

# THE UNIVERSAL LIVING ROSARY ASSOCIATION

International Center for Eastern Europe/Ukraine-Russia

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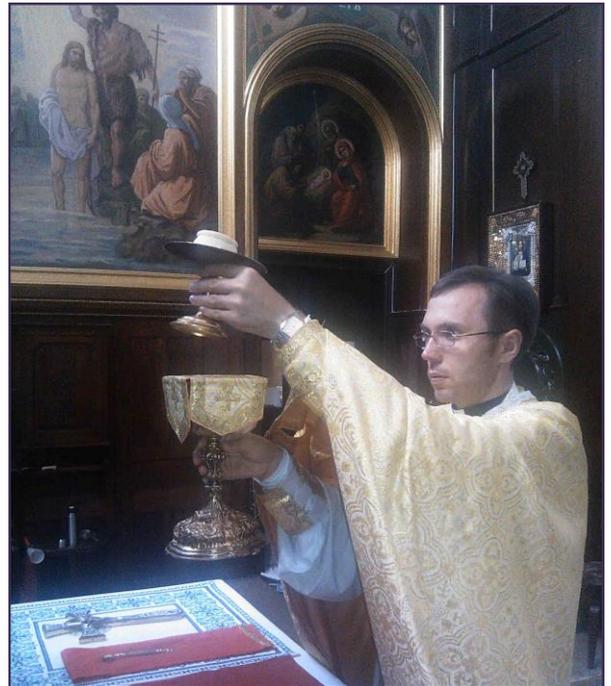
## GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST!

Dear Apostles and Benefactors of the Living Rosary,

The war in Ukraine continues to wage and our spiritual courage is challenged. If we are to be faithful, it is necessary for us to enter into ourselves. A monthly Retreat is necessary in order for us to persevere: if we are lukewarm, it will re-animate our initial fervor; if we are lax, it will help us to enter again upon our faithfulness to duty. We are pilgrims, journeying on toward our Heavenly Home. Love should spur us to walk the steep, narrow and rugged road that leads to Eternal Life, the happy Home of the Saints. The monthly day of retreat pondering exclusively the end of man, will be a powerful aid to perseverance and the earnest renewal of our Baptismal Vows.

Death will reduce our body to ashes and detach us from all earthly goods, longings and desires. We will be stripped naked. Death will come to all of us! Who is promised one more day? We procrastinate the thought of death, waiting until we can find more time, reduced demands on our resources, and a quiet space for meditation. Who can count on another year or another day? We must be ready **NOW!** What if, this very hour, we are called to give an account of our lives? At our judgement, we shall not be asked what sins we have committed, but whether we have done the Will of God. Why not do now, what one day we will wish we had done, but it will be too late? The measure of our fidelity upon earth will be the measure of God's Love for us, and our love for Him, during all Eternity.

Death is certain. Be ready for it. At an hour you do not expect, it will come like a thief in the night. "My children we have but one soul and if that is lost, all is lost; and once lost, it is lost for all Eternity!" St. Teresa



*"Behold me, O my God, ready to embrace the death which Thou hast destined for me. From this moment, I accept it and sacrifice to Thee my life in honor of Thy Divine Majesty, in penance for my sins, and to please Thee. I unite the pains and the agony which I must then suffer to the pains and agony which Thou, my Savior, did suffer in Thy Death for me. I accept the death, the time, and the manner, whether suddenly without warning or after a prolonged illness. In everything, I resign myself to Thy Holy Will. Give me strength to suffer all with patience. Thy Death gives me hope! By Thy Most Precious Blood, pardon me all my sins before death comes, and wash away the stains of my guilt."*

### **NOT TO ADVANCE IS TO RETREAT!**

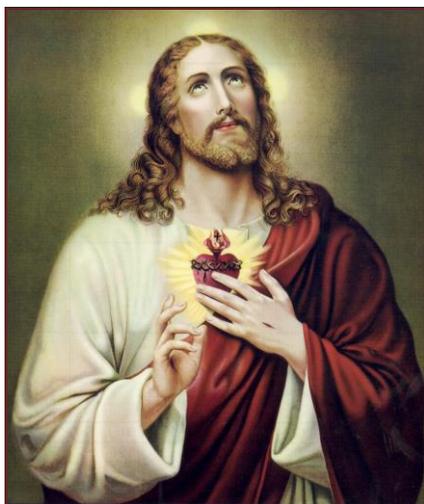
Am I ready to die? Have I made the heroic effort necessary to acquire the virtues essential to perfection in this life? Christ commanded me to be perfect as His Heavenly Father is perfect. Do I offer the labors and fatigues of my state in life, all my mortifications and pains of body and soul, in union with the sufferings of my Crucified Savior? In all my anxieties, fears and afflictions, do I seek comfort and consolation at the Foot of the Altar? Is the Sacred Heart of Jesus the object of my

most tender love? Do I take time to make reparation for all the outrages suffered by Him in the Adorable Sacrament of the most Holy Altar? Have I a warm, affectionate devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary? Have I unlimited confidence in her, and do I have recourse to her in all my difficulties and spiritual needs? Have I a great love and esteem for the Ten Commandments? Do I fail in them through human respect? Is charity my favorite virtue as it was my Divine Master's? Do I speak of the faults of others or make rash judgments? Do I blame? Do I murmur? Do I complain? Do I receive humiliations with submission and meekness? Do I cling to my own esteem, prudence and personal views? Do I obey promptly, without delay, discussion or argument? Do I submit equally in that which pleases me and in that which does not? Do I submit myself to all creatures for the love of God? Do I hold my body in esteem as the temple of the Holy Ghost? Do I hold it in honor and refuse to mutilate it, violate its purity, or cremate it? Do I consider myself happy to be called to a life of utter poverty? Am I truly happy to feel its effects in lodging, food, clothing and sickness? Do I trust in God and have no fear of poverty? Do I waste time which is so very precious?

Death is a complete separation of the soul from the body. We will be judged in the room where we die. In that instant of fate, our Eternity is sealed. We can be saints in the daily routine of our lives through Fidelity! In great occasions and in small, let us be faithful. We must die; let us be always prepared! Eternity is long neglected and often forgotten. After millions and millions of years, Eternity remains. Think of Death which is the gate to Eternity! Repent, watch, pray, suffer patiently all evils of this life, and strive courageously for a Happy Eternity.

### **WE MUST CONSIDER OUR RIGHTS:**

**WE HAVE A RIGHT TO** humiliations, to be reprimanded, to be disposed of according to God's Holy Will, to suffer the effects of poverty, to fraternal correction, to be despised and to serve, to the last place, to be looked upon as useless, and to be crucified as was our Savior Jesus Christ!



I pray that you will be successful in thoroughly conquering yourselves in the small daily contradictions which come to you each day. Be faithful in little things, bear your crosses with patience, and you will surely meet with a blessed Eternity. Every day, I remember you and your family at the Sacred Altar. Your intentions, needs and sufferings are given over to the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus through the Immaculate Heart of His Holy Mother. With Mary, you will become capable of a marvelous degree of sanctity and possess unbelievable power over the souls of those you hope to bring to God.

*"O most merciful Jesus, Lover of souls, I pray Thee, by the agony of Thy Most Sacred Heart and by the sorrows of Thy Immaculate Mother, cleanse in Thine own Blood the sinners of the whole world who are now in their agony and are to die this day. Amen."*

## **Heart of Jesus, once in agony, have pity upon the dying!**

I impart to all of you, my priestly blessing:

✠ **In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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