

The Crusader prays, receives Communion, makes sacrifices and shows good example for the intention that is given him each month by Bishop Bernard Fellay, successor of Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre at the head of the Society of Saint Pius X

## February 2008 Intention:

For the return of the true spirit of sacrifice

### Daily offering

*To be recited every morning when you wake up*

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins.

I offer them particularly **for the return of the true spirit of sacrifice**



## NOVEMBER 2007 RESULTS

The Intention was for the deceased, especially priests

Treasure Sheets	Offerings	Masses	Communions		Sacrifices	Decades of the Rosary	Visits to Blessed Sacrament	15 mins of meditation	Good Example
			Sac.	Spirit.					
33	811	230	217	660	1439	4468	80	109	643

Remember that all the good works and prayers from your treasure sheets are given each month to Bishop Fellay and they are put on the altar where His Excellency celebrates Holy Mass on the first Saturday of every month.

*Eucharistic Crusade, 12 Tivoli Terrace South, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin*



# The Irish Crusader

*Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Children in Ireland*

## Prayer and Sacrifice

February 2008  
Month of the Purification of Our Lady

Dear Crusaders and Friends,

This issue of your favourite bulletin is shorter than usual as you receive in this mailing a leaflet with the Stations of the Cross, to help you in your meditation of the Passion of Jesus during Lent. Keep that leaflet with you, read some passage every day, contemplate Our Lord, Our Lady and the different scenes on the beautiful pictures, and use it of course when you go and do the Stations in a church, especially on Fridays in Lent.

The month of February is very rich in feasts:

February 2nd is Candlemas: the priest blesses the candles and distributes them to the faithful to take home, as a special protection.

February 3rd is the Feast of St Blaise: the priest gives the blessing of the throats to prevent illnesses during the coming year.

February 6th is Ash Wednesday: the palms from the previous year are burnt and the ashes used to mark the sign of the Cross on the faithful's forehead, as the priest says the words: "Remember that thou art dust, and in dust thou shalt return". The beginning of Lent, a time of prayer and penance. Everyday of Lent has a special mass in the missal, in which the older ones among you will find food for meditation. February 11th is the 150th Anniversary of Our Lady's apparitions in Lourdes and on the 18th the feast of St Bernadette.

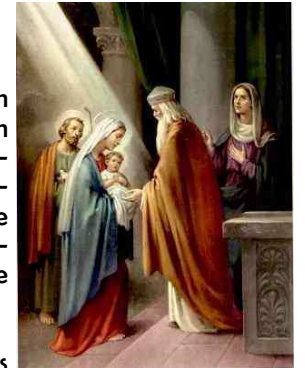
Every year, we ask ourselves the question: *What will I do this year during Lent?* In your daily life, there are many things you can and must improve: prayer, duties and work, charity, obedience, purity, kindness, generosity, honesty, sacrifice in food and drink. Let not one day of Lent pass you haven't made an effort (and noted it on your treasure sheet, which you will not forget to send back). God has many graces to give you, but you must merit and deserve them.

The dates for the SUMMER CAMPS are as follows:

Girls - July 11th-20th, Boys - July 20th-27th

With my best wishes for a holy and fruitful Lent under the gentle protection of Mary, and may God always bless you and your family,

Father Paul Biéer +





## OUR LADY of LOURDES

1858-2008 : 150th Anniversary

**T**he first of the eighteen apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the humble Bernadette Soubirous took place at Lourdes on February 11, 1858. On March 25<sup>th</sup>, when Bernadette asked the *beautiful Lady* Her name, She replied: *"I am the Immaculate Conception."* The Church for long centuries had believed in Her Immaculate Conception, Her exemption from every trace of the original sin which through Adam, our first and common father, separated man from his God. It was never proclaimed a dogma, however, until 1854. Mary Herself, in 1830,

had asked of a Vincentian Sister at the Rue du Bac in Paris, that a medal be struck bearing Her likeness and the inscription: "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee." Our Lady by Her apparitions at Lourdes in 1858 seems to convey Her appreciation for the formal proclamation of Her great privilege, by Pius IX, in 1854. Countless and magnificent miracles of healing have occurred at Lourdes, confirmed by physicians and recorded in the Lourdes shrine "Book of Life." To name but one: a doctor wrote a book describing the great miracle he had witnessed for a dying girl, whom he had observed on the train that was carrying handicapped persons from Paris to Lourdes. He had not expected her to survive and return home from the sanctuary.

Through the Lourdes Apparitions, the devotion of persons in all parts of the world to the Immaculate Mother of God has been wonderfully spread, and countless miracles have been wrought everywhere through Her intercession.

The Virgin Mother of God is truly the chosen Messenger of God to these latter times, which are entrusted to Her, the chosen vessel of the unique privilege of exemption from original sin. Only with Her assistance will the dangers of the present world situation be averted. As She has done since 1858 in many places, at Lourdes, too, She gave us Her peace plan for the world, through Saint Bernadette: *Prayer and Penance*, to save souls.

Dearest Jesus,  
teach me to be generous:  
To give and  
not to count the cost:  
To fight and  
not to heed the wounds;  
To toil and  
not to seek for rest;  
To live and die for Thee.

## ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

**I**saiah, our stock of food is getting low," his father said in a low voice. "We will need to fast until the Spring harvest is ready."

Isaiah understood his father's concern. On their small farm in the plains of Galilee, Isaiah had helped his family carefully plant the winter barley crop. In the spring they would gather the grain, mill it, and take it to the market in town. There they could sell it for the other goods they needed. But, until then, everyone in the family needed to eat less and stretch the little food they had. That's what fasting was all about.

On his rounds of the farm, Isaiah and his father saw Jesse, the day-worker. "Hello, Jesse," his father bid the poor man. "I'm sorry I had no work for you today. Did anyone else hire you?"

"No. But God be praised, I am well," Jesse replied.

Isaiah saw what his father saw. Jesse didn't complain. But, he looked weaker, paler, and thinner. "Isaiah, leave an extra portion of food out for Jesse tonight," his father whispered to the boy when they returned home.

Isaiah nodded in agreement. Isaiah and his family would give up a little more of their food tonight so Jesse could have something to eat. This was his family's way of giving to the poor. In the city, people gave money to those in need. It was called "giving alms."

That night, Isaiah's father blessed God for the food they had. Then, everyone gathered to eat. During the meal, Isaiah's father told his family about their food supply. And he mentioned weakness of Jesse. "During this time, we should pray more," his father said. "God has blessed us. We need to thank him for his blessings."

That night, the family stayed up a little later in prayer.

Fasting, giving to the poor, and prayer were popular in the time of Jesus. Many people fasted twice a week. They gave up to ten percent of their wealth to charity. And they prayed many times during the day. They did these things to get close to God.

*Think about what you will give up for Lent. How will that sacrifice help you get closer to God?*

## HOLY MASS



The Priest's Communion