



SDNB

Salina Diocesan News Bulletin <http://salinadiocese.org/home/sdnb>

Volume 460

May 2019

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

THANK YOU for your presence at the Chrism Mass on April 11. It was good to see all of you.

THANK YOU to all of you who participated in Divine Mercy Sunday.

VOCATIONS DAYS for 5th/6th grade students of Catholic schools will be May 1, 2019 at St. Andrew Parish in Abilene and May 2, 2019 at St. Nicholas of Myra Parish in Hays. See the April SDNB under *Office of Vocations* for more information.

K of C CONVENTION is May 3-5 in Manhattan.

SPECIAL MOTHERS MASS for all mothers who have lost a child is May 9, 2019 at 10:30 A.M. at St. Mary, Queen of Angels, Russell.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATION is on May 12, 2019. The Church dedicates this day and the following week to the intention of vocations. Please make an effort to pray for more priest and religious vocations during this time.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION FOR RELIGIOUS SISTERS is May 14, 2019 at Sacred Heart Cathedral. The Mass is at 11:00 A.M. with a luncheon following in the Hall of Bishops. All priests are encouraged to con-celebrate the Mass and thank the Sisters for all the good that they do for the diocese. *Please RSVP to Katie (chancery2@salinadiocese.org or 785-827-8746) by May 7, 2019.*

ST. ISIDORE DAY will be observed May 15, 2019 at Sacred Heart Parish in Plainville. Please join for Mass, Blessing of Field and Flocks, a luncheon, and a tour of the agricultural activity in the area.

MEMORIAL DAY is May 27, 2019. The Chancery will be closed.

CLERGY HEALTH AND RETIREMENT BOARD is May 28, 2019 at the Capuchin Center for Spirituality in Victoria and May 29, 2019 at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina. There will be a social from 11:30-noon; lunch at noon, with a business meeting following. The event is for all retired priests (aged 65 and older). Invitations have already been sent out. *Please be sure to RSVP to Katie (chancery2@salinadiocese.org or 785-827-8746) by May 21, 2019.* If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kyle Haugh or Jennifer Hood in the Finance Office.

SEMINARIAN RECOGNITION DINNER is May 30, 2019 at the Salina Country Club. The evening begins with Vespers, followed by a meal in honor of our seminarians. See the *Office of Stewardship and Development Section* for more information.

VOCATIO ROSARY and POTLUCK is May 31, 2019. The rosary will begin at 5:30 P.M. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Salina. The potluck will begin at 6:00 P.M. in the parish hall.

PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION of Deacon Michael Leiker is June 1, 2019 at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina at 10:00 A.M. All are encouraged to attend. Please continue to keep Dcn. Michael in your prayers.

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD is celebrated on June 2, 2019. (*please note that the April SDNB incorrectly stated the date the Ascension is celebrated on.*)

CONFIRMATION REQUEST FORMS will be sent out in the June SDNB.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING ALERTS:

May: Human Traffickers prey on people who are hoping for a better life, lack employment opportunities, have an unstable home life, or have a history of sexual or physical abuse. Learn more about this evil. *US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking*. **VISIT:** sistersagainstrafficking.org

Mayo: los traficantes de personas se aprovechan de las personas que esperan una vida mejor, carecen de oportunidades de empleo, tienen una vida familiar inestable o tienen antecedentes de abuso sexual o físico. Aprende más sobre este mal. **Hermanas católicas estadounidenses contra la trata de personas**. VISITA: sistersagainstrafficking.org

OFFICE OF FINANCE

THE COMPENSATION FOR CLERGY PAGE for your Diocesan Handbook has been updated. A hard copy was mailed out to all Priests and PLC's. If you have a Diocesan Blue Book and need a copy to update your book, please check with your priest or Jennifer Hood in the Finance office. You may copy his form for your book. Please insert this page into your handbook under the Priests section –Section X-61 and X-62.

DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS: The list of Diocesan collections through 2021 is attached. Note that the date for the Seminarian Collection will change in 2020 to the second weekend in August. The Catholic Charities Annual Appeal will move to the 3rd weekend in November and they will supply envelopes for their appeal. Contact Beth Shearer in the Development Office with questions about the Seminarian Collection.

MARYMOUNT SCHOLARSHIP AND MSGR. CLEMENT KRUSE SCHOLARSHIP

The forms for these scholarships are in the Diocesan Handbook. Copies can be made from these forms. Please make sure the applicants are given the correct forms for the Marymount scholarship. There is one for first year applicants and a separate one for those reapplying for additional funds after the completed their first year of college. (Section V, pages 23-28) Applications are due in our office by July 1st.

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

THE ANNUAL SEMINARIAN RECOGNITION DINNER sponsored by the Diocesan Development Office is Thursday, May 30th at the Salina Country Club. This is a wonderful event recognizing the men currently discerning God's call to the Priesthood and it provides an excellent opportunity to bring greater awareness to Vocations in our Diocese. Pastors are encouraged to consider sponsoring the cost of the dinner for high school or college age young men from their parish and inviting their parents to bring them. Space is limited so RSVP as soon as possible. Beth Shearer will have more details in her report.

PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION: All are invited and encouraged to attend the Ordination to Priesthood for Deacon Michael Leiker on Saturday, June 1st at 10:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Let us all welcome him and keep him in our prayers as he joins our Presbyterate.

OFFICE OF YOUTH MINISTRY

JUNIOR CYO CAMP: Our annual camp will be May 25-28, 2019, at Rock Springs Ranch, Junction City. Youth who are 6th, 7th and 8th graders this current school year are invited to attend. Please encourage your junior high youth to attend. Our counselors are Juniors, Seniors and College age students.

We encourage juniors, seniors in high school and college age students to apply to serve as counselors. The counselors will come to Rock Springs on Friday, May 24th for Orientation before the camp starts on Saturday. Please go to the salinadiocese.org website, Offices, Catholic Formation, then Youth Ministry, click on the Jr. CYO Camp link to get your forms to register.

PRAYER AND ACTION: We have a great team of young adults on the core team for Prayer and Action this summer. Most of the weeks are starting to fill up and the following have openings: June 16-21 and June 23-28. Please register your group as soon as possible. Thanks for all you do for our youth in your parish.

NCYC: The second payment for NCYC is due in the Office on June 17th. We still have a couple of parishes that have not sent in their first payment. Please try to stay ahead of the deadlines. You will receive more information regarding deanery meetings this fall. Thank you for all you do for our youth in our diocese.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

TOTUS TUUS: All the weeks are full except the week of July 21-26,. We only have 2 places on the week of July 21-26 that are open Please register as soon as possible. We will have 3 Teams this summer.

OFFICE OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

A **SPECIAL THANK YOU** to those who hosted us at their Safe Environment Audit meetings this month. We very much enjoyed visiting with all of you. There is great work being done in the field to ensure we are providing a safe environment in our facilities and programs, and we appreciate your hard work and dedication! In April, we visited the following locations, and again want to say *Thank you* to each of them!

St. Mary Parish/School- Ellis

Emily Mattheyer
April Pfeifer
Father Dana Clark

Christ the King - Wakeeney

Verna Flax
Father Charles Steier

St. Michael Parish- Collyer

Laura Walt
Father Charlie Steier

St. Joseph Parish-Hays

Becky Newell
Father Fred Gatschet

St. Nicholas of Myra -Hays

Mandy Meagher
Father Jarett Konrade

St. Catherine -Catharine

Glenda Schuetz

Immaculate Heart of Mary- Hays

Susan Kisner
Father Barry Brinkman

Holy Family School- Hays

Rachel Wentling
Tracy Perrett

St. Mary Queen Of Angels- Russell

Bonita Ney
Father Michael Elanjimattahil

St. Thomas - Stockton

Jessica Billinger
Father Brian Lager

Sacred Heart Parish/School- Plainville

Father Brian Lager
Laura Foss

PROMISE TO 
Protect
PLEDGE TO *Heal*

Saints Philip & James Parish- Phillipsburg

Kim Ellenberger
Father George Chalbham

St. John the Evangelist-Logan

Marianna Kemper
Father George Chalbham



ONSITE AUDITS - We have completed the 3-year cycle of on-site visits to parishes and schools in the Diocese of Salina. We found these visits very beneficial and hope you did as well. Please continue to follow the suggestions and recommendations that were made at or after your audit and keep up with communications from the Diocese. Thank you again for all you do to protect our children.

TESTIMONY OF COMPLIANCE - There are a few Safety Coordinators who have not yet returned their Testimony of Compliance for Safe Environment Training for STUDENTS (ie...Child Lures), please return them as soon as possible!

SUMMER ACTIVITIES - With the start of summer activities (VBS, Totus Tuus, Prayer and Action etc.), please be sure all volunteers working with minors have completed the Safe Environment Curriculum with background check through CMGConnect. *For students under the age of 18 who will be volunteering with younger minors, please have them complete the Youth Minors Curriculum "So you think you can volunteer."* These volunteers cannot be the primary supervisors of other minors; they must be working under the supervision of at least two fully trained adults (more trained adults may be necessary depending on group size).

ANNUAL DIOCESAN AUDIT - The Diocese will have an on-line audit this year. It is essential that all volunteers, employees and educators who have ministered during this audit period (July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019) are trained and in the data base. Safety Coordinators, please remember to check your CMGConnect data base **WEEKLY**. This must be done so we can keep the data base current. Thank you for your cooperation.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION PACKET - Safe Environment Program information packets will be mailed in August. Included in the packet will be all the forms each parish or school is required to complete and return. The packet will generally be mailed to the Safe Environment Coordinator at the parish or school. You may request that the packet be sent directly to the Coordinator's home by emailing wendy.backes@salinadiocese.org as soon as possible.

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL – CALL TO SHARE



The generosity of over 3000 families in our diocese to the 2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal has been great. With their support, we are close our goal. However, the diocesan needs continue.

This year's themes, "Call to Share" along with the scripture verse "*Behold, how good it is, and how pleasant, where humanity dwells as one*" from Psalm 133:1, has inspired many to support the diverse ministries of the diocese. But our participation rate continues to be less than 20%.

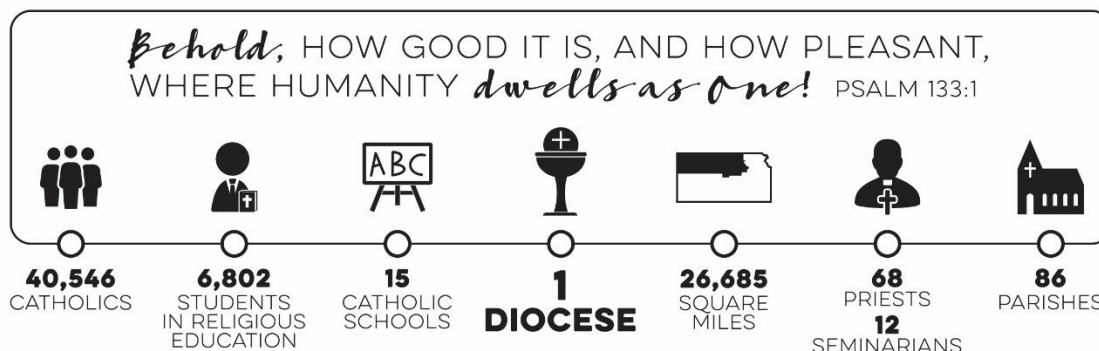
In comparison to other dioceses across the nation, this is at the mid to low point of the range for participation. What is the participation rate for your parish? There remains an opportunity for every parishioner to participate in the larger diocese. We are all in this together.

Please continue to promote the appeal in your parishes. Like last year, we will accept "Call to Share" gifts through 12/31/2019. There are two more mailings going out from our office. The next will be in mid-May and will be the letters signed by each parish pastor. (If you have not sent your signature to Beth Shearer, please do so quickly. Remember, just sign a white piece of paper, scan it and email or mail to Beth.) Then in the summer we will send a letter to all those families who gave last year, but have not given yet this year.

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT (cont.)

If you have any **questions** along the way, contact Beth Shearer at beth.shearer@salinadiocese.org . or Lois Yost at lois.yost@salinadiocese.org . Both of us can be reached by phone at 785-827-8746.

Thank you for all you have done so far and continue to do.



ANNUAL SEMINARIAN RECOGNITION DINNER

Registration has begun for the **Seminarian Recognition Dinner**, which will be Thursday, May 30, 2019 at the Salina Country Club. Invitations will be mailed within the week. And new this year, reservations can be made online at <https://salinadiocese.org/development/seminarian-dinner>. The dinner is \$50 per person. This has become a popular event and RSVP's are required by May 23 to be sure we do not overflow the room.

This year we have a slight change in the order of events. The evening will begin with a social at 6:00 P.M., followed by Vespers which will lead us to the dinner. This is our opportunity as clergy and lay people to recognize and honor those men in our diocese who are currently discerning God's call to Priestly vocations. This is a fun and inspiring event. Consider inviting your parishioners or perhaps host a table of men who have shown interest in seminary. If you have any questions, contact Beth Shearer or Lois Yost with any questions. Phone number is the same for both of us – 785-827-8746 – or email beth.shearer@salinadiocese.org.

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE/NFP

2019 DIOCESAN MEN'S CONFERENCE: The eighth annual Diocesan Men's Conference is scheduled for Saturday, August 10th at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, Hays. ALL men and young men Junior High and up are encouraged to attend! Please encourage the men of your parish to sign up early!

Please rotate the weekly bulletin announcements below over the next several months.

Announcement #1 – Salina Diocese Men's Conference, Register Today

The Diocese of Salina is sponsoring the Eighth Annual Diocesan Men's Conference on Saturday, August 10th at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays. Please attend and bring your sons who are in Junior High, High School or College. Our speakers this year will be **Pete Burak** and **Peter Herbeck**. To register online or for more information go to salinadiocese.org or call 785-827-8746.

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE/NFP (cont.)

Announcement #2 – Salina Diocese Men’s Conference, Register Today

Catholic Men of the Salina Diocese, join us for our Eighth Annual Salina Diocese Men’s Conference, August 10th at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays. If you have sons who are in Junior High, High School or older, please bring them. Pete Burak and Peter Herbeck are this year’s speakers. **Pete Burak** is a 2010 graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville (FUS). He engages young people with stories from his youth, high school experiences, his two years with the University of Michigan basketball team, and his transfer to FUS. **Peter Herbeck** is the vice president and director of missions for Renewal Ministries. Peter is a co-host for the weekly EWTN television programs *The Choices We Face* and *Crossing the Goal*. He also hosts the daily radio show *Fire on the Earth*. To register online or for more information go to salinadiocese.org or call 785-827-8746.

Announcement #3 – Salina Diocese Men’s Conference, Register Today

With the wonderful success of last year’s Diocesan Men’s Conference, an Eighth Annual Men’s Conference will be held again this year on Saturday, August 10th at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Hays. All men are invited. Bring your sons who are in Junior High, High School, or College. Our goal is to strengthen Catholic men in their faith and thereby strengthen our Catholic families and parishes. To register online or for more information go to salinadiocese.org or call 785-827-8746.

If you want these bulletin announcements via email, contact:

familylife@salinadiocese.org

FAMILY MATTERS! Attached is the May issue of Family Matters. Please use this resource in your parishes to promote and support Family Life.

UPCOMING MARRIAGE PREPARATION AND ENRICHMENT EVENTS

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER DATES FOR 2019

June 7, 2019- Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria

For more information, go to salinacee.com

*A complete updated list was sent out in the January 2019 SDNB. If you have questions, please call our office at 785-827-8746

OTHER FAMILY LIFE/NFP NEWS AND EVENTS:

MEMORIAL MASS FOR MOTHERS - Thursday, May 9, at 10:30 A.M. there will be a Memorial Mass for mothers who have lost a child - at any age, either before or after birth. at St. Mary, Queen of Angels Parish, Russell. There will be a light reception following the Mass. Bishop Gerald Vincke will be the celebrant. **Priests**, if you would like to concelebrate this Mass please RSVP to wendy.backes@salinadiocese.org.

MIDWEST CATHOLIC FAMILY CONFERENCE - The Midwest Catholic Family Conference will be held August 2-4, 2019 at the Century II Convention Center in Wichita. It is a total family event with activities for every age group in the family with parents able to take babies in strollers along to their sessions. For more information, go to catholicfamilyconference.org

OFFICE OF RURAL LIFE

ST. ISIDORE'S DAY will be observed on May 15, 2019, at Sacred Heart parish in Plainville, KS. We will gather at Sacred Heart in Plainville at 1:00 P.M. for Mass with Bishop Vincke. Following Mass with Bishop Vincke, we will have a blessing of the Fields and Flocks, and then proceed to tours of Wilken Manufacturing and a tour of a rural hospital. We are planning a Rosary back at Sacred Heart and then a delicious supper will be at 5:30 P.M. I hope to see all of you on May 15TH.

RURAL LIFE DAY will be at St. Frances Cabrini Parish in Hoxie, KS, Sunday, August 18, 2019. We will begin at 3:00 P.M. with an opening prayer. The main feature of the Rural Life Day is presenting the Msgr. John George Weber Century Farm Award to families who have farmed or owned their farm for 100 years or longer. Families applying for the award are asked to prepare a brief (5 minutes +/-) history of their family farm; their hardships, successes, how faith played a major role, family succession for the operation of the farm, etc.

Photographs of the families and the family histories will be placed in *The Register*. While we are targeting farms and families in the West Central Deanery, any family in the Diocese may apply. Families in your parish who qualify for the Century Farm Award may apply by filling the application found on the Diocesan Website under Rural Life. We would appreciate the application submitted by August 1st, 2018.

Please send the applications to: **Rural Life Commission c/o Rev. Richard Daise 585 N French Avenue Colby, KS 67701.** For additional information, please call me at (785) 462-2179.

JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Michael Leikers' Ordination to the Priesthood, 10 am Mass of Healing, 5:30 pm, Herington Mass of Healing, Hope 7:30 pm
2 Confirmation, St.Mary's, Ellis-9:00 am Totus Tuus-Lincoln, Hoxie & Concordia P&A. (College wk). Colbv	3 P&A, (College wk), Colbv	4 P&A, (College wk), Colbv	5 Catholic Charities Blessing, Manhattan office, 5:30 pm	6	7	8 Confirmation, OLPH in Goodland, 6 pm (mountain time)
9 Pentecost Sunday Totus Tuus-Beloit, Oakley & Abilene Prayer & Action-Colby-H.S.	10 Curia, Group A 10:00 am USCCB-Baltimore	11 USCCB Baltimore	12 USCCB Baltimore	13 USCCB Baltimore	14 USCCB Baltimore	15 Mass of Healing- S.H., Plainville, 6 pm
16 Trinity Sunday Mass of Healing, St. Thomas, Stockton, 8:30 am Prayer & Action-Colby-H.S. Totus Tuus-Hill City, Ellis & Wilson FATHERS DAY	17	18	19	20 Catholic Charities mtg., 6-8 pm	21	22 Confirmation, St. Mary's, Salina, 7-9 pm
23 Confirmation - Smith Center, 10:30am Totus Tuus- Colby, Hays & Phillipsburg P&A-Colby- H.S.	24 Peter's Pence Annual Coll. Confirmation St. John's, Logan, 10:30 am	25 Consultors mtg., 12:30-3:00 pm CCF Board mtg., 4:00-5:30 pm	26	27 Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help	28	29 Mass of Healing, St. Andrew-Abilene, 5:00pm Peter's Pence Annual Collection

DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS FOR THE SALINA DIOCESE

Note that the date for the Seminarian Collection will change in 2020 to the second weekend in August. The Catholic Charities Annual Appeal will move to the 3rd weekend in November and they will supply envelopes for their appeal. Contact Beth Shearer in the Development Office with questions about the Seminarian Collection.

	2019	2020	2021
Catholic Relief Services - (formerly ACOAF) (fourth Sunday of Lent)	3/31/2019	3/22/2020	3/14/2021
Holy Land - (Good Friday)	4/19/2019	4/10/2020	4/2/2021
Catholic Home Mission Appeal (last Sunday of April)	4/28/2019	4/26/2020	4/25/2021
Peters Pence (first Sunday of July or Nearest Sunday to the Feast of Sts Peter & Paul)	6/30/2019	6/28/2020	6/27/2021
Mission Sunday (next to last Sunday in October)	10/20/2019	10/18/2020	10/24/2021
Seminarian Collection	11/10/2019	8/9/2020	8/8/2021
Human Development (Sunday before Thanksgiving)	11/24/2019	11/22/2020	11/21/2021
Retired Religious (Second Sunday in December)	12/8/2019	12/13/2020	12/12/2021

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

8th Annual Catholic Men's Conference 2019



Pete Burak

Graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville, former University of Michigan basketball player, Director of a Catholic Outreach Program- i.d.9:16, and Co-director of Pine Hills Boys Camp, Michigan



Peter Herbeck

Vice President and director of missions for Renewal Ministries. Co-host of EWTN's *The Choices We Face* and *Crossing the Goal* and host of radio show *Fire on the Earth*

Saturday

August

10th

8 AM - 4PM

1805 Vine Street Hays, KS

Register online beginning April 1st @ salinadiocese.org

Salina Diocese Men's Conference 2019

Saturday, August 11, 2019

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

1805 Vine Street - Hays, Kansas 67601

Registration (refreshments & lunch included)

_____ Adult - \$35 **NOTE:** *If paper form submitted each adult must fill a separate form*

_____ Student - \$15 (MS, HS & College)

_____ Father and one son under 21 - \$40

_____ Father and two sons under 21 - \$50

_____ Father and three sons under 21 - \$60

_____ *Priests, deacons and seminarians are **FREE**, but need to register for planning purposes.*

Adult Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parish: _____ Parish City: _____

Home Phone: () _____, Cell Phone: () _____

E-mail Address _____

First Son Name: _____

Second Son Name: _____

Third Son Name: _____

Bringing more than 3 son's add \$10 for each and include information here



_____ I would like to preregister for an Assistive Hearing Device at no additional charge

_____ I would like to sponsor an additional adult entry fee.

(Donated entry fees will be given to the Priests of the Diocese to disperse to those in their communities who may otherwise be unable to attend.)

August 1st is the final registration date. Registrations after that date will require an additional \$10.00/person

**Make checks payable to Diocese of Salina and send completed registration form and payment to:
Diocesan Family Life Office
P. O. Box 980
Salina, KS 67402-0980**

Saint Louis de Montfort

says:

"Mary is the quickest, shortest, and easiest path to Jesus."

family

MATTERS

THE MONTH OF MAY

Devotion to the Blessed Mother is important for the salvation and sanctification of everyone, but it is especially crucial for our youth to be accustomed to giving her their love, honor and service, and to learn how to imitate her virtues. Children, teenagers and young adults alike, should be taught the significance that Marian devotion should have in every aspect of their lives.

May is the Month of Mary

St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort in his classic, True Devotion to Mary, wrote, "All true children of God have God for their father and Mary for their mother." Children, even more so than adults, find it natural to look with confidence to their mother, to entrust themselves to her, and to confide all their cares, worries and troubles to her maternal solicitude. One of the greatest tragedies of our day is the large number of children who have never known the Blessed Mother and who have never even had the opportunity of learning that they have a loving Mother in Heaven to whom they can go with all their daily concerns. If children grow up knowing Our Lady, cultivating the habit of flying to her arms for refuge, and striving to imitate her holiness of life, they will lay a secure foundation upon which they can build the rest of their lives.

For more info visit <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/imitating-marys-10-amazing-virtues-6169>

Let us learn the ten amazing VIRTUES of Mary and beg Our Lady for the grace to put them into practice.

ARDENT CHARITY: Every action that Mary performed for those around her was done out of love for the Lord. *Be like the Blessed Mother and take on the disposition of love for those around you by bringing Jesus to them, the true and perfect lover.*

PROFOUND HUMILITY: Mary perfectly conformed herself to God's Will. She saw herself as God saw her: nothing more, nothing less.

See yourself as God sees you! Accept compliments gracefully and quietly, and don't be embarrassed to have made mistakes in front of others.

UNIVERSAL MORTIFICATION: Mary died to herself from the moment she said, "Not my will but Yours be done." She continued this throughout her entire life, continually dying to herself and totally uniting herself to her Son.

Make sacrifices and offer them up for the great good of someone else.

CONSTANT MENTAL PRAYER: Mary's entire life was a prayer, due to her constantly placing herself in the presence of the Lord, every moment of her life.

Praise God. Make time for silence, for thanking Him, and for asking help to do His Will. Bring Christ into every little thing, offering up all your thoughts, words, actions, joys, and sorrows.

BLIND OBEDIENCE: Mary was able to confidently give her fiat at the moment of the Annunciation, and also in every circumstance after that.

We can believe and trust that God's plan for us is good and loving. This is really hard, especially at times when life is uncertain, but you are not alone in the chaos. He is right there with you.

DIVINE WISDOM: Mary was able to see the beauty of God's will in every moment. She didn't run to others first; she always conversed with the Lord first, so that she could embrace His Will.

Ask the Holy Spirit for the wisdom to see things through the eyes of Christ and not your own. Ask Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, to pray for you!

SURPASSING PURITY: Everything in Mary was of God. Her mind and heart were pure. She lived her life with unity of purpose, seeking only to love and honor with all her heart, all her mind, and all her soul.

Live a life full of prayer and frequent the Sacraments. Strive to keep your mind pure and focused on heavenly things instead of things of this world.

ANGELIC SWEETNESS: Mary radiated joy and peace to everyone she encountered.

We can open our hearts to the grace that is available to us, show gratitude for God's blessings. We can smile, and be kind, friendly, and sensitive towards others needs—putting their needs before our own.

LIVELY FAITH: Mary completely submitted herself to God in an energetic way. She joyfully surrendered herself to the Lord.

Faith is a gift from God! To receive a gift, we must be in communion with the Giver. Choose to trust Him and practice receiving His gifts with humble, open palms.

HEROIC PATIENCE: Mary gave her fiat, her "yes" to Christ. Mary's patience culminated at the foot of her Son's cross, where she truly became a martyr through her patient and complete suffering in union with Christ.

Unite your sufferings with the sufferings of Our Lord and Our Lady of Sorrows. Pray for the gift of perseverance and cultivate silence in your life and in your heart.

Living the virtues of Mary may seem overwhelming. Don't get discouraged. With your family, choose one virtue at a time; maybe it's one that you really feel drawn to or just one that you all really struggle with. One of the greatest things about Mary is that she is not just someone from history; she is still our Mother today and she is always praying for us, supporting us, and leading us closer to her Son. She is with you every step of the way, call upon her, ask her for guidance and encouragement.

Lastly, don't be afraid to allow her to love YOU. As St. Maximilian Kolbe said, "Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin Mary too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did."