



CATHOLIC SPIRITUALITY
FOR THE INCARCERATED
FROM THE ORDER OF MALTA

The Serving Brother

SUMMER 2015

A Message to the Serving Sisters and Brothers from Donald Cardinal Wuerl

Mother Teresa: A light to us all

Agnes Gonxhe Bojaxhiu was first called to religious life with the Sisters of Loreto. Taking the name of Sister Teresa, this young Albanian woman was sent to India in 1929 after first learning English in Ireland. It was not until she had been teaching at a school for girls in Calcutta for 15 years that she received her “calling within a calling” – Jesus calling her to serve the poor, and live among them. By then she was called Mother Teresa, having taken her final vows several years before. However, because this was not part of the mission of the Sisters of Loreto, a teaching order, nearly two years passed before she was given permission to begin what she saw as her work. In 1948, she put on her famous white and blue sari for the first time and entered the world of the poor.

Each day Mother Teresa went out, rosary in hand, to find and nurse the sick



PEOPLE ARE OFTEN UNREASONABLE, IRRATIONAL, AND SELF-CENTERED.

FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY.
IF YOU ARE KIND, PEOPLE MAY ACCUSE YOU OF SELFISH, ULTERIOR MOTIVES.

BE KIND ANYWAY.
IF YOU ARE SUCCESSFUL, YOU WILL WIN SOME UNFAITHFUL FRIENDS AND SOME GENUINE ENEMIES.

SUCCEED ANYWAY.
IF YOU ARE HONEST AND SINCERE PEOPLE MAY DECEIVE YOU.

BE HONEST AND SINCERE ANYWAY.
WHAT YOU SPEND YEARS CREATING, OTHERS COULD DESTROY OVERNIGHT.

CREATE ANYWAY.
IF YOU FIND SERENITY AND HAPPINESS, SOME MAY BE JEALOUS.

BE HAPPY ANYWAY.
THE GOOD YOU DO TODAY, WILL OFTEN BE FORGOTTEN.

DO GOOD ANYWAY.
GIVE THE BEST YOU HAVE, AND IT WILL NEVER BE ENOUGH.

GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY.
IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, IT IS BETWEEN YOU AND GOD.

IT WAS NEVER BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY.

MOTHER TERESA

and dying who were lying in the streets, wash the sores of the diseased, and care for the orphaned. She called it the Gospel on five fingers – “*You Did It to Me.*” This was her response to the call of Christ in Matthew 25, verses 35-36: “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.”

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER
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A Spiritual Message from Father George

Forgiving those beyond forgiveness

This edition of The Serving Brother is dedicated to Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Mother Teresa showed us God's love and mercy by becoming a vessel of love and mercy with her own life. Her Christian witness shows us how to respond to Jesus with our whole heart. The men and women in the religious order she founded, the Missionaries of Charity, work all over the world, serving the poorest of the poor with whole-hearted love and selfless devotion.

Being a Christian means we need to put our whole heart in our commitment to Christ. There is no such thing as a 50% Christian! This might seem easy, but it's not. Because being Christian means we have to live our lives in radical forgiveness.

It would be easy enough to forgive only the people we love – but what about the other 50% of people who we don't like or approve of?

We can't just stop the work of forgiveness with the people we care about. We have to be willing to forgive those we normally consider beyond forgiveness. That means 100% of people or, to put it another way, EVERYONE!

Recently a woman asked me "Why do you minister to prisoners? Why don't you minister to the victims of crime?" Well, I don't see it as either/or. We always pray for the victims of crime here at Mass at San Quentin. We care for the families of prisoners who are also victims of crime.

We have to be willing to see the need to forgive everyone. A problem with our society today is that it is so easy for us to blame others, to be constantly angry and bitter. Many people can't see beyond their own fears and prejudices. But our Christian faith calls us to do just that. When we don't practice forgiveness we stay in a prison in our heart.

Mother Teresa visited San Quentin back in the 1980's. She spent most of her time visiting the men on death row. A few of the old timers here still remember her visit. "She was very short, but you could tell she was tough as nails" one man said. She had to be a very strong woman to do the work she did in the world.

She left us a hand-written note that now hangs in our chapel. She wrote: "Jesus loves you. He is like a

Mass readings

WEEK	MON	TUES	WEDS	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
June 1-7	Tb 1:3; 2:1b-8 Mk 12:1-12 St Justin, Martyr	Tb 2:9-14 Mk 12:13-17 Sts Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs	Tb 3:1-11a, 16-17a Mk 12:18-27 Saint Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs	Tb 6:10-11; 7:1bcd-e 9-17; 8:4-9a Mk 12:28-34	Tb 11:5-17 Mk 12:35-37 St Boniface, Bishop and Martyr	Tb 12:1, 5-15, 20 Mk 12:38-44 St Norbert, Bishop	Ex 24:3-8 [1] Heb 9:11-15 Mk 14:12-16, 22-26
June 8-14	2 Cor 1:1-7 Mt 5:1-12	2 Cor 1:18-22 Mt 5:13-16 St Ephrem	2 Cor 3:4-11 Mt 5:17-19	Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3 Mt 5:20-26 St Barnabas, Apostle	Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9 Eph 3:8-12, 14-19 Jn 19:31-37 [2]	2 Cor 5:14-21 Mt 5:33-37 St Anthony of Padua	Ez 17:22-24 2 Cor 5:6-10 Mk 4:26-34
June 15-21	2 Cor 6:1-10 Mt 5:38-42	2 Cor 8:1-9 Mt 5:43-48	2 Cor 9:6-11 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	2 Cor 11:1-11 Mt 6:7-15	2 Cor 11:18, 21-30 Mt 6:19-23 St Romuald, Abbot	2 Cor 12:1-10 Mt 6:24-34 Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Jb 38:1, 8-11 2 Cor 5:14-17 Mk 4:35-41
June 22-28	Gn 12:1-9 Mt 7:1-5 Sts Paulinus, John Fisher & Thomas More, Martyrs	Gn 13:2, 5-18 Mt 7:6, 12-14	Is 49:1-6 Acts 13:22-26 Lk 1:57-66, 80 [3]	Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 Mt 7:21-29	Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22 Mt 8:1-4	Gn 18:1-15 Mt 8:5-17 Saint Cyril of Alexandria	Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15 Mk 5:21-43
June 29-Jul 5	Acts 12:1-11 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18 Mt 16:13-19 [4]	Gn 19:15-29 Mt 8:23-27 The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church	Gn 21:5, 8-20a Mt 8:28-34 Bl Junipero Serra	Gn 22:1b-19 Mt 9:1-8	Eph 2:19-22 Jn 20:24-29 St Thomas, Apostle	Gn 27:1-5, 15-29 Mt 9:14-17	Ez 2:2-5/2 Cor 12:7-10 Mk 6:1-6a
July 6-12	Gn 28:10-22a Mt 9:18-26 St Maria Goretti	Gn 32:23-33 Mt 9:32-38	Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a Mt 10:1-7	Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5 Mt 10:7-15 [5]	Gn 46:1-7, 28-30 Mt 10:16-23	Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a Mt 10:24-33 [6]	Am 7:12-15 Eph 1:3-14 Mk 6:7-13
July 13-19	Ex 1:8-14, 22 Mt 10:34-11:1 St Henry	Ex 2:1-15a Mt 11:20-24 St Kateri Tekakwitha	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12 Mt 11:25-27 St Bonaventure	Ex 3:13-20 Mt 11:28-30 Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Ex 11:10-12; 14 Mt 12:1-8	Ex 12:37-42 Mt 12:14-21 St Camillus de Lellis	Jer 23:1-6 Eph 2:13-18 Mk 6:30-34
July 20-26	Ex 14:5-18 Mt 12:38-42 St Apollinaris	Ex 14:21-15:1 Mt 12:46-50 St Lawrence of Brindisi	Ex 16:1-5, 9-15 Jn 20:1-2, 11-18 St Mary Magdalene	Ex 19:1-2, 9, 11, 16-20b Mt 13:10-17 St Bridget	Ex 20:1-17 Mt 13:18-23 St Sharbel Makhlouf	2 Cor 4:7-15 Mt 20:20-28 St James, Apostle	2 Kgs 4:42-44 Eph 4:1-6 Jn 6:1-15
July 27-Aug 2	Ex 32:15-24, 30-34 Mt 13:31-35	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 Mt 13:36-43	Ex 34:29-35 (403) Jn 11:19-27 St Martha	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38 Mt 13:47-53 St Peter Chrysologus	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 Mt 13:54-58 [7]	Lv 25:1, 8-17 Mt 14:1-12 St Alphonsus Liguori	Ex 16:2-4, 12-15 Eph 4:17, 20-24 Jn 6:24-35
Aug 3-9	Nm 11:4b-15 Mt 14:13-21	Nm 12:1-13 Mt 14:22-36 St John Vianney	Nm 13:1-2, 25-14:1, 26-29a, 34-35 Mt 15:21-28 [8]	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 2 Pt 1:16-19 Mk 9:2-10 [9]	Dt 4:32-40 Mt 16:24-28 St Cajetan	Dt 6:4-13 Mt 17:14-20 St Dominic	1 Kgs 19:4-8 Eph 4:30-5:2 Jn 6:41-51
Aug 10-16	2 Cor 9:6-10 Jn 12:24-26 St Lawrence	Dt 31:1-8 Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14 St Clare	Dt 34:1-12 Mt 18:15-20 St Jane Frances de Chantal	Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17 Mt 18:21-19:1 Sts Pontian & Hippolytus	Jos 24:1-13 Mt 19:3-12 St Maximilian Kolbe	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab 1 Cor 15:20-27 Lk 1:39-56 [10]	Prv 9:1-6 Eph 5:15-20 Jn 6:51-58
Aug 17-23	Jgs 2:11-19 Mt 19:16-22	Jgs 6:11-24a Mt 19:23-30	Jgs 9:6-15 Mt 20:1-16 St John Eudes	Jgs 11:29-39a Mt 22:1-14 St Bernard	Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22 Mt 22:34-40 St Pius X	Ru 2:1, 3, 8-11; 4:13-17 Mt 23:1-12 The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b Eph 5:21-32 Jn 6:60-69
Aug 24-30	Rv 21:9b-14 Jn 1:45-51 Jn 1:45-51	1 Thes 2:1-8 Mt 23:23-26 St Louis & St Joseph Calasanz	1 Thes 2:9-13 Mt 23:27-32 St Monica	1 Thes 3:7-13 Mt 24:42-51 St Augustine	1 Thes 4:1-8 Mt 25:1-13 St Augustine	1Thes 4:9-11(430) Mk 6:17-29 The Passion of St John the Baptist	Dt 4:1-2, 6-8 Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27 Mk 7:1-8, 14, 15, 21-23

Note: **Solemnities** in red, **Feast days** in gold and **Memorials** in green in celebration of the saint/event shown. [1] **Corpus Christi** [2] **The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus** [3] **The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist** [4] **Sts Peter & Paul, Apostles** [5] **St Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions** [6] **St Benedict** [7] **St Ignatius of Loyola** [8] **Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major** [9] **The Transfiguration of the Lord** [10] **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

prisoner in the tabernacle – out of love for us all. Say often, ‘Jesus, in my heart, I believe in your love for me!’ ”

The tabernacle is the container on the altar where we keep the Blessed Sacrament. For us Catholics, this is a holy place where Christ is present to us in the Eucharist. Mother Teresa reminds us that Jesus willingly puts himself in these

tabernacles, as if he is saying – “See, I am with you always, I choose even to be locked up in a box. This means that you are not alone, even if you are in solitary, because I am always with you.” ✠

Father George T. Williams SJ, Editor of The Serving Brother, is Chaplain of San Quentin State Prison. Opened in July 1852, San Quentin is the oldest prison in California, and houses over 4,200 men, including more than 650 on death row.

REMARKS OF ST. JOHN PAUL II ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA



Saturday, September 5, 1998

“Exactly one year ago, on the evening of 5 September, Mother Teresa died in Calcutta. Her memory lives on in the hearts of us all, throughout the Church and the world.

“What marvelous work this little woman from a humble family was able to accomplish with the strength of her faith in God and her love of neighbor!

“In truth, Mother Teresa was God’s gift to the poorest of the poor; at the same time, precisely through her extraordinary love for the lowliest, she was and remains an exceptional gift for the Church and the world. Her total self-giving to God, reconfirmed each day in prayer, was translated into total self-giving to her neighbor.

“In Mother Teresa’s smile, words and deeds, Jesus again walked the streets of the world as the Good Samaritan, and he continues to do so in the Missionaries of Charity, who form the great family she founded.

“Let us thank the daughters and sons of Mother Teresa for their radical Gospel commitment and let us pray for them all, that they will always be faithful to the charism that the Holy Spirit instilled in their foundress.

“Let us not forget the great example left by Mother Teresa, and let us not commemorate it in words alone! ... This is God’s will and he has reminded us of it through the witness of Mother Teresa.

“May she help us and accompany us from heaven!”



Abraham Receiving the Blessing of Melchizedek by Maerten van Heemskerck, Dutch, 1500s

Abraham blessed by the King of Righteousness

Melchizedek – whose name means “King of Righteousness” – was the King of Jerusalem. He was very generous to Abraham and his army. When Abraham returned in victory after winning battles with four kings, Melchizedek blessed him, “bringing bread and wine, for he was the priest of the most high God.” (See Genesis 14:18-19)

Abraham offered back a tenth of the treasure he had won in battle (called a “tithe”), and Melchizedek accepted the gift. It was remarkable that Abraham gave a tenth of his treasure to

Melchizedek because the priest-king was a stranger, and Abraham was not required to give him anything.

But Abraham recognized that Melchizedek was a holy priest of God. We now know that Jesus Christ was to become the ultimate and final priest.

The offering of bread and wine is the reason why you hear Melchizedek’s name mentioned during the Masses celebrated by the Catholic Church.

The above is adapted from the Catholic Encyclopedia.

What Melchizedek’s blessing means for us

In Psalm 110, the Lord God assures the Messiah with a solemn promise: “You are a priest forever of the order of Melchizedek.” (Ps 110:4) In Hebrews, we learn that Jesus Christ is a priest of the order Melchizedek.

Christ gave this priestly ministry of His to the Church through the Holy Spirit. Through the sacraments of Bap-

tism and Confirmation the faithful are reminded that we are all “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” (See 1 Peter 2:9)

That means that the whole community of believers (you and me too!) is

priestly. We live our baptismal priesthood through our participation, each in his or her own way, in Christ's mission.

The common priesthood of all the faithful is exercised by the unfolding of baptismal grace – a life of faith, hope, and charity, a life according to the Spirit.

The ministerial priesthood – that is, ordained priests and bishops – serve the faith community by helping all Christians experience the unfolding and

growth of baptismal grace. The ministerial priesthood is a way Christ chose to build up and lead his Church. For this reason there is a special sacrament for ordination called “Holy Orders.” ✠

The above is adapted from the Special Assembly for Africa of the Synod of Bishops 4-25 October 2009, and The Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Message of the Divine Mercy from Dr. Bryan Thatcher

Blessed Mother Teresa and the Year of Mercy

Pope Francis has declared a Holy Year of Mercy that will begin on this coming Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (12/8/15). It will end on the Sunday dedicated to Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (11/20/16).

The Holy Father said, “Dear brothers and sisters, I have often thought about how the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy. It is journey that begins with a spiritual conversion. For this reason, I have decided to call an extraordinary Jubilee that is to have the mercy of God at its center. It shall be a Holy Year of Mercy. We want to live this Year in the light of the Lord’s words: ‘Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.’ ” (cf. Lk 6:36)

Blessed Mother Teresa is an ideal role model during the upcoming Year of Mercy. She loved Jesus in the Eucharist and understood the mercy of God as a great gift. But she also understood that we are to be a vehicle of mercy to all those that we encounter. She saw Jesus through the distressing eyes of the poorest of the poor, and especially wanted

the poor dying soul to know that Jesus loves them. Mother Teresa would hold them in her arms often just before they died.

Like Mother Teresa, all of us are called to do works of mercy. They may be spiritual works of mercy such as forgiveness of those who have offended us, or a corporal work of mercy such as comforting a fellow inmate through a simple act of kindness.

Jesus did not ask Saint Faustina to do works of mercy, but instead demanded them. He told her, “I demand from you deeds of mercy which are to arise out of love of Me” (Diary, 742).

Like Blessed Mother Teresa, let us live the mercy of God and show others that He is alive in our hearts. It is through His love that we can set the world on fire! “Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God.” (1John 4:7) ✠



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What is a Serving Brother?

The Order of Malta is one of the oldest institutions of Western and Christian civilization. During its early history as a military force, the Knights of Malta required the support of many helpers. One such group of helpers was known as “Serving Brothers.” These men assisted the Knights when called to fight, and also served the Chaplains in tending to the sick. While not members of the Order, they fully shared in the values and lifestyle embraced by the Order.

As such, anyone may spiritually participate as a Serving Brother or Sister by actively participating in the life of the Roman Catholic Church. This can be achieved by activities such as regular attendance at Mass and worship services, keeping up with seasonal bible readings, saying the rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, studying our Faith and staying true to the admonitions of our Lord Jesus Christ, guided by the teachings of the Church.

An introduction to the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Malta (SMOM)

The SMOM is an international religious order recognized by a decree of Pope Pascal II in 1113. Led by the Knights of Justice who are professed Friars, its Grand Master holds the rank of Cardinal. Most of its 13,000 Knights and Dames are not under vows, but are devoted to developing their spirituality, serving the faith and caring for sick, poor and outcast souls. In 1783 Benjamin Franklin presented the *Libertas Americana* medal of the United States of America to the SMOM in thanks for crucial help it provided during the War of Independence. Over 1,800 Knights and Maltese sailors enlisted in the French Navy specifically to assist America win its freedom.

Give your brain a workout!

Sudoku Puzzle

		6		4				1
9			5					7
			7				3	9
3						5	7	
					5		2	
		4		8	6			
			8		1			
		8		5	9	7		6
5								

Sudoku Directions – Fill each square with the numbers 1-9. No number can appear twice within the same row, the same column, or within the same frame of nine squares.

ANSWERS ON BACK PAGE

Brain Teasers

Cryptogram: Can you uncode the saying below, by figuring out how the letters have been swapped? Hint: every K in the puzzle represents the letter E.

LGK QKXL LDEK LJ PYCBL C

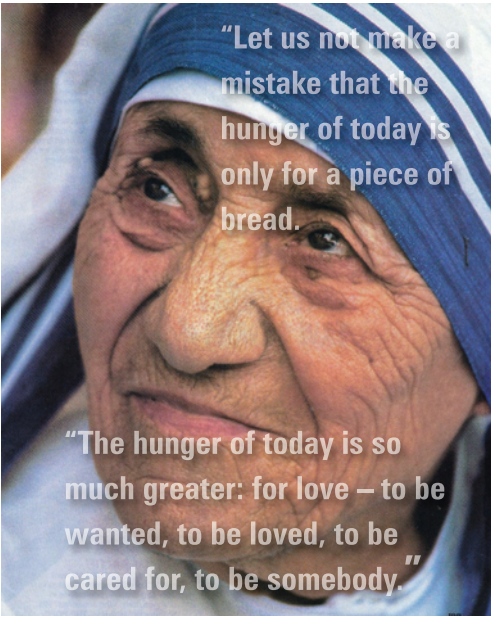
LUKK VCX 20 SKCUX CRJ. LGK

XKZJBO QKXL LDEK DX BJV.

-ZGDBKXK PUJNKUQ

MOTHER TERESA, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Soon, students from the Loreto school were helping her in the slums of Calcutta and, in 1950, a new congregation was established, the Missionaries of Charity. Mother Teresa and her sisters were driven, she explained, by the desire to quench the thirst of Jesus on the Cross for love. (See the Gospel of John 19:28) Their aim was, and is, to see and care for Jesus in the poor, most especially the poorest of the poor, that



is, the unwanted, unloved, forgotten, abandoned, and uncared for throughout society. “Let us not make a mistake,” she said, “that the hunger is only for a piece of bread. The hunger of today is much greater: for love – to be wanted, to be loved, to be cared for, to be somebody.” Today, there are Missionaries of Charity serving all around the world.

Six years after her death in 1997, St. John Paul II said that Mother Teresa “wanted to be a sign of ‘God’s love, God’s presence and God’s compassion,’ and so remind all of the value and dignity of each of God’s children, ‘created to love and be loved.’” This is the legacy that she leaves us. Having had the privilege of meeting and praying with Mother Teresa and visiting some of the centers of the Missionaries of Char-

ity, I thank God for the grace given to the world in her. What a witness for us all to imitate.

Blessed Mother Teresa encourages us to be missionaries of love:

“You are God’s love in action.

Through you, God is still loving the world. Each time people come into contact with us, they must become different and better people because of having met us. We must radiate God’s love.”

This is how his kingdom is built up. Following the example of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, Mother Teresa teaches that this does not require big things, but doing small things with great love. We do this one day at a time, one person at a time, but without delay.

“Our work is for today. Yesterday has gone, tomorrow has not yet come. Today – we have only today to make Jesus known, loved, served, fed, clothed, and sheltered. Do not wait for tomorrow. Tomorrow might not come. Tomorrow we will not have them if we do not feed them today.”

May her life be a light to us all! ✠

Donald Cardinal Wuerl is the Archbishop of Washington. In addition, he serves as the Principal Chaplain of the SMOM’s Federal Association.

Puzzle solutions

Answer to cryptogram:
The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now. - Chinese proverb

5	4	1	6	3	7	9	8	2
2	3	8	4	5	9	7	1	6
6	9	7	8	2	1	3	4	5
7	5	4	2	8	6	1	9	3
1	8	9	3	7	5	6	2	4
3	6	2	1	9	4	5	7	8
4	1	5	7	6	2	8	3	9
9	2	3	5	1	8	4	6	7
8	7	6	9	4	3	2	5	1