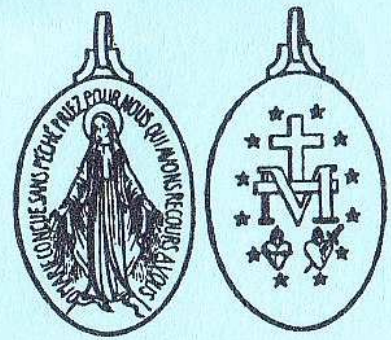


# PLEASE TAKE ONE AND WEAR IT



## THE «MIRACULOUS MEDAL»

The Miraculous Medal owes its origin to the Marian Apparitions in the Chapel of the Rue du Bac, Paris, in 1830.

— On Saturday November 27th, 1830, the Immaculate Virgin appeared to Saint Catherine Labouré, Daughter of Charity, and entrusted to her the mission of having a medal struck. She gave her the model:

**«Have a medal struck according to this model, those who wear it with faith will receive great graces, especially if they wear it around the neck»**, the Virgin told her.

— The Medal was immediately distributed far and wide. Numerous graces of conversion, protection and healing were obtained.

Faced with such extraordinary events, the Archbishop of Paris Mgr. de QUELEN ordered an official inquiry into the origin and the effects of the Medal of the Rue du Bac. The result was as follows:

*«The extraordinary rapidity with which this medal has been propagated, the prodigious number of medals struck and distributed, the astonishing benefits and the singular graces that the trust of the faithful has obtained, appear to be the signs by which Heaven has confirmed the reality of the Apparitions, the veracity of the seer's account and the diffusion of the medal».*

— Even in Rome, in 1846, after the amazing conversion of the Jew, Alphonse Ratisbonne, Pope Gregory XVI ratified the conclusive remarks of the Archbishop of Paris.

— If, therefore, you love the Virgin and trust in her powerful intercession.

— *Always wear the Medal with faith, on your person, so as to live in the grace of God and under the protection of the Immaculate Virgin.*

— *Say every day* the invocation inscribed on the Medal: «O MARY CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN, PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE». Mary likes to be greeted in this Way.

— *Distribute the Medal* to people around you, be sure to give it to the sick and the afflicted.

## LOURDES AND THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

\* The Miraculous Medal is universally known. Less known is the fact that the Apparitions in the Chapel of the Rue du Bac paved the way for the great events of Lourdes.

*«The Lady of the Grotto appeared to me just as she is on the Miraculous Medal», Saint Bernadette declared. At the time she was wearing this Medal.*

\* *The invocation on the Medal: «O MARY CONCEIVED WITHOUT SIN PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE», with the distribution of the Medal, spread far and wide and occasioned the immense movement of Faith which impelled Pope Pius IX to define in 1854, the dogma of the Immaculate Conception. Four years later the Apparitions of Massabielle confirmed this definition in an unexpected manner.*

\* *On the occasion of the centenary of this definition in 1954, the Holy See had a commemorative medal struck. On the reverse side appear the picture of the Miraculous Medal and of the Grotto of Lourdes, closely associated and a sign of the bond uniting the two Apparitions of the Virgin with the definition of the Immaculate Conception.*

\* Just as Lourdes is an ever-flowing source of grace, the Miraculous Medal is still the instrument of the untiring goodness of Our Lady for all sinners and for all sufferers on the earth.

\* Christians who know how to meditate on the Medal will find symbolized in it the entire doctrine of the Church concerning the Providential rôle of Mary in the Redemption and especially her universal mediation.

**Chapel of the Miraculous Medal - 140, rue du Bac - Paris (7<sup>me</sup>)  
*with permission of the Ordinary.***