

Carmelites of the Holy Face

Holy Family Carmelite Hermitage O.Carm
Corran, Leap, Co. Cork, Rep. of Ireland.



Website: carmeliteshollyface.com

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“He made him master of his house, and ruler of all his possessions.” Ps. 104:21

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

We owe a large debt of gratitude to Saint Joseph (as well as to you), for the assistance he has recently given us. We are very close now to realizing our dream of being able to purchase a new home, and it is for this reason we wish to say a few words about him in this newsletter. We have promised him that our new Hermitage will be named St. Joseph’s in his honour.

As it is well known, St. Joseph is also the special Protector of the Church, and Patron of a happy death. We have more reason than ever to invoke him now, when the Church is barely showing any signs of life, and when people all over the world are living in great fear of death.

This fear of dying appears to be caused by a virus which they say has claimed thousands of lives (sic), although in reality it is no more dangerous than an ordinary flu. It is rather the attention the media has given it and the extreme measures being taken which have succeeded in creating an atmosphere of terror. In reality, the fear of death is caused by something far more serious: namely, a lack of preparation.



For many years past, some people have been preparing for times like these by stocking up on food and other necessities. At the beginning of the so-called Corona virus plandemic, thousands of people rushed in panic to the supermarkets. Yet how many people made the most important preparation of all? The churches were closed while the supermarkets were buzzing...St. Joseph was well acquainted with the fear of death but it was not for his own safety that he feared. It was for the life of the Child Jesus. In obedience to the will of God, he arose by night, and, taking the Child and His Mother, fled into Egypt. Just imagine what Faith he must have had! There was almost no time to prepare and no way of taking many provisions with them, even if they had had them. Yet St. Joseph did not hesitate or even wait until morning to

arrange to travel more comfortably. For him, obedience to God and the safety of Jesus and Mary came before anything else.

Like St. Joseph, we have all been entrusted with a precious treasure whose safety is threatened by wicked men. St. Joseph had the privilege of caring for Jesus physically, but each of us must care for Him spiritually. Every baptised soul in the state of grace is a temple of the living God, and every other soul is called to become one, either by Baptism or Confession.

“Try your own selves, if you be in the faith; prove ye yourselves. Know you not your own selves, that Christ Jesus is in you, unless perhaps you be reprobates?” 2 Cor: 13:5



The time is coming dear friends, sooner rather than later, when, like the Holy Family, we shall have to “flee to the mountains.” Already the “abomination of desolation” has been set up in Rome, with the pagan worship of ‘Mother Earth’ which took place there last October. Already many of us are experiencing a spiritual desert, deprived of the Sacraments. Yet if we have Jesus

and Mary with us – if our souls are in the state of grace and we are faithful to the daily Rosary – we needn’t be too anxious about the rest. We must believe that God knows what He is doing and allow ourselves to be led by Him, trusting that He will provide for our needs of body and soul, as He cared for the Holy Family.

Since the life of the soul is far more important than the life of the body (which will come to an end at the appointed time regardless of what precautions we take), it is clear that no other preparation is so necessary and important as to be and remain in the state of grace. If we neglect this, there will come a time when all our other preparations will be useless. If God is with us, we have everything. All other things without God will amount to nothing.

“We shall say much, and yet shall want words: but the sum of our words is, He is all.” Eccelus.43:29

Unfortunately at the present time, due to the shortage of true and courageous priests who have not been intimidated by the legal restrictions on travel and administration of the Sacraments, many people find it very difficult to get to confession. Those of you who have a possibility of doing so, (maybe at the risk of being caught,) let nothing prevent you, not even the fear of death, for Our Lord tells us:

“Be not afraid of them who kill the body and after that have no more that they can do. But I will show you whom you shall fear: Fear ye him who, after

he hath killed hath power to cast into hell. Yea, I say to you: Fear him.” Luke 12:4-5

For the rest of you (and perhaps they are at present the greater number) who have no opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Penance, a little-known, yet most beneficial practice is to make a sincere Spiritual Confession. This is not a new practice, since many holy people in the past have made use of it (e.g. King David), but it must not be confused with the Protestant idea that it replaces Sacramental Confession and gives us the certainty of complete absolution.

In the Life of Mother Mary of the Blessed Trinity (Elizabeth Thompson), a holy Carmelite nun who lived from 1826-1904, we find the following quote:

“She was delighted at a certain Pere Fouard’s explanation of how to make a spiritual confession. “Our Lord has not abdicated His power of absolving sins just because He has given it to priests.” She told her novices that this way of telling one’s sins to Our Lord, as one does to a priest, and asking Him for Absolution, seemed to her to be more than the pardon one always asks for in one’s immediate contrition for one’s faults.”

Our Lady herself seemed to indirectly approve of this practice. On 17th Aug. 1905, she spoke to Marie-Julie Jahenny, in relation to the chastisement of France and the whole world:

“During all this time you will not have the Bread of the strong... No apostles; you will have only your Faith as food; My Divine Son as Sovereign Priest to forgive you.”

Marie-Julie Jahenny (1850-1941) was a holy mystic and stigmatist in Brittany, France. During the course of her long and pain-filled life as a victim soul, she received many prophecies as well as remedies for the plagues which will break out during the time of the Great Chastisement. Further on we shall include some of these remedies for your information and benefit.

Marie-Julie suffered greatly because of several bishops and priests who did not believe in her. They pretended to excommunicate her and as a result she was deprived of Holy Communion for eleven long years. Eventually through the intercession of St. Joseph, this severe trial was brought to an end. Today many of us are experiencing a similar trial in being deprived of the Sacraments, although we sincerely hope it will not last as long as eleven years!

On the 19th March, Feast of St. Joseph, the sixth reading at Matins is taken from the writings of St. Bernard, in which he draws a parallel between St. Joseph and the Joseph of the Old Testament:

“The former Joseph kept foodstuffs, not indeed for himself but for all the people, while the latter received into his care the Living Bread from Heaven for himself as well as for the whole world.”

Let us therefore, with confidence, “go to Joseph” in these times of spiritual starvation, begging him to bring to us once more the Bread of Heaven. He himself said to Marie-Julie Jahenny:

“Oh why am I invoked so little, even though I stand immediately after Jesus and Mary who enjoy placing their treasures at my disposition? Note well that I have more desire to answer your prayers, than you yourselves have of being answered! Why, yes why do you invoke me so seldom?”

Just as God rewarded the Holy Family’s trust in Him, so He will likewise reward ours by providing for both our spiritual and bodily necessities during this spiritual desert and temporal hardship. For our consolation, Jesus made the following revelation to a holy mystic in 1878:

“My children, there are souls who won ten thousand times more merit through spiritual Communion than through sacramental Communion. This situation transpired on account of either an absence of priests, or orders from authority forbidding the faithful from receiving the Holy Sacraments.”

Certainly this consoling revelation was meant for these times! How long it will be before the Sacraments are easily available again, we do not know; but meanwhile we are not prevented from making Spiritual Communions as frequently as we wish.

While many people are looking forward to the end of this lockdown and the return of some “normality”, there are a few Christians - a remnant - who hope and pray that this may at last be the beginning of the chastisement, so long-awaited and so richly deserved. This hope comes from a hatred of evil and zeal for the honour and glory of God and the salvation of souls. Only after this time of purification will Satan’s hour come to an end. Then indeed shall we see the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary as she prophesied in Fatima in 1917. Since even the Apostles believed that the end of the world was nigh, we may also be mistaken in believing this Chastisement to be so close. In any case, let us be prepared, spiritually as well as physically, so that when Our Lord comes “like a thief in the night”, we shall not be taken by surprise.

“It’s still the time of My immense Mercy, to give time to repent. Be ready, in the state of grace, then you will be safe beneath My protection and My Mother’s.” — Our Lord to Marie-Julie Jahenny

GO TO JOSEPH

By a Carmelite

St. Joseph came from David's line,
Of noble blood was he;
But greater do his virtues shine,
With true nobility.

Prefigured by the Patriarch
Who also bore that name,
St. Joseph led a holy life,
Was chaste and free from blame.

In dreams by night, the will of God
To him was clearly told;
He had to leave his homeland like
The Joseph from of old.

God gave into St. Joseph's care
The precious Living Bread,
By which the famine lost effect,
And hungry souls were fed.

On earth he was a silent saint,
And many folks forget
In Heaven Jesus still obeys
His whispers even yet.

God placed him over all His house
And robed him as a prince;
He was the Guardian of the Church
On earth and ever since.

His pleading is most powerful
And yet so little used;
To Joseph, St. Teresa says,
There's nothing been refused.

So "go to Joseph", Christian souls,
As Scripture has decreed;
There are few saints more powerful
To grant your every need.

Cf. Genesis 41:55



Remedies for Those Who Have Faith

Jesus and Mary revealed to Marie-Julie Jahenny that during the Chastisement many plagues would break out for which human science would have no cure. However, for the sake of those who have faith, they made known certain herbs which would assist both in preventing and in treating those afflicted by these plagues. Faith is necessary; because of themselves these herbs do not possess such powerful healing properties when taken in small amounts over a short period of time.

Hawthorn leaves (*Crataegus monogyna*):

For cholera as well as for “the burning plague”, which will attack first the heart, then the mind and the tongue, causing an unbearable fiery red heat in the affected parts of the body. The hawthorn leaves are to be made into a tea and taken three times a day.

Violet (*Viola odorata*)

For unknown fevers. Also for chest pain, nausea and severe headaches.

Ground Ivy (*Glechoma hederacea*)

To be taken as a herbal tea for bad pains in the chest and violent headaches. Also to prevent the plague.



These are only a few of the remedies revealed to Marie Julie. There is plenty of information easily available for those who are interested in learning more about this holy mystic and her prophecies.

In many places the above-mentioned herbs grow wild and may be collected and dried for future use. For those who are unable to do so, we ourselves have been collecting and drying these herbs and packaging them into teabags. They are available in packs of 21 (3 a day for 7 days) for a small cost to cover the price of packaging and postage.

Hermitage News

- ✦ March 2020: While still awaiting an opportunity to move on, we made a Novena to St. Joseph for help in finding a suitable place for our Hermitage, promising to name it St. Joseph's in his honour. Having had an opportunity to view several properties further north in County Cork, we were about to settle for one of these, 30 min drive from the Traditional Latin Mass, believing it to be the answer to our prayers and suitable for our present needs.
- ✦ April 2020: Man proposes, but God disposes! With more severe restrictions imposed on travel, we realised the necessity of remaining within walking distance of the Sacraments and so we began viewing properties in the area where we are presently living. On the course of one of our hikes, we came across an empty house and within a short time we were in contact with the owner who has agreed to sell it to us. Thanks to your generosity, we shall soon be able to purchase this house and land.
- ✦ May 2020: We have begun legal procedures for the purchase of the house (Lot 1). Due to the lockdown, it may take some time before the sale goes through and we are able to move. Thankfully for the same reason, the court hearing has twice been adjourned until a later date. We are confident that St. Joseph will somehow obtain for us the means of purchasing the adjoining land (Lot 2) in the near future. To date, we still have not had the good fortune of finding a buyer for our 2.5 acre land. This means we are short of €30,000 to buy (Lot 2) the adjoining land to the house which is most essential.



We are deeply grateful to each and every one of you for your generosity and support. Please be assured of our daily prayers for all of our friends and benefactors. May the Faith be for you all a source of strength and consolation in these trying times!

United in the hope and expectation of the triumph of Mary's Immaculate Heart, under the patronage of St. Joseph,

Your Carmelite Sisters

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**

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- ✓ **By a PayPal donation to monabyrne@rocketmail.com or via our web site:**

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