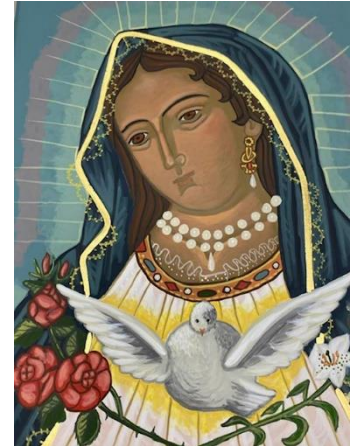


A Wonderful Blueprint

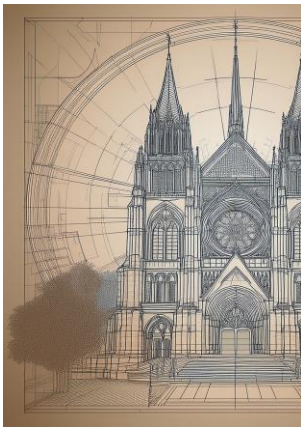
Reflection by Fr. Paul Portland, SDS

On October 11 the Salvatorian Family throughout the world will celebrate the feast of Mary, Mother of the Savior. This feast was eliminated as redundant when the liturgical calendar was last revised, because January 1 was designated as the feast of Mary, the Mother of God. But we Salvatorians have permission to celebrate it in our communities and ministries, because it has historically always been an important feast for us. Many Salvatorians throughout the years have professed their vows on this day. The high school seminary that I attended in New Jersey was called “Mother of the Savior.” The sister parish for St. Pius X in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, where I am pastor, is Mother of the Savior, a Salvatorian parish in Nakapanya, Tanzania.



*Icon of Mary
painted/written by Fr.
Reed Mungovan, SDS*

There are three aspects of Mary being the Mother of the Savior that can guide us in our spiritual life. First, she had a close enough personal relationship with God that she could discern His will for her. She was obviously being quiet in the presence of the Lord when the call came to be the Mother of the Savior. Second, she was able to say “fiat voluntas tua,” that is, “thy will be done,” even though she didn’t know or understand what would be involved. Finally, she was faithful in fulfilling God’s will to the end: she was with Jesus under the cross and she was with the disciples when they received the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost.



Having a close personal relationship with the Lord, listening for and accepting His will for us, and persevering to the end: a wonderful blueprint for our spiritual life.

What will you do to deepen this relationship?

Let us pray today: *Holy Mary. Mother of the Savior, help us to hear your Son’s will and be faithful in carrying it out to the end. Amen.*

God bless,

Fr. Paul

Fr. Paul Portland, SDS

Pastor at St. Pius X Church in Wauwatosa, WI and Director of Candidates for our men in formation. Fr. Paul also serves on the USA Province Provincial Team.

