

Our Lady of Lourdes

1101 AMSTERDAM ROAD ❁ PARK HILLS ❁ KY ❁ 41011

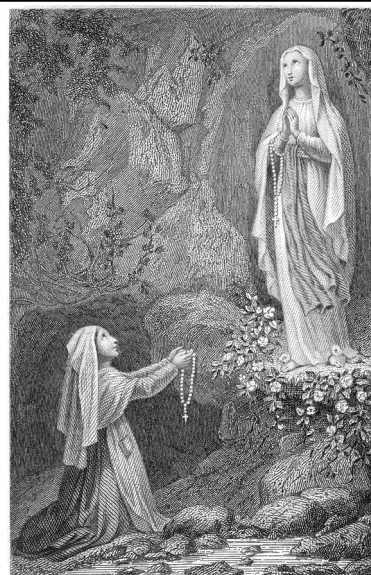
HOLY FAMILY ORATORY ❁ Liberty Hill Drive ❁ Union ❁ KY

"I do not promise you happiness in this life, only in the next"

Fr. Jean Baptiste Rauzan on the need of **MORTIFICATION**



HE WHO DOES NOT TAKE UP HIS CROSS *and follow Me*," says Our Lord Jesus Christ, "is not worthy of Me"; "he cannot be My disciple." We shall carry our cross courageously, battling against pride and self-love. Certain mortifications are quite useful; instead of causing physical injury, they tend to preserve health and tend to prolong life, rather than shorten it. Preserving in all things, self-control and great moderation, yielding in no way to laziness. Avoid superfluous and childish things and be content with what is necessary. Control the imagination, withdrawing it immediately from sinful objects, and from many other thoughts though they appear less dangerous: vain thoughts, illusionary hopes, sad and useless reminiscences; remembering that it is far from wise to judge the conduct and faults of others. Frequently, when alone in our rooms, we will be victims of those reveries of which the least can be said that they are a great loss of time. We should mortify our senses, particularly sight and hearing. Sight, above all, is a source of constant temptation; he who controls this sense carefully will preserve recollection, modesty and obtain the edification of one's neighbor and that interior peace so conducive to the development of our weak faculties for study, and other works. We will not complain, or manifest discontentment, when some unforeseen circumstances deprive us of some comfort or satisfaction. We will manifest with the grace of God, in contradictions and in unhappy situations such as illness, an unwavering patience. The virtue of penance will inspire a thousand secret mortifications which will be pleasing to God in proportion as they remain unknown. Let us be faithful to these holy inspirations, avoiding all singularity.



JE SUIS L'IMMACULÉE CONCEPTION

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Mass Calendar & Intentions

SUNDAY	February 18: First Sunday of Lent Poor & Holy Souls in Purgatory John & Kathryn Rademacher
MONDAY	February 19: Feria of Lent Grace Gruen Bradford & Jessica Fellmeth
TUESDAY	February 20: Feria of Lent (+) JoAnne Egberst John Paul Shannon
WEDNESDAY	February 21: Ember Wednesday of Lent Jude Trosten Pete & Tina Bria
THURSDAY	February 22: Chair of St. Peter, Apostle John Paul Downes Fr. Sean Kopczynski, msjb
FRIDAY	February 23: Ember Friday of Lent Jeanette Aidinovich (+) Elaine May
SATURDAY	February 24: Ember Saturday of Lent Poor & Holy Souls in Purgatory (+) Richard & Martha Brueggemann



First Sunday of Lent

February 18th, 2024



BACK IN 1858 ON THIS DAY occurred the Third Apparition of Our Lady of Lourdes, who heretofore has appeared on an upper niche in the Grotto, now moves closer to Bernadette. Bernadette asks Her name and the Lady replies, "Will you do me the kindness of coming here for a fortnight?" Bernadette agrees to come once she has permission and the Lady replies: "I do not promise to make you happy in this world but only in the other" and then disappears. A heavenly being comes down to earth to a virgin girl of 14 and asks her if she would say YES... Fiat... to God's plan for her and her people? She says, "Yes." The heavenly being adds that this YES will not be easy... will bring much trial and tribulation, but, nevertheless, the little virgin Bernadette will triumph in the end by going to heaven. Does this not parallel in some small way what Our Lady experienced so long ago with the visit of St. Gabriel the Archangel? Notice the number of visits requested by the Lady, including this initial visit. It is the same as the 15 mysteries of the Holy Rosary. What is more, what happens in each of these 15 days runs parallel in some way to what occurred in its corresponding mystery of the Rosary. Let us always say YES to the graces of God given through His Holy Mother! (To learn more about the beautiful harmony of the 18 apparitions at Lourdes, most notably how they coincide very well with the 15 decades of the Most Holy Rosary, go to... <https://www.ourladyoflourdes.info/grotto-apparitions/>



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MAJESTIC QUEEN OF HEAVEN AND MISTRESS OF THE ANGELS, thou didst receive from God the power and commission to crush the head of Satan; wherefore we humbly beseech thee, send forth the legions of Heaven, that, under thy command, they may seek out all evil spirits, engage them everywhere in battle, curb their insolence, and hurl them back into the pit of Hell. "Who is like unto God?" O good and tender Mother, thou shalt ever be our hope and the object of our love. O Mother of God, send forth the holy Angels to defend us and drive far from us the cruel foe. Holy Angels and Archangels, defend us and keep us. Amen.

"The observance of Lent is the very badge of the Christian warfare. By it we prove ourselves not to be enemies of Christ. By it we avert the scourges of divine justice. By it we gain strength against the princes of darkness, for it shields us with heavenly help. Should mankind grow remiss in their observance of Lent, it would be a detriment to God's glory, a disgrace to the Catholic religion, and a danger to Christian souls. Neither can it be doubted that such negligence would become the source of misery to the world, of public calamity, and of private woe."—Pope Benedict XIV

"Let no one believe that the breaking of the fast is only then a grievous sin when it proceeds from a contempt of the Commandment [of the Church to fast and abstain on certain days] or from a deliberate resistance to the Church. This opinion is erroneous, and has been expressly condemned by the Church (Alex VII, Prop 23). Nay, there is a culpable disobedience when one knowingly and deliberately does what the Church has forbidden, even though it be neither attended with obstinacy nor contempt of the Commandment, but is done either through gluttony or through a weak complaisance to others." —Fr. Deharbe's Catechism.

BEHOLD, O GOOD AND MOST SWEET JESUS, I fall upon my knees before Thee, and with most fervent desire beg and beseech Thee that Thou wouldst impress upon my heart a lively sense of faith, hope and charity, true repentance for my sins, and a firm resolve to make amends. And with deep affection and grief, I reflect upon Thy five wounds, having before my eyes that which Thy prophet David spoke about Thee, o good Jesus: "They have pierced my hands and feet, they have counted all my bones." Amen.



(Note: This prayer is a partially indulgenced prayer. However, if one recites it before an image of Christ crucified, and under the usual conditions, on any of the Fridays in Lent, one may receive a plenary indulgence).

Your cross is indeed great! Thanks to our only Good, Who holds you on the cross! O beloved cross! O holy cross, tree of life, whence springs eternal life, I salute thee, I embrace thee, I press thee to my heart! Ah! these are the sentiments which ought to animate us in our trials. Courage, then! courage! Under so heavy a weight, human nature will waver, it is true; but the soul will taste a sweet peace in the bosom of God. Do not consider the magnitude of your trials; contemplate rather Jesus, your Crucified Love, the King of sorrows and of anguish. — St. Paul of the Cross

To dress becomingly for God and neighbor, and in keeping with the reverence due to the Blessed Sacrament, kindly refrain from wearing shorts, tee-shirts, tank-tops, revealing blouses, sleeveless or backless dresses, or form-fitting clothing of any sort. Please wear dresses and skirts that fall below the knee when sitting even with leggings (around mid-calf). With due regard to time and circumstance, all are encouraged to wear decorous attire befitting sacred and divine worship.