

Re: Salutation to the Blessed Virgin Mary and Our Lady of Fatima in Strasbourg

J.M.J.

"At the very sound of these words,
Hail Mary! Satan flies and hell trembles."
- Blessed Allan, written in *The Glories of Mary*
by St. Alphonsus de Liguori

Friday, January 25, 2013
Conversion of Saint Paul

Dear Friend of Our Lady,

You may recall that the three child seers at Fatima – Lucy, Francisco and Jacinta – while tending their sheep would say prayers and sing religious songs. But at the tender ages of 9, 8 and 6 (one year before Our Lady's first apparition), children being children, they wanted time to play.

In order to speed things up so they would have time for play, they would sometimes shorten their Rosary by saying the words "Our Father" on each of the *Our Father* beads without saying the rest of the prayer and the same thing on the "Hail Mary" beads – they would simply say those two words of greeting to Our Lady – *Hail Mary*, and not the rest of the prayer.

Today Catholic parents would be happy to have a child pick up a Rosary and do the same thing that the 3 children of Fatima did. It is a form of greeting and a form of prayer very pleasing to Our Lord and Our Lady since it is invoking their names.

It is also a way of honoring Our Lord and Our Lady, letting them know we are thinking of them.

Saint Alphonsus, in his book, *The Glories of Mary*, gives the following example to demonstrate the power given to Our Lady by God, and the protection She offers when we call upon Her just by simply saying "Hail Mary":

A bird was taught to say the words "Hail Mary!" A hawk was about to attack and seize the bird when the bird cried out, "Hail Mary!" In an instant the hawk fell dead.

St. Alphonsus explains that God intended to show by this that if a bird which is an irrational creature (a creature without a soul) was preserved by calling on Mary, how quickly we

would be delivered from the assaults and temptations of the devil if we promptly call upon Our Lady, invoking Her name.

St. Germanus was quoted as saying, "Thou O Lady, by the simple invocation of Thy most powerful name, gives security to Thy servants against all the assaults of the enemy."

Our Blessed Mother Herself revealed to St. Bridget that the devil flies from even the most abandoned sinners, that is those furthest from God (because of their sins and even if they were possessed by the devil), if they call upon Our Lady with a true purpose of amending their lives.

We have enclosed a new prayer leaflet entitled: [Salutation to the Blessed Virgin Mary](#), written by Saint John Eudes.

As it is written on the leaflet:

"St. John Eudes recommended this prayer for the conversion of sinners and advised his spiritual children to say it at the bedside of the sick. The Blessed Virgin promised him that 'all who say it with devotion, or at least good will, if they are in the state of grace, receive an increase of Divine love in their hearts at each of the salutations or benedictions contained in it; if they are in mortal sin, She will knock at the door of their hearts with Her own sweet virginal hand to urge them to open it to grace'.

"Our Lady added that when persons are deep in sin and difficult to convert, it would be well to encourage them to say this salutation, or at least to consent having it said for them." (*Admirable Heart of Mary*, by St. John Eudes, p.329)

It is important that children are taught devotion to the Blessed Mother from the earliest age. Saying the words "Hail Mary" is simple and something a child will easily be persuaded to do and want to say. Children love things of Heaven.

It is a good practice for all of us to get into as we go about our daily lives. Once we become used to saying these words we will do it automatically (with the help of Divine grace which She mediates to us) in time of temptation.

And when death is near, calling on Our Lady's protection by saying these two words, will keep the demons away. Remember when death is near the devils attack with ferocity trying to ensure the loss of souls for eternity.

Invoking Our Lady will keep them away.

For more copies of the [enclosed leaflet](#), call us at 1-800-845-3047.

Our Lady of Fatima in Strasbourg!

Perhaps you saw the brief report on our website in October.

Or hopefully you read in Father's letters of his visit to the European Parliament to present Our Lady of Fatima's request for the Consecration of Russia in order to obtain true world peace. He appealed to the Parliament members to petition the Holy Father to please fulfill Our Lady's request for the sake of all mankind and for the eternal salvation of millions!

And if you missed both of the above then hopefully you have received the latest issue of *The Fatima Crusader*, [Issue 104](#), which gives a complete report with pictures, etc. regarding this historic event.

You and our other supporters will understand the importance and significance of this event. I guarantee you that at some future date, this will become part of Catholic and World History.

This historic presentation took place in the European Parliament in France. As you will read, it was preceded by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and a procession with a statue of Our Lady.

The statue of Our Lady was allowed right into the hall where the presentation took place!

When Our Lady is honored by man, God always gives blessings. For allowing a procession on the streets of Strasbourg in France and admittance of Our Lady's image into the parliament building, there will have already been blessings granted.

Here is what I believe to be a tremendous blessing related to Our Lady's appearance in the EU Parliament:

I just read the news report that this past Sunday – January 13 (you recall that Sister Lucy considered the 13th of every month as belonging to Our Lady of Fatima) that at least 1,000,000 people marched in Paris demonstrating against French President Francois Hollande's move to legalize same-sex "marriage".

Here is another one: it was reported by Catholic Family and Human Rights Institute (C-FAM) on January 17, 2013 that one of

the surprises in the French campaign for traditional marriage is that homosexuals have joined pro-family leaders and activists in the effort.

You read that correctly – homosexuals in France are also against same-sex “marriage”.

I have not read of any country in these last few years, as governments rushed to pass this diabolical law, whose citizens have so openly demonstrated in such large numbers against the “legalizing” of this sin.

And of those places where citizens have fought against this law, members of the homosexual contingent in the society have not fought against, but have been rabidly pro, same-sex “marriage.”

Many may be tempted to believe that the reason for this in France – considered to be one of the first daughters of the Catholic Church – is because France has a large Catholic population.

But back in 2003 a priest from Germany had a German newspaper that had done a survey of the population and percentage of Catholics in Europe by country.

The survey reported those who admitted to being Catholic regardless of whether they were practicing Catholics or Catholic in name only.

The country with the lowest percentage of citizens admitting to being Catholic was France. At that time only 30 percent of French citizens admitted being Catholic!

Yet 10 years later, by the grace of God through the intercession of Our Lady, 1,000,000 or more people in France showed up to publicly demonstrate against a law that is being passed at break-neck speed in many places around the world.

The same 2003 article from the German newspaper showed the European country with the largest percentage of Catholics was Spain – 98% of the population admitted to being Catholic.

Yet in Spain, same-sex “marriage” became legal in 2005.

It appears the people of France have been given a grace and I believe that grace is related to the recent events reported in [Issue 104](#) of *The Fatima Crusader*.

The law may still pass, but the people have made known their opposition with regard to this anti-Christ law.

For more copies of [Issue 104](#) of *The Fatima Crusader*, call us at 1-800-845-3047.

In the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts,

Joanna Swords