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Pope Francis

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March 2016

Mar. 4 – Pope’s Address to Course on ‘Internal Forum’ – Translated extract (March 4, 2016, Zenit.org).

It was also usual to say to one who suffered: “We have in Heaven the heart of a mother. The Virgin, our Mother, who at the foot of the cross felt all the suffering possible for a human creature, understands our troubles and consoles us.” May Mary, Refuge of sinners and Mother of Mercy, always guide and support the fundamental ministry of Reconciliation.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/popes-address-to-course-on-internal-forum/>

Mar. 5 -- Pope’s Letter to Major Archbishop Shevchuk – Translated conclusion (March 7, 2016, Zenit.org).

It is to Him [the Lord] that I turn, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of the martyrs of your Church, so that divine consolation will illumine the faces of your communities in Ukraine and in other parts of the world.

Mar. 6 – Angelus Address – Translated conclusion (March 6, 2016, Zenit.org).

May the Virgin Mary accompany us until the regenerating embrace with Divine Mercy.

Mar. 12 – Jubilee Audience – Translated comments (March 14, 2016, Zenit.org).

... may Our Lady accompany you!

Mar. 12 – Pope’s Address to Course Organized by Roman Rota on New Matrimonial Process, Super Rato Procedure – Translated conclusion (March 14, 2016, Zenit.org).

May ... Our Lady protect you.

Mar. 13 – Angelus Address – Translated conclusion (March 13, 2016, Zenit.org).

May the Virgin Mary help us to entrust ourselves fully to God's mercy, to become new creatures.

Mar. 17 – Pope Francis: the humble but strong virtue of hope – Translated extract of the daily Mass homily (March 17, 2016, Vatican Radio).

Pope Francis cited the example of the pregnant Elizabeth, who rejoiced at the visit of her cousin Mary.

Mar. 18 – Pope's Address to Members of Neocatechumenal Way – Translated extract (March 18, 2016, Zenit.org).

... the Holy Spirit continues to work, as He did in Mary, open, humble and obedient.

Mar. 19 – Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, Amoris Laetitia – Translated extract (April 8, 2016, Vatican).

18. ... Jesus himself, at twelve years of age, tells Mary and Joseph that he has a greater mission to accomplish apart from his earthly family (cf. Lk 2:48-50). In this way, he shows the need for other, deeper bonds even within the family: "My mother and my brethren are those who hear the word of God and do it" (Lk 8:21).

For more of what the pope wrote about Mary:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20160319_amoris-laetitia.html

Mar. 19 – Text of Pope's Letter to Pontifical Commission for Latin America – Translated extract (April 26, 2016, Zenit.org).

In my recent trip to the land of Mexico I had the opportunity to be alone with our Mother, letting myself be looked upon by her. In that time of prayer I was also able to present to her my heart as a son. You and your communities were also there at that moment. In that moment of prayer, I asked Mary not to fail to sustain, as she did in the first community, the faith of our people. May the Holy Virgin intercede for you, look after you and accompany you always.

Mar. 20 -- Pope's Angelus Address on Palm Sunday – Translated conclusion (March 20, 2016, Zenit.org).

And now we pray to the Virgin Mary, to help us to live Holy Week with spiritual intensity.

Mar. 23 – General Audience: On Holy Week – Translated extract (March 23, 2016, Zenit.org).

We think of Holy Saturday: it will do us good to think of the silence of Our Lady, “the Believer,” who in silence awaited the Resurrection. Our Lady must be the icon for us of that Holy Saturday. To think much of how Our Lady lived that Holy Saturday, in expectation. It is a love that does not doubt, but that hopes in the Lord’s word, and which becomes manifest and splendid on Easter day.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/general-audience-on-holy-week/>

Mar. 24 – Holy Chrism Mass: Homily of His Holiness Pope Francis – Translated extract (March 24, 2016, Vatican).

This was in fulfilment of the elderly Simeon’s prophecy to the Virgin Mary that he would be “a sign of contradiction” (2:34).

Mar. 28 – Regina Coeli: Francis expresses his closeness to those affected by the attack in Lahore, 30.03.2016 – Translated extract (March 30, 2016, Vatican).

Mary was the silent witness to the events of the Passion and the resurrection of Jesus. She stood next to the cross; she did not bend when faced with suffering, but instead her faith made her strong. In her mother’s heart, broken, the flame of hope always remained alight. ... May the Virgin Mary give us the certainty of faith so that every pained step of our journey, illuminated by the Paschal light, may become a blessing and joy for us and for others, especially for those who suffer as a result of selfishness and indifference

Mar. 30 – General Audience – Translated conclusion (March 30, 2016, Zenit.org).

May the Lord grant us, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, to be witnesses of His forgiveness, which cleanses the heart and transforms our life.

Mar. 30 – General Audience: English Summary – Conclusion (March 30, 2016, Vatican).

Through the prayers of Mary, Mother of Mercy, may we become ever more convincing witnesses to that divine mercy which forgives our sins, creates in us a new heart, and enables us to proclaim God’s reconciling love to the world.