

Dear
Family
Page 1 & 2

Our Lady
of Lourdes
Novena
Page 3

DVDs &
Special
Offers
Page 2, 3 & 4



"Jesus wants us to trust Him to take care of all our yesterdays and tomorrows. He looks for souls who are willing to see the Father in every happening and then give that circumstance to Him to solve, justify, make right or straighten out. It is not easy, but it is peaceful for we are bearing good fruit." – Mother Angelica

Mother M. Angelica, Foundress

Dear Family,

As we embark on the new year 2010, we are given a wonderful opportunity to let go of our yesterdays and tomorrows...and to begin to live with our whole heart the great TODAY of the present moment.

Yesterday is gone, and yet often, through resentment, hurt, or anger, it is more alive to us than the present. Our yesterdays can haunt us and drag us down. The "skeletons in the closet" take on flesh when we allow them to live on in our imagination.

Tomorrow is yet unborn, and yet often, through fear or desire for control, it is more alive to us than the present. How easy it is to forget the Gospel precept: "Do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matt. 6:34)

Wouldn't a great New Year's Resolution be to whole-heartedly give our yesterdays and tomorrows to the care of Our Lord. If there is anything for which we need to repent in our past, to do so, to take this to confession, to receive the forgiveness of Christ, and then to let it go. Or if there is anything that we fear in the future, to take this to the Feet of Christ and lay it down – as proof of our trust in His Divine Providence. Then, in this way, we can begin to live in the present. This isn't easy to do. But the start of a new year is a great time to give it another shot! In her mini-book "Spiritual Hangovers," Mother Angelica gives the following advice to assist us with this resolution:

1. *Become more aware of the action of the Spirit in the present moment.*
2. *Make a habit of seeing what the Spirit is doing for you in life situations.*
3. *Look at yourself objectively, receive self-knowledge with gratitude. Bless those who cause your faults to manifest themselves. It is really the Spirit showing you areas in your soul not like Jesus.*
4. *After a fall, rise repentant and continue on lovingly.*
5. *Exercise Faith by seeing the Spirit making you holy, Hope by realizing He will bring good out of everything, and Love by responding with a union of Wills – His and yours.*

Continued on page 2

6. Try to realize that life and all that happens during that span of time is permitted to transform you into the image of Jesus. Each moment of that time gives each of us the opportunity to change, be transformed and shine bright. The clarity of the light that radiates from us will be determined by our response to the present moment and our union of wills. If His Word lives in us and we struggle to persevere in following that Word, His Spirit will sanctify our efforts.

Family, if we strive to follow this advice, I firmly believe that our 2010 will be filled with light, hope, and great growth. Be assured of my prayers for you as we begin this new year! I love you, Family.

In Jesus and Mary,

Deacon Bill

Deacon Bill Steltemeier
Chairman of the Board

P.S. "Only through love can we truly know God" Pope Benedict XVI

Special Offers

Birthstone Rosary Garnet

If you or someone you love has a birthday in January, consider this sparkly rosary. Its garnet-colored beads are such a deep red that they appear to be almost plum and reflect a prism of green and blue colors. The rosary even comes with a silver-toned Miraculous Medal centerpiece. (All birthstone months available. Please specify month on donation order form.)

Item: *R1 \$11 Donation



Holy Family Novena & Prayers Booklet

This lovely laminated 24-page novena booklet contains one of the best novenas to the Holy Family we have ever seen. The novena would be wonderful for the entire family to pray as a group. Children will especially enjoy the colorful pictures. When the novena is finished, spend a minute or two each evening on one of the additional prayers or say the prayer of consecration to the Holy Family as a family. Well worth your time!

Item: *HNP \$4 Donation

Holy Family Gold Framed Picture (4x6)

This is a particularly lovely portrait of the Holy Family. Mary wears a white veil and a pink garment. The Infant Jesus reaches up to her. He is swaddled in white and sits on a turquoise-colored cushion atop a bench in what appears to be the carpenter's shop of Joseph, who is clad in purple. This homey scene will remind you of the importance of family. This picture may be hung or it can sit on your desk or mantletop.

Item: *HF1 \$12 Donation