



Missionarii Sancti Joannis Baptistæ

Vox clamantis in deserto, parate viam Domini

1101 AMSTERDAM ROAD ✦ PARK HILLS ✦ KENTUCKY ✦ 41011

“Give Me the Grace, Good Lord ... Gladly to Bear My Purgatory Here”



SAIN'T THOMAS MORE penned this line as part of his prayer asking for the Divine Assistance in his imprisonment in the Tower of London. He also added: “To bewail my sins and, for the purging of them, patiently to suffer adversity.” St. Louis de Montfort brings this prayer into focus in his little gem entitled *The Friends of the Cross*, writing:



ALL OF YOU ARE SINNERS and there is not a single one who is not deserving of hell; I myself deserve it the most. These sins of ours must be punished either here or hereafter. If they are punished in this world, they will not be punished in the world to come. If we agree to God’s punishing here below, this punishment will be dictated by love. For mercy, which holds sway in this world, will mete out the punishment, and not strict justice. This punishment will be light and momentary, blended with merit and sweetness and followed up with reward both in time and eternity.

But if the punishment due to our sins is held over for the next world, then God’s avenging justice, which means fire and blood, will see to the punishing. What horrible punishment! How incomprehensible, how unspeakable! “Who knoweth the power of thy anger?” (Ps. 89:11). Punishment devoid of mercy (James 2:13), pity, mitigation or merit; without limit and without end. Yes, without end! That mortal sin of a moment that you committed, that deliberate evil thought which now escapes your memory, the word

that is gone with the wind, that act of such short duration against God’s law—they shall all be punished for an eternity, punished with the devils of hell, as long as God is God! The God of vengeance will have no pity on your torments or your sobs and tears, violent enough to cleave the rocks. Suffering and still more suffering, without merit, without mercy and without end!

Do we think of this, my dear Brothers and Sisters, when we have some trial to undergo here below? Blessed indeed are we who have the privilege of exchanging an eternal and fruitless



From November 1 to November 8, the Missionaries of St. John the Baptist will offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the repose of the souls of our benefactors who have died, as well as for the deceased relatives and friends of our benefactors (to participate see reverse side).

penalty for a temporary and meritorious suffering, just by patiently carrying our cross. What debts we still have to pay! How many sins we have committed which, despite a sincere confession and heartfelt contrition, will have to be atoned for in Purgatory for many a century, simply because in this world we were satisfied with a few insignificant penances! Let us settle our debts with good grace here below in cheerfully bearing our crosses, for

in the world to come everything must be expiated, even the idle word (Matt. 12,36) and even to the last farthing. If we could lay hands on the devil’s death-register in which he has noted down all our sins and the penalty to be paid, what a heavy debit we would find and how joyfully we would suffer many years here on earth rather than a single day in the world to come. ...

Be resolved then, dear Friends of the Cross, to suffer every kind of cross without excepting or choosing any: all poverty, all injustice, all temporal loss, all illness, all humiliation, all contradiction, all calumny, all spiritual dryness, all desolation, all interior and exterior trials. Keep saying: "My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready" (Ps. 56,8). Be ready to be forsaken by men and angels and, seemingly, by God Himself. Be ready to be persecuted; envied, betrayed, calumniated, discredited and forsaken by everyone. Be ready to undergo hunger, thirst, poverty, nakedness, exile, imprisonment, the gallows and all kinds of torture, even though you are innocent of everything with which you may be charged. What if you were cast out of your own home like Job and Saint Elizabeth of Hungary; thrown, like this saint, into the mire; or dragged upon a manure pile like Job, malodorous and covered with ulcers, without anyone to bandage your wounds, without a morsel of bread, never refused to a horse or a dog? Add to these dreadful misfortunes all the temptations with which God allows the devil to prey upon you, without pouring into your soul the least feeling of consolation. Firmly believe that this is the summit of divine glory and real happiness for a true, perfect Friend of the Cross. ☩

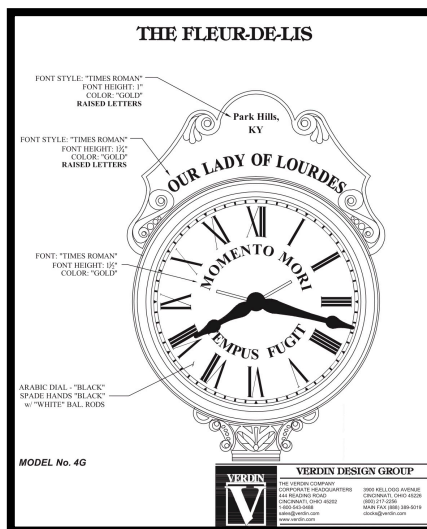
Dear Friends, the Good God has provided us all we need and then some in these trying times to bear our Purgatory here. Yet, we are weak and often do not take advantage of these gifts from God. And so we must not forget to pray for the poor souls in Purgatory who are still working at this labor of love. They will not forget us when they are finally liberated and swimming freely in the sea of love in heaven above.

An indulgence, applicable only to the souls in Purgatory, is granted to the faithful, who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, even if only mentally, for the departed. The indulgence offered is plenary each day from the 1st to the 8th of November; on other days of the year it is partial.

Good News and Bad News

We are blessed! This last August 15th, four brothers went North to attend St. Philip's Seminary in Toronto in person this year. We also have one in the novitiate. Please pray for their success in studies and seminary formation.

We happily found some old but beautiful cast iron statues of the Sacred Heart and St. Joan of Arc. We are preparing a little piazza in front of the Church for the Sacred Heart along with a Verdin Post Clock, stating: *Memento Mori, Tempus Fugit*, which means "Remember Death, Time Flies." The Sacred Heart is



50" tall and will be placed on a pillar with the words: "Sacred Heart of Jesus, King and Center of All Hearts, have mercy on us!" He will be lit up at night and visible to all passersby. St. Joan will be reserved for the new Grotto.

Sadly, in regard to the Grotto, we still await the final ruling of the Kentucky Court of Appeals. Yet, we remain confident in a favorable ruling coming forth any day. Please keep praying.

HAVE PITY!

YOU AT LEAST, MY FRIENDS...

*HEAR your loved ones softly pleading,
From the green graves lonesome lying,
Ever crying:*

"Have pity! You at least, my friends. . ."

*WHILE the hot skies far are glowing,
Think of pain no relief knowing,
Their prison fires appalling
Their piteous voices calling:*

"Have pity! You at least, my friends. . ."

*IN the time of sad remembrance,
Give a prayer to old friends gone,
Let your heart with mournful greeting,
Hear their sad appeal repeating:*

"Have pity! You at least, my friends. . ."

*By the love in life you bore them,
By the tears in death shed o'er them,
By their words and looks in dying,
Hear their plaintive voices crying:*

"Have pity! You at least, my friends. . ."

Prayer For Our Relatives In Purgatory

GOOD JESUS, Whose loving Heart was ever troubled by the sorrows of others, look with pity on the souls of our dear ones in Purgatory. O Good Jesus, Who "loved Your own," hear our cry for mercy, and grant those whom Thou didst call from our homes and hearts, may soon enjoy everlasting rest in the home of Thy love in Heaven. *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

If you would like to have the names of your beloved deceased included in this octave of Masses, please write them down (index card provided) and send them to us to be placed on the Altar of Sacrifice here at Our Lady of Lourdes.

All donations are used to help us continue to build up the Body of Christ (checks payable to the Missionaries of St. John the Baptist or just MSJB).



May God reward you!

The Missionaries of Saint John the Baptist (www.msjb.info)