

## The Marian Pilgrimage 7-21 May 20: Daily Devotional Guide

DAY NINE: Friday 15 May: Our Lady of Mariazell, Austria

On Arrival: We proceed to the Basilica and entering there we approach the Shrine of Mary: Magna Mater Austria



We recall the History of Pilgrimage development, and particularly the importance of Penitence.

Here we begin our Prayerful reflections.

**The Memorare: *Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary, that it is a thing unheard of that anyone who had recourse to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left forsaken. Filled therefore with confidence in your goodness, I fly to you, O Mother, Virgin of virgins. To you I come; before you I stand a sorrowful sinner. Despise not my words, O Mother of the Word, but graciously hear and grant my prayer.***

**We recall the differences among Christians, the unhappy divisions, and the intolerance shown to other people of Faith.**

### **The Rosary: The Sorrowful Mysteries**

Agony in the Garden: Keeping Faith with a Suffering Jesus

Scourging at the Pillar: Jesus unjustly punished

Crowning with Thorns: Jesus humiliated and scorned

Carrying of the Cross: Jesus bearing the burdens of all that is evil

Crucifixion: Jesus in dying gives Mary to the Apostle John

*Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!*

*V/. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God*

*R/. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray: *O God, whose only-begotten Son, by his life, death and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life; grant, we beseech you, that meditating on the mysteries of the most holy Rosary of*

*the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain, and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Prayer for Christian Unity by Pope John Paul II

To Our Lady for Christian Unity

*Spouse of the Holy Spirit and Seat of Wisdom, help us in the great endeavour that we are carrying out to meet on a more and more mature way our brothers and sisters in the faith, with whom so many things unite us, although there is still something dividing us. Through all the means of knowledge, of mutual respect, of love, shared collaboration in various fields, may we be able to rediscover gradually the divine plan for the unity in which we should enter. Mother of Unity, teach us constantly the ways that lead to unity.*

*Allow us in the future to go out to meet human beings and all the peoples that are seeking God and wishing to serve him on the way of different religions. Help us all to proclaim Christ.*

*Mother of Good Counsel, show us always how we are to serve the individual and humanity in every nation, how we are to lead them along the ways of salvation. How we are to protect justice and peace in a world continually threatened on various sides. Let us entrust to you all the difficult problems of the societies, systems, and states-problems that cannot be solved with hatred, war and self-destruction but only by peace, justice, and respect for the rights of people and nations.*

From the Basilica we move outside, by the south door, to the Chapel of St Michael.



Inside the Chapel, formerly a Charnel House, for the safekeeping of human remains we use the opportunity to reflect on the transient nature of human life

We pray for the Dead our own loved ones, our friends, our mentors gone before us, the recently departed, and those whose faith is known only to God.

### **Prayer for the Dead**

*Into your hands, O Lord,  
we humbly entrust our brothers and sisters.  
In this life you embraced them with your tender love;  
deliver them now from every evil  
and bid them eternal rest.*

*The old order has passed away:  
welcome them into paradise,  
where there will be no sorrow, no weeping or pain,  
but fullness of peace and joy  
with your Son and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.*

*Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!*

*V- Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God*

*R- That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ*

**We go now to the The Chapel of the Holy Spring**



Here we reflect on the waters of creation, refreshment, healing and our restoration through baptism.

The Holy Spirit glides over the waters, recalling the opening of the first chapter of Genesis. There are other illustrations that refer to healing waters: Moses striking water from the rocks, Naaman bathing in the Jordan, Jesus with the Samaritan at the well, and the healing of the blind man at the Pool of Siloam.

**In his encyclical, *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis writes,** "access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival and, as such, is a condition for the exercise of other human rights. Our world has a grave social debt towards the poor who lack access to drinking water, because they are denied the right to a life consistent with their inalienable dignity."

We pray for all persons who are on the margins, especially those who do not have access to safe water sources.

We pray for the 663 million people who lack access to safe water.

***Plant our hearts near streams of compassion.***

We pray for the women and children who spend hours each day walking to collect water.

***Plant our hearts near streams of compassion.***

We pray for the 800,000 deaths per year attributable to unsafe water supply, poor sanitation and hygiene.

***Plant our hearts near streams of compassion.***

We pray for a reduction in the 38 billion plastic water bottles that end up in landfills every year.

***Plant our hearts near streams of compassion.***

We pray for greater accountability and transparency when public water systems are threatened.

***Plant our hearts near streams of compassion***

***Good and gracious God, we pray for humility to see all the ways we take water for granted. Send Your Spirit to change the hearts of those who use water to create strife and conflict. Have mercy on those who are sick or in need because they cannot access safe water. We are thankful for Your gift of water seen in the beauty of waterfalls, placid lakes, rivers that move people and commerce, oceans full of amazing creatures. Give us guidance on how to be better stewards of a finite resource. We ask all of this in Your name. Amen.***

**On taking a Bottle of Holy Water:**

***Oh God, grant that this creature (water) may be endowed with Divine grace to drive away devils and to cast out diseases, that whatever, in the houses or possessions of the faithful may be sprinkled by this water, may be freed from everything unclean, and delivered from what is hurtful. Let everything that threatens the peace or safety of the dwellers therein, be banished by the sprinkling of this water; so that the health that they seek by calling upon Thy Holy Name may be guarded from assault.***

Our final Station for Prayer is about nine kilometres from Mariazell: we travel to the Church of St Nicholas Flue [Brother Klaus]



WE recall his holy Life and reflect on the Meditation Prayer Cloth





See the Background notes >

Heads for Prayerful Reflection:

1. These six medallions contain additional symbols of acts of Christian kindness:
2. two crutches suggest *Visiting the sick* as a work of mercy
3. hiker's walking stick with travel pouch suggests *Hospitality to strangers*
4. a loaf of bread, fish and a pitcher of water and wine represent *Feed the hungry, quench the thirsty*
5. chains indicate *Care for the incarcerated*
6. Christ's garments evoke *Clothe the naked*
7. a coffin reminds us to *Bury the dead*

WE make our own thoughtful resolutions after some time reflecting on the Life, Teaching and the Spiritual gifts of St Nicholas of Flue

**WE make his Prayer our own act of Dedication:**

***My Lord and my God, take from me everything that distances me from you.***

***My Lord and my God, give me everything that brings me closer to you.***

***My Lord and my God, detach me from myself to give my all to you.***



*Queen of Heaven, rejoice. Alleluia.  
For He, whom thou wast worthy to bear. Alleluia.  
Has risen as He said. Alleluia.  
Pray for us to God. Alleluia.  
V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia.  
R. Because the Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.*

*Let us pray*

*O God, Who by the Resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, hast been pleased to give joy to the whole world, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

*Our Lady of Mariazell, Pray for us.*