

# Our Mother of Perpetual Help NEWSLETTER

PRAYERS • DEVOTIONS • GIFTS • RESOURCES • FALL 2009



know life continues beyond death—and we hope for the glory of heaven—but no one knows exactly what to expect on the other side of death's door.

## Love conquers death

When we remember and pray for loved ones who have gone before us, we show a depth of love that isn't hindered by time or space. Our love can now be expressed beyond all barriers—we can truly share our deepest and most intimate thoughts and feelings with the beloved.

Nothing could be better for our loved ones than to be in the embrace of the loving Redeemer forever. When we pray for their entrance into the beatific vision, we help them reach their ultimate goal: eternal life with God. Our love propels our sisters and brothers into a place where there is only peace, joy, and love.

Furthermore, our prayers and support offer comfort and assistance to everyone who has experienced the

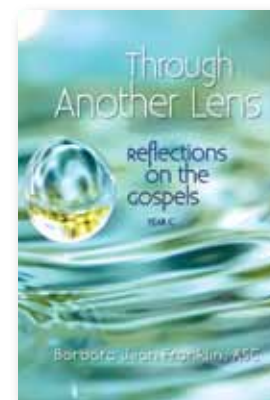
Love Lives Forever

By Fr. Donald Willard, C.Ss.R.

We begin November by celebrating All Saints and All Souls Days, the time we remember and pray for our sisters and brothers who have gone to their eternal rest. In many meaningful ways, we offer prayers for the holy souls in purgatory. Special books list the names of our deceased loved ones, and we display their photographs. In countless ways in parishes throughout the world, we continue to make the communion of saints present in our lives.

We do this because we want—we need—to continue the bonds of love we formed with our loved ones on Earth. Because our loved ones are no longer present in the manner we've been accustomed to, death feels like a permanent separation. But we *can* continue a loving relationship with them beyond the grave and into eternity because death isn't the final chapter of their lives: It's the beginning of a new and glorious chapter.

Yet the transition from mortal life to immortal life can be stressful. We



**Through Another Lens  
Reflections on the Gospels:  
Year C**

Essays and spiritual poetry to deepen your understanding of the Year C Sunday Gospels.

**PAPERBACK  
144 PAGES  
817731  
\$14.95**

trauma of losing someone. Thus, our prayers and support become a magnificent display of the love we all share.

In the same manner, the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help teaches us that love conquers death. When faced with the instruments of his own death, Jesus ran to the loving embrace of his mother. He was held in her arms, safe and secure.

How distressing it must have been for Jesus to see the cross, the spear, and the sponge in his future. The depth of his distress was shown when he prayed in the garden on the Mount of Olives. Jesus prayed till his sweat became like drops of blood. And yet he didn't deny his own death; he freely embraced it for us. Jesus had to face his own death, defeat eternal death and gain for us eternal life through love. But such courage, devotion, and self-sacrifice come from a deep and loving relationship. God his father and Mary his mother were pillars of support in his hour of need. He trusted in the Father's will in the same

way Mary trusted when she said yes to the will of the Father.

### We're all her children

Mary's love is displayed in the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Her love supported her young son for the day his hour came. In the same way, we can count on Mary in our distressing moments, especially at the hour of our death. From Mary we receive the support and prayers of the community of faith to help us accept our most distressing moments and make them part of the story of our lives.

We should secure every means possible for our salvation, remain close to the community, and seek the assistance and prayers of Our Mother of Perpetual Help so she can give us the help we need in our times of trouble.

If Mary is willing to assist us in such a dramatic event as death, will she not also help us in every moment of our earthly lives? Mary wants to be our help. She wants us to be with her Son,

and she will always pray for us and help us in every moment—if only we run to her for support.

It works both ways—our loved ones in heaven and purgatory are praying for *us*. Love has conquered death, so love can never die. Love lives forever, because God lives forever.

And God is love.

## PRAYER

O Mother of Perpetual Help, just as you held the child Jesus in your arms to love and support him as he faced the reality of his own death on the cross, support us in all our needs. And when we pass into eternal life, hold us in your arms so no evil befalls us. Keep us safe and secure until at last you may present us to your Son to live forever in peace, joy, and love so we can thank you and give praise to the Holy Trinity forever. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### MARY'S FEAST DAYS

**November 19**  
Our Lady of Divine Providence (Puerto Rico)

**November 21**  
Presentation of Mary

**December 8**  
Immaculate Conception

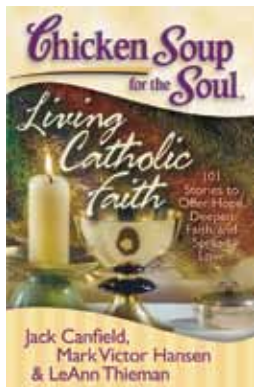
**December 12**  
Our Lady of Guadalupe

**January 1**  
Mary, Mother of God

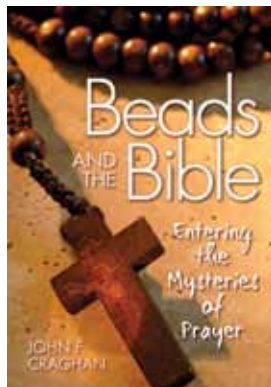
**January 8**  
Our Lady of Prompt Succor

**February 2**  
Purification of the Virgin

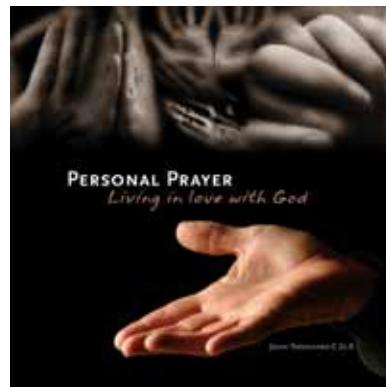
**February 11**  
Our Lady of Lourdes



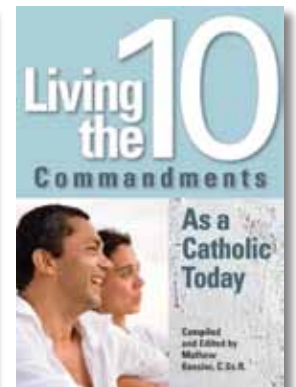
**Chicken Soup for the Soul**  
**Living Catholic Faith**  
101 Stories to Offer Hope, Deepen Faith, and Spread Love  
**PAPERBACK • 400 PAGES**  
**096238 • \$14.95**



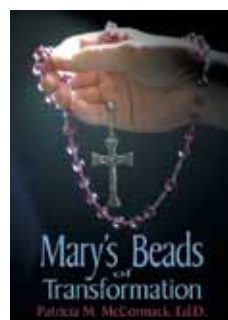
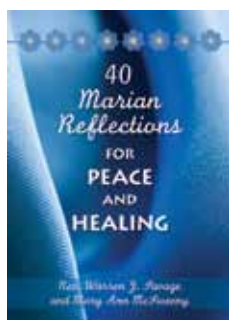
**Beads and the Bible**  
**Entering the Mysteries of Prayer**  
**PAPERBACK • 96 PAGES**  
**817847 • \$9.95**



**Personal Prayer**  
**Living in Love With God**  
**PAPERBACK • 80 PAGES**  
**817649 • \$9.95**



**Living the Ten Commandments As a Catholic Today**  
**PAPERBACK • 96 PAGES**  
**818493 • \$10.95**



### DELUXE PAMPHLETS

**40 Marian Reflections for Peace and Healing**  
**32 PAGES • 817939 • \$1.95**

**Mary's Beads of Transformation**  
**64 PAGES • 810206 • \$1.95**

**Reflections for Celebrating Mary's Feast Days**  
**48 PAGES • 817922 • \$1.95**





# Our Mother of Perpetual Help, pray for us.

## Prayer Requests

Please remember the following intentions at Mass.

---



---



---



---



---

## Masses

Please offer the following Mass(es) for my intention(s) as indicated. (Masses cannot be offered on specific dates.)

1. 

---
2. 

---
3. 

---
4. 

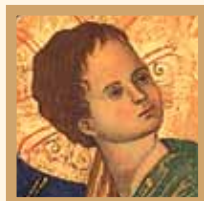
---
5. 

---

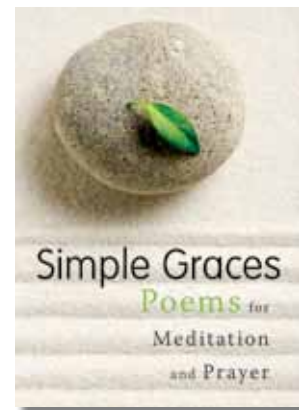
The suggested stipend for a Mass is \$5.00  
I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for this purpose.

## Donations

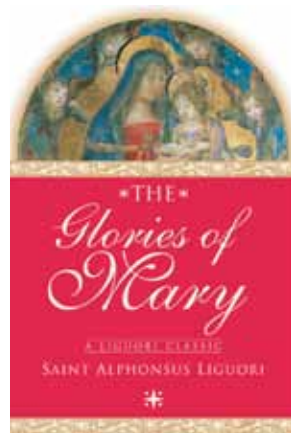
Please help us continue the Our Mother of Perpetual Help Newsletter and other Liguori Publications ministries by making a donation or remembering us in your will. Our legal title is Redemptorist Fathers dba Liguori Publications, Federal ID 43-0653409. To make a donation, please use the enclosed envelope or mail to Liguori Publications, One Liguori Drive, Liguori, MO 63057.



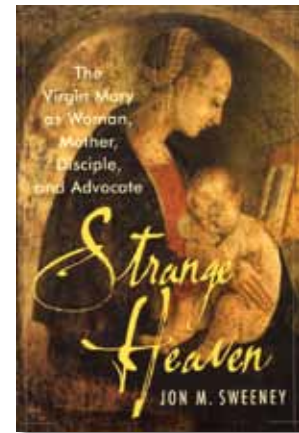
**Treasures Old and New**  
*Traditional Prayers for Today's Catholics*  
HARDCOVER • 144 PAGES  
818400 • \$15.95



**Simple Graces**  
*Poems for Meditation and Prayer*  
An indispensable resource for achieving a deeper spiritual connection with God.  
HARDCOVER • 144 PAGES  
817557 • \$15.95



**The Glories of Mary**  
PAPERBACK • 448 PAGES  
806643 • \$21.95



**Strange Heaven**  
The Virgin Mary as Woman, Mother, Disciple, and Advocate  
HARDCOVER • 233 PAGES  
254320 • \$23.95

Cut along the dotted line and return in the enclosed envelope.



© 2009, Liguori Publications. All rights reserved. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible with Revised New Testament and Revised Psalms* © 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C. and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All Rights Reserved. No part of the *New American Bible* may be reproduced in any form without permission in writing from the copyright owner.