

preparation for it, starting on Sexagesima Sunday, the 7th of this month. Please join us in spirit to implore special blessings for yourselves and your loved ones.

May the Lord bless you, and keep you.

May He show His Face to you, and have mercy on you.

May the Lord turn His Countenance to you, and give you peace.

(Cf. Numbers 6:24-26)

With the assurance of our heartfelt gratitude and humble prayers for you all,

Mother Irene of the Holy Face O.Carm and Community

HOW TO HELP US?

- ✓ **By your prayers**, especially that Our Lord will send us good vocations, courageous “Veronicas” to wipe and honour His Adorable Face and make reparation for poor sinners.
- ✓ **By your generosity**: bank transfer made payable to
Mother (Sr.) Irene Gibson
Holy Family Hermitage
Corran
Leap
Co Cork

Bank Name: **Bank of Ireland**
Bank Address: **Westport Co Mayo**
Bank Identifier Code (BIC): **BOFIE2D**
Branch Code: **90-39-98**
Account Number: **27746013**
IBAN: **IE34 BOFI 9039 9827 7460 13**
- ✓ **PayPal**: monabyrne@rocketmail.com
- ✓ **GoFundMe**: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/carmelites-nuns>

Carmelites of the Holy Face

Holy Family Carmelite Hermitage O.Carm

Corran, Leap, Co. Cork, Rep. of Ireland.



Website: carmeliteshollyface.com

Issue 14 - February 2021

“Convert us O God, and show us Thy Face: and we shall be saved.” Psalm 79:4

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

One year ago, how little did we dream that we were so close to witnessing the fulfilment of the prophecies! Things have moved rapidly, however, and we are now experiencing the beginning of the chastisement foretold by Our Lady of Fatima. Almost every nation is suffering under a Communist dictatorship, for Russia has spread her errors throughout the world. Though it is not yet so openly tyrannical a system in every country as it has been for a hundred years already in China and North Korea for example, nevertheless, it will not be long before we will find ourselves as restricted as those poor unfortunate citizens are, if nothing and nobody intervenes.



We have certainly all been affected in some way or other by the lockdowns and the crippling restrictions imposed on healthy citizens under the pretext of a “dangerous virus”; we have been bombarded with false information; pressured to believe whatever we are told by the media; urged to do whatever the godless governments and false ecclesial shepherds tell us is for our own good and the good of others, even if our common sense tells us it is unreasonable. Is this any different from the tyranny which existed behind the former Iron Curtain, and still exists in Communist China and North Korea today? At least recent events have made it more and more obvious that the real danger threatening society is atheistic Communism. The truth is there in plain sight for those who are willing to see it, but unfortunately many prefer not to see reality.

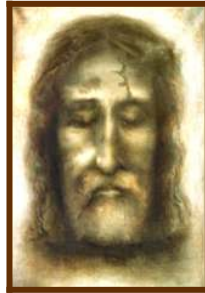
“...They receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. Therefore God shall send them the operation of error to believe lying: That all may be judged who have not believed the truth, but have consented to iniquity.” (2 Thess. 2:10-11)

It is a great grace to see the truth of what is happening in these times; and if we have received that grace, we have reason to thank God. As horrible as the

overall picture may be and as numerous and powerful as our enemies appear, it is a blessing to know who and what we are fighting against so that we might arm and defend ourselves accordingly. If we are on God's side we have no reason to fear. We know that He will not allow the wicked to achieve the victory.

"For the success of war is not in the multitude of the army: but strength cometh from Heaven." (1 Machabees 3:19)

Although it is too late to avert the chastisement altogether, since the time of justice is at hand, God, in His great mercy, has not left us without a shield in this battle; and a chance to at least mitigate the punishment so richly deserved by mankind which has turned away from God. Devotion to His Holy Face is the Divine remedy for the evils afflicting society, and the weapon Heaven has given us for the defeat of Communism.



Just as Communist philosophy was foreshadowed in Satan's rebellion against God, so also has devotion to the Holy Face existed in some form from the beginning of man's existence.

"In the day that God created man, He made him to the likeness of God." (Genesis 5:1)

We were created to behold the Face of God. This longing and this need for God can only be fully realised by souls in the state of grace who strive to increase their likeness to God by lives of virtue so that they may one day behold His glorious Face in Heaven. Atheistic communism, on the other hand, denies the existence of God and the necessity of avoiding sin. It seeks to establish a paradise on earth – without God – and strives to destroy His image and likeness in souls. It is therefore the irreconcilable enemy of the Christian who professes that there is no possibility of true happiness without God.

"For what have I in Heaven? And besides Thee what do I desire on earth? Thou art the God of my heart, and the God that is my portion forever." (Psalm 72:25-26)

In the 1840's, at the very moment when Karl Marx (commonly regarded as the founder of Communism) was writing his infamous "Communist Manifesto", Our Lord Jesus Christ was at work writing in the heart of a humble Discalced Carmelite nun in Tours, France, what He Himself called *"The most beautiful work under the sun."*

Hermitage News

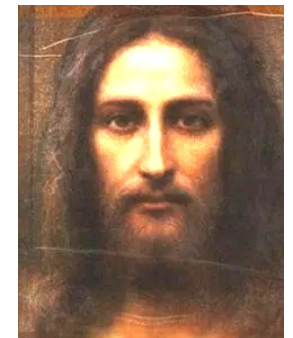
December 2020 – Good News! Because of your outstanding charity, we have at last been able to put down a deposit on another larger piece of land some miles away from where we are currently living. The tiny two story two bedroom house on the land is in much need of repair. We make an urgent appeal to your generosity to continue helping us in whatever way you can. We need raw building material from suppliers, voluntary skilled labourers to repair the house, funds and many prayers. We look forward to taking up residence on this land as soon as we are able. We shall call this new foundation St. Joseph's Hermitage. In due time we shall let you know our new postal address.



January 2021 – Winter has been cold and wet. We continue to live in our 10x8 ft garden sheds as our only means of accommodation. Though in the last district court hearing (22nd Sept. 2020) Judge McNulty put it to Philip O'Sullivan and a legal representative of Cork County Council that they should now provide us with suitable accommodation, this request went unheeded. Thanks to generous benefactors for providing us with dry sticks and logs, we managed to stay warm.

We at last signed the papers for the purchase of our new property. Now just as Saint Teresa of Avila experienced much opposition when founding St. Joseph's Convent in Avila, so also have we continued to be the target of attacks from the devil and his human instruments. By keeping our eyes fixed on Our Crucified Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, we are able to recognise in these diabolical attacks, confirmation that we are doing God's holy Will. By His grace and the help of your prayers, regardless of the opposition raised, we shall continue steadfast in our Religious Life of prayer and sacrifice in order to save as many souls as we can from the fires of hell.

7th February 2021 – Lent is approaching and with it the Feast of the Holy Face of Jesus (Shrove Tuesday – 16th Feb. this year). We begin our annual nine day Novena in



Available from our Carmelite Shop:

Hand made Greeting & Mass Cards.....	€3.00 each or €25.00 for 10
Brown wool Scapulars of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel.....	€2.00
Large Ornate St. Benedict Medal (Colour: Silver).....	€5.00
St. Christopher & St. Anthony Bronze Medal.....	€3.50
Heavy Copper-Coloured Crucifix Key Ring.....	€9.50
St. Benedict Copper- Coloured Crucifix.....	€2.00
1 Decade Chaplet Rosary Beads.....	€3.00
Wooden Rosary Beads with St. Benedict Crucifix.....	€6.50
Heavy Chain Rosary Beads, Pink.....	€13.00
Holy Face Medal (Shroud Image).....	€0.70
Holy Face Medal 3D (Colours: Bronze, Gold, Silver).....	€1.50
Miraculous Medal, Small (Colours: Gold, Silver).....	€0.50
Pardon Crucifix (Colours: Gold, Silver).....	€3.50
Blessed 100% Beeswax Candle.....	offering, €0.50
Blessed Salt.....	Free

Please remember to allow for p&p if required. By purchasing these items, you help us to continue our apostolate of prayer for yourselves and others.



In March 1847, even before the Communist Manifesto went into print, and when the existence of Communism was largely unheard of, Our Lord Jesus made manifest to His humble handmaid, Sister Mary of St Peter, not only the dangers of Communism threatening society at large, but also the remedy for it. Under holy obedience she wrote in her autobiography:

“He (Our Lord Jesus) has commanded me to make war on the Communists, telling me they are enemies of the Church and of her Christ.” (Cf. The Golden Arrow – Autobiography of Sr. Mary of St. Peter)

Our Lord gave her further instructions on how to do this:

“I give you wherewith to combat them the weapons of My Passion - My Cross of which they are the foes, and the other instruments of My tortures.” (Life of Sister Saint-Pierre by Abbe P. Janvier)

Our Lord also made known to Sr. Mary of St. Peter the importance of making reparation for the sins of “revolutionary men” against the first three Commandments in particular, and hence He asked for devotion to His Holy Face to console Him for these crimes. Our Lord told her that by offering His Holy Face to the Eternal Father, God’s justice would be appeased and many sinners would be converted.

Never before has the world been so much in the power of these “revolutionary men” as it is today! Never before in the entire history of the world has the general corruption of society been so great; nor has God ever before been so much despised and blasphemed by men. Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus has therefore never been needed more than at the present time.



In 1938 the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to a Conceptionist nun in Italy, Mother Maria Pierina, and asked her to have a scapular of the Holy Face made and distributed. (This is frequently substituted by the Holy Face Medal to which the same promises are attached.) Our Blessed Mother said to her:

“This scapular is a weapon for defence, a shield of strength and a token of the love and mercy which Jesus wishes to give the world in these times of lust and hatred for God and His Church. Diabolical nets are spread to wrench the Faith from hearts; evils abound; true apostles are few; and the remedy is the Holy Face of Jesus.” (May 1938)

Truly it is a diabolical warfare in which the world is engaged. It is no longer a struggle for possession of territories and countries but for the souls of men. It is not a battle which can be won with physical weapons. God in His mercy

has given us spiritual weapons, which Our Blessed Mother has asked us to use time and time again. So few have heeded her requests. Is it any wonder if the world is about to be punished for its crimes? The greatest punishment God could inflict on us is to leave us without discipline and to turn His Face away from us. Woe to us all if we should hear God say:

“So I let them go according to the desires of their heart: they shall walk in their own inventions.” (Psalm 81:12)

What great love our Heavenly Father has for us! For our eternal redemption, He did not even spare His own Son, but delivered him up for us all. *Romans 8:32*. His love for us will soon be made manifest in that He will no longer allow His rebellious children to go unchecked. (See 2 Machabees 6:13-16.) He is about to remind us all, without exception, that He is our



only Saviour. We shall be called upon to suffer in the times to come if we really love Him above all things. By loving, honouring and contemplating His Suffering Face, we shall obtain the grace to be willing to endure all things for His Sake so that we may become like Him, and bring Him consolation. Like St. Veronica, we must be ready to step out of the crowd, and to be mocked and despised by those around us. Yet if we keep our eyes fixed on the Holy Face of Jesus as she did, we shall be rewarded even more richly than she, by having His Divine Features imprinted in our souls. Each time we pray the Chaplet of the Holy Face, *“For the triumph of the Church and the downfall of its enemies,”* we not only wipe the Face of Jesus — as did St. Veronica — in reparation for the blasphemy and sacrilege which has occurred, but at the same time the devil is driven away like smoke vanishing before the wind.

Let us therefore take courage; for as St. Athanasius relates, the devils are compelled to flee whenever the Holy Face is invoked. While confidently awaiting the victory, let us pray often this verse of Holy Scripture, which is the one they fear the most;

“Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered: and let them that hate Him flee from before His Face.” (Psalm 67:2)



THE GLORY OF HIS FACE

On every soul has been impressed
The likeness of the Lord,
Though evil men have tried their best
To keep the same obscured.

‘Tis sin which makes this likeness dim
And difficult to trace;
Hence Communists, blaspheming Him,
Despise God’s Holy Face.

They advertise by covered face
An aim they cannot hide:
They wish to make it commonplace
For Truth to be denied.

With reason then, Christ’s Holy Face
By all It represents,
Becomes for souls in state of grace
A weapon of defence.

The Faith shall be restored again
When Truth gains victory;
The Communists and evil men
Before His Face shall flee.

Let every Christian play their part
In this most crucial war,
By bearing Christ in mind and heart;
By wounding Him no more.

If we believe what Christ revealed
And practice this Devotion,
His Holy Face shall be our shield
From chaos and commotion.

And if we strive to daily grow
In holiness and grace,
Someday in Heaven we will know
The glory of His Face.

2 Corinthians 3:16,18