

4-2015

April 2015

Pope Francis

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Francis, Pope, "April 2015" (2015). *Marian Thoughts of Pope Francis*. 26.
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Marian Thoughts of Pope Francis



April 2015

Apr. 1 – General Audience: On the Easter Triduum – Translated extract (April 01, 2015, Zenit.org).

On Holy Saturday the Church identifies herself, once again, with Mary: all her faith is gathered in Her, the first and perfect disciple, the first and perfect believer. In the darkness that enveloped Creation, She remains alone holding the flame of faith lighted, hoping against all hope (Cf. Romans 4:18).

Apr. 2 – Pope Francis’ Homily at Chrism Mass – Translated extracts (April 02, 2015, Zenit.org).

Know that the Blessed Virgin Mary is well aware of this tiredness and she brings it straight to the Lord. As our Mother, she knows when her children are weary, and this is her greatest concern. “Welcome! Rest, my child. We will speak afterwards...”. “Whenever we draw near to her, she says to us: “Am I not here with you, I who am your Mother?” (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 286). And to her Son she will say, as she did at Cana, “They have no wine” (Jn 2:3).

... Do I know how to spend time with Jesus, with the Father, with the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, with my patron saints, and to find rest in their demands, which are easy and light, and in their pleasures, for they delight to be in my company, and in their concerns and standards, which have only to do with the greater glory of God?

Apr. 4 – Pope Francis’ Homily at Easter Vigil – Translated conclusion (April 05, 2015, Zenit.org).

They [the women who were Jesus’ disciples] kept watch that night, together with Mary. And she, the Virgin Mother, helped them not to lose faith and hope. ... May we learn from them to keep watch with God and with Mary our Mother, so that we too may enter into the Mystery which leads from death to life.

Apr. 6 -- Regina Coeli: On the Joy of the Resurrection – Translated conclusion (April 07, 2015, Zenit.org).

We ask the Virgin Mary, the silent witness to the death and resurrection of Her Son, to make the joy of Easter grow in us. We do it now with the prayer of the Regina Coeli, which in the time of Easter, replaces the Angelus. In this prayer, marked from the Alleluia, may we turn to Mary inviting Her to rejoice, because He that She carried in Her womb is risen as He promised, and we entrust ourselves to Her intercession. In reality, our joy is a reflection of the joy of Mary, because it is She who has guarded and still guards with faith the events of Jesus. Let us recite then this prayer with the emotions of children who are happy so that their Mother is happy.

Apr. 11 – Text of Pope's Homily for Divine Mercy Vespers – Translated conclusion (April 12, 2015,

Zenit.org).

May the Mother of God open our eyes, so that we may comprehend the task to which we have been called; and may she obtain for us the grace to experience this Jubilee of Mercy as faithful and fruitful witnesses of Christ.

Apr. 11 – Misericordiae Vultus, Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy – Translated extract (April 11, 2015, Vatican.va).

3. ... The Holy Year will open on 8 December 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This liturgical feast day recalls God's action from the very beginning of the history of mankind. After the sin of Adam and Eve, God did not wish to leave humanity alone in the throes of evil. So he turned his gaze to Mary, holy and immaculate in love (cf. Eph 1:4), choosing her to be the Mother of man's Redeemer. ... I will have the joy of opening the Holy Door on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

For more about what the Pope said about Mary:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papafrancesco_bolla_20150411_misericordiae-vultus.html

Apr. 12 – Pope Francis' Message to Armenians – Translated conclusion (April 12, 2015, Zenit.org).

I entrust these intentions to the Mother of God, in the words of Saint Gregory of Narek:

“O Most Pure of Virgins, first among the blessed,
Mother of the unshakeable edifice of the Church,
Mother of the immaculate Word of God,

(...)

Taking refuge beneath your boundless wings which grant us the protection of your intercession, we lift up our hands to you,
and with unquestioned hope we believe that we are saved”.
(Panegyric of the Theotokos).

Apr. 12 – Mass for the centenary of the Armenian Metz Yeghern: Jesus fills the abyss of sin with the depth of His mercy – Translated extract (April 12, 2015, VIS).

Through these wounds, as in a light-filled opening, we can see the entire mystery of Christ and of God ... His incarnation in the womb of Mary. ... with Mary, in her Magnificat, we can perceive that, ‘His mercy extends from generation to generation’.”

Apr. 16 – Pope's Address to Kenyan Bishops on Ad Limina Apostolorum Visit – Translated conclusion (April 16, 2015, Zenit.org).

I commend all of you to the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, ...

Apr. 17 -- Pope Francis' Address to Members of the Papal Foundation – Translated conclusion (April 17, 2015, Zenit.org).

I commend each of you and your families to the loving intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Apr. 18 – Pope's Address to the International Catholic Association at the Service of Youth – Translated conclusion (April 20, 2015, Zenit.org).

I entrust you to the intercession of the Virgin Mary

Apr. 19 -- Regina Coeli: On Being Witnesses to the Risen Christ – Translated conclusion (April 19, 2015, Zenit.org).

May Mary, our Mother, sustain us through Her intercession, so that we can become, with our limitations, but with the grace of faith, witnesses of the Risen Lord, bringing to the people who we find the Easter gifts of joy and peace.

Apr. 22 -- General Audience: On Man and Woman as Companions – Translated comments after the Angelus (April 22, 2015, Zenit.org).

Learn from the Virgin Mary to live this Eastertide, making room for listening to the Word of God and for the practice of charity, living with joy your membership in the Church, the family of the disciples of the Risen Christ.

Apr. 24 -- Pope's Address to Bishops of Namibia and Lesotho – Translated conclusion (April 24, 2015, Zenit.org).

Commending you and the faithful whom you serve in Lesotho and Namibia to the loving intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, who rekindles our hearts in service of her Son, ...

Apr. 25 – Pope's Address to John Paul II Foundation – Translated conclusion (April 27, 2015, Zenit.org).

May the Virgin Mother Mary, to whom Saint John Paul II consecrated his whole life and his pontificate, obtain this for you.

Apr. 26 – Regina Coeli: On Following the Good Shepherd – Translated comments afterwards (April 26, 2015, Zenit.org).

Let's pray to Our Lady who is close to them [people affected by the earthquake]. "Hail Mary ..."

... May ... Madonna protect you.

Apr. 26 -- Pope to the Church in Sicily: Be Witnesses of God's Mercy; Sends Message to Convention to Prepare for Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy – Translated conclusion (April 27, 2015, Zenit.org).

His Holiness, while invoking the heavenly protection of the Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, asks for prayers

Apr. 27 – Pope's Address to Bishops of Benin – Translated conclusion (April 27, 2015, Zenit.org).

May the Virgin Mary sustain you and illumine you in your ministry; may she lead you, as well as your priests, the consecrated persons, the catechists and all the laity of your dioceses to her Son Jesus

Apr. 28 – Pope's Video Message to Caritas Residents of Rome – Translated conclusion (April 29, 2015, Zenit.org).

May the Virgin Mary accompany us on this path!

Apr. 29 -- General Audience: On Marriage – Translated extract (April 29, 2015, Zenit.org).

At the beginning of his Gospel, the Evangelist John recounts the episode of the Wedding at Cana, in which the Virgin Mary and Jesus, with his first disciples, were present (Cf. John 2:1-11). ... Therefore, the first of his prodigious signs, with which he revealed his glory, he carried out in the context of a marriage, and it was a lovely gesture for that nascent family, solicited by Mary's maternal concern.

For more about what the Pope said about Mary:

http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/general-audience-onmarriage?utm_campaign=dailyhtml&utm_medium=email&utm_source=dispatch

Apr. 30 – Pope Francis Address to the Community of Christian Life – Translated extracts (May 01, 2015, Zenit.org).

Your roots sink in the Marian Congregations, which go back to the first generation of the companions of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

And the first Marian Congregations were born in them [colleges].

For more about what the Pope said about Mary:

http://www.zenit.org/en/articles/pope-francis-address-to-the-community-of-christianlife?utm_campaign=dailyhtml&utm_medium=email&utm_source=dispatch