



Guard of Honor

OCTOBER 2023 Newsletter

Dear Honor Guard friends,

October, traditionally dedicated to the Rosary, is a month particularly rich in feasts of saints well known to all. They seem so familiar to us that we like to invoke them, assured of their intercession. There is undoubtedly a grace that we rarely ask of them: that of forgiving those who have hurt us....By praying our rosary, let us ask Mary to help us forgive as She herself forgave the tormentors of her Son and let us ask for help - help from the saints of this month to free our hearts from everything that hinders peace and joy!

Well in communion,
Geneviève Vignes, Coordinator
Guard of Honor
Paray-le-monial, France

**GUARD OF HONOR WEEKEND
SILENT RETREAT
OCTOBER 27 – 29, 2023
Westminster Abbey
Fr. David Bellusci, OP
Retreat Master**

Main holidays of the month: October

- 1: St. Therese of Lisieux
- 2: Holy Guardian Angels
- 3: Bs Columba Marmion (Honor Guard)
- 4: S. Francis of Assisi
- 6: 1st Friday dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 7: Our Lady of the Rosary
- 10: S. Daniel Comboni (Honor Guard)
- 11. S. John XXIII

Forgiveness

This is a very difficult exercise to forgive those who have hurt us! Yet our serenity and our spiritual survival are at stake!

It is impossible to go through life without one day being deeply hurt, upset, bruised even by a parent, a friend, a loved one. It is not uncommon for painful clashes to arise, hurtful actions, regrettable misunderstandings from which bitter feelings are born which dampen charity, diminish mutual esteem, break up relationships....Love, friendship are flouted and can even turn into hatred. Yesterday's friend becomes the enemy.

How can we recite the Our Father and dare to say "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us" if in fact, in reality, we feel hatred or resentment towards someone? We ourselves, do we not have a thousand reasons to ask God the Father to forgive us all our errors? How many times a day do we offend our Lord? And what would become of us if He were merciless towards us as we sometimes are with those who have pained us? Our wrongs against Heaven are infinite and, at the slightest sign of our repentance, God forgives us. He covers them with indulgence and forgets them.

We must do the same because God will remember all the forgiveness we have granted, especially those which cost us the most. It's a great victory to win over yourself! Forgiving those who have deeply offended us honors and consoles the Heart of Jesus, that is the whole vocation of the Guard of Honor, it is to be merciful as the Heart of Jesus is merciful. "Forgive and you will be forgiven!" (Luke 6,37). (According to Sr. Marie du Sacre Coeur Bernaud, book Holy Year of the Guards of Honor)

- 12. S. Carlo Acutis
- 15. St. Teresa of Avila
- 16. St. Marguerite-Marie Alacoque (Plenary Indulgence)
- 18: S. Luc (Bhe Mother Maria Gabriela and her companions, visitandine martyrs and Guards of Honor)
- 22: H. John Paul II
- 28: Ss Simon and Jude
- 29:Bx Don Rua (Honor Guard)

Guard of Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus ~ Vancouver

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