The Holy Face of Jesus Newsletter / Video log

Issue 3

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The Promises of the Holy Face Devotion, a Work of Reparation...

According to tradition, while our Lord was on His way to Calvary the compassionate woman Veronica offered Him a veil with which to wipe His face and on this veil, He left the imprint of His features. This led to widespread devotion to the Holy Face in the early Middle Ages.



Our chief reasons for honouring the adorable Face of Jesus are to offer respectful love and homage to that Face so disfigured in the Passion; to make reparation for blasphemy and the neglect of a Christian observance of Sunday; to pray for the conversion of those who profane the Lord's Day.



Besides having the appellation, 'The Little Flower of Jesus,' Saint Therese was also called 'St. Therese of the Holy Face.' She is numbered in the galaxy of those reparatrices, who were so devoted to the Holy Face of Our Lord. In the measure that Therese spent herself in this reparation offered to Jesus, Our Lord was not lagging in the more abundant measure of graces which He revealed so often to those loving souls who practised this devotion. He promised St. Mechtilde a medieval mystic, that those who honour Him in this manner will always be His special care: "None of these persons shall ever be separated from Me." To St. Gertrude, Mechtilde's sister, also a mystic, He promised, that by the resemblance to His Face,

"they will shine more than others in heaven." On the twenty-ninth of October in the year 1845, Our Lord made the following **promises** to Sister Marie de Saint-Pierre, a Carmelite nun, who died in the odor of sanctity: "As with a coin upon which is imprinted the face of a reigning sovereign, one can purchase material things, so they who offer My Face to My Father, will purchase as with a celestial coin, all favours from Heaven."

A few days later Our Lord appeared to the same nun and made another **promise:** "In the measure that you make reparation for the stains of blasphemy cast by the wicked against My Holy Face, I in turn will imprint My Divine Features in your soul and will cleanse all the stains from it, and make it as beautiful as it was at the time of baptism!"

In the following year, on the twentieth of March, Our Lord **promised** that He would defend at the heavenly Throne the cause of those who defend His honour through



this devotion of reparation, by word, prayer or writing. That further in the hour of death He would renew in them the image of God, which was effaced by sin.1

On the twenty-second of November, 1846, Our Lord further **promised** her that in offering His Holy Face to His heavenly Father, they shall appease His anger, and shall be a fruitful instrument in obtaining pardon and conversion for sinners, and that He would plead with His Father to grant all their petitions.

Finally on the twenty-seventh of October, 1847, Our Lord again **promised** her, that they like the saintly Veronica, shall wipe His adorable Face outraged by sin, "and in turn I will imprint my Divine Image on their soul."

Imbued with these sentiments, and urged by these promises of Our Lord, St. Therese became a zealous client of this beautiful devotion and composed a prayer in honour of the Holy Face, to which has been attached an indulgence of three hundred days, by the **Sov. Pontiff, Pius X.**

Prayer: "O Jesus, Who in Thy cruel Passion didst become "reproach of men and the Man of Sorrows", I worship Thy Divine Face. Once It shone with the beauty and sweetness of the Divinity; now for my sake It has become as the face of a "leper!" Yet in that disfigured Countenance I recognise Thy Infinite Love, and I am consumed with the desire of loving Thee and of making Thee loved by all mankind. The Tears that streamed in such abundance from Thy Eyes, are to me as precious pearls which I delight to gather, that with their infinite worth I may ransom the souls of poor sinners. O Jesus, Whose Face is the sole beauty that ravishes my heart, I may not behold here upon earth the sweetness of Thy Glance, nor feel the ineffable tenderness of Thy Kiss. I bow to Thy Will--but I pray Thee to imprint in me Thy divine Likeness, and I implore Thee to so inflame me with Thy Love, that it may quickly consume me, and that I may soon reach the Vision of Thy glorious Face in Heaven!" **Amen.**

What to do in the face of so much disrespect, so many blasphemies?

Our Lord spoke to Sr. Marie Pierre 27th October, 1845:

"I seek Veronicas.... to wipe and honour My Divine Face which has few Adorers...To You I give My Holy Face as a recompense for the services you have performed for Me. To you, therefore, I now give this Holy Face in the presence of My Eternal Father and in virtue of the Holy Ghost. Before all the angels and saints, I offer you this gift of My Holy countenance through the hands of my Mother and those of St. Veronica who will teach you how it must be venerated.

Then He promised: By My Holy Face you will work wonders!"

Prayer: Lord grant that through Your Holy Face we may become zealous apostles after the example of Saints Therese, Gertrude, Mechtilde and Sr Marie Pierre. We claim the promises You made. Oh bleeding Face, Oh Face Divine, be every adoration Thine. Amen.

Call to Action: HLI Ireland aims to get the Holy Face of Jesus into every parish internationally.

Become a HLI Ireland ally and missionary of the Holy Face apostolate to the world.

Become familiar through books, videos and talks. Pray the prayers for your priests to know the Holy Face. Embed the prayers in your parish by praying them all in one or one prayer daily divided over five days. Organise events: video showings, book clubs, prayer meetings onsite and online.

Contact us at info@theholyface.com and let us know if we can help.

| For an overview of the devotion go to our website right: | www.theholyface.com |
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