, insignificant as they may seem, we must offer

them trusting that she will be pleased.

If we fail to do so, our devotion to her will never be entirely truthful. We must have a natural ease and intimacy with Our Lady, like a child, who, even when he saddens her, comes to her, fully confident that he can still count on her help and smile. This is the unspeakably gentle starting point of a vivid devotion to Our Lady.

I am not saying that this is it. A person must study, to the degree that his intellectual resources allow it, the fundamentals of the devotion to Our Lady and have them reasoned. He must have them reinforced to form a deep certainty based on Catholic dogma. Still, intellectual formation is one thing, and the life of devotion is another; both complete each other. They form a wonderful unity! It shows us why such a great Doctor of the Church as St. Alphonsus Liguori wrote his book, *The Glories of Mary*, illustrating several doctrinal theses together with concrete facts.

Thus, as we prepare tonight for the novena of Our Lady Help of Christians—we who pray to her daily and have her statue in our chapel—it is good that we remember this. We do well to ask for that grace of special tenderness in our devotion to her, a flower of Catholicism.

The above text was taken from an informal lecture Prof. Plinio Corrêa de Oliveira gave to TFP members on May 18, 1964. It has been translated 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.”

From our main office in Saint Hubert, QC, Society members and volunteers reach out to concerned Christian families and individuals across Canada. We promote and defend the principles and values of Christian civilization and spread the Gospel message far and wide.

**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.

ALL AROUND CANADA



"Hi Jean,

I received the Rosary Banner today. It brings me to tears of happiness as I read the letter and saw the banner. I hang it right away on our living room wall, took pictures, and attached it to my invitation to my family and friends. I regret that I didn't ask for a copy of the Rosary guide and Rosary beads for those who don't have any yet. If it is possible to ask 20 copies of Rosaries and Rosary Guide, that would be great. If not, that is okay, we will find a way.

Thank you for this great opportunity."

~ Anonymous

"Canada Needs Our Lady,

My husband threw away my papers by mistake of Crusade. We had 11 people in Sturgeon, Ont. Was not a nice day that day, "cold," but it rained only after our Crusade just finished. Was our first time in that area. Did it in North Bay, Ont. before. It was a good success. We did it in French. Translated everything in French because was having it in English in North Bay. Next year will do the same but gather side by side with English. . . .

Thank you so much for all the work you do for Our Lady."

~ R&E, ON.

"Dear Jean,

It was a pleasure and an honour to host this year's rally as last years was cancelled because of COVID and we were in lock down on my reserve, this year the powers that be allowed us to host it and despite overcast skies we had 6 people turn out including our new pastor. as we got to the middle of the rosary the sun came out as a wonderful blessing!!!!

... Thank you and bless you all at HQ for your diligent answer to Our Lady and Our Lord to pray unceasingly!

In the love of the Holy Family,"

~ Dianne

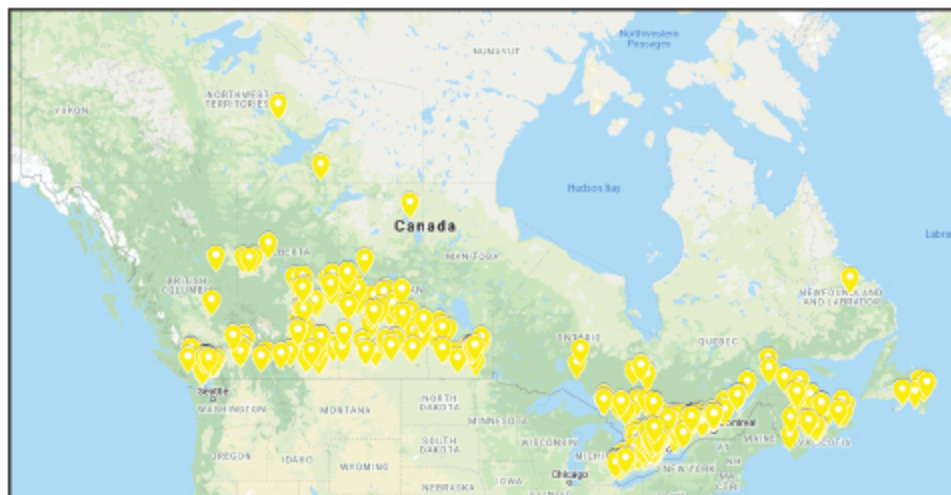
"You make this so easy. Thank you!"

~ J.H, ON.

"Thank you very much for the beautiful calendar of Our Lady. I am so grateful that you have included the picture of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Manila, Philippines, my home country. I am honoured and quite thankful. You got the best idea. Thank you very much. You are the best!

Sincerely,"

~ P.O.



We thank Our Lady for being able to hold 649 Rosary Rallies in her honour on Saturday, October 16, 2021, and we ask her blessing and help to organize 800 Rosary Rallies for her on Saturday, October 15, 2022.

The Future Depends on YOU

Please consider making a charitable bequest to Canada Needs Our Lady when you write or amend your will.

You will be deeply satisfied to know that your generosity will help future generations to know, love and practice a message of such importance, that God sent His Holy Mother to deliver it personally to us at Fatima in 1917.

Pass on Devotion to the Next Generation

To pass on devotion to Our Lady to the next generation, please ask your attorney to include in your will one of the two phrases below:

OPTION 1

"I give and bequeath the sum of \$_____dollars to be used for the general purposes of Canada Needs Our Lady, a special campaign of the Canadian Society for the Defence of Christian Civilization, of P.O. Box 36040, Greenfield Park, QC J4V 3N7, whose registered charity number is 807291737RR0001."

OPTION 2

"I give, devise and bequeath to Canada Needs Our Lady, a special campaign of Canadian Society for the Defence of Christian Civilization, of P.O. Box 36040, Greenfield Park, QC J4V 3N7, whose registered charity number is 807291737RR0001, for its general purposes all (or state fraction or percent) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, whether real or personal."

Fatima's Echo's to the Next Generation

Your bequest will help future generations live Our Lady's Fatima message and you will also receive many spiritual benefits. We pray daily for our benefactors, both the living and the faithfully departed. Fr. Kevin J. Beaton says Mass on Saturdays for the intentions of Canada Needs Our Lady members. Your generosity is not only appreciated by us, but, much more importantly, our Blessed Mother and Her Divine Son. They are more interested than anyone in the restoration of society and the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Your kind help will make such apostolate possible:

- † Home-visitations with a Pilgrim Virgin statue of Our Lady of Fatima;
- † Protests and acts of reparation nationwide to stop blasphemous attacks against the Sacred Persons of Jesus and Mary;
- † FREE religious literature, books, medals, and rosaries;
- † Public Square Rosary Rally Crusade, coast to coast, with hundreds of thousands every October reading our banners' prayer: "Praying the Rosary for Canada. Please join us! As human efforts fail to solve Canada's key problems, we turn to God, through His Holy Mother, asking His urgent help."

St. Louis de Montfort says that Mary, being the most gracious and giving of all pure creatures, never lets herself be outdone in love and liberality. As a holy man said of her, for an egg she gives an ox; that is to say, for a little that is given her, she returns a hundred fold. St. Bernard says that "when you want to offer anything to God, take care to offer it by the most agreeable and worthy hands of Mary, unless it be rejected."

