

NEWS *from the* MISSIONARY IMAGE of OUR LADY of GUADALUPE

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Dan Lynch and
The Missionary Image

Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

July 16, 2010

Dear Friend of Our Lady of Guadalupe,

“Whoever dies clothed in this habit shall be saved.” That’s what Our Lady of Mount Carmel said to St. Simon Stock, Carmelite Superior General, in 1251.

By saying, “this habit,” Our Lady meant the brown woolen scapular clothing of the Carmelite Order. Our Lady herself appeared to St. Simon Stock accompanied by a multitude of angels and held this scapular in her hand. Her promise has been extended to all those enrolled in the Brown Scapular. Obviously, simply wearing this Scapular does not save us, as if by magic. Jesus saves us through living our total consecration to Him. The Brown Scapular is a sign of our consecration.

Pope John Paul II Wore the Brown Scapular

Pope John Paul II sent a letter to the Carmelite order to mark the 750th anniversary of their reception of the Brown Scapular. He wrote, “I have learned that **the Carmelite order wishes to express its filial love to its Patroness invoked as the Flower of Carmel, Mother and Guide in the Path to Holiness.**” This Marian devotion, expressed “in the humble sign of the Scapular, consists in the consecration to her Immaculate Heart,” he stressed.

On her Feast Day he said, **“Even I, from my youngest days, have worn around my neck the**

Scapular of Our Lady and I take refuge with trust under the mantle of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus.” He added, “I hope the Scapular will be for everyone, especially the faithful who wear it, a help and defense in times of danger, a seal of peace and a sign of Mary’s care.”

Brown Scapulars consist of two small squares of woolen cloth joined by strings and worn around the neck. (*See the photo below*). The original, large scapulars worn by the Carmelites were work habits that came to symbolize the Cross and yoke of Christ.

Almost six centuries after Our Lady appeared to St. Simon Stock, she appeared to Sister Lucia, Blessed Jacinta and Blessed Francisco on October 13, 1917, in the last vision at Fatima. Our Lady appeared as Our Lady of Mount Carmel with the Brown Scapular hanging from her right hand in the same way as it was held out for St. Simon Stock.

Sister Lucia said, “The Rosary and the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel are inseparable and **the wearing of the Brown Scapular is the sign of our consecration.**” When we wear the Brown Scapular, we are giving a sign of our consecration to Jesus through Mary by which we dedicate ourselves entirely to Jesus under her protection and imitate her virtues. This was Pope John Paul II’s personal spirituality. The motto of his papacy was *Totus Tuus* – Totally Yours.



“May Our Lady of Guadalupe cross this continent bringing it life, sweetness and hope!” Pope John Paul II

So let us wear the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel with Our Lady of Guadalupe. Pope John Paul II consecrated himself and his papacy to her. Let us follow his example.

Pope John Paul's Consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe

This consecration was made by Pope John Paul II during a Mass celebrated in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe on January 27, 1979. It was his first pilgrimage as Pope and the first time that a pope had visited the Guadalupe Shrine.

O Immaculate Virgin, Mother of the true God and Mother of the Church, who from this place reveal your clemency and your pity to all those who ask for your protection, hear the prayer that we address to you with filial trust, and present it to your Son Jesus, our sole Redeemer.

Mother of Mercy, Teacher of hidden and silent sacrifice, to you, who come to meet us sinners, we dedicate on this day all our being and all our love.

We also dedicate to you our life, our work, our joys, our infirmities and our sorrows.

Grant peace, justice and prosperity to our peoples; for we entrust to your care all that we have and all that we are, Our Lady and Mother.

We wish to be entirely yours and to walk with you along the way of complete faithfulness to Jesus Christ in His Church.

Hold us always with your loving hand.

Virgin of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas, we pray to you for all the Bishops, that they may lead the faithful along paths of intense Christian life, of love and humble service of God and souls.

Contemplate this immense harvest, and intercede with the Lord that He may instill a hunger for holiness in the whole People of God, and grant abundant vocations of priests and religious, strong in the faith and zealous dispensers of God's mysteries.

Grant to our homes the grace of loving and respecting life in its beginnings, with the same love with which you conceived in your

womb the life of the Son of God.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Fair Love, protect our families, so that they may always be united, and bless the upbringing of our children.

Our hope, look upon us with compassion, teach us to go continually to Jesus and, if we fall, help us to rise again, to return to Him, by means of the confession of our faults and sins in the Sacrament of Penance, which gives peace to the soul.

We beg you to grant us a great love for all the holy Sacraments, which are, as it were, the signs that your Son left us on earth.

Thus, Most Holy Mother, with the peace of God in our conscience, with our hearts free from evil and hatred, we will be able to bring to all true joy and true peace, which come to us from your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who with God the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

A Testimony of Motherhood through The Missionary Image

I received the following testimony from a mother who was trying to discern God's plan for the size of her family. Our Lady of Guadalupe gave her the answer through her Missionary Image!

My husband and I felt our 4 kids were enough for us, but struggled with what God's plan was for our family. In my heart I felt that our family wasn't done growing yet. I went to visit Our Lady at a private home and sat in front of her, I felt so at peace and began speaking to her from my heart. I said if it was God's plan that we have more children, I would be accepting and know to trust in Our Lord. I felt so warm and peaceful at that moment and relieved that I put my trust in Our Lady and finally let go of my apprehension. A few weeks later I found out I was pregnant. Although I was a little worried, I laughed inside because I remembered my words to Her on that day and knew that my answer came quickly!

At about 20 weeks into my pregnancy I had a Level 2 sonogram. The doctor saw a small spot on the heart which is not harmful

to the baby, but can be an indicator of Down Syndrome. I am 36 years old and my chances of having a Down Syndrome baby are 1 in 180, now they told me my chances are reduced to 1 in 90. I refused any further testing because it can be inaccurate, and an amniocentesis could be harmful to the baby. I trust that God will guide my family and help guide us along the way.

I wasn't too upset by this news, but it did wear at me and began to consume my thoughts. I prayed about my situation and always thought back to my visit with Our Lady. A few days after that test I looked out at the full moon. It was a beautiful clear night and the rays of the moon illuminated the sky and formed a cross. The rays reached across the sky and landed in my yard right in front of a rose bush just outside my living room! I felt that Christ was reaching out to me showing me that He was with me. I knew not to worry anymore, and felt that everything was going to be OK. I didn't know the outcome of my pregnancy, but I knew God was with me. After that night I didn't worry about the baby. If fear crept in (which occasionally it tried to) I thought of that cross and let it go. I enjoyed the rest of my pregnancy and delivered a healthy baby boy in November with no medical issues at all. He is truly a blessing in our lives, and I know now more than ever that God is always at my side. This has strengthened my relationship with God. Our Lady has always been special to me, but now I really feel her presence in my life. She is the mother of Our Lord and I feel a special connection to her. I feel that she helps me with my own mothering and I draw on her strength every day. I think back to that day in front of her Image and feel that it truly changed my life. I don't know how many more children God has planned for me, but I feel accepting of whatever His plans may be.

After James was born, and the Image of Our Lady came back around, I went to see her and thank her for changing my life. I brought James with me and felt so happy to have him "meet" her!

Stories like this show that over the centuries,

from saints to modern-day Catholics, Our Lady is gently calling and inviting us to trust in her Son and in the Father's love. Just as she showed a path of grace to St. Simon Stock through the wearing of the Scapular, she continues to show the path of filial trust in her intercession through the Missionary Image.

See our online catalog for the Brown Scapular shown in the photo on page one. This is a quality Scapular made of brown wool and embroidered with the images of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

In the summer, many of our supporters take well-deserved vacations. As a result, our donations fall to their lowest level and we barely make it through the summer. We need you! **Your extra help during this time would be greatly appreciated.**

Please pray for our apostolate, make or renew your Consecration, wear the Brown Scapular, and help us today! We rely solely on your help to spread this Devotion and Consecration throughout the world and to coordinate the Visitations of the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

I am very thankful for your prayers and your support. May God bless you for your generosity! Our benefactors receive the following spiritual benefits from our apostolate: remembrance of your intentions in our daily perpetual Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe; our weekly Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament and our special monthly Masses. Please return the Reply Letter today and help us. May God bless you for your generous support! I am very grateful!

Sincerely in Christ,



Dan Lynch

P.S. Remember to make or renew your Consecration and to wear the Brown Scapular!

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Dan Lynch



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TOTAL CONSECRATION MATERIALS

1.

How to *MAKE THE TOTAL CONSECRATION*



READ *The Call to Total Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*

"I used Dan Lynch's book as a resource for my talk on the Total Consecration at the New Orleans Marian Conference. Of the many books that I have received, this is one of the very few that I actually read and enjoyed!"
-Scott Hahn - Converted Catholic Professor

"I quoted excerpts from Dan Lynch's book in my bestseller, Call of the Ages."

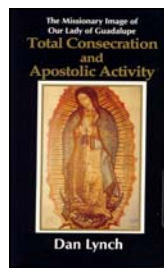
-Dr. Tom Petrisko - Director, Pittsburgh Center of Peace

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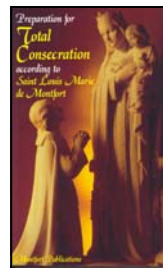
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3.

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4. **WEAR**

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