

The Marian Thoughts of Pope Francis

October 2013



Oct. 2 – On the Holiness of the Church – Translated extract of comments after the General Audience (October 2, 2013, Zenit.org).

I greet ... the parish groups, especially the faithful of Potenza, who are crowning the statue of the Blessed Virgin of the Rosary on the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of their parish.

Oct. 3 – Pope Encourages European Bishops in Reflections on Secularity: Notes Harmony of Faith-Reason, Truth-Freedom – Translated conclusion (October 3, 2013, Zenit.org).

...and through the intercession of Mary Most Holy He invokes abundant grace on the pastors of the Churches in Europe and on their ministry ...

Oct. 3 – Francis' Address on 50th Anniversary of *Pacem in Terris*: "I wonder if the words justice and solidarity are only in our dictionary or if we all work to make them a reality"– Translated conclusion (October 3, 2013, Zenit.org).

...may the Lord, with the intercession of Mary, Queen of Peace, help us to receive in ourselves the peace that is gift of the Risen Christ, and to work always with commitment and creativity for the common good.

Oct. 4 – Francis' Address at Seraphic Institute of Assisi: "Jesus' wounds are here and they are in Heaven before the Father"–Translated conclusion of the prepared address (Assisi, Italy, October 4, 2013, Zenit.org).

May ... Our Lady ... protect you.

Oct. 4 – Francis' Address to Pastoral Councils, Clergy in Assisi: "What a great gift it is to be the Church, to be part of the People of God!" – Translated conclusion (Assisi, Italy, October 7, 2013, Zenit.org).

May ... Our Lady protect you,

Oct. 4 – Francis' Address to the Poor Clares: "Contemplation Always ... And Community Life Always" – Translated conclusion of the Angelus address (September 8, 2013, Zenit.org).

... we pray to Our Lady: Hail Mary

Oct. 6 – On the Power of Faith – Conclusion of the Angelus address (October 6, 2013, Zenit.org).

October is also the month of the Rosary, and on this first Sunday it is a tradition to recite the Supplication to Our Lady of Pompeii, the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Holy Rosary. Let us join spiritually in this act of confidence in our Mother, and we receive from her hands the beads of the Rosary: the Rosary is a school of prayer; the Rosary is a school of faith!

Oct. 7 – Pope Supports "Hermeneutic of Continuity" Approach to Vatican II in Letter: Praises Archbishop Marchetto as "Best Interpreter" of the Council – Translated conclusion (November 15, 2013, Zenit.org).

May ... the Holy Virgin protect you.

Oct. 9 – The Pope Prays for the President of Argentina –Translated extracts of a telegram (October 9, 2013, VIS).

I ask the Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Lujan, to bestow strength upon you, to keep your hopes high and to ensure that you can once again return to your daily responsibilities. ...

May ... the Virgin watch over you.

Oct. 12–The Church Must Address the Role of Women –Translated conclusion of an address to a seminar on "Mulieris Dignitatis" (October 12, 2013, VIS).

May Mary Most Holy, great woman, Mother of Jesus and of all the children of God, accompany us.

Oct. 12 –Francis' Catechesis at Marian Day Vigil: "It is a fact: Mary always brings us to Jesus" –Translated beginning (October 14, 2013, Zenit.org).

This event of the Year of Faith is devoted to Mary, the Mother of Christ and the Mother of the Church, our Mother. The statue of Our Lady which has come from Fatima helps us to feel her presence in our midst. It is a fact: Mary always brings us to Jesus. She is a woman of faith, a true believer. But we can ask: What was Mary's faith like?

For more on what Pope Francis said about Mary: [Pope Francis' Catechesis at the Marian Day Vigil](#)

Oct. 13 – On the Marian Day –Translated Angelus address (October 13, 2013, Zenit.org).

I thank all of you who came in great numbers from Rome, from Italy and from many parts of the world for this celebration of faith dedicated to Mary our Mother.

... I greet with affection the Panamanian group who are meeting today in Rome and I entrust them to the protection of Our Lady of Antigua, heavenly patroness of this dear nation.

Oct. 13 – Prayer of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary – Translated beginning (October 13, 2013, Zenit.org).

Holy Mary Virgin of Fatima, with renewed gratitude for your maternal presence, we join our voice to that of all the generations who call you blessed. We celebrate in you the works of God, who never tires of looking down with mercy upon humanity, afflicted with the wound of sin, to heal it and save it. ...

For more on what Pope Francis said about Mary: [Pope's Prayer of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)

Oct. 13 – Pope Francis' Homily at Mass for Marian Day – Translated beginning (October 13, 2013, Zenit.org).

... Today we consider one of the marvelous things which the Lord has done: Mary! A lowly and weak creature like ourselves, she was chosen to be the Mother of God, the Mother of her Creator.

Considering Mary in the light of the readings we have just heard, I would like to reflect with you on three things: God surprises us, God asks us to be faithful, God is our strength.

For more on what Pope Francis said about Mary: [Pope's Homily at Marian Day](#)

Oct. 13 – Pope's Video Message for Beatification of 522 Twentieth-century Spanish Martyrs – Translated conclusion (October 13, 2013, VIS).

May ... the Holy Virgin protect them.

Oct. 13 – Francis' Video Message to Shrines Participating in Marian Day Vigil: When we are weary, downcast, beset with cares, let us look to Mary, let us feel her gaze, which speaks to our heart and says: "Courage, my child, I am here to help you!" – Translated beginning (October 14, 2013, Zenit.org).

I greet all the pilgrims present in this Shrine of Divine Love, and all those who join us from the Marian shrines of Lourdes, Nazareth, Lujan, Vailankanni, Guadalupe, Akita, Nairobi, Benneux, Częstochowa and Marian Valley.

This evening I am united to all of you in praying the Holy Rosary and in Eucharistic adoration under the gaze of the Virgin Mary. ...

For more on what Pope Francis said about Mary: [Pope's Video Message to Shrines participating in the Marian Day Vigil](#)

Oct. 14 – Pope's Address to the Plenary Assembly of the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization – Translated conclusion (October 14, 2013, Zenit.org).

May ... Our Lady protect you.

Oct. 15 – Retirement Ceremony of Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone – Translated extracts of original text and spoken remarks (October 15, 2013, Zenit.org).

Our Lady [help of Christians] has been close to you and has always assisted you in this precious ministry. May her maternal intercession obtain for you a heavenly recompense and the graces that are closest to your heart.

[Spoken remarks] ...Whoever looks from outside sees only the roses, whereas Don Bosco and his disciples who were walking inside feel the thorns: many get discouraged, but the Virgin Mary exhorts them all to persevere, and in the end the Saint finds himself with his own in a very beautiful garden. ... although there were thorns, the Virgin certainly was not lacking in her help, and will not be lacking in it in the future: be sure of it, no? The wish we all hope for you is that you will be able to enjoy the treasures that marked your vocation: ... the assistance of Our Lady,

Oct. 18 – Thirty Years of the Vatican Television Centre – Translated comments (October 18, 2013, VIS).

Francis concluded by asking the Virgin to guide the steps of the "pilgrims of communication"....

Oct. 18 – Video Message to the First Philippine Conference on New Evangelisation: May the Holy Spirit Bring Justice and Peace to Asia – Extract (October 18, 2013, VIS).

I promise to pray for you, especially to Our Mother the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of the New Evangelisation.

Oct. 23 – Pope's Address to Participants of the National Congress of Chaplains –Translated conclusion (October 23, 2013, Zenit.org).

I wish that ... Our Lady take care of you; always by the hand of Our Lady, because she is the Mother of all of you and of all those in prison. ... let us pray to Our Lady, that she will lead us always to Jesus ...

Oct. 23 – On Mary, Model of Faith, Charity and Union with Christ – Translated beginning (October 23, 2013, Zenit.org).

Continuing the catechesis on the Church, today I would like to look at Mary as image and model of the Church. I do so taking up an expression of Vatican Council II. The Constitution *Lumen Gentium* says: "As Saint Ambrose already taught, the Mother of God is figure of the Church in the order of faith, of charity and of perfect union with Christ" (No. 63).

For more on what Pope Francis said about Mary: [Pope's Address on Mary: Model of Faith, Charity and Union with Christ](#)

Oct. 25 – Pope's Address to 21st Plenary Assembly of the Pontifical Council for the Family "The family is the engine of the world and of history" – Translated extracts (October 25, 2013, Zenit.org).

I am happy that the Pontifical Council for the Family has devised a new icon of the family, which takes up the scene of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, with Mary and Joseph who bring the Child, to comply with the Law, ...

I entrust you to the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Oct. 26 – Pope Francis' Prayer for the Families of the World – Translated beginning (October 28, 2013, Zenit.org).

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, to you, Holy Family of Nazareth, today we turn our gaze with admiration and confidence; in you we contemplate the beauty of communion in true love; to you we commend our families, so that in them marvels of grace be renewed.

For more on what Pope Francis said about Mary: [Pope's Prayer for the Families of the World](#)

Oct. 26 – Pope's Address to the Families of the World on Pilgrimage for the Year of Faith – Translated extracts (October 28, 2013, Zenit.org).

3. Finally, here before us is the icon of Jesus' Presentation in the Temple ... Mary and Joseph have travelled as pilgrims to Jerusalem in obedience to the Law of the Lord; ... Mary and Joseph are the family, sanctified by the presence of Jesus who is the fulfillment of all God's promises. Like the Holy Family of Nazareth, every family is part of the history of a people; ...

... may Mary, our Mother, protect you and be ever at your side.

Oct. 27 – Pope's Homily at Mass with Families for the Year of Faith – Translated extracts (October 28, 2013 (Zenit.org).

... praying the Rosary together, as a family, is very beautiful and a source of great strength!

... Dear families, always live in faith and simplicity, like the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Oct. 27 – On the Family – Translated extracts of the Angelus address (October 28, 2013, Zenit.org).

May the Immaculate Virgin protect your beloved nation and obtain for you to progress along the path of concord and justice.

Now we will pray the Angelus. With this prayer we invoke the protection of Mary, our Mother, for the families of the world, in a particular way for those who live in very difficult circumstances. Mary, Queen of the Family, pray for us! Let us say together: Mary, Queen of the Family, pray for us! Mary, Queen of the Family, pray for us! Mary, Queen of the Family, pray for us!

Oct. 29 – Pope Francis Reflects on the Nature of Hope: Speaks on St. Paul's Letter to the Romans During Morning Mass – Translated extract of homily at Casa Santa Marta (October 29, 2013,

Zenit.org).

May the Immaculate Virgin protect your beloved nation and obtain for you to progress along the path of concord and justice.

I think of Mary, a young girl, when, after hearing that she was a mother, her attitude changes and she goes, she helps and sings that hymn of praise.

Oct. 29 – Pope Francis: hope is a gift from the Holy Spirit –Translated extract of homily at Casa Santa Marta (October 29, 2013, news.va).

Hope – he said – is what Mary, Mother of God, sheltered in her heart during the darkest time of her life: from Friday afternoon until Sunday morning. That is hope: she had it. And that hope has renewed everything.