

Marian Thoughts of Pope Francis



December 2019

December 1– Angelus –Translated conclusion (December 1, 2019, Vatican.va).

May Mary, the vigilant Virgin and Mother of hope, guide us on this journey, helping us to turn our gaze towards the “mountain of the Lord”, the image of Jesus Christ, that attracts all men and all peoples.

December 2 – Francis’ Visit to the Franciscan Shrine of Greccio, Place of First Nativity Scene (Meditation) –Translated conclusion (December 2, 2019, Zenit.org).

Let us identify ourselves with Mary, who places her Son in the manger, because there was no room in a house. With Her and with Saint Joseph, her husband, we have our gaze turned to the Child Jesus.

December 2 – Address to French Catholic Entrepreneurs participating in the “Journey of Common Good” (Audience) –Translated conclusion (December 2, 2019, Vatican.va).

... I entrust all of you to the care of the Virgin Mary.

December 4 – Message of the Holy Father on the Occasion of the 24th Republic Session of the Pontifical Academies –Translated conclusion (December 4, 2019, Vatican.va).

I entrust each one of you to the Virgin Mary, Mother of Tenderness, may she always accompany your personal and academic path. I wholeheartedly impart to all of you, your families and communities, a Special Apostolic Blessing.

December 4 – Pope received in audience in the members of the Board of Directors of the Polish autonomous independent trade union “Solidarnosc,” on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of its founding –Translated conclusion (December 4, 2019, Zenit.org).

In invoking the intercession of the Mother of God, Queen of Poland, I hope for the fruitful continuation of your work of assistance and support.

December 5 – Pope Thanks Donors of Vatican Christmas Tree and Nativity Scene (Audience) –Translated conclusion (December 5, 2019, Zenit.org).

May the Virgin Mary, who welcomed the Son of God into the weakness of human nature, help us to contemplate Him in the face of those who suffer, and may she support us in our commitment to be in solidarity with the weakest and most fragile people.

December 8 – Pope Calls for ‘Filial Devotion to our Heavenly Mother’ –Translated extract (December 8, 2019, Zenit.org).

O Mary Immaculate, we gather around you once again. The more we move forward in life the more our gratitude to God increases for giving as a Mother to us who are sinners, you, the Immaculate Conception.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/pope-calls-for-filial-devotion-to-our-heavenly-mother/>

December 8 – Angelus –Translated conclusion (December 8, 2019, Vatican.va).

May our Mother’s feast help us to make our whole life a “yes” to God, a “yes” made of adoration of Him and of daily gestures of love and service.

December 9 – Address to Community of the Pontifical Benedict XV Flaminian Regional Seminary of Bologna (Audience: centenary of its founding) –Translated conclusion (December 9, 2019, Zenit.org).

... yesterday we celebrated the Solemnity of Mary Immaculate. Mary shines in the Church for her singular vocation, lived following her Son, in humble and courageous obedience to God’s plan. May she who was always united to Jesus from conception up to His death on the cross, help you discover every day the “treasure” the “precious pearl” that is Christ and His Kingdom, and to become joyful proclaimers of His Gospel. The seminary is also the time in which one welcomes Mary as Mother in one’s home, in one’s life, like the apostle John. May she accompany you.

December 10 – Pope Francis Added Feast to Roman Calendar –Translated extract (October 31, 2019, Zenit.org).

Overshadowed by the Spirit, the humble handmaid of the Lord so became the dwelling-place of divinity, the purist image of the holy Church.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

<https://zenit.org/articles/december-10-feast-of-our-lady-of-loreto/>

December 11 – Pope to the Participants in Pilgrimage of Eparchy of Mukachevo of Byzantine Rite, Ukraine (Audience) –Translated conclusion (December 11, 2019, Zenit.org).

... entrusting your pastors and all of you, dear faithful, to the protection of the Blessed Virgin of Mukachevo, I wish you a Holy Christmas:

December 12 – Pope’s Message for World Day of Peace –Translated conclusion (December 8, 2019, Zenit.org).

May Mary, Mother of the Prince of Peace and Mother of all the peoples of the earth, accompany and sustain us at every step of our journey of reconciliation.

December 12 – Pope to the members of the Vatican’s Congregation for Causes for Saints, for the 50th anniversary of the founding of the institution (Audience) –Translated conclusion (December 12, 2019, Zenit.org).

I entrust your daily work to the motherly intercession of Mary, Queen of Saints ...

December 15 – Angelus –Translated conclusion (December 15, 2019, Vatican.va).

May the Virgin Mary help us so that, as we approach Christmas, let us not allow ourselves to be distracted by external things, but make room in our hearts for the One Who has already come and Who wishes to come again to heal our illnesses and to give us His joy.

December 16 – Pope Gives Christmas Assignment to Catholic Action Kids (Audience) – Translated conclusion (December 16, 2019, Zenit.org).

I ask Mary, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother, to accompany your journey. I recommend that you learn from her what it means to say: “Christmas”. She and Saint Joseph can truly teach us how to accept Jesus, how to adore Him and how to follow Him day by day.

December 18 – General Audience –Translated extract (December 18, 2019, Vatican.va).

Next to Jesus we see Our Lady and Saint Joseph. We can imagine the thoughts and sentiments they had while the Babe was born in poverty: joy, but also dismay.

December 21 – Christmas Greetings to the Employees of the Holy See –Translated extract (December 21, 2019, Vatican.va).

This happened in a unique way between Mary and Joseph and Jesus. The Virgin and her husband, with their love, made a smile blossom on the lips of their newborn child.

For more of what the pope said about Mary:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2019/december/documents/papa-francesco_20191221_dipendenti-vaticani.html

December 21 – Pope to the Curia (Audience) –Translated conclusion (December 21, 2019, Zenit.org).

In preparation for Christmas, we have listened to sermons on the Holy Mother of God. Let us turn to her before the blessing.

December 22 – Angelus –Translated conclusion (December 22, 2019, Vatican.va).

May the Virgin Mary and her chaste husband Joseph help us to listen to Jesus Who comes, and Who asks to be welcomed in our plans and in our choices.

December 24 – Homily at Vatican Basilica on Tuesday 24 December –Translated extract (December 24, 2019, Vatican.va).

At a certain point, Saint Joseph and Our Lady found it hard to receive all those gifts, especially Mary, who had to hold the baby. Seeing that shepherd with empty hands, she asked him to draw near. And she put the baby Jesus in his arms.

December 25 – Pope’s ‘Urbi et Orbi’ Blessing –Translated extract (December 25, 2019, Zenit.org).

That Child, born of the Virgin Mary, is the Word of God made flesh.

December 26 – Angelus –Translated conclusion (December 26, 2019, Vatican.va).

May Mary, Mother of the Redeemer, help us to live this Christmas time by fixing our gaze on Jesus, so that we may become more like Him every day.

December 29 – Angelus –Translated conclusion (December 29, 2019, Vatican.va).

Let us entrust to Mary, “Queen of the Family”, all the families in the world, especially those who suffer or who are in distress, and invoke upon them her maternal protection.