The Marian Pilgrimage 7-21 May 20:

Daily Devotional Guide

DAY TEN: Saturday 16 May: Our Lady of Knock, Ireland





In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen. Give praise to the Father Almighty, To His Son, Jesus Christ the Lord, To the Spirit who lives in our hearts, Both now and forever. Amen.

Our Lady of Knock, Queen of Ireland, you gave hope to your people in a time of distress, and comforted them in sorrow. You have inspired countless pilgrims to pray with confidence to your divine Son, remembering His promise, "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find." Help me to remember that we are all pilgrims on the road to heaven. Fill me with love and concern for my brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who live with me. Comfort me when I am sick, lonely or depressed. Teach me how to take part ever more reverently in the Holy Mass. Give me a greater love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Pray for me now, and at the hour of my death. Amen.

The Agnus Dei {Lamb of God}

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world; Grant us peace.

St. Joseph, Chosen by God to be The Husband of Mary, The Protector of the Holy Family, The Guardian of the Church.

Protect all families in their work and recreation,

And Guard us on our journey through life.

(Repeat Agnus Dei as above]

St. John, Beloved Disciple of the Lord, Faithful Priest.

Teacher of the Word of God. Help us to hunger for the Word.,

To be loyal to the Mass,

And to love one another.

(Repeat –Agnus Dei as above.]

Our Lady of Knock Pray for us

Refuge of sinners Pray for us

Queen Assumed into Heaven Pray for us

Queen of the Rosary Pray for us

Mother of Nazareth Pray for us

Queen of Virgins Pray for us

Help of Christians Pray for us

Health of the Sick Pray for us

At the Basilica: Prayers in the time of the Coronavirus



Lord, in 1879 the Apparition in Knock gave comfort and hope to your people in a time of distress and worry. In the presence of Our Lady, St Joseph, St John the Evangelist and the Lamb of God you showed us that we are neither alone nor abandoned in times of great need, personally and as a people.

We ask you Lord, to walk with us again as we face the Coronavirus. Help our medical personnel to bring the virus to a swift end and bless them in their work. We ask healing and recovery to be given to all who are suffering from the virus and their families. May all of us, Lord, be strengthened by the spiritual support of the Christian community at this time through prayer, fasting and concern for one another. May we never abandon hope in the face of adversity and trust in your love for us. Amen



The Chapel of Reconciliation was the award- winning entry of an architectural competition held in the autumn of 1989. ".. the new chapel must cater for a very large number of penitents and also in the design and character proclaim the powerful presence of the Eucharist and forgiving Lord". The Chapel at the Marian Shrine in the village of Knock, County Mayo was designed so that the height of the building would be absorbed in the hollowness of the land, the roof was designed to carry earth so it could be seeded with grass and form a visual continuum with the hill beyond on which fourteen white crosses mark the Stations of the Cross.



We make our own Acts of Contrition:



O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because of thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love.

I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Lamb of God; you take away the sins of the world.

Through the grace of the Holy Spirit restore me to friendship with your Father, cleanse me from every stain of sin in the blood you shed for me, and raise me to new life for the glory of your name.

While at Knock we join with the Holy Father, and all who pray for the victims of abuse within the Church.



Pope Francis:

"I lifted up to Our Lady's loving intercession all the families of the world, and, in a special way, your families, the families of Ireland. Mary our Mother knows the joys and struggles felt in each home. Holding them in her Immaculate Heart, she brings them with love to the throne of her son.

As a remembrance of my visit, I have presented the shrine with a rosary. I know how important the tradition of the family rosary has been in this country. I warmly encourage you to continue this tradition. Who can tell how many hearts, of fathers, mothers and children alike, have drawn comfort and strength over the years from meditating on Our Lady's participation in the joyful, luminous, sorrowful and glorious mysteries of Christ's life!

Mary is mother. Mary is our mother and the mother of the church, and it is to her that we commend today the journey of God's faithful people on this emerald isle. We ask that our families be sustained in their efforts to advance Christ's kingdom and to care for the least of our brothers and sisters. Amid the storms and winds that buffet our times, may families be a bulwark of faith and goodness, resisting, in the best traditions of this nation, all that would diminish our dignity as men and women created in God's image and called to the sublime destiny of eternal life.

May Our Lady also look with mercy on all the suffering members of her son's family. In my prayer before her statue, I presented to her in particular all the survivors of abuse committed by members of the church in Ireland. None of us can fail to be moved by the stories of young people who suffered abuse, were robbed of their innocence, were separated from their mothers, and were left scarred by painful memories. This open wound challenges us to be firm and decisive in the pursuit of truth and justice. I beg the Lord's forgiveness for these sins and for the scandal and betrayal felt by so many others in God's family. I ask our Blessed Mother to intercede for all the survivors of abuse of any kind and to confirm every member of our Christian family in the resolve never again to permit these situations to occur. And to intercede for all of us, so that we can proceed always with justice and remedy, to the extent it depends on us, such violence.

My pilgrimage to Knock also allows me to address a warm greeting to the beloved people of Northern Ireland. Although my journey for the World Meeting of Families does not include a visit to the North, I assure you of my affection and my closeness in prayer. I ask Our Lady to sustain all the members of the Irish family to persevere, as brothers and sisters, in the work of reconciliation.

With gratitude for advance of ecumenism, and the significant growth of friendship and co-operation between the Christian communities, I pray that all Christ's followers will support the continuing efforts to advance the peace process and to build a harmonious and just society for today's children, be they Christians, Muslims, Jews, or of any faith: the children of Ireland.



Our Lady of Knock, Our Lady of Silence

The Apparition was completely silent. The only sounds heard that night were those of the wind and the ever-increasing rain, which eventually became a downpour. As Fr. William J. Smith said, "There was no message of any kind given, no word was uttered by any of the three celestial visitors. Yet the Apparition must have a meaning, an extraordinary, deep and divine significance"

We who are virtual pilgrims may use the silence of our circumstances to listen to the 'silence of Our Lady', and with her, pondering the Mysteries of Faith in Our Hearts.

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Before leaving Knock, we pray in the Reconciliation Chapel for the men at the Cenacolo Community a few miles away:





The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord,

Be it done unto me according to your Word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made flesh, And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts: that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to Saint Pio of Pietrelcina

O God, our Father, who chose Saint Pio from Pietrelcina and rose him on the cross of the world to pull many sinners to the Merciful Heart of Jesus, by his intercession, give us a profound conversion and a serene trust in his infinite Mercy. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, you who loved to stop many times in prayer, day and night, to immerge yourself in God, give us the gift of a profound and constant prayer and a great love of the Eucharist and the Rosary. You who passed hours upon hours in the confessional to receive the repentance of many sinners, give us the gift to be able to listen to the truth in our hearts that will bring us to the Forgiveness of God. You, man of agony, who underwent great suffering, both physical and moral, humiliations and slander, stay close to all those who suffer in body and in spirit, so that they can feel understood, loved and helped by you. Padre Pio, remember us youth who are in journey towards true life. Help us, pray with us and for us! Padre Pio, light of love, Intercede graces for us from the Lord.

AND NOW WE SET OFF TO THE ASCENT OF CROAGH PATRICK











"LORD, it is good for us to be here"

The Prayer of St Patrick

I arise today
Through the strength of heaven;
Light of the sun,
Splendour of fire,
Speed of lightning,
Swiftness of the wind,
Depth of the sea,
Stability of the earth,
Firmness of the rock.

I arise today
Through God's strength to pilot me;
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to look before me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to speak for me,
God's hand to guard me,
God's way to lie before me,
God's shield to protect me,

Afar and anear,
Alone or in a mulitude.
Christ shield me today
Against wounding

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
Christ in the eye that sees me,
Christ in the ear that hears me.
I arise today
Through the mighty strength
Of the Lord of creation.

Homeward via the Antrim Coast and a visit to Corrmeela



We pray for the healing of religious divisions, for a growth in understanding, for the insight into issues of justice, and generosity towards forgiveness and peace.

A PRAYER FOR COURAGE

Courage comes from the heart
and we are always welcomed by God,
the Croi of all being.
We bear witness to our faith,
knowing that we are calledto live lives of courage,
love and reconciliation in the ordinary and extraordinary
moments of each day.

We bear witness, too, to our failures and our complicity in the fractures of our world.

May we be courageous today.

May we learn today.

May we love today.

Amen.

Pádraig Ó Tuama, Leader, Corrymeela Community

[Croi = heart]

Attend with favour to the prayers of your people, we ask, O Lord, and grant that the hearts of believers may be united in your praise and in repentance together, so that, with division among Christians overcome, we may hasten with joy to your eternal kingdom in the perfect communion of the Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

[The Roman Missal]

And over the sea to Cairnryan, and back to Inverness









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 Knock, St Patrick & St Columba, Pray for us.