



## Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament



*No one wants Jesus more loved and adored in the Blessed Sacrament than His Mother Mary.*

## Sea Glass

On my desk sits a glass candy jar with a cover. Inside covered with tap water, are dozens of bits of sea glass, mostly green, but some are white. Several are aquamarine. One is cobalt blue. Two are a molasses color, and one is lavender. Whenever I walk the beach I keep my eyes open for bits of sea glass. Each color has a special personal

meaning. I see each one as a unique sign of God's love.

I'll tell you how I got into collecting sea glass. When I took up my duties as assistant pastor, the pastor assigned me as spiritual director to our Prayer Community. As I got to know the members, I learned that many of them had special signs indicating God loved them. For some it was a rainbow, for others it was a butterfly, and for still others it was a dove.

So one rainy day while walking the beach, my eye fell upon three pieces of white sea glass in a row. There's my sign, I thought. White reminded me of the Blessed Mother and of my call to Christian holiness through baptism.

Thus began my collection of sea glass. Each piece of glass was once something — a coke bottle, a beer bottle, a tumbler — and then it got tossed into the sea where the rocks and sand and waves worked on it. Its shape was transformed, ground, polished into something different but beautiful.

This transformation became a symbol to me of how God works

with the rough stuff of our humanity. Through what we endure in life, the Lord is constantly grinding, polishing, working away at us, transforming us into something grand — worthy sons and daughters of the Kingdom of Heaven.

The green speaks of His constant call to growth in His Son Jesus Christ. The molasses pieces call to mind our humanity. The aquamarine speaks of Mary's constant care and love. And that one cobalt blue sea glass, a rare find, tells of her special love for those who are devoted to her as the Mother of God. I am constantly on alert for a bit of red sea glass washed smooth by the sea to be a reminder of Christ's precious blood, the price of our redemption. One day I'll find a piece of ruby red sea glass.

Each piece of sea glass is an apt illustration of the slogan seen so often, "Be patient with me. God's not finished with me yet."

- by Fr. Ronald Saunders, S.M.

## Dear Fr. Demers,

I am a prisoner down in Texas and have been receiving "Echoes" for quite a few years and wish to thank you for sending it to me. I'm also a poet and have written a prayer / poem inspired by a letter from a pen pal whose wife surprised him with a pilgrimage trip to Lourdes last September. He, Bill, related his journey to me and part of what he saw in the sufferings of folks who were worse off than himself. Bill had a four day stay there and was able to bathe in the healing waters and visit the shrine. After I had written a letter back to him, I put it aside to be mailed in the morning and tried to go to sleep. After about an hour of tossing and turning I had to get up and the words to the prayer / poem entitled "A Lourdes Prayer" came to me unbidden, as do all of the poems that I produce with the guidance of God who has given me the gift. I never sit down with the intention to write a poem about a certain subject yet the words seem to flow out from my hand at the oddest times. Enclosed you will find a few examples of what I write and you are free to use them and make them available to all in any manner that you wish. As long as my writings can put a smile on someone's face or just give them pause for reflection then I have been blessed through our great God, and done only what He has led me to do. Thank you for taking the time to read this and may God continue to bless the work that you do. All through Mary. D.L.S.

## A Lourdes Prayer

Our Lady of Lourdes, Virgin Mother most blessed, I come to you not asking healing for myself, but for others who in desperate need seek cures not rendered by the hand of mere men,

but by the power of the Spirit of God Who gave you leave to touch the lives of all who come to pay homage to Christ's most loyal subject by spreading His message and love worldwide in all of your spiritual guises. I come crawling on hand and knee to ask you to fill me with God's spirit of love for others, to seek solace in your arms, and beg forgiveness for the sins of others whose needs are greater than mine, and whose healings keep the faithful coming in hope you will touch them too, in heart and body with your essence that flows freely to those whose wishes for family and friends come first.

Thank you Dear Lady for the healing waters you send, may they flow ever out from your heart of generosity bestowing hope and healing to those most deserving, those who can not make pilgrimages, those whose sufferings are greater, those who serve the masses coming to your feet in prayer and thanksgiving day by day. AMEN.

## Bernadette's Life

*June, 1873*

One Sunday, our Novice Mistress, Mother Marie Therese Vauzou, allowed us to go and visit Bernadette in groups of twelve and fifteen. She welcomed us with great kindness. We gathered round her bed and each of us said what she had to say.

One of us, who was tall and strong, asked her if she had been afraid when receiving the Sacrament of the Sick. "Afraid of what?" Bernadette asked. "Of dying! I should be so very much afraid to know that my last hour had come."

Bernadette said, "Oh, but we never know when that hour may come. And when it does come, God gives us strength."

*(Sister Eudoxie Chatlain)*

I was in the sick room and Bernadette was in bed. A Sister brought her a photograph of a pilgrimage, or of the Basilica of Lourdes. "Surely, you would be happy to go to the grotto of Massabielle, wouldn't you?"

All smiles, she raised her eyes to heaven and in spite of a fit of asthma which gave her intense suffering, she answered:

"No, I have made the sacrifice of never seeing Lourdes again. I have only one ambition, that of seeing the Blessed Virgin, glorified and loved."

*(Sister Gonzague Cointe)*

## Available from the Lourdes Center

Crystal Rosaries  
(with water from Lourdes)  
(rose, blue, clear  
black).....\$6.85

Brown or Green  
Scapulars.....2.00

O.L. Lourdes or  
St. Bernadette pins.....3.50

Lourdes Grotto medal  
and chain.....3.00

**"Bernadette"**  
by Fr. John Lynch, SM.....2.00

**"Lourdes and Our Lady"** by  
Rev. John W. Lynch, S.M...\$2.00

**"Joseph The Carpenter"**  
by G. Caron.....3.00

**"Come We Could Be  
Children Together"**  
by G. Caron.....3.00

## Readers Write:

**PA:** Thank you for sending this precious water to all who believe that through this Lourdes Water from the Lourdes Shrine, with faith in God, He answers prayers. Physical, spiritual, whatever our need may be. Whatever His will is. I pass this Lourdes Water to those I know who can use it. They are so grateful. One lady told me excitedly, "Oh, this is something I always wanted." Another lady at Church has diabetes, and had one leg amputated because of an infection that could not be healed. Then one Sunday morning about two years ago she was not at Mass, I asked her husband about her and he said she now had an infection in her other leg. The next week at Mass I took a bottle of Lourdes Water to him and told him to "put some on her leg." About two weeks later she was in Church and is now doing well. Two other friends and I visit a Nursing Home every Friday morning to pray the Rosary with some of the residents. This is such a blessing. A few weeks ago a young lady who works there asked if we would visit Wilma, a lady who always came to pray the Rosary. She said Wilma was not doing well and probably only had a day or two to live. We went to visit Wilma, and her eyes were closed, not moving and on oxygen. She did not look well at all. My friend and I prayed the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be and blessed her with Lourdes Water. The next week the same aid said, "I don't know what happened but she is up and doing therapy everyday." We visited her again and she was sitting in her chair watching television. These are the things that keep lifting our faith. I have cataracts and muscular degeneration of the eyes, and use Lourdes Water on my eyes several times a day. When I have my eye exams they are no better, but also not any worse.

May God continue to bestow His blessings on all of you. **S.D.**

**MD:** Please accept the enclosed gift as a token of my appreciation to Our Lady of Lourdes who spared me the necessity of surgery for a cyst on my index finger. It had been excised once by my general practitioner. When the cyst grew back he recommended surgery by a hand specialist. A week before the date of the operation, I applied Lourdes Water daily saying the Novena prayers. To the consternation of my surgeon, the cyst disappeared and he canceled the operation. I am very grateful for what my doctor calls a miracle. **E.S.**

**TX:** I have used Lourdes Water for some time now and repeating the prayers in hope of a favorable blood lab report, and it has been granted. **A.L.**

**FL:** I have been blessed with the Lourdes Water. My right knee had severe pain and I could hardly walk. The doctor advised possible surgery which I refused. A friend gave me her Lourdes Water, and then I asked for more from you. I had been using the Lourdes Water on my knee everyday, before I placed my braces on, and now my right knee is 95% pain free and I can walk with help. This even without the surgery! What a miracle! Thanks to Our Holy Mother and to you dear Fathers, for extending to me the blessings of Our Mother. **R.G.**

**FL:** Please accept the enclosed gift from me for all the prayers, the comfort, and the many times that I have called on Our Blessed Mother to pray for the medical and spiritual needs of

myself and my family and friends. I know that She is with me always and forever, and never leaves my side. I use the Lourdes Water and give it to those who ask. Some people cannot believe there is a Center that will provide water from Lourdes, France. My husband and I have been so blessed to be able to go to Lourdes and spend three days. It was the most spiritually moving experience of our lives. Thank you, Blessed Lady of Lourdes for loving me and praying for me. **J.D.**

**FL:** The Blessed Mother answered my prayers with successful breast surgery for cancer. We are now praying for my husband's eyesight, he has macular degeneration. We use the Lourdes Water everyday. Thank you for all you do. **S.G.**

### Affiliations – for Living

#### Remembrance in 50 Masses yearly and at our weekly Perpetual Novena (Please Print Clearly)

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_

Offering: 1 year \$2.00, 3 years \$5.00  
Lifetime \$10.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Lourdes Water...

**...is an expression  
of my faith...  
my trust in God's mercy.**

Offering to cover shipping & handling \$ \_\_\_\_\_

N.B. A donation of \$2.00 per bottle is suggested to cover our expenses. When the offering permits, we use Priority Mail. We will accept orders of 1-3-5-6-and 10 bottles. For multiples thereof and for unusual numbers requested, we reserve the right to send what is both just and feasible.

**Please send \_\_\_\_\_ bottles of the water from the Shrine at Lourdes**

Name (Please Print Clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Does this person receive the "Echoes from Lourdes?"

Yes  No

If not, should we send the "Echoes?"

Yes  No

PLEASE ALLOW 3-6 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY

## Our Deceased

SOPHIA FUHS, IN  
 LINO MARRERO, FL  
 SR. GRACE ESTHER, O.P., MI  
 EILEEN STERN, NY  
 MARIA STENTZ, MS  
 ROSE SCHLACHTER, PA  
 JULIN B. MADRID, NM  
 EMELIA BUCHKO, IN  
 MARGARET P. JONES, KY  
 THEODOSIA FLECK, OH  
 VIRGIL H. KITTEN, KS  
 ROBERT R. RASICO, MI  
 ELEANOR FOSTER, MI  
 BETTY J. FLETCHER, MA  
 ALFRED E. MC NULTY, MA  
 LILLIAN JUENEMANN, MN  
 MARTINA PRENDERGAST, PA  
 MARTIN BALDINI, NJ  
 ANN PINGRYN, NY  
 LILLIE POLITTE, MO

THERESA L. NASSELLA, MA  
 ROSEMARY BAKER, OH  
 MARTHA C. NATHE, MN  
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 ALICE T. DONAHUE, MA  
 PEG RYAN, PA  
 TERESA JIRINIC, MD  
 MARY R. LEGRONE, MD  
 HELEN M. CATALDO, PA

## Together in our Prayers

Please remember my intentions on:

- June 9th:  
Terminal Illness
- July 26th:  
Saint Anne
- Thursday: Perpetual Novena  
to Our Lady of Lourdes
- First Fridays: Cancer and  
Life-threatening diseases
- At Daily Masses:  
(Living and Deceased)

Intentions

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Name

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Address

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City

---

State

Zip

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- Please indicate here if offering is enclosed. Thank you. God Bless.

## Making a Will?

If you wish to remember us in your will, our legal title is *Marist Fathers of Boston, Lourdes Bureau*. It is a timeless gift that assures you will be part of the Lourdes Center mission for years to come. Please contact us for more information about remembering the Lourdes Center in your will or about other estate plans.

## Echoes from Lourdes

Published monthly to promote devotion of Our Lady and interest in her shrine at Lourdes.

**Director:** Rev. Gerard Demers, S.M.  
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*Address Service Requested*

**Lourdes Center**  
 Marist Fathers  
 Lourdes Bureau  
 Box 15575  
 698 Beacon Street  
 Boston, MA 02215-2594  
 617-536-2761



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