

Not even death can dissolve it. How much do I really appreciate this priceless treasure? My answer lies in what I am willing to abandon for it. How great a price am I willing to pay for it?

PRAY:

O Jesus, King and Treasure of my soul, show me how I can make this highest of all choices in my daily life. Give me the good sense to avoid all foolish extremes and impractical judgments in following You. Let me not follow my own ideas in this quest for perfection. Make me humble enough to follow directions, unselfish enough to keep trying and generous enough to abandon my own petty satisfactions. Without pretence and without seeking to be noticed, let me offer You as many of my natural pleasures and satisfactions as I am able. With balanced judgment and good taste, help me prefer Your company to all other company whenever I may do so. In all this, however, let me never neglect my duties, impede my ability to do Your work or offend against true charity. **Amen.**

My Choice

From The desk of James Wong

The first publication of Twilight was in June 2010. The object of publishing the monthly Twilight Newsletter was to record and to highlight events and activities of St Mary's Seniors Group. Over the years, this has helped the growth of membership. When I joined the Seniors Group in May 2010, there was just a handful of Seniors. There are now fifty-three members and friends on the monthly Twilight mailing list. Hard and soft copies are sent out each month.

Because of Covid-19 pandemic, meetings, events and activities of St Mary's Seniors have been suspended since early 2020. There is not even a glimmer of hope that Covid-19 will soon be over. I find it more challenging to publish the monthly Twilight. However, so far so good, I was able to have articles that touched lives and helped to deepen the faith of Seniors, as commented by Priscilla Wee.

My choice of not throwing in the towel is because of encouraging comments from Elizabeth Ling: – "Twilight offers another platform to socialise and remain active." While Audrey Yip wrote, - "An important source of communication and keeps us present to one another even though we cannot meet as often as we did before."

Most of all, I am reminded of what Derek Dightmaker, our proofreader wrote in our June 2020 Twilight: - "James, it's good that Twilight is going ahead as though nothing bad is happening on our planet. Your producing and my proofreading mean we haven't relinquished control of our lifestyles. A small victory but a victory indeed."

Taking this opportunity, I wish all readers of Twilight stay healthy and safe, and may they feel God's loving embrace today and every day.

SMOTA SENIORS --- St MARY'S SENIORS

As the word SMOTA will be dropped from Ministry Groups, we will now be known as **St Mary's Seniors** under the umbrella of Family Life Communities.



Church of St Mary of the Angels

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Twilight

St Mary's Seniors Newsletter

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Mission Statement: To promote a purposeful, productive, healthy and happy lifestyle

Our Lady's Green Scapular: A Miraculous Little-known Sacramental for Healing and Conversion

By ChurchPOP Editor - May 28, 2021



Have you heard of the Green Scapular of the Immaculate Heart?

Our Lady gave us this little-known sacramental through Sr Justine Bisqueyburu of the Daughter of Charity of St Vincent de Paul. After several visions, Our Lady presented the Green Scapular on September 8, 1840.

Our Lady appeared with her heart engulfed in flames in one hand and the scapular in the other. The scapular of green cloth was attached to a green cord.

One side of the scapular displayed her apparition. The other side depicted a heart set ablaze and pierced with a sword, with rays more brilliant than the sun and clearer than crystal.

Inscribed in an oval around our Lady's heart were these words: **"Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us now and at the hour of our death."**

At the time of the apparition, Sr Justine heard interiorly that the scapular "should be shared with the world as an instrument in the conversion of souls."
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An Important Choice

by
Anthony J. Paone, S.J.

CHRIST

My Child, people are frequently faced with choices in their earthly life. Choices big or small, important or unimportant, are being made every day by everyone. When one chooses one thing, he usually gives up something else. He, who chooses to study law, is turning his back on other professions which he might have chosen. You cannot have everything which you desire. At times you will have to choose some things in preference to others.

The same is also true in the supernatural life. Some things draw you away from Me. If you choose to save your soul, you must turn away from these things. One, who is interested only in avoiding hell, will tolerate many a deliberate venial sin in his daily life. He will not make too much effort to eliminate these sins, because he does not choose to bear the inconvenience which such an effort would involve. He wishes to enjoy his earthly life as far as he can without endangering his eternal salvation.

Then again, some people choose to aim at a higher perfection. They seek to come closer to Me by a serious effort to eliminate venial sin from their life, as far as they are able. They turn away from little pleasures and satisfactions which make them less pleasing to Me.

Lastly, there are those who want to make Me their highest goal every moment of the day. They strive to do all things without considering their own convenience or inconvenience. They try to do the better thing, as often as this does not hurt their daily tasks or interfere with their daily obligations. This last group are choosing Me by turning away from every earthly satisfaction.

They still take the food, rest, and recreation which they need, but they now do so for a new and higher reason. Before they did so for the legitimate pleasure and enjoyment which they receive from these things. Now, however, they take these things from a sense of duty to Me, because I want them to do whatever is necessary for a good day's work. These are the men who have succeeded in choosing Me in preference to all things. They are not content with giving Me glory in their life, but they seek to give Me the highest degree of glory possible.

He who seeks Me thus completely, finds My perfect peace, My firm and lasting happiness, and his own highest perfection. I am more than any earthly accomplishment, more than any human praise, more than any worldly satisfaction. Only cowardice, or misguided self-interest can make you aim lower than this high perfection.

According as you limit your love for Me, will you have self-deception, spiritual poverty and discontent. The less you seek My love and friendship, the more do you harm yourself. You yourself will be limiting My generosity with you, because you will not use all of my wonderful grace which I desire to give you.

THINK:

No man can enjoy all the good things on earth. He has to choose some things in preference to others. I have the glorious privilege of making the greatest choice possible to man. I can prefer the close companionship of Jesus to many other good, but imperfect friendships. Every other achievement and success has its day and passes away, but the friendship of Jesus will endure forever.

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Pope Pius IX approved this sacramental in 1863 and again in 1870. He said, "Write to these good Sisters that I authorise them to make and distribute it."

A priest should bless the scapular and the devotee should wear it, saying the inscribed prayer regularly and with confidence.

To help another person obtain grace, the devotee may secretly place the scapular in a home, for example, and pray the inscribed prayer with confidence for the individual.

Here's a story about how one man discovered the miraculous Green Scapular:

"Let me tell you the story of how I discovered the Green Scapular. This is my only way to spread a true and tender love of Her Immaculate Heart and of paying my debt to her. Some years ago, before penicillin was in use, I was lying in a hospital very ill with pneumonia. I began to haemorrhage and the doctors decided to operate as a last resource. **Then a little nun came into my room.** "Father, have you great faith in the Mother of God, especially in Her Immaculate Heart? **If so, you can be cured.**"

"How, Sister?"

"Through the Green Scapular."

"What is that?"

Four years ago, Father, I was operated on for cancer. I was so filled with it, that they just closed me up and sent me away to die. **Then I prayed to Our Lady of the Green Scapular;** grew tired of waiting to die and came back to work. **I am cured,** Father. Do you want me to give you a Scapular?"

"Please, Sister."

"With that she put one over my head. A feeling of tremendous confidence poured into me and **the bleeding stopped.** Two days later, in the X-ray room, they asked me when the haemorrhage had ceased. When I replied that it was a matter of a couple of days, they expressed great surprise.

"You have a wound that is six months healed and there is no other mark."

"Today even the scars are gone. No wonder I speak of an unpayable debt to Her Immaculate Heart. Since then I have done everything possible to foster this devotion. To my great joy and amazement, those to whom I have spoken of the Green Scapular have become more zealous than I. Never have I seen the equal of the faith and confidence of these new apostles of Mary."

(Testimony by Robert A. Macdonald, C.Sc.R.)

Green Scapular available on-line: My Catholic Gifts.

