

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

## DAY EIGHT: Thu 14 May: Our Lady of Altötting, Bavaria



On Arrival: We proceed to the Chapel of the Black Madonna

Opening Prayers:

*Bring us peace once again, O Mother Mary, hear us, Mother Mary, Altötting is your place of grace, be its refuge, in these difficult times, protect your holy place from all harm, shield us, O Mary, full of grace, in both body and soul, and look mercifully upon us here below.*



**Hail, Mary!**

**Hail, Mary!**

**Hail, Mary, I greet you.**

**I greet you as the Archangel Gabriel greeted you.**

**Your heart rejoices, as does mine, that the Archangel Gabriel brought you this heavenly greeting:**

**Hail Mary, the Lord is with you . . .**

**○ highly praised and blessed is the Virgin Mary, both now and forever!**

**May you be greeted thousands of times in this beautiful chapel of grace,**

**○ dear Mother of Jesus!**

**Holy Mary, pray for us,**

**Pray to God for us poor sinners to protect us from storms and hail and all misfortunes!**

**Holy Virgin Mary, stay with us, free us from our sins,**

**Stay with us at the hour of our death, that we may receive the Blessed Sacrament.**

**○ Mary, we must now depart from here, but our hearts remain with you,**

**○ most beautiful Mother of Jesus, pray for us.**



Altötting became a place of pilgrimage because of the healing, indeed the restoration to life of two children.

In the late 1400s, a distraught mother placed the body of her son at the foot of a statue of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. She prayed with all her heart that his life be restored.

He had drowned recently in a nearby river, and he had been floating on the water for about a half hour before he was pulled out.

Her prayers were answered. Soon, the three-year-old opened his eyes and looked up at his mother.

News of this event spread all over Bavaria, and soon others came to pray before the statue, asking for various favours.

Then a separate tragedy struck. Another child was killed, after being run over by a horse-drawn cart.

Again, the mother of this child went to Our Lady of Altötting and asked for another miracle. This child's life was spared as well.

Very quickly, the Shrine of Our Lady of Altötting became famous throughout Germany, drawing crowds from near and far to present their prayer petitions in a place where two miracles had already occurred.

A Prayer of St Augustine of Hippo to Our Lady of Mercy: we offer this prayer for all whom we know who are in need of this particular prayer:

***Blessed Virgin Mary, who can worthily repay you with praise and thanks for having rescued a fallen world by your generous consent! Receive our gratitude, and by your prayers obtain the pardon of our sins. Take our prayers into the sanctuary of heaven and enable them to make our peace with God.***

***Holy Mary, help the miserable, strengthen the discouraged, comfort the sorrowful, pray for your people, plead for the clergy, intercede for all women consecrated to God. May all who venerate you feel now your help and protection. Be ready to help us when we pray, and bring back to us the answers to our prayers. Make it your continual concern to pray for the people of God, for you were blessed by God and were made worthy to bear the Redeemer of the world, who lives and reigns forever.***

***Amen***

Children are a very special part of our family lives and or Parish communities.

Let us spend some time here praying for children, those known to us, and any who are in difficulty. We pray that they will grow in prayerful faith. This Devotion to the 'Lady in Blue' may assist us in sharing our faith.



*Lovely Lady dressed in blue, teach me how to pray  
God was just your little boy tell me what to say.*

*Did you lift him up sometimes, gently on your knee?*

*Did you sing to him the way mother does to me?*

*Did you hold his hand at night, and did you ever try  
telling him stories of the world, oh, and did he cry?*

*Do you really think he cares if I tell him things?*

*Little things that happen and do the angels wings make a noise*

*Can he hear me if I speak low, does he understand me now*

*Tell me for you know.*

*Lovely lady dressed in blue teach me how to pray*

*God was just your little boy and you know the way.*



This poem was made popular in the 1950s by Bishop Fulton Sheen though written in 1926 by Mary Dixon Thayer.

Before leaving Altötting let us pray for greater understanding between Jews, Christians and Muslims.

### **Covid-19: Christians, Jews and Muslims join in prayer in Jerusalem**



*Eternal God, Creator of the universe, there is no God but You.  
Great and wonderful are Your works, wondrous are your ways.  
Thank You for the many splendored variety of Your creation.  
Thank You for the many ways we affirm Your presence and purpose,  
and the freedom to do so.  
Forgive our violation of Your creation.  
Forgive our violence toward each other.  
We stand in awe and gratitude for Your persistent love*

*for each and all of Your children:*

*Christian, Jew, Muslim,*

*as well as those with other faiths.*

*Grant to all and our leaders attributes of the strong;*

*mutual respect in words and deed,*

*restraint in the exercise of power, and*

*the will for peace with justice, for all.*

*Eternal God, Creator of the universe, there is no God but You. Amen.*

*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.*

*WE set out for Oberammergau to recognise the suffering of the Lord Jesus, in many places, and in many faces. The Plague which gave rise to the Oberammergau Passion Plays has an echo centuries later in the Pandemic of Covid-19, a Plague for Our Time*





### **A prayer for peace in times of trouble**

*Lord, give Your people Your peace that we may shine brightly in a dark world. Grant us the courage to live faithfully even in the midst of hard times. Let our fear of You be the beginning of wisdom rather than allowing the fear of the world to drive our actions. Help us to embrace our heavenly citizenship and live strangely in the midst of a world that needs to know You.*

*Show Your mercy and heal those who are suffering in Your fallen creation. Most of all Lord, come. Restore the world You have made and make all things new. We pray that Your will would be done. Amen.*



The above photograph come to us from Peru. The boy who is praying is six years old and he made this decision to go out to pray to God because of the love he

feels for his grandparents, whom he has not seen since the confinement in Peru began.

"I pray that God will take care of those who have this disease. I'm asking that no one go out, many elderly people are dying from this disease," said the little boy, according to the Peruvian news outlet.

The boy's father said:

*"We're a Catholic family and I was quite surprised (...). My son is a little boy of six and I didn't think he would react like this, it has been a surprise for all of us,"*

May our prayers, private and public, be from the heart as honestly as that of a little boy ...'out of the mouths..'

We end this Eighth Day by saying together

***My soul magnifies the Lord***

***And my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;***

***Because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid;***

***For behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed;***

***Because He who is mighty has done great things for me,***

***and holy is His name;***

***And His mercy is from generation to generation***

***on those who fear Him.***

***He has shown might with His arm,***

***He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.***

***He has put down the mighty from their thrones,***

***and has exalted the lowly.***

***He has filled the hungry with good things,***

***and the rich He has sent away empty.***

***He has given help to Israel, his servant, mindful of His mercy***

***Even as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity forever.***