

Dear Friends,

"I have come to cast fire on the earth and what will I, but that it be kindled?" (Luke 12:49)

Somehow the approach of summer brings the thought of light and heat, in spite of the cooler than normal spring we've been having here in the Northwest. Summer also begins in the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and contains the month in which we honor the Immaculate Heart of Mary. These two hearts surmounted by flames signify the love burning within them. Is this the fire Jesus came to cast on earth?

When we think of fire from heaven, we are reminded of the fire and brimstone that rained down from heaven on the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and pretty much obliterated them on account of their sins. Fire also came down from heaven to consume the sacrifice of the faithful prophet Elias, showing that the one true God accepted his sacrifice and rejected those of the pagan priests. Just before Jesus spoke of casting fire on the earth, he had propounded various images of the judgment of men at the end of the world, or at their death, which brings to mind the awful words from the Requiem liturgy: "...when Thou shalt come to judge the world by fire."

Before His Passion, Jesus said to the Apostles, "But I tell you the truth: it is expedient to you that I go: for if I go not, the Paraclete will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you." After Christ's ascension into heaven, the disciples spent nine days in prayer in company with our Blessed Mother. Then the Holy Spirit descended on them in the form of tongues of fire. Is this the fire that Jesus willed to kindle upon the earth, the Spirit of Love and Truth which would renew the face of the earth? This is the fire that burned in His own Sacred Heart for us.

And the corresponding fire burning in the Immaculate Heart of Mary contains and offers to God the love of all her children, the members of His Mystical Body. In our hearts this fire of response to God's love is proved by doing His Will in our lives.

Sweet Heart of Mary make my heart With love like thine for Jesus burn



O Heart aflame with heavenly fire, To learn this love to thee I turn! Light in my heart this conflagration! Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation!

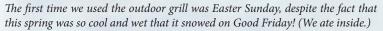


On the senior trip to western Washington, the Sisters and young ladies attended Mass on Ascension Thursday at St. Joseph's in Mount Vernon.



When the pandemic first began, the Sisters promised Mary Immaculate Queen to have her statue carried in a Rosary procession each year on her feastday in thanksgiving for her maternal protection.







In late April, Sr. Maria Kazimiera traveled with several students who participated in the National Archery Tournament in Utah.



Sr. Marie Vianney teaches the Handmaids of the Queen Sodality how to make string rosaries for the missions.



Mount St. Michael's Catholic Kids for Life participated in Spokane's St. Patrick's Day parade. Providentially their club color is green.



Honoring our heavenly Mother on Mother's Day, the Sisters prayed a living Rosary at Mary Immaculate Queen Church, Rathdrum, Idaho.



Our two postulants pose with Rev. Mother Mary Agnes. On Mother's Day, we honor our superiors in a special way.



Newly back from mission, Sr. Madeleine Marie helps Sr. Augustine Marie assemble yearbooks.



Sr. Mary Teresita poses with the First Communicants at Most Holy Rosary Church, Middleville, Michigan.



St. Philomena's Academy took a school trip to visit Sacred Heart Basilica at Notre Dame, Indiana, stopping to pray at the Lourdes grotto there



Sr. Therese Marie and Sr. Michael Marie, who accompanied the girls on their senior class trip, enjoy an afternoon of kayaking with them.



The Sisters in Tacoma, Washington, joined their parish's festivities as they celebrated Ladies' Day.



Sr. Louise Marie and the First Communicants pose with the cake after Mass. Sister helped to prepare the second graders of St. Michael's Academy for their special day.



Before incubating eggs as a class project, Sr. Bernadine Marie shows her fourth grade class a poster of the day by day development of a chick.

Our Apostolate of Prayer

Are you or someone you love in need of special prayers?

Send your intentions to the Sisters to be remembered in our daily prayers, Masses and good works, and especially in our upcoming Novenas.



The Grace and Power of Chastity

Religious chastity... is at once a free offering to God and a free gift from God. Theologians are agreed that without the grace of God it would be impossible for a man to retain his innocence: the virtue of chastity is a grace.

Before the fall, chastity was instinctive; it came naturally. Since the fall it has to be preserved, and preserved with difficulty; it comes supernaturally, St. Thomas says that man needs supernatural help to do what our first parents did by nature. The fall has brought such opposition to chastity that we need

great grace even to see it in its proper light, let alone to resist the opposition. As with every other virtue, it is only those who cultivate it who can see it for the virtue that it is. In a fallen world we tend to think of chastity as the negation of certain sins. It would be more correct to think of the sins as the negation and privation of chastity.

The spouse in the Canticle is spoken of as "coming up from the desert, flowing with delights, leaning upon her Beloved." Untouched by the smoke of the cities, she is wholly pure: her disposition matches that of the Beloved Himself, and she leans upon His virtue.

It is no good trying to explain this to a person of the world today. He may understand chastity as a refusal to give in, as something unbroken; but he will not see it as a grace. He will not see the strength that chastity gives to the chaste. He will not see it as virtue — power as well as virtue.



Calendar

July	6-8	Teaching Sisters
	9	Sr. Maria Goretti's feastday
	10-15	Sisters' outing
	12	Sr. Mary Veronica's feastday
	16-27	California Catechism camp
	24-27	Catechism camp in Lewiston, Idaho
	17-22	Camp St. Philomena (see CMRI.org for details)
August	9	Sr. Marie Vianney's feastday
	11	Sr. Philomena Marie's feastday
	11-16	Ladies' Retreat at Mount St. Michael
	15	Feast of the Assumption BVM
	18	Sr. Helen Marie's feastday
	22	Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary
	28	Sr. Augustine Marie's feastday
Sept.	12	Sr. Marianna's feastday
	15	Sr. Maria Dolorosa's feastday
	16	Sr. Mary Andrea's feastday
	17	Sr. Sophia Marie's feastday

 Feast of St. Michael: Titular feast of St. Michael's Convent
Sr. Michael Marie's feastday

To the unchaste no exposition of perpetual continence is convincing; to the perpetually continent the exposition is assumed. Where the Exemplar, Christ, is rejected, the example of chastity is either not credited or else witnessed unmoved. It may even be ridiculed. See Christ and you cannot but see His purity: see His purity and at once you see the significance of the purity of others, and its genuineness. —Hubert Van Zeller, *The Yoke of Divine Love*

Put First Things First...

St. Michael's Academy — Girls' Boarding 2022-2023

It is not easy today for young traditional Catholics to persevere in the Faith after high school and college.

And girls who attend a traditional Catholic high school staffed by priests and nuns are certainly more equipped to face the dangers to their souls they will face out in the world.

With eternity in the balance, a solid Catholic education is worth almost any sacrifice.

So isn't it time to put first things first?





Boarding confirmation deadline: July 31, 2021

* Boarding for the 2022-2023 school year is contingent upon sufficient interest.

For more information, please contact: Sister Bernardine Marie, CMRI (509) 467-0986 x182 srbernardine@cmri.org

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