

ST. PETER DAMIAN & THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

Little Talks to Little People

St. Peter Damian, who was born in 988, lost his mother and father shortly after he was born. His oldest brother adopted little Peter but treated him very badly and made him work hard.

One day Peter found a silver coin, which was a good amount of money in those days. The owner of the coin could not be found, so Peter could have used the coin to buy things for himself. Peter thought the matter over and decided to have a Mass said for his dear father. This was a big sacrifice for Peter and he had a priest say the Mass.

After this, Peter's younger brother Damian, who was a priest, came to the house where he lived. He was shocked to find how terribly the little fellow had been treated. Fr. Damian then took Peter to his home, dressed him in good clothes and fed him with good food.

As a youth, Peter wore a hairshirt and did much fasting and praying. He helped the poor and often made, and served them meals.

Because Peter was so smart, Fr. Damian sent him to the University of Parma. There, Peter sanctified his studies by fasting and praying. He was a very good student but when he reached his late twenties, he decided to join the Benedictine Monks at Font-Avellano. There, Peter became very wise and holy and in time he became the Superior.

St. Peter did the most difficult jobs for the monastery and one of these jobs was to help other monks in monasteries become more holy. He was very good at doing this because he was so holy himself and he taught them by his good example.

Because he was such a wise and holy monk, seven Popes, one after the other, asked St. Peter to be their adviser. One of the Popes made Peter the Cardinal Bishop of Ostia.

During Peter's life he also had to work with Alexander II against an Antipope—one who is not a true Pope. St. Peter forced the Antipope to stop acting as a Pope and to be sorry for his sin. Peter was made Papal Legate and had to stop the people from committing sins of simony. Simony is a sin where people make money out of holy things.

Peter got sick from a fever and died in one of the monasteries of his order, in 1072. Years later he was made a Doctor of the Church.

All these wonderful graces came to St. Peter just because he had that one Mass said for his dead father! So you see, God will give you many graces if you too, help the Holy Souls in Purgatory. And be sure—the Holy Souls will never forget about you.



Month of the Souls in Purgatory

THE GUARDIAN OF CRUSADERS

Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Canada

November 2010 # 208

The Holy Souls of Purgatory

Dear Crusaders,



One day, there was a man who was in prison. Because he was so eager to get out of jail, he wrote a letter to the Queen: "I have been in jail for 100,000 hours, and I still have 200,000 hours to serve in prison. I suffer so much: help me to get out of here!"

That great lady was deeply touched by the letter of the poor prisoner. She spoke to the King,

and convinced him to release that poor man who was so happy to be back home with his wife and children.

Crusaders, do you not hear the awful cry of the souls in Purgatory, begging you to help them: "Have mercy on me, it has been such a long time since I have been suffering so much pain, and I have much more time to do here. Help me to get out of here!"

Like that good queen, you should you be impressed by the calls coming from the Souls of Purgatory. These Poor Souls know quite well that you can help them a lot, whenever you pray well, you make good communions and you do sacrifices for them.

So, during this month of November, be like little apostles of Purgatory, doing your best to help these needy souls.

Father Dominique Boulet

*** On October 2nd, I said Mass for the intentions of the Eucharistic Crusade in Canada.**

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my Godmother, who held me when I was a baby, at the Baptismal font?"

"Yes, it is I," replied the Godmother.

"How come you are now among the living," questioned Lucia, *"since you have been dead for more than a year?"*

"Until this day I have been burning in the dreadful fires of Purgatory, on account of the many sins of vanity which I committed in my youth," replied her Godmother. *"But during this special Vigil of the Feast of the Assumption, the Queen of Heaven descended into the midst of the flames of Purgatory and delivered me, together with a large number of other souls, that we might enter Heaven on the Feast of her Assumption. Our Lady does this great act of mercy every year, and on this occasion alone, the number of those whom she has delivered equals the population of Rome",* which my good Crusaders, is thousands and thousands of people.

Lucia doubted that she was really seeing an apparition of her Godmother, so her Godmother added, *"As a proof of the truth of my words, you will die in one year on the Feast of the Assumption. But if you live longer than the next Feast of the Assumption, then believe that this is a false apparition!"*

Lucia passed the next year by doing good works in order to prepare herself to appear before God. The next year on the Vigil of the Assumption Lucia got sick, and died on the Feast of the Assumption, just like her Godmother had told her would happen!

We will never understand very clearly that every small or great alms which we give to the poor, we give to God. We place the money, food, or clothing in the poor man's hand and Jesus receives it. Remember the story about St. Martin of Tours: he cut his soldier's cape in half, gave half to a poor beggar and kept the other half. After this Our Lord appeared to St. Martin, holding half of his red cape, and thanked St. Martin.

Remember, there is no hunger, no thirst, no poverty, no pain, and no suffering to compare with what the Holy Souls in Purgatory suffer. So there is no alms more deserving, none more pleasing to God, none more meritorious for us than the alms, the prayers, and the Masses we give to the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

It is possible that some of your own relatives and friends are still suffering in Purgatory. Can you do something for them? I'm sure you can.

The End

your hopes and fears in Mary's hands and have confidence, for the Blessed Virgin will always be there to help you.

It is especially on certain days that Mary shows great mercy to the Souls in Purgatory. These special days are first of all Saturdays (which is Our Lady's special day), and different Feast Days of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On Saturdays, Our Mother of Mercy descends into the dark dungeons of Purgatory to visit and console her devoted servants—that is, people who were especially devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary during their life.

On Saturdays, the Blessed Virgin Mary delivers those souls who wore the Brown Scapular during their life and lived their life to the best of their ability according to their state in life—married, religious, single. These people also abstained from eating meat on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, or said the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary every day, or said their Rosary every day—any priest has the power to allow you to replace the saying of the Little Office, with your daily Rosary.

One Saturday, Venerable Sr. Paula was taken in spirit to Purgatory. She was quite surprised to find that Purgatory had been changed into a Paradise of delights. And Purgatory was lit up with a bright light, instead of the darkness, which was there on other days. While Sr. Paula was wondering why there was this change in Purgatory, she saw Mary, the Queen of Heaven, surrounded by an army of Angels. To these Angels, Mary was giving orders to free from Purgatory those souls who had honoured her in a special way during their life, and to take these souls to Heaven.

St. Peter Damian said that on the Feast of the Assumption, the Blessed Virgin Mary delivers thousands of Holy Souls from Purgatory. And remember this: St. John Massias, a Dominican, released one million, four hundred thousand souls from Purgatory, mostly by saying his Rosary!

We learn from St. Peter Damian (988 - 1072), the following account. It is a pious custom for the people of Rome to visit the churches, carrying a candle in their hand, the night before the Feast of the Assumption. One year on one of these nights, a person (lets call her Lucia), was kneeling in Ara Caeli Basilica. At the same time she saw in front of her, her Godmother who had died many months before. Lucia went and stood by the door and as soon as she saw her Godmother go out, she took her by the hand and said, **“Are you not**

PURGATORY AND THE SUFFERING SOULS

Purgatory is the place where most good Catholics go after they die. Other people - providing that they have died with sorrow for their sins and in God's favour - may also go to Purgatory. People go to Purgatory because their souls must be very pure in order to go to Heaven and see God. But do you realize what Purgatory is? The souls in Purgatory are in great pain and most of these souls have to remain in Purgatory for many, many years. And what is worse, the Souls in Purgatory are suffering in flames of fire. The fire purifies their souls from all the sins that they have committed when they were on earth. The sins on their souls are like rust, and when the fire of Purgatory has burned the rust off, then the soul will fly to God in Heaven.

St. Thomas Aquinas says: ***“The fire of Purgatory is equal to the fire of Hell, and Purgatory is more terrible than all the sufferings on earth.”*** But remember, the great difference between Purgatory and Hell is that Purgatory will end at the end of the world but Hell is forever, it never ends!

St. Catherine of Genoa says that the Souls in Purgatory are happy to be in Purgatory because they know that they are doing God's Holy Will. Even though they are in pain they want God to do whatever it pleases Him to do and as it pleases Him. Day by day, the happiness of the Souls in Purgatory grows as they become more and more cleansed from their sins.

In Purgatory pain does not lessen but only the time for which the pain lasts. The souls in Purgatory suffer a pain, which is so terrible that nobody could ever explain it. St. Cyril of Alexandria says: ***“It would be better to suffer all the possible torments on Earth until the Judgement Day (End of the World) than to pass one day in Purgatory!”***

Here are some ways to help the Poor Souls get out of Purgatory.

1) Pray for the souls in Purgatory—A beautiful prayer which Jesus gave to St. Gertrude, you can say to release the Souls from Purgatory: ***“Eternal Father I offer Thee the most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son Jesus in union with the Masses said throughout the world today for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Amen.”***

2) You can have Masses said for the Souls in Purgatory or you can get together as a family and have Masses said for the Souls in Purgatory.

3) You can offer the Mass you attend at Church on Sundays and Holy Days and during the week, for the Souls in Purgatory.

4) You can say your Rosary for the Souls in Purgatory.

5) You can say the Stations of the Cross for the Souls in Purgatory.

6) You can offer up your work and your play for the Souls in Purgatory.

7) You can eat some food you don't like, or not eat some food that you do like for the Souls in Purgatory.

8) You can sometimes offer up having a glass of water on a very hot day.

9) You can sprinkle Holy Water on the floor for the Holy Souls, every time you bless yourself, and this will help to release them.

I'll bet you can come up with more ways to get Souls out of Purgatory.

Here is a true story of a nun who went to Purgatory. In a certain Dominican convent, one of the rules was: never to drink water between meals unless you had the permission of the Superior. Blessed Emilia, the Superior, advised her sisters to make this sacrifice in memory of the burning thirst, which Our Saviour had endured for our salvation upon the Cross. And to encourage the sisters to do this, the Superior asked the nuns to give this water to their Guardian Angels so that their Angels might use this water in the next life to cool them off from the fires of Purgatory.

One day Sr. Cecelia, who was very thirsty, asked Blessed Emilia, if she could have a little water. The Superior reminded Sr. Cecilia: ***“Make this sacrifice for the love of God and for the future which you might have to spend in Purgatory.”***

“But Mother, I am dying of thirst”, replied the good sister. Nevertheless, Sr. Cecilia obeyed her Superior.

A few weeks later, Sr. Cecilia died and three days later she appeared in glory to Blessed Emilia, ***“O Mother! How grateful I am to you. I was supposed to stay a long time in Purgatory because I had too much affection for my family. However, after two days in Purgatory, my Guardian Angel entered Purgatory holding in his hand the glass of water, which you asked me to sacrifice for the love of God. My Angel poured that water upon the burning flames that surrounded me. The flames were put out immediately and I have been delivered. I am now going to Heaven. I will always be grateful to you and I will never forget you!”***

(Continued on page9)

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Now remember that when you help the Souls in Purgatory, they will also help you. They will never forget the kindness you showed them by the prayers and sacrifices you have made to help them get to Heaven faster.

There once was a Polish Prince who no longer believed in the Catholic Faith, and he was writing a book against the Catholic Faith. One evening he was strolling in his garden. Presently he came upon a woman who was crying her heart out. ***“My dear woman why are you crying so much?”***

“Ah! Prince,” she answered, ***“I am the wife of John Marie, your former steward, who died two days ago. He was your faithful servant and a good husband to me. He was very sick before he died and I spent all our savings on doctors. Now I have nothing left to have Masses said for his soul!”***

“My good woman,” the Prince replied, ***“here are some gold coins to have some Masses said for your husband’s soul.”*** Some time later on another evening, the Prince was writing his book against the Catholic Faith when suddenly there was a loud knock on the door and without looking up the Prince told the visitor to come in. The person came in and stood near the Prince’s desk. When the Prince looked up he was surprised to see John Marie, his dead steward, smiling at him.

“Prince,” the dead man said, ***“I have come to thank you for the Masses which you helped my wife to have said for my soul. Thanks to the saving Blood of Christ, I am now going to Heaven and God has allowed me to come and thank you for your generous alms.”*** Just before leaving he added, ***“Prince, there is a God, a future life, a Heaven, and a Hell!”***

The Prince was converted on the spot. He fell upon his knees and prayed a fervent: ***“I believe in God the Father Almighty...”*** And what is better, his conversion was complete and he persevered in doing good until he died.

One of the most important things in this life is to always have a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Now I don't mean just saying the Rosary well and wearing the Brown Scapular. You must all look upon Our Lady as your Mother. Talk to her about your joys and sufferings. Tell her about the things you are doing and that you need her help to do God's Holy Will. Mary loves when you do this. She will listen to you and she will help you through each day. Place all

November 2010

A	F	R	D	A	M	I	A	N	P	Q	Z	G	F
S	Q	P	Z	L	A	N	I	D	R	A	C	E	I
S	M	E	R	C	Y	R	O	S	A	R	Y	R	R
U	X	T	N	P	Z	H	Q	Z	Y	X	T	T	E
M	Q	E	U	O	P	O	H	S	I	B	H	R	X
P	R	R	N	P	R	L	Z	X	N	Q	I	U	E
T	A	C	Q	E	I	Y	Q	Z	G	X	R	D	N
I	L	O	D	Z	E	X	G	O	D	Q	S	E	I
O	U	I	O	Q	S	S	A	M	Z	X	T	Z	R
N	P	N	C	Z	T	Q	X	P	R	I	N	C	E
F	A	S	T	I	N	G	Q	N	E	V	A	E	H
X	C	Z	O	S	O	U	L	Q	P	A	I	N	T
Z	S	Q	R	E	H	T	A	F	L	E	G	N	A
P	U	R	G	A	T	O	R	Y	M	O	N	K	C

ASSUMPTION
PURGATORY
CATHERINE
FR DAMIAN
GERTRUDE
SCAPULAR
CARDINAL
PRAYING
FASTING
HEAVEN

DOCTOR
ROSARY
FATHER
BISHOP
PRINCE
MERCY
THIRST
PRIEST
ANGEL
PETER

MONK
HOLY
MASS
POPE
SOUL
COIN
PAIN
FIRE
GOD
NUN

INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF November 2010



The death of St. Joseph

Daily offering

(To be recited every morning when you wake up)

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins. I offer them particularly **for the souls in purgatory and the grace of a holy death.**

August 2010 Treasure Sheets										
	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrif.	Dec. Ros.	Visit Bl. S.	15 Min.	Good Example	Quantity
QC	744	172	272	532	2582	3210	92	296	2330	18
ON	878	251	199	1699	1170	4254	159	302	1667	34
MB	62	13	11	41	62	62	13	62	62	2
SK	309	50	49	394	33294	7079	67	101	971	13
AB	93	22	22	62	84	385	30	81	117	3
BC	271	86	44	71	338	946	74	2	146	10
Total	2357	594	597	2799	37530	15936	435	844	5293	80

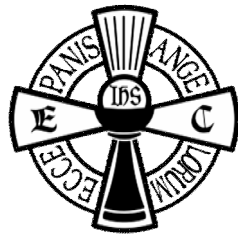
TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2010

Day	Daily Offering	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrifices	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sacr.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
1									
2									
3									
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									
Total									

Note about sending your total to the Secretariat:

- Vancouver, BC:** give it to Mrs. Leung
- Wilmot, ON:** give it to Fr. Peter Scott
- Welwyn, SK:** give it to Mrs. Mailloux
- Winnipeg, MB:** give it to Fr. Gerard Rusak

Other locations: Preferably, e-mail the total:
EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com



Mailing address:
 Eucharistic Crusade 905 Rang St. Mathieu E, Shawinigan, QC G9N 6T5

TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2010

Day	Daily Offering	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrifices	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sacr.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
17									
18									
19									
20									
21									
22									
23									
24									
25									
26									
27									
28									
29									
30									
Total									

✂-----Cut here-----

November 2010

Total of the Month									
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To be send to the secretariat of the Eucharistic Crusade. See note on previous page.