

A Compilation of 10 Articles  
Concerning The Use of  
**Holy Water**  
Found in 7 various issues of  
***The 101 Times***

#1

**Holy Water  
and Souls**

from: *Voice of Padre Pio* #6, 12/01, P. 26

Imprimatur: Vic. Gen. E. Touze

Issue #94, 1 page- page 5, 3 columns.

When one uses Holy Water with faith and confidence, it is a great profit for the soul and the body, and it can assist souls in Purgatory. Its power is unlimited.

**The Prayer Of The Church**

Each time a priest blesses water to make it holy, he acts on behalf of the Church. The Savior always listens to the prayers of the Church with pleasure, and Our Lord blesses whoever the Church is praying for.

Thus, whoever takes Holy Water and sprinkles it upon himself or upon objects that are present *or absent*, he can be assured that *every time*, the prayer of the Church will reach Heaven. Without fail, it brings down graces on his soul and body, as well as all the objects that are touched by the Holy Water. It also puts the evil spirits to flight. Countless examples could be given to *demonstrate* the unspeakable fear that the devil has for Holy Water.

**People Far Away!**

But how is it possible that we can sprinkle Holy Water on people who *are far away* and *on the souls in Purgatory*, and come to their aid? Each time that you sprinkle Holy Water on a child or brother who is far away, it is not the water itself, but rather, *it is the prayer of the Church, to which the Holy Water is attached, which rises to the Heart of Jesus.*

It forces Jesus to take your family, both bodies and souls, under his protection. The same thing happens when you sprinkle Holy Water on the poor souls in Purgatory. And, who can say what relief one single drop of Holy Water can bring to the souls who are suffering in those greatly tormenting flames?

**A Single Drop of Holy Water**

Yes, one single drop of Water is certainly often effective than is a long prayer, because *unfortunately, your prayers are* too often lukewarm and full of distractions. The prayer of the Church that is attached to Holy Water is *quite another thing*. This prayer is pleasing to the divine Savior at every moment, in all places, and each time it is offered to Him.

This is why the holy souls sigh for Holy Water; and if we could see how they suffer and hear their urgent pleas, we would certainly sprinkle them with Holy Water at least in the mornings and evenings... and then, during the day as well.

At home and at work, how often do you go in and come out! How many errands during the course of a day! Would it be such a great effort for you to sprinkle a drop of Holy Water into Purgatory each time you leave your room? What joy you would be giving to these souls! What benefits you gain for *yourselves and your families!*

### **They Repay Ingratitude**

Because the souls in Purgatory are not ungrateful, *the very moment* that you help them, they raise their hands to Heaven and pray for their benefactors, and with a fervor that the holiest creatures on earth could never attain!

God hears their prayers with as much pleasure as he hears the prayers of his purest spouses here below, and he sends His gifts and His graces in great quantities to those souls who help them.

No, a Christian should never leave his room without sprinkling three drops of Holy Water...one, for himself and his family, so that God keeps them safe in soul and body...the second, for the dying, especially sinners, so God grants them the happy grace of conversion...and third, for the souls in Purgatory. It is simple, just put your fingers in the font once, and then shake your hand towards the floor dropping the water, while *remembering these three intentions*. Then make the *Sign of the Cross*. It only takes a second of your time, and the results and benefits are multiple.

Also, since the devil hates Holy Water so much, *he is more likely to leave people alone who use it frequently*. What have you got to lose by doing it... *and what have you got to gain?*

Oh, how many blessings and guarantees of salvation; how many merits and graces you would gain for yourselves, your family, and for souls without number, during the course of a year, if you put into practice the small and simple exercise of charity. You also assure yourself a crowd of intercessors in life, and in Purgatory.

### **Daily Attacks From The Enemy**

Each day, our souls are exposed to the dangers of being lost. Hence, we need graces and help. One of the easiest and most effective ways of driving back the attacks of the enemy is by using Holy Water. Each time we use it, the Savior sends help, consolation, and strength, so that we can do good and avoid evil.

Finally, we can help ourselves, our family and friends, and the souls in Purgatory with *practically no trouble or effort*. Since a drop of Holy Water is so greatly effective, let us not to be so unbelieving and lazy, that we do not *take the time* to make this small effort!

### **Sins Of Omission**

Remember that we will be very accountable for our sins of omission. Few people confess those sins, or sins of laziness, in general, but the devil rejoices in our idleness, slothfulness, and languor.

Holy Water... *use it and love it*. Underestimated... it's a powerhouse in the disguise of simplicity!

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#2

## **Holy Water and God in Water**

from *The Wanderer*, 2/4/10

by James J. Drummey and R. Turton

Issue #94, 1 page- page 6, 3 columns.

*Do we know* that Holy Water blessed by a priest or deacon is a sacramental... that is, one of those rites or objects, such as blessings, exorcisms, medals, Crucifixes, Scapulars, Rosaries, or Holy Water, which brings us God's help by virtue of our own devotion and use of it, and by the intercession of the Church.

Water was used in many *Old Testament* religious ceremonies (cf. *Exodus* 29:4, *Lev.* 8:6, and *Num.* 8:7), and thus, the Church, following the command of Christ (cf. *John* 3.5), has always used water as the essential matter for the Sacrament of Baptism. Jesus sanctified water when He was baptized by John in the Jordan River, and the flow of water from His side on the cross, has been seen as symbol of Baptism.

### **Cleansing And Purification**

As a sign of cleansing and purification, Holy Water is used in blessing persons and objects, for sprinklings during Mass, as well as for washing the priest's hands, and during the consecration when a tiny amount is mixed with wine. (During the Mass, before the consecration, the priest blesses the wine and the water, making them holy.)

Persons entering or leaving the church makes the Sign of the Cross with Holy Water on their foreheads as a reminder of their Baptism, and as protection against the power of the devil. They often sprinkle some on the ground to help self, family and friends, and to relieve souls in Purgatory.

### **Components**

It is interesting to note that the water part of "Holy Water" is indeed remarkable. Mr. Ray Sommers, a former Chemistry Professor, points out that water is one of the simplest molecules with two hydrogen atoms and one oxygen atom, connected via a most important 105 degree angle.

That angle, along with the attraction of the H on one molecule for the O the other molecule, and vice versa, leads to those lovely snowflakes, when hundreds of molecules cling together on various sides creating a multitude of nearly unique patterns.

### **Water and Nature**

Maximum density at four degrees centergrade, keeps lakes from freezing down to the bottom, and helps mix the water up twice a year, when outdoor temperatures change. Warm water surfaces, and denser cold water sinks.

Sommers likes to show the equilibrium between the three forms of water: solid, liquid, and gas, in the form of a triangle. Depending on the temperature (and pressure), the water goes from one form to another, or sits quietly at equilibrium, often with two or three forms present simultaneously.

The gas rises, and the water and/or ice stays level, forming a triangle... or in its simplest molecular form the oxygen molecule rises, and the two hydrogen molecules remain below... and they remain tied together, again forming a triangle... *in the likeness of God.*

Sommers found it most interesting that the triangle shape of the three forms of water at one time, resembles the Trinity, like one God but with different parts, and with no start or end.

### **Holy Water Exorcisms**

Because water is so closely associated with Christ and with the liturgical rites of His *Church*, it also plays an important role in exorcising demons. Father Gabriel Amorth, once the chief exorcist of Rome, describes the significance of Holy Water in his book, *An Exorcist Tells His Story* (we carry this book on tape: CD 002, \$29. 95).

He said, "During the prayer of blessings with exorcised Holy Water, we ask the Lord that, through aspersion (a sprinkling) with the Holy Water, He will grant us the following three benefits: 1) forgiveness of all venial sins, 2) defense from the wickedness of the evil one, and also, 3) the gift of divine protection."

Fr. Amorth said that, in Italy, "When we want to give an example of two things that are *totally incompatible*, we say that 'they are as compatible as the devil and Holy Water!'"

The prayer continues by also mentioning other effects of Holy Water. Besides delivering healing from illness, it also increases divine graces and protects houses, and all the dwellings in which the faithful live, from every influence caused by the wickedness of the devil.

### **Holy Water and Peace!**

The *Ritual of Exorcism* (p. 117), also lists protection against every kind of insidiousness of the infernal enemy, and from every presence that could be harmful to the *well-being of the peace* of anyone living on the premises, granting them *health and serenity*.

### **Ask For His Peace**

The devil is out to steal our peace. *He is attempting to distract or agitate us as much as he can.*

Therefore, when you find yourself disturbed by some concern, and you are searching for the peace of the Holy Spirit, remember to go to your filled and clean Holy Water font, and frequently and generously, bless yourself.

While doing so, *ask God for St. Michael to bring peace.* God is anxious to give it to you, and St. Michael will help you to let sufficient calm and quiet pervade around you. Keep using the Holy Water until the peace you need sets in. It will, *and you will feel it.* Try it, and see for yourself.

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#3

**Holy Water**

from: *Our Lady Teaches About Sacramentals & Blessed Objects* (p. 21)

by Father Albert Joseph Mary Shamon

Issue #90, 2 pages- pages 2 & 3, 3 ½ columns.

Water is a sign of cleansing. God Himself prescribed its use for His people as a rite of purification. (*Numbers 19*).

The Jews purify themselves with water entering the Temple. The church imitated this ceremony by placing water at church doors, so that the faithful could wash their hands and faces for Mass.

As early as the fourth century, this water was blessed, and the custom arose by using “Holy Water” on other occasions.

In the ninth century, Pope Leo IV prescribed that in parish churches on Sunday, water should be blessed to be sprinkled on the people and used in their homes.

The Holy Water derives its power from *the prayers of the Church*. The Church is the Bride of Christ, and He always hears the prayers of His Spouse.

Parents should sprinkle each bedroom with Holy Water before going to bed, for the devil cannot long abide in a place or be near persons often sprinkled with Holy Water.

Whenever I sprinkle Holy Water, I always throw some for the relief of the souls in Purgatory. I believe it helps them greatly.

The Mother of God knows the power of Holy Water. That is why She has been urging its use in Her messages at Medjugorje. In 1982, to Mirjana, She said, “*Carry blessed objects with you. Put them in your house, and restore the use of Holy Water*” (Laurentin, “*Message and Teaching*,” p. 301).

**The Prayer-Formula**

To grasp some idea of the power of Holy Water, one ought to ponder on the prayer- formula of the Church, used by the priest, in blessing Holy Water. The prayer-formula is a bit lengthy, but I prefer it to merely making side of the cross over water. The sign of the cross gives us blessed water, but the prayer-formula gives us Holy Water.

**Blessing Of Holy Water**

On Sundays, and whenever it is necessary, the salt and clean water to be blessed are prepared in the church or in the sacristy. The priest vests in a surplus and a violet stole, and begins.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R. Who made Heaven and earth.

(Then he begins the exorcism of the salt.)

V. O salt, creature of God. I exorcise you by the + living God, by the + true God, by the + holy God, by the God who ordered you to be poured into the water by Eliseus, the prophet, so that its life-giving powers may be restored.

I exorcise you so that you may become a means of salvation for believers, that you may bring *health of soul and body* to all who make use of you, and that you may put to flight and drive away, from the places where you are sprinkled, every apparition, villainy, and turn of devilish deceit... and every unclean spirit, adjured by Him, will come to judge the living and dead, and the world by fire.

R. Amen

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, we humbly implore You, and Your immeasurable kindness and love, to bless + this salt, which You created and gave to the use of mankind, so that it may become a *source of health* for the minds and bodies of all who make use of it.

May it rid whatever it touches or sprinkles, of all uncleanness, and protect it from every assault of evil spirits. Through Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever.

R. Amen

### **Exorcism Of The Water**

(He continues:)

O water, creature of God, I exorcise you in the name of God the Father + Almighty, and in the name of Jesus + Christ, His Son, Our Lord, and in the power of the Holy + Spirit. I exercise you so that you may put to flight all the power of the enemy, and be able to root out and supplant that enemy with his apostate angels: through the power of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who will come to judge the living and the dead, and the world by fire.

R. Amen.

Let us pray:

O God, for the salvation of mankind, You built Your greatest mysteries on this substance, water. In your kindness, hear our prayers and pour down the power of your blessing + into this element, made ready for many kinds of purification.

May this, Your creature, become an agent of divine grace in the service of Your mysteries *to drive away evil spirits and dispel sickness*, so that everything in the homes and other buildings of the faithful, that is sprinkled with this water, may be rid of all uncleanness and freed from every harm. Let no breath of infection, and no disease-bearing air remain in these places.

May the wiles of the lurking enemy proved of no avail. Let whatever might menace the safety and peace of those who live here, be put to flight by the sprinkling of this water, so that the health obtained by calling upon Your holy name may be made secure against all attack through Christ, Our Lord.

R. Amen

(Here he pours salt into the water in the form a cross, saying;)

May a mixture of salt and water now be made, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*R.* Amen

*V.* The Lord be with you.

*R.* And with your spirit.

Let us pray:

O God, Creator unconquerable, invincible King, Victor ever-glorious, You hold in check the forces bent on dominating us. You overcome the cruelty of the raging enemy; in Your power, You beat down the wicked foe.

Humbly and fearfully, do we pray to You, O Lord, and we ask You to look with favor on this salt and water which You created. Shine on it with the light of Your kindness.

Sanctifying it by the dew of Your love, so that, through the invocation of Your Holy name, wherever this water and salt is sprinkled, it may turn aside every attack of the unclean spirit, and dispel the terror of the poisonous serpent.

And, wherever we may be, make the Holy Spirit present to us, who now implore Your mercy. Through Christ, Our Lord.

*R.* Amen

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#4

## **St. Charbel & Blessed Water**

from: *Clairval Abbey Letter 10/7/10*

by Dom Antoine Marie & R. Turton

Issue #90, 1 page- page 5, 3 columns.

Saint Charbel (1828–1898) was a Maronite priest-monk and hermit from Lebanon, with extraordinary heroic virtues. If you do not already know about him, there is little doubt in my mind that in the future you indeed will, (read *Chapter 101*, in the book, *The Incorruptibles*, by Joan Carroll Cruz).

In the monastery of St. Maron at Annaya-Djebeil, in Lebanon (after some 112 years since his death), his still *perfectly incorrupt*, lifelike body, remains with a natural color, and constantly exudes a viscous fluid (which, to the present day, fills his casket to a height of about three inches).

The fluid is drained annually, and small pieces of cloth are soaked in this mysterious fluid and are distributed as relics. They have been purported to frequently relieve pain and results in miraculous cures. The Monastery is now part of a shrine, which is said to have *not less* than 5000 visitors on a weekdays to approximately 10,000 to 15,000 on Sundays and feast days.

Fr. Charbel was beatified on December 5, 1965, and canonized on October 9, 1977. (His body cannot yet be viewed publicly.)

### **Blessed Water As a Priest**

As a priest-monk, before he became a hermit, it was known that Fr. Charbel *brought joy to those who made their confessions to him*. All the people in the towns knew of his holiness. One day, an old woman came in a hurry to get Fr. Charbel, saying: “Father, my son is dying.”

The monk went to her home and approached the dying man, who did not want to receive him... but the priest was already at his bedside. “Where is the pain? If I can make you feel better I will gladly do it.”

“There is a fire in my chest! I am dying of thirst!”

“Courage my child, your sufferings are purifying you. If God wishes to call you to himself, why are you so afraid? The good Lord is infinitely good, better and even then your wonderful mother, whom you have nevertheless made suffer! Do you believe that if your mother were God and she were judging you, you would be lost? Are you not the beloved son of the Immaculate Mother? ”

The priest Then gave the sick man a drink of water that he had blessed, and immediately thereafter, the man made his confession and received absolution in the best possible disposition.

### **Charbel Becomes a Hermit**

As years went by, Fr. Charbel felt called to the hermetic life. For six years, he placed himself in the hermitage at Annaya. As St. Thomas Aquinas says, this is beyond human nature (*Summa Theologica*, IIa IIae, q. 188, a. 8, Ad 5). But, in fact, it is possible, but difficult for man to live in solitude to devote himself exclusively to the divine realities.

Therefore the Church is very cautious in giving anyone permission to embrace hermetic life, which can be practiced only by those men and women would have already been tested in virtue, and in whom one personally foresees perseverance.

The religious hermit is not abandon to his own devices-he follows a very precise Rule, a detailed discipline, and remains under the constant and careful supervision of a superior.

On February 13, 1875, the hermit, from whom Fr. Charbel was receiving formation in the solitary life, died. Since the hermitage was vacant, Fr. Charbel asked to enter it, but his Superior was hesitant. He took a large file off the desk and gave it to the priest saying, "Would you give me a report on this work? It is quite urgent. I authorize you to stay up late, if necessary."

Fr. Charbel withdrew with the file, and passed through the kitchen to have his empty lamp refilled with oil. To play a practical joke on him, one of the servants refilled the lamp with water, and brought it back to him. Father calmly put a flame to the wick, *and it lit up!*

The servant was amazed at what had happened, and he ran to tell the Superior about it. Then the Superior went to Fr. Charbel and reproached him for staying up so late... and he took away the lamp. Without justifying himself, Fr. Charbel asked for forgiveness for the love of Christ.

The superior returned to his cell and observed that the lamp indeed contained nothing but water. This miraculous event was a sign for him of the authenticity of Fr. Charbel's spiritual life, and he gave the priest permission to enter the hermitage.

### **Protected By Holy Water**

In the Near East, locusts are a veritable scourge on harvest. They often come from the south and devour the grass, the leaves, and even the bark off the trees. In 1885, a huge swarm of locusts, *literally blocking out the sun*, swooped down on Annaya and the neighboring villages.

Upon seeing the terrible danger, the Superior ordered the hermit Charbel, to bless some water and go out to sprinkle the monastery fields. All the fields that he was able to reach, were protected. The locusts began to devour *only the unblessed fields*.

The inhabitants of the area, seeing what was happening, came running to him to obtain Holy Water, and they sprinkle their own crops with the water; *each sprinkling, drove all the locusts away*.

Later, in gratitude, a hundred or so people went to the monastery during harvest time, and harvested the monks' fields for free.

Charbel entered the Monastery at the age of 23, and some 23 years later, he became a hermit for another 23 years until he died at the age of 70.

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#5

## **The Devil and Holy Water**

by Rosalie Turton

Issue #87, 2 pages- pages 2 & 3, 6 columns.

Here are some important and little-known facts and stories about our *treasure* called Holy Water, that need to be told. I was fascinated and inspired by the information.

Did you know that not long ago, in the days of numbering, the time period of indulgence gained by making the *Sign of the Cross* carried a 3 years indulgence, *but if it was made with Holy Water*, the indulgence *was 7 years!*

What a difference! Therefore, without the numbering of time, it still remains that making the Sign of the Cross *with Holy Water* is more powerful than without it, *because* of the Holy Water!

### **Purification And Preservation**

The priest also uses some salt in the blessing of the water to signify the glorious mission of Holy Water for *its two-fold purpose is purification and preservation.*

It protects and purifies what it touches by making evil flee from that person, object, or place, and it preserves in a healing way by dispelling temptations, removing punishment, and alleviating negative effects, such as illness. While the devil hates it, the souls on earth *and* in Purgatory love it!

### **Interference!**

As I am putting this article on the computer, I am spraying and praying frequently. A visiting friend (Linda Munafo) and I just witnessed my computer “go a little crazy.” Fr. Edgardo “Bing” Arellano, from EWTN TV, whose priests say our Gregorian and Two Heart Masses, told me that the devil’s face once appeared on his computer screen. A douse of Holy Water cleared the screen. Many of you know Fr. Bing. Ask him about it, and how the devil has *noticeably interfered* in their Order's various projects.

### **Distraction In Prayer**

You may have noticed that whenever you start to pray, write something about our Good God, or do something good for someone, the devil comes after you in full force with many various distractions.

He is attempting to make the task difficult for us. And if we are not on guard, the task *does* become difficult. It is his “job” to tempt us! However, if we persevere, then we will win the victory and earn many graces.

A main tool of the devil is distraction, especially during prayer. You notice that at some Masses and special functions, the priest sprays the congregation with Holy Water before prayers begin,

to dispel evils and to dispose us to participate more worthily and attentively in the prayers of the Mass. Think of all the times Holy Water is used in Church ceremonies... high Masses, weddings, Baptisms, funerals, etc. *The Church knows its value.*

It is always wise to begin any holy effort, household task, project, business, or work by blessing yourself with Holy Water, and praying a short prayer. *It could save you a lot of problems.* Therefore, before doing these things, use the weapon of Holy Water in advance to thwart the devil's efforts.

If you would truly appreciate the power of Holy Water, you would never want to be without it. You would not even drive your car out of the driveway without spraying the passengers and the dashboard first! Find the right size bottle and put it in your car today! Using it, results in *protection for everyone.*

For many reasons, the value of Holy Water is tremendous. The following are five great reasons to use *more* of it in order to obtain some of its marvelous effects, and to make *your* life happier.

### **1 – Punishment For Venial Sins**

The Church teaches that one motive for using Holy Water frequently is to shorten your Purgatory *before* you die. That is because the temporal punishment due to venial sin is *eliminated* each time you use Holy Water. *Isn't this reason enough to make us want to use it more...* but, read on... it still has many other salutary effects.

### **2 – For The Souls in Purgatory**

If you pray and sprinkle Holy Water for the souls in Purgatory, they pray *for you* in return. *Wow!*

### **3 –The Devil**

Most of us know that the devil is real. When Fr. Ken Roberts took some youths to Medjugorje, he was called to go to where some of the boys were staying. A very frightened young man ran over to beg him, “Father, come with me quickly! The devil is there! The devil is there!”

On that hot summer evening, when Fr. Ken entered the room where the boys were, he noticed that the room was *extremely cold*. One frail writhing boy seemed to need an exorcism. He was throwing off three or four boys who were trying to hold him down, *all* of whom were bigger than he was. Fr. Ken did not know what to do or how to do it. Till then, he was not sure that he even believed in the devil!

He started saying some prayers, and put his hand above and upon the boy. Then he remembered seeing Jimmy Swaggart on TV rebuking satan, so Fr. Ken did that. Nothing happened.

Finally, one kid yelled “Father, sprinkle him with Holy Water.” Fr. Ken yelled back, “I don't have any!” Another one yelled, “Well, you're a priest. Make some!” So that is what Father did, and after he sprinkled the boy with Holy Water, *the boy recovered.*

It scared the devil out of the other kids as well, and the next day they attended the 10 o'clock, the 11 o'clock, and the 12 o'clock Masses! Before then, they *hadn't gone into church at all!*

### **The Devil Must Flee**

Another incident on one of our pilgrimages to Ireland, a group of our pilgrims had just registered into a hotel, and visionary Mark Treanor, who was with us, came running down the stairs, yelling, "I need some Holy Water, *who has Holy Water?* I have to sprinkle the room with it before I can sleep there. The devil (sin) is in there!"

Whether he saw the devil or felt the sin, I do not know, but I do remember vividly his *imperative demand* for Holy Water. He *knew* the solution to the problem of encountering evil.

In our travels, some pilgrims partially witnessed at least 3 exorcism attacks from the devil, who were dispelled respectively by Fr. Peter Mary Rookey in New Jersey on Richard S., Fr. Jozo in Bosnia, and Fr. James Mataliano in Ireland.

Almost all Bishops appoint an exorcist to serve their diocese, but in simple demonic attacks, a holy priest or lay person can alleviate the problem, partially or fully, by the use of Holy Water.

I once was told that an official exorcist needs to be "transparently holy," as the devil knows a great deal about the person's state of grace. Saints have been known to dispel the devil numerous times. One exorcist recently told me that *most of us* are attacked by the devil much more than we think, and more simple exorcisms would profit the world greatly.

The Church teaches that Holy Water expels devils. The devil hates it because of the power it has over him. *He cannot remain long in a place or near a person who is often sprinkled with this blessed water.*

Read that again! The more you use Holy Water, the *less you will be bothered* by satan and his cohorts. If you use a lot of it, "Old Nick" (the devil) will have to stay farther away from you, which suits us fine... and if you use it mentioning a loved one's name, that person, too, will be protected from evil.

Great! What an easy way to help someone with a problem, whether it be known or unknown. What an easy and wonderful way to protect ourselves, our family members, and our friends... and this includes *dangers of which we may be totally unaware!*

Would you like that? Then go for it. Ask God to give you the grace not to go *directly past* any Holy Water font without using it. What a special gift that will be from God to You! Ask for this great grace, because it is certain that you cannot do it on your own. To accomplish this, you *need God's grace...* but He *will* give it to you, if you keep asking Him for it.

### **The Devil's Tools**

Add a "d" to the word evil, and you get the word devil. Add a "dis" to some words, and you discover the devil's instruments: distraction, despair, discouragement, disgust, distrust,

discourtesy, disenchantment, displeasure, disrepute, and more. These instruments destroy traction, pairing with God, courage, gusto, trust, courtesy, enchantment, pleasure, reputation, and more. Reject the former!

### **House Blessing**

I have heard said that anytime a person in sin enters your home, you should spray Holy Water in every room in which that person has been. It is also very wise to get your house blessed by a priest with Holy Water at least once a year, and perhaps even more often if you have television or Internet in your home, which can often bring in the devil.

Get it fixed in your mind that *the devil hates Holy Water*, and therefore, the Church advises you well when they make it available to you and recommends that you use it. Most of us bless ourselves with Holy Water when we walk into a Roman Catholic Church, but few of us do so when we enter our homes or work places. It should be no different, if we want homes and work places to be the holy places.

I use it a lot, but the Lord put it into my heart that if I want this article to influence you to use Holy Water more, because of its great power and benefit to you, both spiritually and physically, then I must use Holy Water fonts and bottles *even more* frequently and fervently than I am.

It seems that He is telling me that that will be the measure of my success, and *I encourage you to do that as well*, both for yourself, and also for all the people who enter your home and your life.

It is not wonderful to know that *you* can help your friends and loved ones against the devil simply by blessing yourself with Holy Water to make *yourself, the area, and them* holy? *It is a promise of the Church!* Do it.

### **4 – Washing Away Venial Sins**

Ah, but how to do it well? Just making the Sign of the Cross with it is sufficient... but for even greater graces, memorize the short indulgence prayer, and each time you use Holy Water, drop one drop of it on the ground, and say:

**By this Holy Water  
and by Thy Precious Blood,  
wash away my sins, Oh Lord.**

Do not pass by a Holy Water font without using it and thus partaking of its glorious treasures and benefits. It is an elixir of spiritual health! Enjoy its many benefits, and feel yourself being filled with the intoxication of God's love and protection!

Sometimes, when you use Holy Water, sending a drop to the floor and saying this prayer, you may feel a joy, as if you could actually feel its extending power.

### **5 – Healing Value**

Holy Water heals both physically and spiritually. Try it. It is a God-given protection and remedy.

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#6

## A Drop of Holy Water

Mariam Guild pamphlet

by M.A. Amotor & R. Turton

Issue #83, 3 pages- pages 2, 3 & 4, 9 columns.

Few people know the effects of Holy Water. By our Mother Church, it has been given powers which are quite astounding.

Did you know that not long ago, in the days of numbering the time period of indulgences gained, making the *Sign of the Cross* carried a three-year indulgence, but *if it was made with Holy Water*, the indulgence was for 7 years!

What a difference!! Therefore, without the numbering of time, it still remains that, making the Sign of the Cross *with Holy Water* is more powerful than without it, *because* of the Holy Water!

In the old rite, the priest also uses some salt in the blessing of the water to signify the glorious mission of Holy Water, for its *two-fold purpose is purification and preservation*.

It purifies what it touches by making evil flee from that person, object, or place, and it preserves in a healing way by dispelling temptations, removing punishment, and alleviating certain effects of illness. While the devil hates it, the souls on earth, *and* in Purgatory, love it!

### The Priest's Blessing

Pay avid attention now to some of the words and promises that the priest says when he makes water holy:

“Oh God... Grant that this creature of thine (water) may be endowed with divine grace to *drive away devils* and to *cast out diseases*, and that whatever in the houses or possessions of the faithful may be sprinkled with this water, may be *freed* from everything unclean and *delivered* from everything that is hurtful.

“... Let everything that *threatens the peace or safety* of the dwellers therein be banished by the sprinkling of this water, so that the *health* which they seek, by calling upon *The Holy Name*, may be *guarded from all assault*. ”

### Reasons For Using It

The frequent use of Holy Water is highly recommended. The following are five reasons to use *more* of it in order to obtain some of its marvelous effects:

#### 1 – Expel The Devil

I have heard it said that anytime a person in sin enters your home, you should spray Holy Water in every room that the person was in. It is also very wise to get your house blessed by a priest with Holy Water at least once a year, and perhaps even more often if you have a number of visitors, television, or internet in your home, which can often bring in the devil.

Get it firm in your mind that *the devil hates Holy Water*, and therefore, the Church advises you well when they make it available to you and recommends that you use it.

Most of us bless ourselves with Holy Water when we walk into a Roman Catholic Church, but few of us do so when we enter our homes or places of employment. It should be no different if we want our homes and work areas to be holy places.... safe and peaceful places in which to reside and work.

Fr. Anthony, a substitute priest at the Blue Army shrine in Washington, New Jersey, told me that a landlord asked him to bless eight units that he owned. The priest did so, and several months later the landlord returned to tell Fr. that the blessing removed the devil from one of the units.

Fr. Anthony asked the man why he thought the devil was there, and the man answered that pictures would fall from the walls, there were disturbances like banging and laughing... but to this day, everything stopped after the priest blessed the place with Holy Water.

## **2 – Washing Away Venial Sins**

To completely remove all of your venial sins since your last confession, devoutly making the Sign of the Cross *with Holy Water* is sufficient.

However, for even more graces, memorize this short indulgence prayer, and while sprinkling a drop of Holy Water on the ground (for the souls in Purgatory), say:

**By this Holy Water  
and by thy Precious Blood,  
wash away my sins, Oh Lord.**

This, of course, applies only to venial sins, since mortal sins should be confessed directly to a priest.

Also, instead of saying *my sins*, you can think of another person, and substitute his or her name in the prayer. Thus, *that person's* venial sins are immediately removed if in the state of grace, and if not, that person is brought closer to come into the state of grace, and is *protected at that moment from attacks, accidents, and problems provoked by the devil*.

I repeat, the devil cannot remain long in a place or near a person who is often sprinkled with this blessed water. Demons are afraid of it and are expelled by it.

*Isn't this reason enough to make us want to use Holy Water more...but, read on... it still has many other salutary effects.*

## **Holy Water Brings Comfort & Joy**

Copy the above prayer-- *memorize it*. At this moment I am presenting to you something more powerful than million dollars! It is so rich, and still *so easy* to do. What will we be able to say to

God at judgment, to defend ourselves *for not* having used it! What regret will we feel later on for not taking advantage of the simple, but tremendous, and very powerful Sacramental of our Church!

Oh, if you only realize the power of it! It spans the entire universe and Heaven as well, and its power extends to the very depths of the earth, and the heights of Heaven.

Do not walk directly past a Holy Water font without using it and partaking of its glorious treasures and benefits. It is an elixir of spiritual health! Enjoy its benefits, and feel yourself being filled with the intoxication of God's love and protection!

When some people who use Holy Water send a drop to the floor and pray this prayer, they feel a joy and excitement within themselves. It is as if they can actually feel its extending power.

When traveling on pilgrimage, I want everyone with me and around me to do and feel the same. Try it.

### **3 – Punishment For Venial Sins**

It stands to reason, that if the venial sins *are removed* by using the Holy Water and the added benefit of this prayer, then the punishment for the sin is *gone as well*.

Also, The Church teaches that another motive for using Holy Water frequently is to shorten one's own deserved duration in Purgatory *before* one dies.

Many souls, through suffering and/or service do their Purgatory here on earth. Also, certain prayers and devotions carry with them the promise of direct entry into Heaven. Believe it!

A prayerful person, who uses a lot of Holy Water, certainly has strong "battle equipment" to fight the devil. Devotion to the Blessed Mother, especially through the Rosary and the Brown Scapular, are some other powerful weapons. Regularly praying the Stations of the Cross is also a key to open the gates of Heaven.

Suited to our own intellectual inclinations, God, in his great mercy, has given us many diverse ways to come quickly to Him... and perhaps the simplest is the frequent use of Holy Water.

### **4 – For The Souls In Purgatory**

But why the drop on the ground? Is this some new idea? Hardly. Fr. Joe Roesch, MIC, who writes the *Ask A Marian* column, wrote: "There was a tradition given to my mother by the good Sisters who taught her in Catholic school. They instructed their charges to dip their fingers in the Holy Water font, and then sprinkle a drop of water downward to the floor to remember the souls in Purgatory before blessing themselves. "

Ah ha! Why did the rich man ask father Abraham to let Lazarus place *a drop* of water on his tongue? Imagine, only one drop! Because the water could comfort and refresh him, as it does to us.

How the souls suffer and long for alleviation, and we can provide it by that drop of Holy Water and some prayers. We ourselves may hope for it someday. For your own well being, teach your children this long and generous tradition of the Church.

One day, a visionary saw souls in Purgatory clamoring for her to sprinkle some Holy Water upon them. She said, “But you are in my mind. What good would it do to sprinkle the Holy Water on the ground?”

They responded, “Just do it!” And, so she did, and as she saw the Holy Water reaching them, *they danced for joy!*

### **5 – Healing & Averting Dangers**

We are taught that the prayer of the Church upon the Holy Water ascends to Heaven each time one takes it and uses it upon himself, or sprinkles or sprays another with it. It is also a powerful means of begging God for the health of the sick.

It heals both physically and spiritually. If you are concerned about the welfare of family or friends who are far away, remember them frequently when using Holy Water.

When dangers threaten, such as fire, storms, or other calamities, prayers joined with the devout use of Holy Water are highly effective. When you need a miracle of nature, or experience a threat of any kind, using Holy Water, call upon God for His intervention.

Those who are concerned about the absent members of their family and friends can do no better in helping them in the same way. God will bless them in both soul and body. No matter how far distant be the person who is prayed for, the *effects* of the prayer of the Church in that tiny drop of Holy Water *will reach them instantly!*

### **“Out” Of Holy Water!**

I often go to the church to fill my bottles with Holy Water and find that the dispenser is nearly empty. It is because so many people use it, or because so few people are using it that the priest forgets to look at the dispenser to see if it needs refilling?

I hope it is not the latter, because Holy Water is a very powerful weapon against evil and the devil, and we all need to have a good supply of it in our homes and places of employment to turn them into holy places. It is not only for use in the Church, but it *certainly should be used* by us there. Look eagerly for the font as you enter the Church, and gain the rich blessings of the Holy Water as you use it. Too many people go right past the Holy Water font without using it, because they do not know its value.

Nor is Holy Water just symbolic. Some Churches remove the Holy Water during Lent to represent the 40 days of Jesus’ fasting, and to represent our “dryness” and need for penance. Also, since new Holy Water is blessed just before Easter, some people reason that old Holy Water should be removed until the new is made. New or old, the power is still the same.

However, there is no valid Church teaching or tradition that Holy Water should be used or eliminated in this way. The devil loves when people cannot find or obtain Holy Water in the Church, and we lose those manifold graces!

Pastors, if you have emptied the Holy Water fonts during Lent, please try to find some way to allow those of us who want and need some during this time, to obtain it. I plead with you in this matter. The parishioners may love you and would rather not bother you about this simple matter, but no devout person should be deprived of access to this treasure for some 40 days.

### **Used Since Christianity Began**

Water is so ordinary, so commonplace, and so readily accessible to everyone, that people are inclined to undervalue it. Yet, we cannot live without it. However, when it becomes a Sacramental, its value increases immeasurably.

Pope Pius IX wrote, “The sanctity, the virtue, and the advantages of Holy Water, which holds such an eminent place among the Sacramentals, should stimulate us to use it *more frequently and more fervently.*”

The use of Holy Water is not a recent innovation. It has been used in all Catholic churches throughout the world and among all the faithful since the very beginnings of Christianity. Yet, there are those who do not give it its rightful place in their lives and in their homes.

One discouragement of using Holy Water at home is often the fonts are so small, that in a few days the Holy Water has evaporated and the font is frequently empty. A solution to that is to use larger fonts, and also to use fonts that supply the Holy Water for longer periods of time.

(The 101 Foundation carries some that were invented by a priest,-- a choice of plastic or wood-- and they work like a grain feeder, keeping the tray at the bottom filled to a certain level. We have one by the doorway entrance at Fatima House. The Holy Water supply bottled needs to be refilled only after a few months, even after a lot of use... super!)

### **Why Is Holy Water So Powerful?**

If people realize the power given by the Church to Holy Water for preservation and purification, they would eagerly cultivate its use, and would encourage their children and others to do the same.

Why this tremendous power? It is because the Holy Roman Catholic Church has itself made this a powerful Sacramental through the prayer and blessing imposed upon it by a priest.

Amazing! God allows ordinary water to become a most valuable tool to save our souls! What Catholic, in Christian countries such as ours, can *validly* give an excuse for not using it?

If you would truly appreciate the power of Holy Water, you would never want to be without it. You would not even drive your car out of the driveway without spraying the passengers and the

dashboard first! Find the right size bottle and put it in your car today! One woman I know did just that, and *she was very happy about it.*

### **Charlie's Gift To Us**

One day before the 1992 Peace flight (with 2 jumbo jets and 940 pilgrims), "Uncle Sam Charlie" came into our office to help us with some preparatory work for the flight. He was always doing some good work for God.

We called him that name because he was tall and lanky, white bearded, and often wore pants of an Uncle Sam costume to show his love for our country. Later, he died in a fire, and I thought that, being a good man and, a front-line warrior for God, like Joan of Ark, maybe he did his Purgatory then, and probably went very quickly to Heaven.

Anyway, when he helped in the office and it came time for everything to stop for the daily 3 o'clock prayer, Charlie took out a spray bottle and commenced spraying all of us with Holy Water, saying, "Always use this before prayer or any other activity. We fight the devil's distractions and temptations before praying, by using Holy Water first."

The spray was soft and delicate, and as he sprayed us a strange thing happened. Suddenly a most wonderful fragrance filled the room. We all smelled it. I asked him if he put perfume or something having a fragrance in the bottle. He said that it was only Holy Water.

I asked if anything else was previously in that bottle, and he told us that it was *the first time* the bottle was used!

Needless to say, I thought that God was giving us a sign, and I quickly ordered 500 blue and green spray bottles like the one he had. Since then, we have sold many hundreds!

I did find out later that as the Holy Water was sprayed, it often spreads the fragrance of any lotion or perfume that was on our bodies. So, actually, the first time I smelled it, it was not really a miracle after all... or was it, because it was what was needed to make me begin to love and use Holy Water all the more! God works in marvelous ways. I pray that *you want to use it more now.*

### **Belief**

Perhaps, we need to remember what God asked the people when He was about to perform a miracle. He asked, "Do you *believe* that I can heal you?" If so, He did it, and in towns where they did not believe, He did not. It was not that He could not perform the miracle, but it was their unbelief that prevented it.

Holy Water is powerful whether you believe it or not, just as Jesus is, but it stands to reason that the effects may vary according to your belief in Their power, as it did for Jesus in Capernaum and Nazareth.

Believe in Holy Water as “Uncle Sam Charlie” did, and that means that it must be accompanied by a desire to take the trouble to use it. Then, ward off and dispel demons, danger, illness, and calamities.

With it, *protect* and *preserve* yourself and your loved ones by the power given to this wonderful sacramental by our Holy Mother, the Church.

**By this Holy Water  
and by Thy Precious Blood,  
wash away my sins, Oh Lord.**

\* \* \*

#7

## "Wash Away These Evils"

by Rosalie Ann Turton

Issue #83, 1 page- page 7, 3 columns.

A rather amazing thing happen to me recently, shortly after editing the article on Holy Water on page two. The impact of researching the power of Holy Water and writing that article made me immediately desire to carry it in my purse and also in my car.

Almost right after typing the article, it was time to depart for Church. Going inside the car, I suddenly realized (with a strange mild panic) that I did not have any Holy Water with me in the vehicle. Quickly, I ran back into the house, found a fine little bottle, filled it with Holy Water, and returned to the car (now in a tranquil peace). Hereafter, before turning on the ignition, I resolve to sprinkle it upon the passengers, myself, and the dashboard. I wanted the protection it affords, you know.

However, at the end of August 2009, something else happened, causing my amazement. For some years, I have had a skin condition that dermatologist has been able to relieve, but never been able to completely eradicate. I endured this for so long, that, like St. Paul, I thought perhaps it was God's will for me to carry this particular cross for the rest of my life.

Then, the day before leaving on a pilgrimage, the skin condition became very aggressive. I remember going with a woman mini-retreat and into the replica of the Holy House of Loreto, at the Blue Army National Shrine in Washington, New Jersey, and sitting there praying and also thinking about, and looking at, the severity of the ailment.

### "Use Holy Water On It."

Then, within me, I heard a soft female voice, say, "Use Holy Water on it." Such promptings have come to me before (as they have to everyone), and I have learned that when I pay attention to them, I see positive results.

The next day at the airport, the condition flared up even worse, and I realized that I had forgotten to bring the prescribed medication, but I did have Holy Water in my purse, and in my suitcase, as well.

I generously began to apply it, while reciting, over and over again, the prayer, "By this Holy Water and by Thy Precious Blood, wash away these *worms*, Oh Lord." (I did not know the cause, but the word sin or worms can be substituted for any other annoyance or problem, such as cancer, moles, arthritis, scars, boils, bites, difficulties, etc. Why not?)

At the airport, the retreatant, who was with me in the Holy House said, "You should see a dermatologist." Little did she know! (A medical doctor friend, Dr. Gopinathan, who knew about my problem, was also on our pilgrimage, and at the airport I showed her the flare up.)

On the plane and the bus ride to the hotel, while praying the prayer, I continued applying the Holy Water. I did experience that each time it was applied, I felt a cooling and pleasant sensation. I think that the Holy Water is great, but the *greatest power lies in the Precious Blood of Jesus*.

### **Why Was I Surprised?**

The very next day, I showed both of them a dramatic improvement in the affected area. I could hardly believe it myself... and yet, didn't I just write that Holy Water could prevent disasters and accidents, dispel the devil, divert calamities, and *even cure diseases?*

And didn't I perceive, what I thought to be Our Lady's or another heavenly voice, tell me to use it. So, why was I so surprised?

I continued using the Holy Water in this way, and praying the prayer as I applied it. Within a few days the condition, which, as I said, I had had for some years, was quickly healing... and frankly, I was euphoric about it.

At home, I showed another medical doctor friend, Dr. Titus, the effects of Holy Water, and he enthusiastically responded, "It's a miracle!"

Well, now I have decided to use Holy Water in and on other things as well - to rub it on a sore knee, spray it on my computer, put a spray or drop of it in whatever I am drinking or cooking, in my bath water, etc. Actually, I am sorry to say that I do not remember to do it often enough, but partially because of this inexplicable healing, I am convinced of its tremendous power and I am trying to use it more and more.

### **Treat Holy Water With Respect**

As with any other sacramental, the Holy Water and the font should be kept fresh, clean, and inviting to use. I have been in many houses and churches where the fonts are completely or nearly empty, dirty, have a slimy feeling, and are filled with sediment. Ugh!

If one has to keep reminding the caretaker or homemaker to fill and clean the fonts and the bottles, this condition reflects ignorance, disbelief, and disrespect which those individuals feel for this wonderful and powerful sacramental. They simply do not actually know what a treasure they have!

In those places where the font has ample and sparkling clean Holy Water, or from a clean little dip-on or spray bottle, it feels soothing on an afflicted area, and *it greatly refreshes the body, as well as the soul!* Try it and see.

Get rid of the small fonts that always seem to be empty, and get larger ones that retain the water longer and are easier to clean. Make the use of Holy Water a regular part of your life. You will be so happy that you did, but always respect the great value of this sacramental.

Will any of you out there reading this, let me know if you have any salutary effects from using it? But remember, the keys are: 1) to say the prayer “By this Holy Water, and by *Thy Precious Blood*, wash away my sins (or whatever), Oh Lord”; 2) to use it very *frequently*, faithfully, and generously; and 3) *to believe it*.

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#8

## **The Power of One Drop of Holy Water!**

by Rosalie A. Turton

Issue #72, 1 page- page 4, 3 columns.

Every Catholic home always should have in it, a supply of Holy Water. We do not take advantage of the benefits derived from it. If we understood the many spiritual and temporal benefits, derived from its use, we would use it far more frequently and with greater faith and reverence. Try now to understand, appreciate, and cultivate its use.

Among all the many sacramentals of the Church there is one so ordinary, so commonplace, and so readily accessible to everyone, that people are inclined to forget it and neglect using it. *There is an untold wealth of spiritual riches concentrated in every tiny drop of Holy Water.*

### **Ancient Tradition**

The frequent use of Holy Water is no recent innovation, but a time honored tradition in Holy Mother, the Church. It has been used in all Catholic churches and homes throughout the world since the very beginnings of Christianity.

### **Why This Tremendous Power?**

Holy Water has its great power from the prayer of Holy Mother, the Church. The two tiny elements of salt and water used in the blessing, signify the glorious mission of Holy Water for the purpose of *purification and preservation* of body and soul.

Following is one of the blessings the priest makes to God, when he blesses water. It is great!

“Oh, God, grant that this creature of Thine (water) may be endowed with divine grace to drive away devils and to cast out diseases; that whatever in the house or possessions of the faithful may be sprinkled with this water, may be freed from everything unclean and delivered from everything hurtful. Let everything that threatens the peace or safety of the dwellers therein be banished by the sprinkling of this water, so that the health which they seek by calling on Thy Holy Name may be guarded from all assault.”

### **Prayers Used With Holy Water**

Prayers ascend to heaven each time you take Holy Water and sprinkle a drop, either for yourself or for another, whether he be present or absent; and God's blessings descend upon both body and soul.

### **Effects Of Holy Water**

Some of the marvelous effects of the devout use of Holy Water are:

- 1) Remission of venial sins.
- 2) Remission of temporal punishment due to sin,
- 3) Expulsion of demons,
- 4) Healing of the sick in body and soul,
- 5) Averting dangers, both spiritual and temporal.

Did you know that when dangers threaten, such as fire, storms, sickness, discord, or other calamities, prayers joined with the devout use of Holy Water are highly efficacious?

### **Blessed Yourself And Your Children**

Those who are concerned about the absent members of their family can help them by praying for them, while making the Sign of the Cross with Holy Water and begging God's blessing upon them.

No matter how distant be the person who is prayed for, *the effects* of the prayer of the Church in that tiny drop of Holy Water, *reach them instantly!* Shouldn't parents and friends be doing this repeatedly for those they love? *It is careless, and even a lack of love, not to do so!*

Holy Water, sprinkled with faith and piety, can move the Sacred Heart to bless your loved ones and protect them from all harm. When worry and fear take possession of your heart, run to your Holy Water font. On his Monday was essentially a GVW the heading I just try to reach show numbers show assumption is not here now Aisha: you out and give your dear ones the benefit of the Church's prayers.

### **Blood Of Christ Attached To It**

Our bodies and souls are daily exposed to danger. As often as we used Holy Water, or it used for us, we are given strength to do good and avoid evil. St. Teresa of Avila used to say that she was ready *to give her life for every drop of Holy Water, because the Blood of Christ was attached to it.* Our Savior had to die upon the Cross to impart to Holy Water its power; therefore, it should be highly valued by us.

The prayer below was given an imprimatur on 12/24/1939 by Bishop Thomas O'Leary, D.D., Bishop of Springfield, Ohio. It is simple.

Memorize it, and while sprinkling a drop of Holy Water on the ground for the poor souls in Purgatory and making the Sign of the Cross, say this precious prayer for your own soul.

**“By this Holy Water  
and by Thy Precious Blood,  
wash away my sins, O Lord!”**

Only in Purgatory can one understand how ardently a poor soul longs for Holy Water. If we desire to make a host of intercessors for ourselves, **let** us try to realize some of their yearnings, and never forget them at the Holy Water font. They may need the sprinkling of *only one drop* to relieve their pining souls!

*Untold spiritual wealth is concentrated in a tiny drop of Holy Water, and we give it so little thought!* If we realize now, as we shall realize after death, the many benefits which may be derived from Holy Water, we would use it far more frequently, and with greater faith and reverence.

### **Devil Hates Holy Water**

The devil hates Holy Water because of its power over him. He cannot long abide in a place or near a person that is often sprinkled with this blessed water, by himself or someone else.

The 101 Foundation has obtained two Holy Water fountains *that do not run dry*. They were designed by a caring priest. See our Special Items under Holy Water holders. We placed one by the front door At Fatima house, and it is tremendous!

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#9

**Make Friends**

by Rosalie A. Turton

Issue #59, 1 page- page 4, 3 columns.

In the Marion Helper, Fall 2003 issue, in a column called *Ask a Marion*, Fr. Joe Roesch, MIC answers the following question:

Q. “Can you explain to me why, when entering a church, we bless ourselves by making the Sign of the Cross with Holy Water?”

A. “Your question reminds me of a tradition that my mother learned from the Sisters who taught her in Catholic school. The good Sisters instructed their charges to dip their fingers in the Holy Water font and then sprinkle a drop of water downward to the floor to remember the souls in Purgatory before blessing themselves.”

“Now to your question. A priest has blessed the water that we bless ourselves with when we enter church. That makes it a sacramental. These are 'sacred signs which bear a resemblance to the Sacraments. They signify effects, particularly of a spiritual nature, which are obtained through the intercession of the Church. By them, men are disposed to receive the chief affects of the Sacraments, and various occasions in life are rendered holy' (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1667).

“In the case of Holy Water as a sacramental, it reminds us of our Baptism and the called to be holy. So it is a very good practice not only to bless yourself at church, but to have a Holy Water font for use in your home. It's also good to have your house blessed by a priest and to periodically sprinkle Holy Water around your home as a protection from evil. All of these are ways of extending the kingdom of God by bringing God's blessing into our lives and our homes.”

**Pilgrims Don't Know**

In our travels all over the world, I notice so few pilgrims using Holy Water when we entered a church or home with a Holy Water font, and fewer still sprinkling a few drops downward for the benefits of the poor souls. I keep reminding them to do this, but it seems that many of them have never heard of the practice. Some say, “That would be wasting Holy Water,” or “Water on the floor could be dangerous, causing someone to slip and fall.”

To answer the first comment, we do not mean that you should use more water on your fingers, then you would have if you just blessed yourself. Even a few drops from one or two finger tips suffices.

Remember the words of the rich man in hell to Father Abraham when he asked that the beggar Lazarus, now resting on Abraham's bosom, asking for Lazarus to place ONE DROP on the tip of the rich man's tongue. You know the answer, but can you imagine that even a single drop would have been such a tremendous comfort to him!

**Sprinkle Us!!**

One day a contemporary visionary was begged by the holy souls to sprinkle Holy Water on them. She responded, "How can I do that? I see you inside, but I must sprinkle the water on the outside."

They responded, "Just do it!" And she did. To her joy, she saw them filled with great happiness as the Holy Water touched them.

Now this visionary tells people, "Make friends. Give the holy souls in Purgatory Holy Water, prayers, and sacrifices, and they will be quick to help you in your needs."

**A Year and a Half!**

When I was a child, I too, remember learning that to sprinkle Holy Water downward for the holy souls would provide them with a 500 day indulgence. I figured out that that was about a year and a half of released suffering, so I started to do it frequently, hoping that when I am in that confinement myself, as most of us will be, others in the same way will "shorten my term."

Of course, in these days we do not number the days of indulgence anymore, but we can be sure that the practice still has great merits and benefits for the souls there. And then, they will pray for us, so it benefits us as we help them.

As far as the floor being slippery or dangerous, remember we said only a few drops, not a bucketful. A few drops surely pose no danger.

**Make Friends**

Yes... make friends. The holy souls are powerful and helping their benefactors. A holy Jesuit who sometimes travels with us, Fr. James Mattaliano, tells us some fantastic stories about how the holy souls have helped and continue to help him.

The apparition at Knock took place after the pastor, whose life had been threatened by revolutionaries, made a novena of 100 consecutive Masses for the souls in Purgatory.

There is a very popular little book by Sister Emmanuel titled *The Amazing Secrets of the Souls in Purgatory* (the 101 Foundation carries it) which sheds more light on the effects of devotion to the holy souls.

Remember... make friends by helping them, and you can be sure they will assist you in your problems when you call upon them. Try it. It works.

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#10

**Holy Water**  
***A Means of***  
***Spiritual Wealth***

Issue #25, 1 page- page 3, 1 column.

Holy Water is a sacramental of the Church. However, when it is used in making the Sign of the Cross, it remits venial sin. While making the Sign of the Cross carefully say:

**“By this Holy Water and by Thy Precious Blood, wash away I my sins, O Lord.”**

Untold spiritual wealth is concentrated in a tiny drop of blessed water. Prayers ascend to Heaven each time one takes Holy Water and sprinkles a drop, either for one’s self or for another, whether he be present or absent, and God's blessings descend for soul and body.

Because of the blessing attached to it, Holy Church strongly urges its use upon her children, especially when dangers threaten... such as fire, storms, sickness and other calamities. Every Catholic home always should have a supply of Holy Water on hand, and in several doorway fonts.

**Sprinkle It for the Souls in Purgatory**

Only in Purgatory can one understand how ardently a poor soul longs for a Holy Water. If we desire to make a host of intercessors for ourselves, let us try to realize now some of their yearnings, and never forget them at the Holy Water font.

The holy souls nearest to Heaven may need the sprinkling of only one drop to relieve their pining souls. When you place your fingers into the font, develop the good habit of sprinkling a drop on the floor for the holy souls. This can be done many times in a day, and the sufferings of many souls can be alleviated by this simple act.

**Dispel The Devil**

The devil hates Holy Water because of its power over him. He cannot long abide in a place or near a person that is often sprinkled with this blessed water. Holy Water, sprinkled with faith and piety, can move the Sacred Heart to bless loved ones and protect them from all harm.

We do not take advantage of the benefits derived from Holy Water. Let us cultivate its use and secure the blessings it affords.

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