



FIAT – Newsletter nr. 81 – May 2024

Dear Friends of FIAT,

The Virgin Mary played a very important role in Veronica O'Brien's life. Cardinal Suenens bears witness to this in his book 'The Hidden Hand of God' (*Veritas*, pp. 298-307). We've included a few passages in this newsletter.

We have also added some extracts from Veronica's correspondence that speak volumes about her life "with" Mary, her life "in" Mary. In them we discover the extent to which this life at the school of Mary, united to Mary, gives us incomparable strength to overcome our obstacles to the proclamation of the Good News.

Let us pray with Mary that Pentecost will open us up to a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, so that we can live out the mission to which we are each called by our baptism.

The FIAT team



"Even today, Jesus is being born from Mary and the Holy Spirit".

+ L.J. Cardinal Suenens

Mary in God's plan

... To understand Mary's role and place in Veronica's spiritual life, we must keep in mind that Veronica's constant desire to welcome Mary stems not from a personal choice dictated by sentimental preferences, but from simple obedience to God's plan. We must welcome Mary because she is God's gift to us, because God has willed her to exist for the good and the joy of humankind. ...

... Christ always did his Father's will. With immense love, he entered the world in the way chosen for him by the Father. We, as his disciples, must not hesitate to share his feelings for Mary. Since it is God who chose her for his son and for us, we do not need to choose her, but only to receive her as our Mother. ...

In her correspondence Veronica often writes of her 'union' with Mary:

... "In my soul, I feel that I am Mary of Gratitude. I never cease to give thanks to the Holy Trinity for what it has done for Mary: to the Father, for creating her for his Son; to the Son, for accepting her as his mother; to the Holy Spirit, for taking her for his bride. Each time I say, "In the name of the Father...", I must do so slowly, with veneration; for it is Mary, in me, saluting the Holy Trinity. I busy myself with external matters, I pay attention to conversations, but inwardly I remain close to Mary and to the Holy Trinity. ...

... There has been a gradual change in my relationship with the Blessed Virgin. She is no longer outside me, by my side; instead of loving her with all my strength, instead of praying to her, instead of offering her beauty and her perfection to the Holy Trinity, I feel that I am somehow one with her. She seems to be in me and I in her. We are united in a single being wholly turned towards Jesus, towards the Holy Spirit, towards the Holy Trinity. I seldom think of her nowadays; but I am always very consciously with her, in the same orientation

towards God and towards all that is of God in heaven and on earth." ...

... How kind and gentle is our beloved Mother Mary; how generously she rewards us, in her dealings with us, for the smallest gesture of trust!

She has the courage to lead us along the path to Calvary; often she does not give us a single word of comfort or encouragement along the way; but if we show some good will and courage, how quick she is to lift the veil and allow us to glimpse the reasons and the purpose of what is happening!

After one has been at her school for some time, the supernatural world comes so near! At times, it becomes so luminous that I am tempted to believe that I have lost all my faith; for I see God's hand clearly in the smallest events of daily life. ...

... When I recite the Rosary, "in" and "with" Mary, she takes my prayer and transforms it. I am like the needle on a turning record; the needle is sharp and nasty – that's me; yet when it is plugged into Mary and in union with her, it is she who sings like a prima donna on the record of our Rosary.

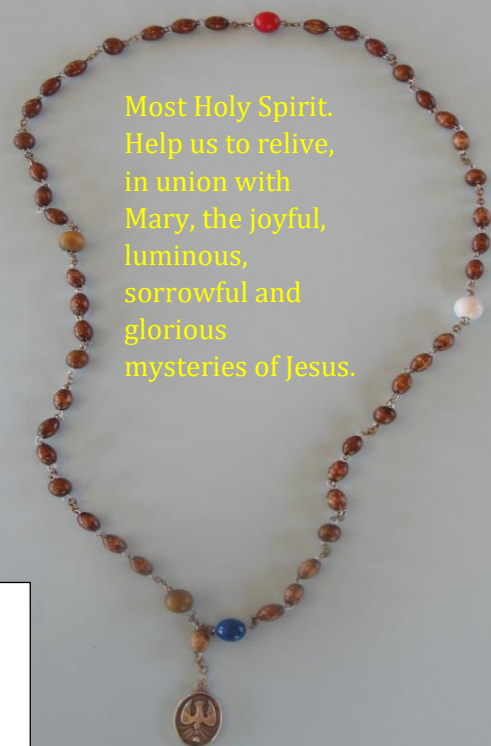
The rosary must be a communion with the concrete action of the Holy Spirit in each mystery. ...

"Whatever the gift may be that you're willing to present to God, do not forget to entrust it to Mary, because grace goes back to the donor through the same channel that brought it. "

(St Bernard, 12th century)

We are very often invited to offer reductions on costs for sending rosaries and various evangelization tools to economically weak countries. We are grateful for financial support:
IBAN : BE15 0011 7774 7930
BIC : GEBABEBB

The FIAT rosary with booklet explaining its origin and how to pray it:
Price per pack: € 7.40; US\$ 8.36
(Large quantity reduction)



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