

# Apostleship of Prayer

July 16, marks the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Our election as Pope. The past two decades have been quite a lesson in patience and perseverance. We have endured many trials and tribulations, but also have had many joys. Saint Bonaventure says: A spiritual joy is the greatest sign of divine grace dwelling in the soul. However, this is not a time to look back, but to look forward.

We have often reminded people of the fact that the whole world will one day convert to the Catholic Faith. Looking at the world today and how few are truly Christian, one may wonder how this will be accomplished. And others may say, there is no way this can happen in my lifetime. However, We believe the conversion is closer than most think. In any case, what is most important for each and everyone of us is that we save our own soul. Salvation is not a group affair, but an individual effort. However, we can help each other especially by prayer and good example.

In Josua (24:15-17) we read: But if it seem evil to you to serve the Lord, you have your choice: choose this day that which pleaseth you, whom you would rather serve, whether the gods which your fathers served in Mesopotamia, or the gods of the Amorrhites, in whose land you dwell: but as for me and my house we will serve thee Lord, And the people answered, and said, God forbid we should leave the Lord, and serve strange gods. The Lord our God he brought us and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage: and did very great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way by which we journeyed, and among all the people through whom we passed. If every man, woman and child on earth chooses to serve Satan, and I must stand alone to serve Almighty God, I must be resolved to serve God all alone. This is how strong our resolve to serve Almighty God must be.

There is a private prophecy that says that the current crisis will end about twelve years after the beginning of this millennium. Actually We hope the prophecy is incorrect, and that the crisis will end sooner. God knows when the universal conversion will happen, and if He makes us wait two more decades or even a century, then may God's will be done. Let us not place our hope in what other people do, but let us sanctify ourselves and come into visible union with Almighty God and His holy Church. And this is the main point to be considered.

## Apostleship of Prayer

We propose to restore and vivify the Apostleship of Prayer in order to make it a foundation upon which to rebuild the Catholic Church. The details of this Apostleship will be worked out and published by the twentieth anniversary of Our elevation to the Papacy, the good Lord willing. For now, We wish to indicate the spirit of this renewal of the Apostleship of Prayer. We believe cultivating a true life of interior prayer is essential for all who claim the names Christian and Catholic. And we must remember that the only true Christian is a member of Jesus' One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Roman Church. Jesus told us that we are either with Him or we are against Him. There is no middle ground. We must unite fully with Jesus Christ and with the Church He founded for our salvation.

This Apostolate will be aimed at true sanctifying of our own selves, for true spirituality begins at home, that is in each of our own souls. However, as Saint James observes: faith

without works is dead. (James 2:20) Therefore this Apostolate will promote those devotions Divine Providence has seen fit to give us for these days.

## Modern Devotion Aimed at Restoring Sanctity

Of course, all devotion is aimed at sanctity, but Divine Providence has instituted the devotions of our own day to combat the evils of our day. Sanctity begins at home. In reading about the exercise of remembering the presence of God throughout our day, one realizes what happened to people in the twentieth century. God was relegated to church, to the convent and to the monastery. Our duties to God were reduced to Mass on Sunday, fish on Friday and five dollars in the collection plate. Catholicism was reduced to external devotions and habits and thus became pharisaical. It is no wonder that those who observed minimal external Catholicism in the 1950's lost their Faith in the 1960's. Saint John Chrysostom calls the home a little church. In fact, the home should be a religious house with its regular rule of life and common devotions that aim to bring all to love God and thus serve Him with their whole heart, soul, mind, body and strength.

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Almighty God and the most Blessed Virgin Mary came directly or inspired people to institute salutary practices to sanctify our lives, and especially our homes. They may have the churches, but we have the faith, said Saint Athanasius. We only truly have the Faith, if we live the Catholic way of life, and this begins where we spend a significant amount of our time, at home. Catholicism is not a mere set of practices, but a way of living 24/7, that is twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Catholicism is being faithful in fulfilling our duties to God, our fellow man and even our own self. Remember a saint is a person who does ordinary things extraordinarily well. And all of us are called to be saints, for only saints go to heaven.

## Family Rosary

Catholicism and the daily recitation of a third part of the Rosary has become synonymous and for good reason. The Most Blessed Virgin Mary gave us the Rosary as a weapon against the wiles of The Enemy of our soul, Satan and his minions and their perverted doctrines. Saint Dominic was given this weapon to fight the doctrines of devils (I Timothy 4:1) of his times, and we have even more of these perfidious doctrines surrounding us in these days. However, the mere mechanical recitation of the Rosary is not sufficient. After her she appeared to three humble children at Fatima, the Most Blessed Virgin came back to Sr. Lucia dos Santos to ask for the devotion of the First Saturdays. An essential part of this devotion is meditation upon the mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary for a quarter of an hour in addition to reciting a third part of the Rosary. We believe Mary wished to show us that meditation is an essential part of the proper recitation of the most holy Rosary!

Remember the movement: the family that prays together, stays together, which was started in the Twentieth Century? Let us follow in that spirit, for the family recitation of the Rosary fulfills the will of Jesus Christ: For where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. (Matthew 18:20) It is Our opinion God inspired these various movements to restore a sanctification of the home for the day when the churches would be in the hands of the Devil! Saint John Chrysostom calls the home a little church. And in all

times the home must be a monastery of holiness, where saints are trained. True, the home does not observe a strict rule as do religious houses, but there should be some rules, which include those that will encourage habits of sanctification and holiness.

## First Saturdays

The sanctification of the first Saturday of each month has also become a part of Catholicism. Today it is impossible to assist at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, because the prophecy has been fulfilled that Antichrist will take away the Mass from us. Does this mean we should do nothing? Absolutely not. As our ancestors survived various persecutions in the last two millennia through prayer and sacrifice, so should we. Today our devotion is based upon Spiritual Communion and the Perfect Act of Contrition, praying for that holy day when we can again receive our Lord's Most Sacred Body and Blood from the hands of His priest, duly sent to us by His holy Church. And we also pray for the day we can present ourself to a duly authorized priest for holy Confession as the basic Catechism advises us.

Until we can receive Holy Communion on the first Saturday after making a good confession, let us do our part, leaving the rest to Almighty God. We have prepared a Spiritual Confession to aid in this holy practice. Therefore, let us sanctify every First Saturday by making a Spiritual Confession, followed by a Spiritual Communion. Let us add to this prayer for the restoration of the priesthood and the Mass, so that we can fulfill the Blessed Virgin Mary's requests exactly. After this, let us devote a quarter of an hour to meditation on one of the mysteries of the most holy Rosary. And let us conclude by reciting a third part of the Rosary, while continuing our meditation. Let us remember that the purpose of First Saturdays is reparation to the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary.

## Enthronement of the Sacred Heart

We will try and recall this story, as Our book on this subject is loaned out probably never to return. Fr. Mateo was working at a school in South America. The whole building burnt down. As he was sifting through the rubble, only one thing survived, a picture of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This gave him the idea of home enthronement. And what better way to show Jesus He is King in our little church, than to solemnize this fact by a ceremony. Enthronement can be done without a priest. All that is required is for the family to gather and perform the ceremony and then live a truly Christian life underneath the roof where Jesus reigns as King. If Jesus is enthroned in our homes, soon He will be recognized by the whole world as Jesus Christ the King.

## First Fridays

One Friday during Holy Communion, He (Jesus) said these words to His unworthy slave, if she is not mistaken: I promise thee, in the excessive mercy of My Heart, that Its all-powerful love will grant to those who go to Communion on nine first Fridays of the month the grace of final repentance; they shall not die in its disfavor nor without receiving the Sacraments, My divine Heart becoming their assured refuge at that last moment. This is related by Saint

Margaret Mary. Of course, a sacrilegious Communion would not fulfill this requirement. Thus we are not permitted to receive our Lord from Bishops and priests who are not in visible union with the Vicar of Christ. Therefore we cannot fulfill this today, but hopefully we can do so soon.

In light of this revelation, how many people filled churches prior to the Great Apostasy? In fact, First Fridays became days of great devotion for many Catholics. When Pope Pius XII granted permission for Mass in the evening, satisfying the desires of Catholics to observe First Fridays was one of the reasons.

We may be currently unable to receive our Lord in Holy Communion on First Fridays, but we should do something on this holy day. We can make amore solemn Spiritual Communion. We can sanctify the First Friday of each month, praying for restoration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Let the Church pray in union in this day especially for the Universal Conversion.

## Divine Mercy

Give glory to the Lord for His mercy endures forever we pray in Psalm 135 on Thursdays. The revelations to Sr.t. Faustina are known to some. Some heretics would have us believe that God is a vengeful God who seeks the destruction of sinners. True, God is a jealous God and rightfully so. The First Commandment tells us not to worship strange gods. However, God is infinitely merciful, always calling sinners to repentance. Is it my will that a sinner should die, saith the Lord God, and not that he should be converted from his ways, and live? (Ezechial 18:23) Sacred Scripture speaks often of conversion. Some may condemn Sr. Faustina, because she has been misused by the Apostate Church. She died prior to the apostasy. Also there is a report of an American priest who also was inspired to write a prayer begging God's mercy. Let us remember, where there is life, there is hope. Let us then hope and pray for conversions, while converting ourselves. Saint Paul reminds us (I Corinthians 9:27): But I chastise my body and bring it into subjection: lest perhaps, when I have preached to others, I myself should become a castaway.

## Holy Hour

Several different movements in this regard have been launched throughout the last several centuries. Jesus asked Saint Margaret Mary to sanctify the last hour of Thursday evenings from 11pm until midnight in the practice of the Holy Hour. Many evening Masses on First Fridays were followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and exposition until midnight or even the following morning. The faithful would enlist to spend an hour with our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament. Canon Law requires each parish to hold the Forty Hours devotion once a year. Fr. Mateo started the devotion of Nocturnal Adoration.

In these days, We do not wish to make any specific recommendation beyond asking all Christians to spend one hour each week in a Holy Hour in addition to their customary devotions. We believe this additional hour of prayer is necessary in order to maintain the state of grace (or recover it, if lost) and to beg from God an end to these frightful times. Could you not watch one hour with Me? Jesus asked Holy Thursday evening. We wonder how many hours the Apostles spent in prayer after failing that evening?

And a Holy Hour is nothing more than an hour spent with God. True we should come in with some plan; some prayers to recite, some meditations to make and some spiritual reading. However, this is God's hour and He may choose to direct our meditations elsewhere. Let us humbly and obediently follow Him!

## Catechism

While promoting popular devotions, many have ignored the admonitions of Pope Saint Pius X. True, Acerbo Nimis was addressed to Bishops and pastors and gave them specific instructions on fulfilling their duty. However, this does not mean that Catholics should ignore the spirit of this Encyclical and the provisions of Canon Law and admonitions of Pope Pius XI. Pope Saint Pius X gave pastors of souls direct orders to teach catechism to all Catholics of all ages. Specifically he instructed pastors to gather the faithful for catechism each Holy day of obligation, that is on all Sundays and the other holy days throughout the year. Saint John Vianney, the holy Cure of Ars reminds us that most people go to hell because they do not know their own religion. All Catholics should make study of the Catechism a weekly habit, so that we may know our obligations to God and to our fellow man. Ignorance of our duties is inexcusable! It is Our opinion that ignorance was one of the main causes of the Great Apostasy. Fortunately, ignorance is a curable disease!

## They may have the churches, but we have the faith

Saint Athanasius said this many years ago. We are living in the worst time ever as Jesus foretold. Further, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been taken from us. And yet, there are some things they cannot take from us. We learned in the Catechism that when we are in the state of grace, God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost dwell within us. They can take away the Mass, they can take away our churches, they can all speak against Almighty God, but this they cannot take from us. God is with us, when we are in the state of Sanctifying Grace. Let us strive to always be in this holy state and worship Almighty God in holiness and truth, as we are advised in Sacred Scripture.

## Daily Meditation

We have saved the most important devotion for the last. This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. (Mark 6:7) It is possible to observe a regular schedule of devotions and yet not be sanctified. We can be faithful to morning and evening prayer, prayer before and after meals, and all of the above recommendations and still not sanctify ourselves.

Of these times Jeremias (12:11) prophesied: With desolation is all the land made desolate; because there is none that considereth in the heart. Saint Alphonsus connects this verse with meditation. Spiritual authors consider that meditation is morally necessary for salvation. True there may be some who have never meditated and have yet saved their souls. We know, for instance, that infants who are baptized are saved, although they have not meditated. And there are those who convert on their death bed, but may have never meditated. However, should we rely on this? Spiritual authors also tell us that meditation and mortal sin

cannot live in the same soul. We will either give up sin or we will give up meditation. Meditate on this very carefully. If I take up the habit of daily meditation, I will eventually give up mortal sin. If I give up mortal sin and repent I will be saved. Therefore, I will take up the habit of daily meditation and pray to Almighty God for the grace to persevere in this holy practice to my last day.

In the Apostleship of Prayer We are advocating, We want all to make a quarter of an hour's meditation every day without fail. This may be difficult at first, so start with three to five minutes a day and work up to a quarter of an hour. An essential part of the First Saturday devotion is a quarter of an hour's meditation, and We believe this was for an important reason. The Most Blessed Virgin Mary, whose whole life was a continual meditation, wants to inspire us to take up this holy practice. If we can do it five First Saturdays in a row, we can eventually do it every day.

## And There Are Many Other Things

We have mentioned several of the major devotions given us by Almighty God for these times. In Our list of requests, published over the years, We have reminded people of morning and evening prayers, as well as pray before and after meals. In fact, we should turn our life into a life of prayer. We are working on some things that will make this easy and will provide it to members of the Apostleship of Prayer, when this is completed. We would like all to enroll in this Apostleship of Prayer. Enrollment in the first level or postulancy is simple. We ask all to send their name in to the Apostleship at Box 74, Delia, Kansas or to enroll on the internet.

<http://www.oneholycatholicchurch.com/apostleshipofprayer/apostleshipofprayer.html>

## Postulancy

For this level, all are asked to begin the holy practice of daily mental prayer, if only for three minutes a day. In order to become full members, a pledge for a quarter of an hour's mental prayer a day will be required. The postulancy and novitiate will be a time of preparation to make that pledge. More details will be sent, as they are prepared.

## Conclusion

May all join in this holy Apostolate and with Jesus' Church so that the Universal Conversion may come soon. Let us begin this conversion by converting our own self, for this is the most important place to start. May God bless you,

Yours in Christ the King,

Michael, by the grace of God, Pope, on this 19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Election, July 16, 2009

p.s. Let us pray!

<http://apostleshipofprayer.wordpress.com/>