

5-2016

May 2016

Pope Francis

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May 2016

**May 1 – Regina Caeli – Translated conclusion (May 1, 2016, Zenit.org).**

May the Virgin Mary help us to receive with docility the Holy Spirit as interior teacher and as living memory of Christ in our daily journey.

**May 2 – Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to Participants in the General Chapter of the Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy (Mercedarians) on the Eighth Centenary of Its Founding – Translated beginning (May 2, 2016, Vatican.va).**

I entrust to the maternal protection of Our Lady of Mercy the new governing group that will result from your deliberations.

**May 4 – General Audience – Translated conclusion (May 4, 2016, Vatican.va).**

The month of May is dedicated to devotion to the Mother of God with the daily recitation of the Rosary; dear sick people, may you feel the closeness of Mary of Nazareth especially at the hour of the Cross and you, dear newlyweds, pray to her that love and mutual respect may never lack in your homes.

**May 5 – Prayer Vigil To “Dry the Tears” – Translated conclusion (May 5, 2016, Vatican.va).**

At the foot of every cross, the Mother of Jesus is always there. With her mantle, she wipes away our tears. With her outstretched hand, she helps us to rise up and she accompanies us along the path of hope.

**May 7 – Address to the Pontifical Swiss Guard on the Occasion of the Swearing-in of the New Recruits – Translated extract (May 7, 2016, Vatican.va).**

Therefore, I invite you ... to cultivate filial devotion to the Virgin Mary, thus bringing your special mission to fruition, by working each day “*accriter et fideliter*”, with courage and loyalty.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

[https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2016/may/documents/papa-francesco\\_20160507\\_guardie-svizzere-pont.html](https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2016/may/documents/papa-francesco_20160507_guardie-svizzere-pont.html)

**May 8 – Regina Coeli – Translated conclusion (May 8, 2016, Vatican.va).**

This week, which leads us to the Feast of Pentecost, let us remain spiritually in the Upper Room, together with the Virgin Mary, to receive the Holy Spirit. Let us do so now too, in communion with the faithful gathered in the Shrine of Pompeii for the traditional Supplication.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2016/documents/papa-francesco\\_regina-coeli\\_20160508.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2016/documents/papa-francesco_regina-coeli_20160508.html)

**May 9 – Pope’s Address to St. Peter’s Circle – Translated extract (May 9, 2016, Zenit.org).**

You have before you the example of Our Lady, to whom we pray with particular devotion in this month of May. Like her, do not tire of “leaving,” of going in haste to meet and take God’s visit (cf. Luke 1:39). She carries God’s visit because she is in profound communion with Him. “Blessed is she who has believed” (Luke 1:45), Elizabeth says to her. Mary is the icon of faith.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/popes-address-to-st-peters-circle/>

**May 9 – Interview Pope Francis – Translated interview (May 17, 2016, La Croix).**

Muslims come to venerate the Virgin Mary ... for the Jubilee Year Muslims in one African country formed a long queue at the cathedral to enter through the holy door and pray to the Virgin Mary.

**May 11 – General Audience – Translated conclusion (May 11, 2016, Vatican.va).**

May the nearness of Our Lady of Aparecida, like a good Mother who never abandons her children, defend and guide you on the path.

**May 11 – Pope Recalls Our Lady of Fatima During General Audience – Translated extract (May 11, 2016, Zenit.org).**

... Pope Francis recalled that in this month of Mary, Friday marks the liturgical memorial of Our Lady of Fatima.

In this apparition, ... Mary invites us once again to prayer, penance and conversion. She asks us to not offend God anymore. She warns all mankind of the need to surrender to God, the source of love and mercy.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/pope-recalls-our-lady-of-fatima-during-general-audience/>

**May 12 – Pope’s Q & A at Meeting With International Union of Superiors General – Translated extract (May 13, 2016, Zenit.org).**

Now then, [I’ll respond to] Teresina: “What, in your opinion, is the place of woman’s apostolic religious life within the Church? What would the Church be lacking if there were no longer women religious?”. [It would be as if] Mary were missing on the day of Pentecost! There is no Church without Mary! There is not Pentecost without Mary! But Mary was there, she may not have spoken.... I have said this, but I like to repeat it. The consecrated woman is an icon of the Church, an icon of Mary. The priest is not an icon of the Church; he is not the icon of Mary; he is an icon of the Apostles, of the disciples who were sent to preach. But not of the Church or of Mary. When I say this I want to make you reflect on the fact that “she” the Church is feminine; the Church is woman: it is not “he” the Church, it is “she” the Church. But she is a woman married to Jesus Christ, she has her Bridegroom, who is Jesus Christ. When a bishop is chosen for a diocese, the bishop — on behalf of Christ — marries that particular Church. The Church is woman! And a woman’s consecration makes her the very icon of the Church and icon of Our Lady. We men cannot do this. This will help you to deepen, from this theological root, a great role in the Church.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/popes-q-a-at-meeting-with-international-union-of-superiors-general/>

**May 14 – Summary of Jubilee Audience: On Piety – Conclusion (May 16, 2016, Zenit.org).**

Mary, Mother of mercy, is the icon of this loving concern and our model of “piety”. May she obtain for us the grace to live this Year of Mercy by growing in compassion and by imitating the infinite “piety” of Jesus her Son.

**May 14 – Jubilee Audience – Translated conclusion (May 14, 2016, Vatican.va).**

Let us look to the example of the Virgin Mary, who takes care of each one of her children and is for us believers the icon of compassion. Dante Alighieri expresses it in the prayer to Our Lady in *Paradiso*: “In you compassion is, in you is pity, [...] in you is every goodness found in any creature (XXXIII, 19-21).

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/2016/documents/papa-francesco\\_20160514\\_udienza-giubilare.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/2016/documents/papa-francesco_20160514_udienza-giubilare.html)

**May 15 – Homily for the Holy Mass on the Solemnity of Pentecost – Translated extract (May 15, 2016, Vatican.va.**

Today, on the feast of Pentecost, Jesus' words remind us also of the maternal presence of Mary in the Upper Room. The Mother of Jesus is with the community of disciples gathered in prayer: she is the living remembrance of the Son and the living invocation of the Holy Spirit. She is the Mother of the Church. We entrust to her intercession, in a particular way, all Christians, families and communities that at this moment are most in need of the Spirit, the Paraclete, the Defender and Comforter, the Spirit of truth, freedom and peace.

**May 15 – Regina Caeli – Translated conclusion (May 15, 2016, Vatican.va.**

Let us pray the Regina Caeli together — for the last time this year —, invoking the maternal intercession of the Virgin Mary. May she obtain for us the grace to be deeply inspired by the Holy Spirit, to witness with evangelical simplicity to Christ, opening ourselves ever more fully to his love.

**May 15 – Message of Pope Francis for World Mission Day 2016 – Translated conclusion (May 15, 2016, Vatican.va.**

May Holy Mary, sublime icon of redeemed humanity, model of missionaries for the Church, teach all men, women and families, to foster and safeguard the living and mysterious presence of the Risen Lord in every place, he who renews personal relationships, cultures and peoples, and who fills all with joyful mercy.

**May 16 – Pope's Address to Italian Bishops' Conference – Extracts (May 16, 2016, Zenit.org).**

... it is the Spirit that animated the generous response of the Virgin Mary ....

With you, I pray to the Holy Virgin so that her intercession will keep you hospitable and faithful.

**May 17 – Pope's Telegram for Death of Cardinal Giovanni Coppa -- Translated conclusion (May 17, 2016, Zenit.org).**

I offer heartfelt prayers so that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary ..., the Lord may welcome the late cardinal in His eternal joy and peace, ....

**May 18 – General Audience: On the Parable of Lazarus – Translated conclusion (May 18, 2016, Zenit.org).**

Dear brothers and sisters, listening to this Gospel, all of us, together with the poor of the earth, can sing with Mary: “He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree; He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away” (Luke 1:52-53).

**May 18 – Francis Marks St. John Paul II’s Birthday Today – Translated conclusion (May 18, 2016, Zenit.org).**

By the intercession of Blessed Mary, I renew my prayer that a long-lasting peace is reached, one that may lift up this population, which has been so tested, and offer a serene future to new generations.

**May 22 – Angelus – Translated conclusion (May 22, 2016, Vatican.va).**

The Virgin Mary, in her humility, welcomed the Father’s will and conceived the Son by the Holy Spirit. May she, Mirror of the Trinity, help us to strengthen our faith in the trinitarian mystery and to translate it in to action with choices and attitudes of love and unity.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2016/documents/papa-francesco\\_angelus\\_20160522.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2016/documents/papa-francesco_angelus_20160522.html)

**May 24 – Morning Meditation in the Chapel of the *Domus Sanctae Marthae*: Day after day – Translated beginning of homily (May 24, 2016, Vatican.va).**

Today is the Feast of Mary Help of Christians, which is celebrated with special devotion in China.

**May 25 – General Audience: On Praying Without Ceasing – Translated conclusion (May 25, 2016, Zenit.org).**

I exhort all to pray to the merciful Father and to Our Lady that eternal rest be granted to the victims, consolation to their families and conversion of heart to all those that sow death and destruction.

**May 27 -- Pope’s Address to Little Work of Divine Providence – Translated conclusion (May 27, 2016, Zenit.org).**

I entrust your Congregation to the maternal protection of the Virgin Mary, venerated by you as “Mother of Divine Providence.”

**May 27 -- Pope's Telegram at Death of Cardinal Capovilla, Secretary of John XXIII – Translated extract (May 27, 2016, Zenit.org).**

I pray to the Lord so that, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary ..., He welcomes His faithful servant into joy and eternal peace, ....

**May 29 – Angelus – Translated extracts (May 29, 2016, Vatican.va).**

I also remember the traditional pilgrimage to the Marian Shrine of Piekary in Poland, that is brought to completion today: May the Mother of Mercy support families and young people on their way to the World Youth Day in Krakow.

.... For these intentions, let us invoke the intercession of the Virgin Mary, as we entrust to her the life and ministry of all the deacons in the world.

**May 31 – Pope: Christians serve with joy and not with a grimace – Translated extract of private Mass homily (May 31, 2016, en.radiovaticana.va).**

May 31st was the final day of the month dedicated to Mary and the Pope used the day's readings to illustrate Mary's courage, her helping hand and concern for others and above all her joy, a joy, he said, that fills our hearts and gives meaning and a new direction to our lives. Referring to Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, Pope Francis said this is a liturgy full of joy that arrives like "a breath of fresh air" to fill our lives.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

[http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2016/05/31/pope\\_christians\\_serve\\_with\\_joy\\_and\\_not\\_with\\_a\\_grimace/1233695](http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2016/05/31/pope_christians_serve_with_joy_and_not_with_a_grimace/1233695)

**May 31 – Morning Meditation in the Chapel of the *Domus Sanctae Marthae*: Courageous women – Translated extract of private Mass homily (May 31, 2016, Vatican.va).**

He invited us to follow the example of "courageous women" like Mary, who are able to face difficulties and obstacles in order to serve others.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

[http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/cotidie/2016/documents/papa-francesco-cotidie\\_20160531\\_courageous-women.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/cotidie/2016/documents/papa-francesco-cotidie_20160531_courageous-women.html)