## **October Is the Month of the Holy Rosary**

## Every State Honors Our Lady with a Special Title but as a Nation, We Honor Her as Our Lady of America, the Title She Herself Gave Us!

Then solemnly and distinctly, in calm yet majestic tones, I heard these words: "I am Our Lady of America. I desire that my children honor me, especially by the purity of their lives."

"My child, I entrust you with this message that you must make known to my children in America. I wish it to be the country dedicated to my purity. The wonders I



will work will be the wonders of the soul. They must have faith and believe firmly in my love for them. I desire that they be the children of my Pure Heart. I desire, through my children of America to further the cause of faith and purity among peoples and nations. Let them come to me with confidence and simplicity, and I, their Mother, will teach them to become pure like to my Heart that their own hearts may be more pleasing to the Heart of my Son."

Our Blessed Mother called herself Our Lady of America in response to the love and desire that reached out for this special title in the hearts of her children in America. This title was the sign of her pleasure at the confidence our land places in her and as a reward for its staunch and childlike devotion to her. Her children longed for this personal visit of Our Lady, whether consciously or otherwise, and in her kindness and mercy she responded far beyond all expectations.

(Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil, The Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, Tiffin, Ohio, September 26, 1956, Pages 10-11.)

Having just celebrated the feasts of the archangels St. Michael and St. Gabriel on September 29th, the angels of peace and purity respectively, both so important to the message of Our Lady of America, we now move into October, the month of the Holy Rosary. October begins with the feasts of three saints who exemplify the same kind of holiness, humility and simplicity that defines the life of Sister Mildred (Mary Ephrem) Neuzil. October 1<sup>st</sup> is the feast of St. Therese, the Little Flower, known for her Little Way of Love. Sister Mildred was not being believed because she was a little one, yet Our Lady told her that her Divine Son was in love with her lowliness. On October 4<sup>th</sup> we celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, endeared to us for his love of poverty, community, and nature, expressed so well in his Canticle of the Sun, or Canticle of the Creatures. He is said to have tamed a wolf that had been terrorizing the Umbrian city of Gubbio; thereafter it became the town pet. Sister Mildred and her sisters had a great love for dogs and started a dog kennel to support themselves after they separated from the active congregation in order to maintain a contemplative life. October 5<sup>th</sup> is the day we honor St. Faustina who, like Sister Mildred, preached the doctrine of Divine Mercy--she with the most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and Sister Mildred with the Immaculate Heart of Mary as our Mother of Mercy. St. Faustina spoke of having stones thrown at her from family, friends and community until she was placed on the altar. Sister Mildred has had plenty of stones

thrown at her as well, but she has not yet been placed on the altar. On October 19<sup>th</sup>, we will honor the lives of the North American Martyrs, St. John de Brebeuf and St. Isaac Jogues and their companions, martyrs for the Faith whose blood became the seed of the Church in America. What honor and importance Our Lady bestowed upon these martyrs in choosing their feast for her first appearance here in America.

Sister Mildred understood already in the 1940's that her mission was to converge toward the renewal of the family. The renewal of the family, the domestic church, brings renewal to the whole Church of Christ in its ordained priesthood. Faith-filled homes produce many vocations to the priesthood and religious life. We know so well from Sr.

Lucia of the Fatima apparitions that satan's final battle in his attempt to destroy Christ's Church will be against the Christian family and Christian marriage, as is so evident in society today. Our Lady has given us her rosary as a powerful spiritual weapon against satan and his cohorts. So vital is the rosary that twelve encyclicals and five apostolic letters have been written by various Popes to exalt this prayer, next to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, in our battle against evil.



Used with permission - JMJ Divine Inspirations - Ephesians 6:12

Our Lady, in her messages as Our Lady of America, emphasizes the importance of the family rosary: "If possible, the family rosary should be prayed every day with as many members of the family who may be present." And those who cannot be physically present should be united in spirit.

We celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, the name Our Lady gave herself at Fatima, on October 7. The Coast to Coast Rosary Campaign is calling for rallies across America and in other lands to unite with the National Rosary Rally in front of the US Capital in Washington, D.C. on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 4pm eastern time, 3pm central time, 2pm mountain time, 1pm pacific, noon Alaska and 10am in Hawaii. We are asked to pray the Glorious Mysteries in union with all these rosaries around the world, all at the same time. There is great power in numbers when it comes to prayer. We are praying for the conversion of America and of all the world, for the reign of Christ the King over every nation. Then there will be peace in our world, in every heart and home and land. We are indeed at war, a war without borders, a war in which everyone must be enlisted!

The Patriotic Rosary is not part of Our Lady of America's message per se; the family rosary is. But that does not prevent the family or prayer group from using an ordinary rosary with its 50 beads for Hail Mary's to represent the 50 states and to pray for the salvation of every person in every state through the intercession of Mary under the title with which that state honors her. Then, at the end, pray the Prayer to the Immaculate Conception by which we, as a nation, honor Mary as our Mother and our Queen, the Immaculate Patroness of our land. These are Our Lady's titles as Patroness of each state:

Alabama - Our Lady of the Gulf Alaska - Our Lady of the Kodiak and the island Arizona - Our Lady of the Highways Arkansas - Our Lady of the Holy Souls California - Our Lady of the Wayside Colorado - Immaculate Mary Connecticut - Notre Dame of Easton Delaware - Our Lady of Mercy Florida - Our Lady of La Leche Georgia - Immaculate Heart of Mary Hawaii - Mary, Star of the Sea Idaho - Our Lady of Limerick Illinois - Our Lady of the Universe Indiana - Our Lady of Providence Iowa - Mary of Nazareth Kansas - Mary, Queen of Angels Kentucky - Mary, Mother of God Louisiana - Our Lady of Prompt Succor Maine - Our Lady of Peace Maryland - Our Lady of the Assumption Massachusetts - Our Lady of the Incarnation Michigan - Our Lady, Gate of Heaven Minnesota - Our Lady, Mother of the Church Mississippi - Our Lady of Sorrows Missouri - Our Lady of Calvary Montana - Our Lady of the Pines Nebraska - Our Lady of the Presentation

Nevada - Our Lady of Las Vegas New Hampshire - Our Lady of Perpetual Help New Jersey - Our Lady of Fatima New Mexico - Our Lady of Guadalupe New York - Our Lady of Christians North Carolina - Our Lady of the Holy Rosary North Dakota - Mary, Queen of Peace Ohio - Our Lady of Consolation Oklahoma - Our Lady, Queen of all Saints Oregon - Our Lady of the Woods Pennsylvania - Our Lady of the **Miraculous Medal** Rhode Island - Our Lady of Mount Carmel South Carolina - Virgin Mother South Dakota - Our Lady of the Prairie Tennessee - Our Lady of Lourdes Texas - Our Lady of the Annunciation Utah - Our Lady of the Snows Vermont - Our Lady of Grace Virginia - Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles Washington - Our Lady of Good Help West Virginia - Our Lady of Victory Wisconsin – Our Lady of the Americas Wyoming – Our Lady of the Valley Washington, D.C. - Our Immaculate Queen The U.S.A. – Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception

The Americas – Our Lady of Guadalupe

The rosary, composed primarily of Christ's prayer to the Father and the Angelic Salutation, was the first prayer and the first devotion of the faithful, from the time of the apostles until now. In 1214 it was given formally to the Church in the person of St. Dominic. When St. Dominic saw that the gravity of people's sins was hindering the conversion of the Albigensians, he went into a forest near Toulouse, France and wept and prayed and did penance for three days and nights to appease the anger of God. His body was so lacerated from his use of the discipline that he fell into a coma. Then Our Lady appeared, accompanied by three angels, and said: "Dear Dominic, do you know which weapon the Blessed Trinity wants to use to reform the world?" "Oh, my Lady," answered Dominic, "you know far better that I do because next to your Son Jesus Christ you have always been the chief instrument of our salvation." Then Our Lady replied: "I want you to know that, in this kind of warfare, the battering ram has always been the Angelic Psalter, which is the foundation stone of the New Testament. Therefore, if you want to reach these hardened souls and win them over to God, preach my Psalter."

So, refreshed with new zeal for the conversion of people, he rushed to the Cathedral. Unseen angels rang the bells and called the people to gather. As he began his sermon, a storm broke out, the sun was darkened and the earth shook. Lightning and thunder followed, and the people grew afraid. Then they saw a picture of Our Lady exposed in a prominent place. They saw her raise her arms to heaven three times to call down God's vengeance upon them if they failed to be converted and amend their lives and seek her protection. God wished, by means of these supernatural phenomena, to spread the new devotion of the Holy Rosary far and wide. The people quickly reformed their lives.

(St. Louis De Montfort, THE SECRET OF THE ROSARY, America Needs Fatima, Hanover, PA, Pages 7-8.)

Do we feel like we are living in a time of sin and heresy, maybe even worse than in the time of St. Dominic? Then let us preach unceasingly the power of Our Lady's Psalter, the weapon the Most Holy Trinity desires that we use for the conversion of peoples and nations! Let us pray especially for the conversion of America so it will accept the mandate from heaven to lead the world in a spiritual renewal so urgently needed, lead the world to the peace Christ brought with Him from Heaven. Amen!



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