



**Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Home
C'est la Vie Apartments
Newsletter ~ September 2021
A Ministry of the Marianites of Holy Cross**



Celebration of Hope

As Marianites of Holy Cross, we celebrate the feast of the Holy Cross on September 14th. Our founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, taught us that the *Cross is our only hope*.

Reflecting on the Cross in light of hope, how does that belief translate into words which touch our everyday experience? How does that belief translate into meaning as we see the faces of so many suffering in our world today? Perhaps the following thoughts on hope can offer us moments of reflection:

- hope looks for the good in others instead of focusing on the worst;*
- hope encourages us to speak our truth when it would be easier to keep silent;*
- hope discovers what can be done instead of grumbling about what cannot;*
- hope asks us to reach out and share when tempted to hoard what we have;*
- hope regards problems, large or small, as opportunities;*
- hope lights a candle instead of cursing the darkness;*
- hope pushes us ahead when it would be easy to quit.*

† Recently Deceased Residents †

Annie Fruge 8/06/2021

☞ Celebrating Birthdays in September ☜

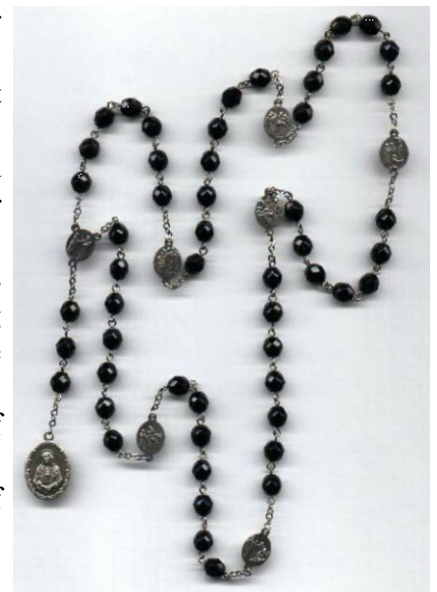
M. Boudreau	9/22	A. Richard	9/23
P. Cloud	9/06	T. Soileau	9/15
Sr. J. Dardenne	9/10	K. St. Cyr	9/16
Sr. B. Dupuis	9/18	R. Sudduth	9/19
C. Guillory	9/07	E. Tate	9/29
F. Guillory	9/08	I. Tweedel	9/15

September 15th Feast Day – Our Lady of Seven Dolors

Our Congregational feast day is celebrated on the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15th. The Marianites of Holy Cross hold Mary, under the title of Our Lady of Seven Dolors, as our patroness. The Seven Dolors are the seven sorrows Mary experienced as the Mother of Jesus. We depict this devotion on our Congregational Seal pictured on each of our newsletters. We pray that we may follow Mary's example of faith, strength, and compassion as we walk with others through the joys and struggles of their lives.

Marianites have special prayer beads that we use to meditate on the sorrows of Mary. The prayer beads are divided into seven sections: at the beginning of each section, there is a medal depicting the sorrow. After the medal, there are seven beads. On each bead we pray the "Hail, Mary."

In praying these mysteries of Mary's life, we celebrate in faith the paradox of the cross that – suffering can offer healing; loss can lead to being found; death can bring us to new life. We share with you an abbreviated form of praying the Dolors of our Mother Mary.



First Dolor: Simeon's Prophecy (Luke 2:33-35)

Mary is told because of your child – “Thy own soul a sword shall pierce.” We unite hearts of parents torn by sorrow due to the tragedies of their children to Mary's pierced heart and we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace, pray for us all, now and at the hour of our death.

Second Dolor: The Flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)

Mary and Joseph fled into Egypt with Jesus, sorrowing that He, the Son of God, was threatened and unwanted. We unite hearts of refugees and migrants forced to leave their native lands to Mary's pierced heart and we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace, pray for us all, now and at the hour of our death.

Third Dolor: Jesus Lost in the Temple (2:41-50)

As Mary and Joseph were frightened and bewildered in missing and losing their son, we unite the hearts of so many people, young and old, who are crushed by a loss of faith in God, a loss of faith in life and consider life unbearable. We unite these hearts to Mary's pierced heart and we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace, pray for us all, now and at the hour of our death.

Fourth Dolor: Meeting with Jesus Carrying His Cross (Luke 23:28-30)

As Mary's heart was in anguish seeing her Son tortured and carrying His heavy Cross, many families throughout the world have hearts torn apart at what is done to their children – the physical and spiritual deprivations of the slums, dangers of gang warfare, unjust arrests, experience of sexual abuse, misery and horror of prison life. We lift these hearts to Mary's pierced heart and we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace, pray for us all, now and at the hour of our death.

Fifth Dolor: The Crucifixion (John: 19:25-27)

As Mary stood beneath the Cross and watched her Son suffer and die, her heart was united with his, and she prayed for all those who suffer more at the agony of loved ones than at their own pain. We unite the hearts of all who feel powerless to relieve suffering and whose hearts are torn because of the pain of a loved one. We lift these hearts to Mary's pierced heart and we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace, pray for us all, now and at the hour of our death.

Sixth Dolor: Jesus Taken Down from the Cross (John 19:38-40)

As Mary embraced her dead Son in her arms, her heart was united with people throughout the world who are devastated by the death of loved ones – especially the young who die of disease, accident, violence, and all loved ones whose death leaves a void in their lives. We lift these hearts to Mary's pierced heart and we pray: Hail Mary, full of grace, pray for us all, now and at the hour of our death.

Seventh Dolor: Jesus is Laid in the Sepulcher (John 19:41-42)

As Mary watched her dead Son being placed in the tomb, another sword pierced her heart. Now his suffering was over, but her sorrow continued. We unite to Mary's pierced heart all people deprived of the physical presence of loved ones and who experience indescribable emptiness and loneliness. We pray: Hail Mary, full of grace, pray for us all, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

*Great as the sea was her sorrow,
but greater than the sea is her compassion
and her hope for the Resurrection.*

*Our Lady of Seven Dolors pray with and for us all!
Enable us to be people of deeper faith, stronger hope, steadfast love.*

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