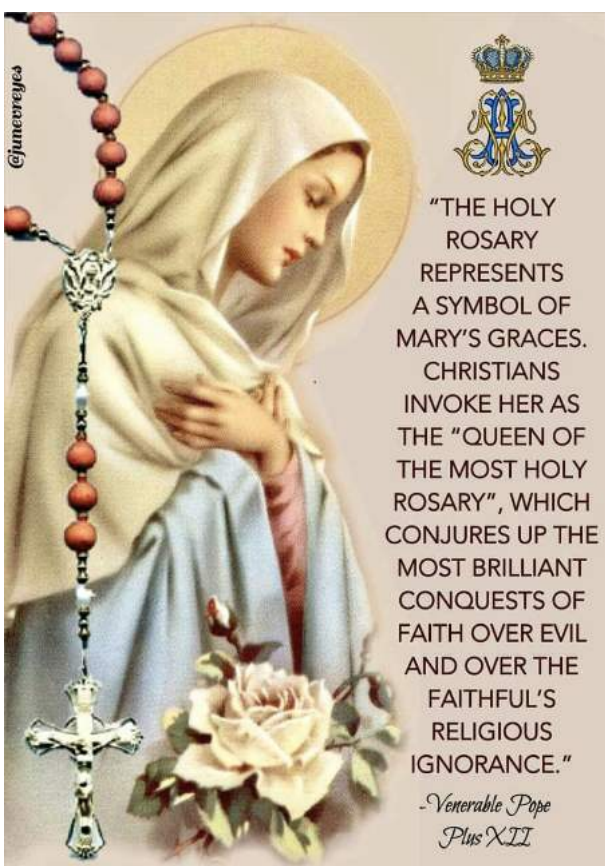


My Mother, Our Mother

Pray for us

You are invited to join in prayer:
"Daily Hour with Jesus and Mary"

(csctr.net video from 1st May 2020)



Month of May - Month of the Holy Rosary

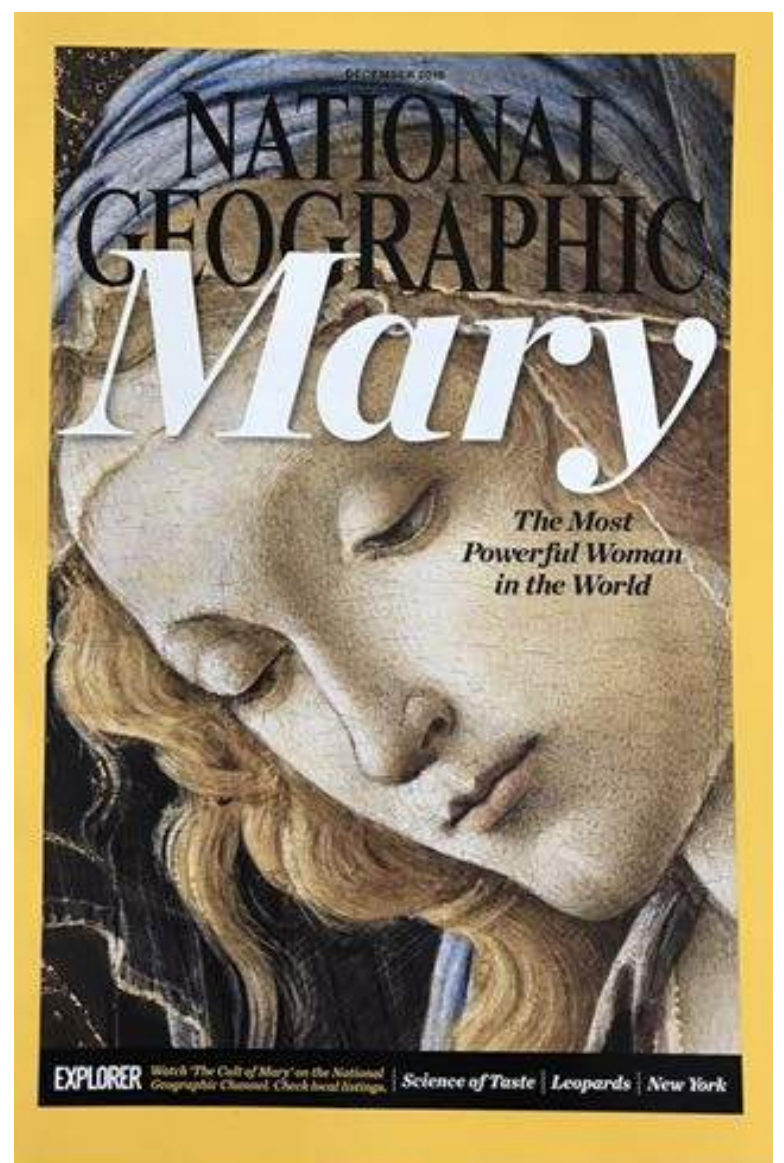
During this pandemic, all the more we need to have recourse to this **"most powerful woman"** – Mary our Mother. She waits for us to plead in humble prayer and on bended knees, with a sincere and contrite heart. Many have forgotten the power of the Most Holy Rosary.

Why Mary?

If we have a title for Mary, what would that be? There are over 100 titles in honour of Mary. Yet she is simply known as Mary of Nazareth and Mary, Mother of Jesus. Her silence is filled with an inner power, that her own Son, could not resist.

Early Christians knew well the powerful result of invoking Mary, the Mother of God and the spiritual Mother of all peoples during times of disaster. The ancient Marian prayer, *Sub Tuum Praesidium* (“Under Your Protection”, c. 250 A.D.) called upon the Mother of God particularly during times of trial and persecution in the early Church in order to receive her unparalleled motherly intercession in their gravest of necessities. History, time and time again, testifies to the truth that invoking the Mother of all peoples at times of potential disaster leads to both personal spiritual peace and historic global peace.

**On December 12,
2015, the National
Geographic dubs
Virgin Mary,
“World’s Most
Powerful Woman”**



Years ago, Time Magazine displayed a rather unusual cover story, “Hail Mary,” with this brief description: “Protestants seldom talk about Jesus’ mother at Easter. But they are starting to now” (March 21, 2005).

A champion for prayer

Father Patrick Peyton was born in 1909 in Ireland to a devout Catholic Family. Praying the Rosary together each night was a routine in the Peyton household and laid a strong foundation for Father Peyton's faith, which he would need when he joined the Congregation of Holy Cross as a priest. Father Patrick Peyton devoted his priestly life to spreading the devotion to Mary and encouraging family prayer, especially the Rosary. He used radio, television, and film, and 540 Rosary Rallies worldwide to accomplish his mission. Today, Father Peyton's messages that ***"The Family That Prays Together Stays Together"*** and ***"A World at Prayer is a World at Peace"*** are still well known around the world. His Cause for Sainthood was officially opened in 2001 and he is currently named Venerable. With your prayers, hopefully he will be recognised as a Saint for Family Prayer!

Why the need to turn in urgency to the Mother of God? Why the need to bring back true devotion to the Holy Rosary? Our Blessed Mother had in her apparition at Fatima revealed herself as ***"I am the Lady of the Rosary"***.

The Black Plague

Christians added *"pray for us now and at the hour of our death"* in the midst of the Black Plague. This second part ("Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death") is believed by many to have been added during the plague to ask for the Blessed Mother's protection from the **fatal disease**.

Venerable Fulton J. Sheen explains this origin in his book *The World's First Love*. Since it seizes upon the two decisive moments of life: "now" and "at the hour of our death," it suggests the **spontaneous outcry of people in a great calamity. The Black Death**, which ravaged all Europe and wiped out one-third of its population, **prompted the faithful to cry out** to the Mother of Our Lord to protect them at a time when the present moment and death were almost one. An expert in Marian devotion, Fr. Donald H. Calloway, confirms this conclusion in his book ***Champions of the Rosary*** and explains how, "After the Black Death, the second half of the Hail Mary began to appear in the breviaries of religious communities... **the people of the 14th century greatly needed the 'hope-filled' dimension of the second half of the Hail Mary prayer.**" The prayer took various forms during this bleak period in Europe, but was officially recognized after the publication of the Catechism of the Council of Trent and the full prayer was then included in the Roman Breviary of 1568.



St Roch asking the Virgin Mary to heal victims of the plague

The Black Death was a devastating global epidemic of bubonic **plague** that struck Europe and Asia in the mid-1300s. The **plague** arrived in Europe in October 1347, when 12 ships from **the Black Sea** docked at the Sicilian port of Messina.

Let us reflect on some miracles brought about through the intercession of this "most powerful woman in the world"

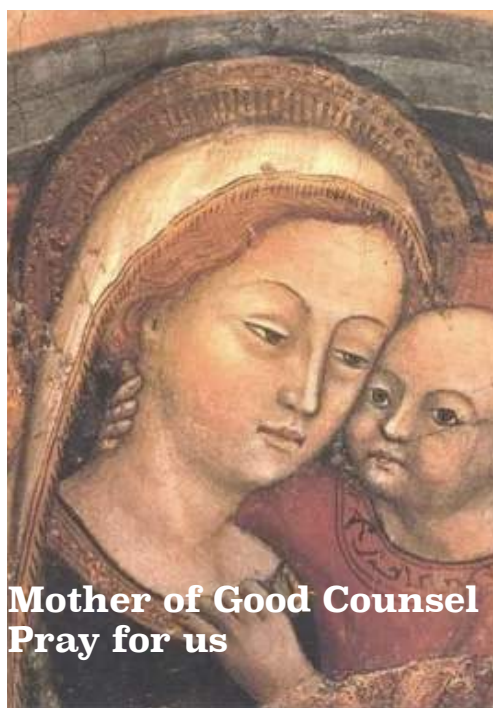
The Miraculous Medal

In 1832, the ravaging finger of cholera hit every home and house in the great city of Paris. This terrible epidemic, a disease without cure, struck hundreds and beleaguered many more. And yet, an exceptional phenomenon was noticed. Those who devoutly wore a certain small medal around their neck were spared or relieved from the epidemic. Symptoms of the plague were observed to leave the victims and withdraw into the gutters of Paris. What medal, what power, was this that through the course of time triumphed over such devastating odds? The answer laid among the winding streets of Paris, specifically at the bolted doors of a small sanctuary known as the Rue de Bac. It is here, at the convent of the Sisters of Charity, that so many miracles unfold by means of a small object: ***the Miraculous Medal.***

Our Lady of Good Counsel.

During times of great suffering, Christians have always turned to God and those saints closest to him, in hopes that he will bring relief to his people. The miraculous picture of Our Lady of Good Counsel at the monastery of New Norcia, Western Australia. There is a miraculous picture of Our Lady of Good Counsel at the monastery of New Norcia in Western Australia. This painting was given to the Benedictines in 1845 by Saint Vincent Pallotti, when they were leaving Rome to start missions in Western Australia. In December, 1847 a terrible bushfire was ranging and threatened to destroy the monastery. The picture was placed against the standing corn in front of the fire. As soon as the sacred image of Mary was placed before the raging fire, the wind blew in the opposite direction, carrying the flames away from the Mission where everything was already burned black. The fire soon died away. The native people who witnessed this were amazed. On another occasion the mourners in a funeral procession were in danger of perishing because bushfires had hemmed them in on all sides. Dom Salvado seeing this in the distance, got the picture from the church and ran with it toward the fire area and prayed to Our Lady to save the people. The wind changed direction and the danger passed.

Fast forward to May 2020, a most challenging time for all during this global pandemic, we can turn to this “**most powerful woman**” who is also our Mother. It is never too late. A mother waits in earnest anticipation for her children’s safety daily. Imagine an earthly mother waiting for her wayward son/ daughter, never giving up. Let’s turn to our Mother in this “**hour of need**” and together unite in praying daily the Holy Rosary to implore her help. We can join the “Daily Hour with Jesus and Mary”, follow the link on CSC each day for this sacred hour, especially during the month of Mary, dedicated to our Blessed Mother who is waiting for us with her Son.



Prayer

We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God; despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. May the Divine assistance remain always with us! Amen!