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Pope Francis

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## The Marian Thoughts of Pope Francis

July 2014



**Jul. 3 – Pope’s Message to Gathering of European Scouts: “If we accept the Lord's invitation to go to Him and to experience His love which fills our hearts with joy, then He will take away all fear”** -(August 4, 2014, Zenit.org).

May the Virgin Mary accompany you with her tenderness, now and during your whole life.

**Jul. 5 – Pope Francis’ Homily at Mass in Campobasso: “It’s necessary to put the dignity of the human person at the center of every perspective and every action. Other interests, even if legitimate, are secondary.”** – Translated extract (July 5, 2014, Zenit.org).

And always, the icon of the Church is the Virgin Mary, the “handmaid of the Lord” (Lk 1,38; cfr 1,48). Immediately after having received the message from the Angel and having conceived Jesus, Mary leaves in a hurry to go to help her elderly relative Elizabeth. And, in this way, she showed that the preferred way to serve God is to serve our brothers and sisters who are in need.

For more about what the Pope said about Mary: <http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/pope-francis-homily-at-mass-in-campobasso>.

**Jul. 5 – Pope’s Address to Young People of Abruzzo and Molise: “He does not take away autonomy or freedom; on the contrary, He strengthens us in our fragility, allowing us to be truly free, free to do good, strong to continue doing so, able to forgive and to ask for forgiveness.”** – Translated conclusion (Castelpetroso, July 5, 2014, Zenit.org).

We are gathered in front of the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows, erected in the place where in 1888 two girls of this land, Fabiana and Serafina, had a vision of the Mother of God as they worked in the fields. Mary always helps us when we work and when we are in search of work, when we have clear ideas and when we are confused, when prayer comes spontaneously and when the heart is dry. Mary is the Mother of God, our Mother, and Mother of the Church. Many men and women, young and old have turned to you to say thank you and supplicate a favor. Mary leads us to Jesus, our peace. We have recourse to you, trusting in his help, with courage and hope.

Pope's Address to Detainees in Isernia

"God is Father, He is mercy, He always loves us. If we seek Him, He welcomes us and forgives us. He never tires of forgiving: it is the motto of this visit."

**Jul. 5 – Pope’s Address to Detainees in Isernia: “God is Father, He is mercy, He always**

**loves us. If we seek Him, He welcomes us and forgives us. He never tires of forgiving: it is the motto of this visit.”** – Translated conclusion (July 5, 2014, Zenit.org).

After the tributes of the director and of one of the detainees, the Holy Father was to give the prepared remarks below. A Vatican spokesman said he spoke entirely off the cuff instead, but his words probably related to the following:

Let us pray together to Our Lady, our Mother, to help us and protect us. Ave Maria ...

**Jul. 5 – Pope Francis’ Address to Proclaim Jubilee Year of Pope St. Celestine V: “Like Saint Francis of Assisi, [Celestine V] had a very strong sense of God’s mercy, and the fact that God’s mercy renews the world.”** – Translated conclusion (Isernia, July 5, 2014, Zenit.org).

May the Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, accompany and support us always on this way.

**Jul. 6 – Pope’s Angelus Address: Imitate Christ’s Meekness and Humility: “Once the solace and comfort of Christ is received, we are called in turn to become solace and comfort for our brothers, with a meek and humble attitude, in imitation of the Master.”** – Translated conclusion (July 6, 2014, Zenit.org).

We invoke the Blessed Virgin Mary, under her mantle that welcomes all harassed and helpless people, so that through an enlightened faith, witnessed in life, we can be of relief to those who need help, tenderness and hope.

**Jul. 7 – There Is No Place in the Church for Abusers** – Translated extract of homily at pope’s private Mass at Sanctae Marthae (July 7, 2014, VIS).

By turning back to him, accompanied by our most holy Mother, who stood sorrowing at the foot of the cross, let us seek the grace of reconciliation with the entire people of God. The loving intercession of Our Lady of Tender Mercy is an unfailing source of help in the process of our healing.

**Jul. 13 – On the Parable of the Sower: Pope Francis’ Angelus Address for Sunday, July 13th** – Translated extract (July 13, 2014, Zenit.org).

The perfect model of this good ground is the Virgin Mary.

[Comments after the Angelus] I entrust all, especially those who are in difficulty and away from home, to the maternal protection of Mary, Star of the Sea.

**Jul. 13 – Pope Francis’ Videomessage to Patients in Gemelli Hospital** – Translated conclusion (July 14, 2014, VIS).

I entrust you to Mary ....

**Jul. 20 – Pope’s Angelus Address for July 20: “In the face of the weeds in the world, the disciple of the Lord is called to imitate the patience of God, nourishing hope with the support of an unshakable faith in the ultimate victory of the good, that is of God.”** – Translated conclusion (July 20, 2014, Zenit.org).

Let us ask the Virgin Mary, our Mother, to help us to grow in patience, hope and mercy.

[Comments after the Angelus] Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

**Jul. 24. -- Pope’s Message for the 50th Anniversary of the Argentine Shrine of St. Pantaleon** – Translated conclusion (July 24, 2014, VIS).

May ... the Holy Virgin protect you.

**Jul. 26 – Pope Francis’ Homily at Mass in Caserta: “Giving primacy to God means having the courage to say no to evil, violence, oppression, living a life of service to others and in favor of the law and the common good.”**– Translated conclusion (July 26, 2014, Zenit.org).

... I saw a beautiful thing: the statue of St. Anne is crowned, her daughter, Mary, is crowned. And this is nice. St. Anne is the woman who prepared her daughter to become queen, to become the queen of the heavens and the earth. She did a nice job this woman! ... St. Anne may have heard her daughter Mary proclaim the words of the Magnificat: "He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things (Lk 1, 51-53)".

**Jul. 26 – Pope’s Dialogue with Priests in Caserta: “A Bishop that doesn’t pray, a priest that doesn’t pray, has closed the door, has closed the way of creativity.”** – Translated extracts (July 29, 2014, Zenit.org).

True popular piety is born of that *sensus fidei* of which this conciliar document speaks and guides in devotion to Saints, to Our Lady, and also with folkloric expressions in the good sense of the word.

... And when the priest was about to leave, she said: Stop, Father, come,” and she led him to the bedroom, opened the closet in which was the image of Our Lady: “You must know that I never abandoned her. I’ve hidden her because of the pastor, but she is in my home!”

**Jul. 27 – Pope’s Angelus Address, Sunday July 27: “Everything makes sense when you find this treasure, which Jesus called ‘the Kingdom of God,’ that is, God reigning in your life, in our lives.”** – Translated conclusion (July 27, 2014, Zenit.org).

Let us pray, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, that his kingdom of love, justice and peace comes to us and to the whole world.