



Catholic Maritime News

SUMMER 2015

VOLUME 79

A Celebration of Joy: Dedication of the Roundel of Our Lady, Star of the Sea and Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea

Every year on May 22, the Church observes the Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea. Our Lady, Star of the Sea is the Patroness of the Seafarers aboard the ships and those who sail the stormy seas of life. In a special recognition, Pope Francis urged everyone to pray for the seafarers: "Be the voice of those workers who live far from their loved ones and face dangerous and difficult situations." The Pope added: "I call on the chaplains and volunteers of the Apostleship of the Sea to continue with their commitment to the pastoral care of these brothers and sisters. I entrust all, especially those who are in trouble and those who are away from home, to the maternal protection of Mary, Star of the Sea."



Roundel of Our Lady, Star of the Sea

The annual Holy Mass celebration for the Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea, held Sunday May 24, 2015, was an opportunity for the Church to officially recognize the sacrifices and the risky lifestyle of the Seafarers throughout the world. Mary's title "Our Lady, Star of the Sea" was used to emphasize Mary's role as a sign of hope and as a guide and protection of the seafarers. Also, this title emphasizes Mary's role as a guiding star for Christians. Mary, Star of the Sea, is believed to intercede for guidance and protection on those whose travel or livelihood is connected to the sea.

To recognize and to emphasize the importance of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, the Confraternity of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Morgan City, LA, and Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America sponsored the installation of a roundel depicting our Lady, Star of the sea in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. To the right of the main entrance in the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, over what is known as the Cardinal's door, is placed the bas-relief of Our Lady, Star of the Sea. This relief portrays Mary calming the sea. The dedication of the Relief, celebrated on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2015, by Bishop Kevin Boland, Bishop Promoter of the AOS, marks the annual Holy Mass celebration and prayer in remembrance of Mariners. Also, it provides a strong indication that the Church cares for the spiritual needs of the seafarers and their families. The dedication is a testimony that the Church accompanies those who, for various reasons, live and work in the maritime world.



Bishop Boland dedicating the Roundel of Our Lady, Star of the Sea

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Catholic Maritime News

is published by the Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) National Office
3 times a year – spring, summer and winter.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church
Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees & Travelers

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AOS National Office web address has been changed. **If you have linked to us previously using the old www.aos-usa.org address, please remember to change your link to www.usccb.org/aos**

We encourage you to visit our website which has user friendly navigation tools. Check out our interactive map with a list of AOS chaplains and contacts, know about news and events and other relevant information. If you want to know about Mass schedules in parishes around the country, there is even a link to MassTimes.org.

Contact Catholic Maritime News

We welcome your comments, feedback and suggestions.
Tell us what you think by sending an email to aos@uscgb.org.

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Apostleship of the Sea of the United States of America (AOSUSA) is a professional membership association of chaplains/associates, cruise ship priests, mariners, student mariners and affiliate members.

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A Celebration of Joy

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More importantly, this will become a place of spiritual pilgrimage for the people of the sea when they come to the national shrine. In addition, it will help draw attention to important services that our mariners, fishermen and seafarers have done for our community and the entire world. The dedication of the relief was witnessed by hundreds of people who were present at the Mass. Other activities that marked the day were special prayers said for the Seafarers and their families. As Masses are celebrated, prayers said, and candles are lit at the National Shrine, Our Lady, Star of the Sea will continue to intercede for us.

In his sermon, Bishop Boland told the congregation to “dedicate this Pentecost to Our Lady, Star of the Sea”. He urged the faithful “to reflect on the power of the Spirit as it pertains to Mary, the Mother of God and our Mother.” He said that the Church will continue to encourage the faithful to support, to remember, and to pray for maritime workers such as merchant mariners/seafarers, fishermen, port personnel and those in the maritime industry. As we observe the National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for mariners and for all people of the sea we pray that we will never fail on life’s journey, that in the heart and mind, in word and deed, in days of turmoil and in days of calm, we will always look to Christ and according to St. Bernard, “look at the star, and call on Mary.”

By Sr. Joanna Okereke, HHCJ

Assistant Director, Cultural Diversity in the Church



Bishop Kevin Boland and priests in procession

Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2015, 12:00 Noon Mass

National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC

Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea, Installation and Dedication of the Roundel “Our Lady, Star of the Sea”

Homily, Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland

My Dear Friends:

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. We have celebrated the birth of Christ, we have celebrated his suffering, his death and his resurrection. We have a savior, born of Mary; He sits at God's right hand, and, to complete the cycle of God's intervention in our lives, he send us the power of the Holy Spirit to guide, protect and to sanctify our journey back to the Lord. John's Gospel reads: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you," and "Receive the Holy Spirit."

This birthday is very special for some special guests. Let me introduce them: Membership of the Confraternity of Our Lady, Star of the Sea.

This Confraternity was founded in 1973 in Morgan City, Louisiana. They began a Novena to Our Lady to seek protection from hurricanes and natural disasters in the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, and to enable seafarers and those making their livelihood by the sea to seek her protection.

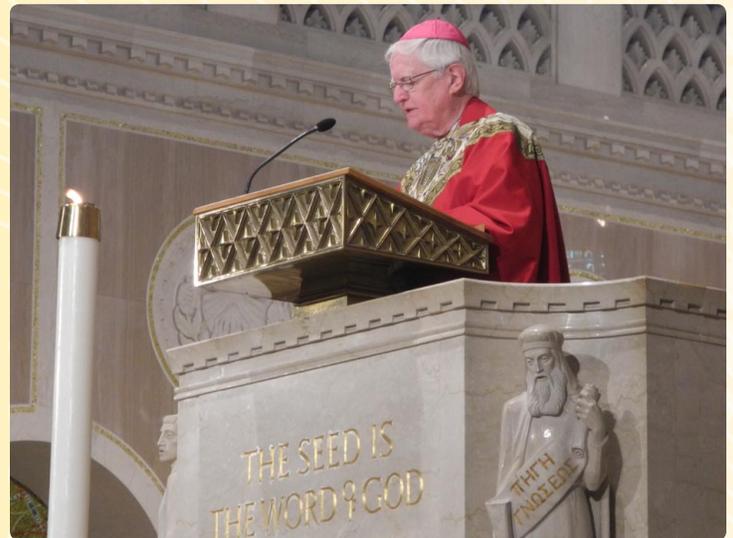
Members of the Confraternity of Our Lady, Star of the Sea realized that, of the many images and titles of the Blessed Virgin Mary in this Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, one of the oldest of such images, that of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, was not represented. They sought help and guidance from AOS-USA. The rest is history. The Shrine was contacted, and was fully cooperative. On this day during this Mass, a beautiful relief designed by Lou Di Cocco and the Liturgical Arts Studio will be blessed and dedicated. This project would not have come to fruition without the consistent involvement of the Confraternity of Our Lady, Star of the Sea, the AOS-USA and the Shrine staff. Extensive fund raising took place. This included 28 Catholic Dioceses, which support port facilities in their jurisdictions.

Who is Our Lady, Star of the Sea?

The term "Stella Maris - Star of the Sea" was the name given by Saint Jerome about the year 400 to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our Lady, Star of the Sea is the Patroness of the men and women who sail the seas. Saint Bonaventure reminds us that she also "guides to a landfall in heaven those who navigate the sea of this world in the ship of innocence or penance." Our Lady, Star of the Sea, aids not only the seafarers aboard those ships, but also those who sail the stormy seas of life.

Mary our Mother literally has hundreds of titles - all dealing with different aspects of her outreach to human kind. We are all familiar with the Litany of Loreto: Spiritual Vessel, Tower of David, Queen of Angels, etc.

At this birthday party the primary guest is the Holy Spirit - the 3rd person of God's family. When we make the Sign of the Cross - we always invoke: Father - Son - Holy Spirit.



Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland

Today, however, we dedicate this Pentecost to Our Lady, Star of the Sea. Let us reflect on the power of the Spirit as it pertains to Mary, the Mother of God and Our Mother. We honor Mary by praying an interactive version of the Angelus. It was by the power of the Spirit that Mary conceived and gave birth to our Savior, Our Lord Jesus.

So let's pray together

The Angelus:

V. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Reflection: The Angel came to Mary;
She was SELECTED,
She was CHOSEN.
She was conceived by God's power.
We are all selected by God.
We are all conceived and born to new life
by Baptism/Confirmation.
We are called to be Disciples.
Is not God the one who makes the initial selection?
We are all chosen.

V. Behold the Handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to your word.

Reflection: We are dealing with accepting God's word.
Do we accept ourselves?
Do we accept others?
Do we accept the call of discipleship?
Do we pray for the people of the sea?

V. The Word was made flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.

Reflection: This is the Father's ultimate gift to us – the Lord Jesus.
The Magi bring gifts.
We are given the gift of Christ.
Christ comes to us through Mary.
How do we honor Mary,
Queen of Peace and Star of the Sea,
Mother Most Chaste,
Mother of our Creator,
Virgin Most Faithful,
Seat of Wisdom,
Cause of our Joy.

Hail Mary – Holy Mary. You are great, you are wonderful. I conclude with a quotation from the 4th Chapter of the First Letter to the Corinthians (7&8): "Who confers distinction upon you? What do you possess that you have not received? But if you have received it, why are you boasting as if you did not receive it? You are already grown rich." Our Lady, Star of the Sea – Pray for Us.

AMEN



Bishop Kevin Boland administering Holy Eucharist

Massachusetts Fishermen's Partnership and Boston Fisheries Foundation Meeting with Bishop J. Kevin Boland, Promoter of the and Apostleship of the Sea (AOS)

In 2005, the USCCB designated May 22 as the National Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People of the Sea to encourage the faithful in the country to support, remember, and pray for merchant mariners, fishermen, port personnel, and others in the maritime industry.



Mr. Robert Nagle and Bishop Kevin Boland, with Josephine Wilkens, Nina Groppo, Mannda and Ed Barrett at the USCCB headquarters in Washington DC

The members of the Massachusetts Fishermen's Partnership and Boston Fisheries Foundation participated in the National Day of Prayer held in conjunction with National Maritime Day on Sunday, May 24, at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Bishop J. Kevin Boland, bishop emeritus of Savannah, Georgia, and Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) promoter was the celebrant and homilist at the special Eucharistic celebration.

On Saturday, May 23, 2015 the Massachusetts Fishermen's Partnership and Boston Fisheries Foundation met with Bishop J. Kevin at the USCCB office to highlight the challenges facing the fishermen. Enumerating the many challenges faced by fishing industry, Mr. Robert Nagle said that, "The business of fishing industry is harder now than it ever was, it has become much more difficult to find the fish. In many cases, the fisheries' rules, regulations and enforcement measures create challenges. Fishing capacity and efforts are not sufficiently limited or controlled. The fishing community and those of us who work with the fishing industry are struggling."

Among other challenges present, inadequate fisheries regulations and lack of implementation, or enforcement, of rules were highlighted. The fishing industry faces a lack of transparency as well as the failure to follow scientific advice. Other pertinent actions that need to be addressed include: support of the fishermen to receive adequate safety training prior going to sea, better health care and support for fishermen and their families, and promoting local markets and branding efforts.

Bishop Boland encouraged the participants and assured them that the Church advocates for the continued welfare of seafarers and their families. The meeting was sponsored by the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

*By Sr. Joanna Okereke, HHCJ
Assistant Director, Cultural Diversity in the Church*

Dedication of the Roundel of Our Lady, Star of the Sea

Celebrant:

My dear brothers and sisters, we have gathered here in joy for the solemn blessing of this image of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Under the title, Our Lady, Star of the Sea, this image will remind us of the close ties of Mary to Christ and his Church. First of all, she is Christ's Mother, the Mother of the visible image of the invisible God. But she is also the image and the model of the Church, and she is its exemplar. In Mary the Church joyously contemplates the image of all that the Church itself desires and hopes wholly to be. The Church recognizes in Mary the model of the path and the practice it must follow to reach complete union with Christ. As the Spouse of Christ, the Church raises its eyes to Mary, the exemplar it must look to in carrying out the work of the apostolate.

May we strive to take part in this blessing with the greatest intensity and reverent devotion.

Day of the Seafarers,
June 25th
May Mary, Star of the Sea,
protect and guide them.



Prayer of Blessing

Celebrant:

Lord God, we acknowledge your infinite glory and the abundance of your gifts. Before the foundation of the world, you appointed Christ the beginning and end of all things. You chose the Blessed Virgin Mary as the Mother and companion of your Son, the image and model of your Church, the Mother and advocate of us all. She is the new Eve, through whom you restored what the first Eve had lost. She is the daughter of Zion, who echoed in her heart the longings of the patriarchs and the hopes of Israel. She is the poor and lowly servant, who trusted solely in her Lord. Mary is the Star of the Sea, the light of every ocean. She is the guide for seafarers across all dark and stormy seas so that they may reach the haven of peace and light prepared for them by her Son, who calmed the sea. In the fullness of time she was delivered of the Sun of justice, the dayspring from on high, your Son, Jesus Christ. In her flesh she was his Mother, in her person, his disciple, in her love, his servant. Father, may your children who have provided this image of Mary know her protection and trace in their hearts the pattern of her holiness. As we set forth upon the oceans of the world and cross the deserts of our time, Mary shows us your Son, for without Him we are lost. Father, as we look upon this image, bless us with faith and hope, love and humility; may we be strengthened in hardship and self-respect in poverty. Bless us with patience in adversity, and kindheartedness in times of plenty. Help us to search for peace, to strive for justice, and to realize your love, as we pursue our journey through life toward your heavenly city, where the Blessed Virgin Mary, Star of the Sea, intercedes as Mother and reigns as Queen. May we never fail on life's journey, that in heart and mind, in word and deed, in days of turmoil and in days of calm, we will always look to Christ and say, "Who is this that even wind and sea obey Him?" For he lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Assembly:

Amen.



Bishop Boland and a cross section of Priests during the Dedication of the Roundel of Our Lady, Star of the Sea

Dedication of the Roundel of Our Lady, Star of the Sea



Mar Muñoz-Visoso, MTS and Doreen M. Badeaux



Captain George McShea and R. Jon Furukawa



Rev. Sinclair Oubre, J.C.L. Deacon Patrick Lapoint



Sister Joanna Okereke, Captain George McShea, Sister Myrna Tordillo and Mr. Robert Nagle



Bishop Boland, Sister Joanna Okereke and Angela Sanfilippo



Bishop Boland, Joe Cox and Margaret Marzec

“The National Maritime Day Observance: Remembering those who Serve us at Sea”

Every year the United States celebrates National Maritime Day with an observance, which this year took place on May 21 at the Department of Transportation Headquarters in Washington, D.C. National Maritime Day was created in 1933 to recognize the maritime industry and officially set on May 22, the date in 1819 that the American steamship SS Savannah set sail from Savannah, Georgia on the first ever transoceanic voyage under steam power.

This year’s observance saw a wide cross-section of government and industry leaders attend to remember the importance of merchant seafarers for the economy in general, but also their role in assisting the armed forces. It is always great to see the participation of maritime students and those merchant mariners who have served in years past. Presenters included Mr. Paul Jaenichen, Maritime Administrator, and Ms. Kristen Decas, President of the American Association of Port Authorities. Both stressed the importance of ports and shipping to the prosperity and well being of the United States. It was also wonderful to have Bishop Kevin Boland present to give the opening prayer. His prayer allowed us to remember the importance of the sea, but especially those mariners who serve us at sea.

Following the observance, seafarers’ welfare was still on the agenda as the Rev. Marsh Drege, Director of Seafarers International House and President of the Board of NAMMA gave an address to the NAMEPA Safety at Sea Seminar at the National Press Club. His remarks focused on progress in seafarers’ welfare since the ratification of the MLC, 2006 by many countries around the world. Though the United States has not yet signed on to this Convention, Drege noted that the existence of the document is helping the cause of seafarers’ welfare here.

By Jason Zuidema, Executive Director North American Maritime Ministry Association ▪ www.namma.org



Dr. Kaspn Ziodema, Sr. Joanna Okereke, HHCJ and Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland.



Representatives at the National Maritime Day Observance

National Maritime Day Observance US Department of Transportation Thursday, May 21 Washington, DC

There is a bronze plaque at the front entrance of the City Hall in Savannah, Georgia. It commemorates the first centenary of the crossing of the Atlantic by the first steam ship, S.S. Savannah. It arrived at Liverpool about 4 weeks following its departure on May 22. Hence the selection of this date to annually remember the United States Maritime industry.

Loving God With grateful hearts we recognize the oceans of the world. We are grateful for the rivers, lakes and ports. Water, an essential element of creation is your gift to us. Pray that we will always use it wisely.

Today we celebrate and honor the men and women of the U.S. Merchant Marine and Maritime Industry. The vastness of the Maritime Industry is difficult to comprehend. It is estimated that 95% of the world’s goods at one time or another travel by sea. We want to honor the people of the sea. In a special way we ask you to bless and honor the many sacrifices and contributions of American Merchant Mariners and the United States Maritime industry.

Protect the men and women who are part of the naval services and are presently employed in dangerous areas of the world.

We are mindful of and pray God’s benevolence on all those who have served in the past. They are symbolized by the “Sea Captain” whose sea-going days have run their course. The seas of the world belong to all peoples. The seas make no distinctions and treat all equally. On this day we beg your gracious blessing upon the seafarers of the world. May all be mindful of God’s universal protection.

Good and loving God be with us this day. May what we say and do be for the benefit of your Kingdom. May we always protect, honor, and hold in gratitude the seafarers of the world. They are the protectors of humanity and of God’s gracious gift.

AMEN.

Invocation by
Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland



Most Reverend J. Kevin Boland, Bishop Promoter of the Apostleship of the Sea, giving the Invocation

Issues Facing Fishing Industry

By Pietro Parravano, Chair, Fishing Committee, AOS-USA

The following topics are snippets about issues regarding the ocean conditions, commercial fishermen and seafood in this country. I begin with a recent document written by Pope Francis. We should use this encyclical as a reminder of our responsibility as Christians that we are held accountable for our activities and how our faith mandates that we take corrective action "about how we are shaping the future of our planet, since the environmental challenges we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all".



Captain Pietro Parravano

PAPAL ENCYCLICAL: LAUDATO SI

On June 18, 2015, Pope Francis issued an encyclical calling for dialogue and action on the continued adverse impacts of human activities on the habitat and resources needed for sustenance and quality of life. He writes "Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day." Pope Francis warns of an "unprecedented destruction of ecosystems, with serious consequence for all of us". He states that developed, industrialized countries are obligated to help poorer nations confront the crisis. Pope Francis uses this encyclical to give a voice to those populations whose dependence on food will be eliminated by increased exploitation and destruction of their natural resources. For many countries, their adjacent oceans are the major source of food for their people. Issues like ocean acidification, ocean warming, ocean pollution, and algal blooms are detrimental to healthy and productive oceans and consequently reduce access and dependence on food supplies. Many cultures depend on the oceans for food. All of us, especially the developing countries, cannot watch this decline of seafood harvest. Pope Francis reminds us "that human beings

destroy the biological diversity in God's creation; that human beings compromise the integrity of the earth and contribute to climate change, stripping the earth of its natural forests or destroying its wetlands; that human beings pollute the water, soil, air; all these are sins."

ARE SLAVES CATCHING THE FISH THAT YOU BUY?

According to an Associated Press investigation released on March 25, 2015, workers from Myanmar are being brought to Indonesia under the promises of a job, only to end up enslaved aboard illegal fishing boats. Their catch may be finding its way into the supply chains of major grocery stores, restaurants and even pet stores in the United States. The U.S. government agreed to adopt new rules that ensure seafood imported into the United States meets high standards for protecting whales and dolphins. These regulations will require foreign fisheries to meet the same marine mammal protection standards required of U.S. fishermen or be denied import, thus implementing a 40-year-old provision of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

In a year-long investigation, the AP talked to more than 40 current and former slaves on the island village of Benjina. The AP documented the journey of a large shipment of slave caught seafood from the Indonesian village, tracking it by satellite to a harbor in Thailand. Upon its arrival, AP journalists followed trucks that drove the seafood to dozens of factories, cold storage plants and the country's biggest fish market. The men interviewed by the AP on Benjina were mostly from Myanmar, one of the poorest countries in the world. They were brought to Indonesia through Thailand and forced to fish. Their catch was then shipped back to Thailand. This complex web of links separates the fish we eat from the men who catch it, and obscures an inhumane truth: your seafood may come from slaves.

ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, UNREGULATED FISHING (IUU):

IUU fishing is a global problem that threatens ocean ecosystems and sustainable fisheries. IUU products often come from foreign fisheries that lack the same strong and effective conservation and management measures which U.S. fishermen must follow. By adversely impacting fisheries, marine ecosystems, food security and coastal communities around the world, IUU fishing undermines domestic and international conservation and management efforts.



On March 15, 2015, the Presidential Task Force of IUU Fishing and Seafood Fraud, co-chaired by the Departments of Commerce and State, released its action plan. This plan articulates the aggressive steps that federal agencies will take both domestically and internationally to implement the recommendations the Task Force made in December 2014.

The plan identifies actions that will strengthen enforcement, create and expand partnerships with state and local governments, industry, and non-governmental organizations, and create a program to track seafood from harvest to entry into the U.S. The plan also highlights ways in which the U.S. will work with our foreign partners to strengthen international governance, enhance cooperation, and build capacity to combat IUU fishing and seafood fraud.

FISH IMPORTS: WEST COAST HIT BY EXTENSIVE TOXIC ALGAE BLOOM

Commercial fishing may become more tenuous on the West Coast due to spreading areas where there is not enough oxygen to support important fish species. The largest toxic algae bloom in more than a decade has caused a wide range of closures to recreational and commercial shellfish and crab fishing. Toxic algae blooms are being observed from Monterey Bay, California, up to Homer, Alaska.

Since the algal bloom began in May, the California Department of Public Health has issued warnings on recreational harvesting of shellfish. Officials in Washington State have issued its largest closure of its Dungeness crab fishery. The entire Oregon coast has also been closed to recreational razor clam harvesting after high levels of domoic acid were found.

Unfortunately, with climate change this is expected to continue. In such conditions, some species will thrive, but others will not. Climate-related changes such as shifting temperatures, ocean acidification and shifts in oxygen levels are creating different migration routes for many species.

NATIONAL MARITIME DAY 2015 CEREMONY



Thursday, May 21, 2015

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HONORING THE HARD WORKING MEN AND WOMEN OF THE
U.S. MERCHANT MARINE AND THE MARITIME INDUSTRY;

AN INDUSTRY THAT IS VITAL TO OUR NATION'S ECONOMIC WELL-BEING
AND NATIONAL SECURITY

Mariner's Prayer

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, Mother of God and our Mother, you know all the dangers of soul and body that threaten mariners. Protect your sons and daughters who work and travel on the waters of the world, and protect also their families that await their return. Star of the Sea, Mother of the Church, give light and strength to those chaplains and lay ministers who bring the love of your Divine Son among mariners. Fill their hearts with a supernatural and life-giving zeal for the apostolate. Star of the Sea, light shining in the darkness, be a guide to those who sail amid the storms and dangers of life. Enlighten the hearts of ardent disciples and bring us all to the safety of heaven's port. **Amen**

Star of the Sea (Stella Maris) Feast Day, September 27

Posted on May 10, 2012 by Wog-Staff

Mary's title "Star of the Sea" is thought to derive from the account in 1 Kings 18:41-45 which refers to a little cloud appearing above the sea as a sign of hope that rain would soon come to water the parched earth. This little cloud, seen by St. Elijah on Mt. Carmel, is believed to be the "Star of the Sea", and is why the Carmelites named the church they would later build on the site, Stella Maris. The star as a symbol of Mary is rich in meaning. It is used to articulate several characteristics of Mary: her privileges, in particular her mission as Mother of the Redeemer or her holiness; her anticipatory role (forerunner, announcer) with regard to Christ; and her role as luminous and enlightening.

One of the earliest references we have to Mary as Stella Maris is found in the writings of Paschasius Radbertus (d. 865): "Mary, Star of the Sea, must be followed in faith and morals lest we capsize amidst the storm-tossed waves of the sea. She will illumine us to believe in Christ, born of her for the salvation of the world." This beautiful quote reminds us that just as this title of Our Lady speaks in a special way to her patronage for those who travel or work on the seas, as the spiritual mother of all God's children, she guides us and intercedes for us throughout the sea of our life until we finally arrive at heaven's safe harbor.

For Reflection:

Father Reginald Garrigou-Lagrance says, "Not only does Mary know more of the essence of God in heaven, but she knows more too of His wisdom, His love, His power, and she sees better the range of their extent both in the order of possible and of existing realities." It is the will and pleasure of the Father to gift Mary with this excellence of knowledge. How do you think this gift of knowledge aids Our Lady in her role of spiritual mother? Given that, to what extent is confidence in her ignited within you? What current "sea" are you traveling through right now? Write a prayer to Mary asking her to give you her maternal wisdom, love, and power that you might traverse it with her. If your "sea" is tranquil, thank your Mother, and write the prayer for a loved one or friend who needs her maternal beatitude now.

<http://www.womenofgrace.com/blog/?p=14132#sthash.w4tg83wn.dpuf>



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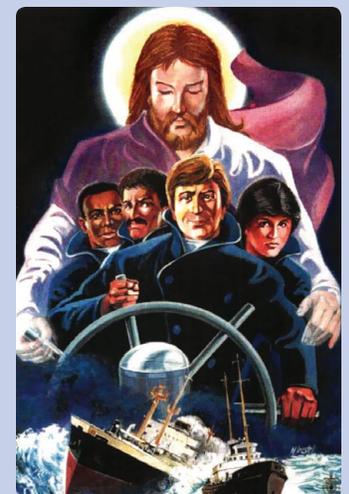
ITEMS OF INTEREST

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PSALM 107

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>23 "Some went off to sea in ships,
plied their trade on the deep waters."</p> <p>24 "They saw the works of the LORD,
the wonders of God in the deep."</p> <p>25 "He commanded and roused a storm wind;
it tossed the waves on high."</p> <p>26 "They rose up to the heavens, sank to the depths;
their hearts trembled at the danger."</p> <p>27 "They reeled, staggered like drunkards;
their skill was of no avail."</p> | <p>28 "In their distress they cried to the LORD,
who brought them out of their peril;"</p> <p>29 "He hushed the storm to silence,
the waves of the sea were stilled."</p> <p>30 "They rejoiced that the sea grew calm,
that God brought them to the harbor they longed for."</p> <p>31 "Let them thank the LORD for his mercy,
such wondrous deeds for the children of Adam."</p> <p>32 "Let them extol him in the assembly of the people,
and praise him in the council of the elders."</p> |
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Apostleship of the Sea, National Office
Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church
Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers
3211 Fourth Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20017



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UPCOMING EVENTS:

JULY 14-17, 2015

Port Ministries International Conference in Baltimore, MD.
More information @ portchaplains.org.

SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 2, 2015

NAMMA Conference - Montreal, Quebec.

OCTOBER 5-7, 2015

North American World Maritime Day - MITAGS, Linthicum Heights, MD.

NOVEMBER 2-4, 2015

American Association of Port Authorities- Convention in Miami, FL.