



Carpe Mariam

During the years of Jesus' hidden life in the house at Nazareth, Mary's life too is "hid with Christ in God" (cf. Col. 3:3) through faith. For faith is contact with the mystery of God. Every day Mary is in constant contact with the ineffable mystery of God made man, a mystery that surpasses everything revealed in the Old Covenant.

Pope John Paul II
Encyclical *Redemptoris Mater*, 17
March 25, 1987

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+J.M.J.+



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Praised be Jesus Christ! Hail Mary! Hail Saint Joseph!

In just two days, we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple! The Infant Jesus was faithfully presented in the Temple by his parents forty days after his birth, as the Law required. Specific numbers in Holy Scripture represent very important meanings for us to understand and ponder in the course of Salvation History. Just as the number seven is repeated throughout Scripture (both in the Old and New Testaments) to show us God's Covenantal love, such as in the Creation story (Gn 1-2:4a) and the Flood account with Noah (Gn 6-9), so the number forty is also important for us to reflect upon. We see this number referenced again with Noah and the Ark as it rained forty days and forty nights, Israel wandering for forty years in the desert, and Jesus Our Savior and Messiah fasting forty days in the desert before his public ministry.

In the Bible, we see that "40" often comes with periods of trial and repentance. Even now in our splendid Liturgical season of Lent, beginning in only three weeks, our Church calendar takes up forty days for our yearly time of fasting and repentance. However, in the case of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, forty days after Christ's birth, God reveals to us a deeper understanding of His promises and love. We are no longer wandering through the desert in search of the "Promised Land." Throughout Salvation History, the Father's Covenantal promises that He makes through Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David, culminate and are fulfilled in Jesus Christ Our Messiah, His Son, the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, as revealed in the Presentation through Simeon and Anna, (Lk 2:22-40).

Holy Scripture tells us that Simeon was a righteous and devout man "looking for the consolation of Israel and the Holy Spirit was upon him." Upon taking Jesus up in his arms, Simeon blessed God and proclaimed, "Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel," (Lk 2:25-32). Simeon recognized Christ and the fulfillment of the promise made to the Son of David: "glory to Israel, and salvation for all nations."

We recognize Simeon's words from *Compline*—Night Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours, the Official Prayer of the Church—as the *nunc dimittis*, which is Latin for "now dismiss." This is the Gospel Canticle prayed at the end of the day before retiring to sleep. As did Simeon, we too pray to Our Father in trust of His Covenantal promise to us, the Gentiles, fulfilled in Jesus Christ Our Savior. We also can "be dismissed," as our eyes have seen the "light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel!"

We invite you to join us on page 2 for the *Triduum Novena*, today through February 2nd—The Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. May the peace of the "Glory of Israel" forever bring you and your loved ones hope, love, and joy. Please pray for us as we do for you. *Carpe Mariam*—"Seize Mary!"

United in the Hearts of Jesus, Mary, and Saint Joseph,

Mary's Project

Triduum Novena

Sunday, January 31, 2010 - Tuesday, February 2, 2010



In preparation for Tuesday, February 2, 2010
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Intentions

Peace in the World
The Sanctity of Marriage and Family
All Consecrated Persons

Daily Scripture Meditation

Luke 2:29-32—Gospel Canticle from Night Prayer (*Compline*)

**“Lord, now you let your servant go in peace;
your word has been fulfilled:
my own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.”**

Antiphon Prayer

Alma Redemptoris Mater

(Marian Antiphon from Night Prayer that ends on February 2nd)

***Alma Redemptoris Mater, quae pervia caeli porta manes, et stella
maris, succurre cadenti, surgere qui curat, populo: tu quae genuisti,
natura mirante, tuum sanctum Genitorem, Virgo prius ac posterius,
Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere.***

Loving Mother of the Redeemer,
gate of heaven, star of the sea,
assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again.
To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator,
yet remained a virgin after as before.
You who received Gabriel’s joyful greeting, have pity on us poor sinners.



Our Lady of the Presentation—Pray for us!



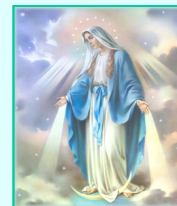
Mary's Mission Apostolate - Feb. News 2010

"Mission is a duty about which one must say, 'Woe to me if I do not evangelize' (1 Cor 9:16)...It is love that must move us to proclaim to all people with frankness and courage the truth that saves - a love that must radiate everywhere and reach the heart of every human being. Indeed, people await Christ."

-His Holiness Benedict XVI

Mary's Project Presents:

"Modesty in Dress - True Femininity Emulating Our Blessed Mother"
True femininity means to be pro-woman, which in turn means to be pro-life.
"Modesty in Dress, Pro-Woman, Pro-Life!"



For more information on resources and presentation/talks: contact-us@marysproject.com

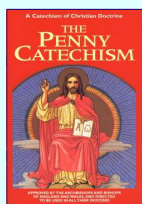
Modesty, one of the Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit, guards purity and chastity.

[Catechism of the Catholic Church on Modesty \(Ninth and Tenth Commandments explained\)](#)
CCC, The Ninth Commandment Section, "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's." See www.marysproject.com — "Modesty In Dress"

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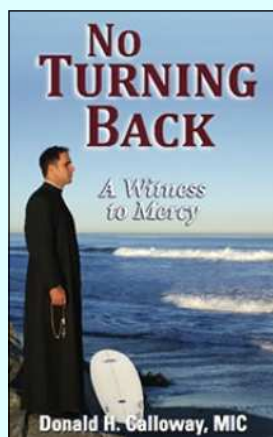
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MP Mission update: materials are shipping throughout the U.S., Africa and Russia!

"No Turning Back: A Witness to Mercy"

by Father Donald Calloway, MIC



No Turning Back is a profound and moving account of how Divine Mercy, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, touched the life of Father Calloway forever!

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This is a MUST read!

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Mary's Prayer Corner



Sub Tuum Praesidium

*Sub tuum praesidium confugimus,
Sancta Dei Genetrix,
nostras deprecationes ne despicias in necessitatibus,
sed a periculis cunctis libera nos semper,
Virgo Gloriosa et Benedicta. Amen.*

We fly to thy patronage, O Holy Mother of God, despise not our petitions in our necessities, but ever deliver us from all dangers, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin. Amen.

Featured Marian Antiphon

Ave Regina caelorum

Ave Regina caelorum, one of the four Marian Antiphons of the Liturgical year (the others being *Alma Redemptoris Mater*, *Regina coeli*, and *Salve Regina*), is sung at *Compline*—Night Prayer of the Divine Office—beginning with the Presentation of the Lord, Feb. 2, 2010, and continuing through the end of the Lenten Season. Lent runs from Ash Wednesday until the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday.

*Ave, Regina Caelorum,
Ave, Domina Angelorum:
Salve, radix, salve, porta
Ex qua mundo lux est orta:
Gaude, Virgo gloriosa,
Super omnes speciosa,
Vale, o valde decora,
Et pro nobis Christum exora.
V. Dignare me laudare te, Virgo sacrata.
R. Da mihi virtutem contra hostes tuos.*

Hail, O Queen of Heaven enthroned.
Hail, by angels mistress owned.
Root of Jesse, Gate of Morn
Whence the world's true light was born:
Glorious Virgin, Joy to thee,
Loveliest whom in heaven they see;
Fairest thou, where all are fair,
Plead with Christ our souls to spare.
V. Vouchsafe that I may praise thee, O sacred Virgin.
R. Give me strength against thine enemies.

Let us pray: We beseech thee, O Lord, mercifully to assist our infirmity: that like as we do now commemorate Blessed Mary Ever-Virgin, Mother of God; so by the help of her intercession we may die to our former sins and rise again to newness of life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Featured Prayer for our Men and Women in the Military



O Prince of peace, we humbly ask Your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give our Soldiers unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity and devotion, the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Be their rock, their shield, their stronghold, their constant companion, their strength in battle, and their refuge in every adversity, that they may draw their strength from You. Guide them, O Lord, that they may return home in safety.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

For more prayers in a "Time of War" for our Troops:



USCCB, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Committee on Divine Worship



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