

# The Rosary News

May 2024

Founders: Stanislaus Despres  
Lowell Vickery, 1957

Dear Rosary Makers, Ministry Partners, Friends & Supporters:

This past weekend in church I was holding my grandson tight in my arms thinking how much I loved him. As Father's homily discussed the complexity of life in its many forms, I couldn't help but realize how difficult and vast are the challenges we face in our lives. Why is the world so complex with its many problems? Why do we gravely fear these uncertainties when God's one request from us seems so simple ... trust Him.

As I looked in the eyes of my 3-year-old grandson I saw the innocent trust and happiness he had being in my arms. I couldn't help but realize that despite my arrogant belief, I must succumb to the obvious that God's love was immeasurable compared to my imperfect human love. The thought of God holding me in his arms stirred emotions in me sitting in that pew. I'm more convinced than ever, that a simple prayer for God to hold me tight no matter how foolish my thoughts and actions struggle to break from his grip. Hold me tight Lord! It is a prayer that I pray for all.

Heaven isn't only obtained by great action or by grandiose measures. St Teresa's Little Way is a testament to our work as a ministry. While she only lived a short time, she never left her cloister. Despite this, she is the patron saint of missionaries. For 67 years so many of our volunteers, contributors and makers have supported the Church's missionary efforts ALL OVER THE WORLD! Not only in distant, far away countries, but here inside America as well. The rosary has been our best way to work for the conversion of sinners. It is our trust in God that has led us to this ministry that we support and offer the fruits of our time, talent and treasures.

Tom Kneeshaw  
Email: Tommkneeshaw@gmail.com  
Phone 616-315-3032

### **Our Lady's Errand Boy**

Lowell Vickery

Officers

#### **President**

Tom Kneeshaw

#### **Vice President**

Marissa Brand

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Marissa Brand

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Paul Vickery



**"The faithful  
children of the  
rosary shall merit  
a high degree of  
glory in heaven"**

# Rosary Appreciation

## Pot-luck Luncheon

SATURDAY, August 17, 2024

11:00am - 1:00pm

2236 Vansingel Lake Dr SW • Byron Center, MI

The Rosary Makers of West Michigan are hosting an appreciation luncheon for all rosary and scapular makers! We will have many rosary makers on-hand to share their "tips" and to help out however they can. **BRING A FRIEND!**

Anyone interested in learning to make rosaries or scapulars is welcomed to come.

**Please feel free to invite your friends or family to join this ministry.**

New starter kits will be available. Don't forget to bring a dish to pass.

Drinks will be provided. Please bring your family too!

**We hope to see you here!**

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Tom Kneeshaw at: 616-315-3032

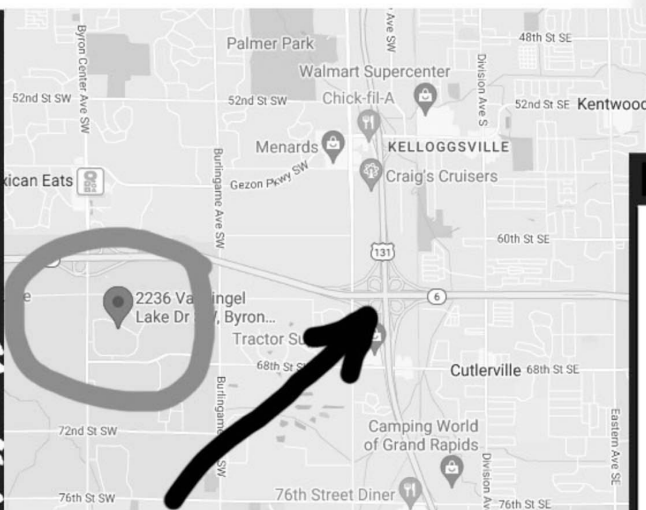
### Location:

**This home is located in Byron Center near the crossroads of M6 and Byron Center Rd.**

**Please refer to the maps below.**



MAP



**M6 & 131 Intersection**

### CLOSE UP VIEW





**FINANCIAL REPORT-20**

BEGINNING BALANCE:	\$7,584.88
DONATIONS	\$120.00
ENDING BALANCE	\$7,704.88

to the children during the month of May as part of their Christian education.

I am very grateful for your dedication and the work that you do to make these rosaries and I

Dear Tom Kneeshaw,

Some weeks ago I received again one of your precious parcels filled with rosaries. Since we had a regional Marian Retreat for the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, I used the occasion for free distribution.

Everybody is extremely thankful and all, including myself, give you great praise for this great apostolate! May God and Our Lady shower you with their blessings!

With best regards and heartfelt thanks I remain,

Yours faithfully,

Fr. Werner Iten OFM Conv.  
St. Anthony's Mission  
P.O. Box 160012  
MWINILUNGA / ZAMBIA

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Dear Tom:

The following message was received from Fr. Greg Joeright, OFM who serves in the Amazon (in Monte Alegre, Para, Brazil). He received about 180 rosaries that were made by Ellie Estes and her husband and sister.

Dear Friends,

I want to express to you my gratitude for the rosaries that you made and gave to me to take to Brazil. I know that you spend many hours not only to make the rosaries but also to pray as you work. The devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary in Brazil is very strong and the people pray the rosary with love and faith.

At the same time, the children in our catechetical program receive the rosary as a means of growing in their faith and devotion to Mary. The rosaries that you donated were given

pray that our Blessed Mother may bless you with grace, health and happiness as you continue your mission to help those who live so far from you. For this reason, I consider that you are part of our mission here in the Amazon region of Brazil.

Thank you so much,

Fr. Greg Joeright, OFM

Thank you for all you do.

Jim Flickinger (President of Amazon Relief)

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Greetings from Zambia, particularly Solwezi Diocese.

I am Fr. Stephen Kapalu, a Diocesan Priest. I got your email address from Fr. Werner Iten. I am contacting you to request for rosaries. I am in a parish with 15 out stations and every time I visit them, they ask for Rosaries and that why I contacted Fr. Werner for help but referred me to you. I am kindly asking for your help in this regard. contact details are as follows.

Fr. Kapalu Stephen  
Catholic Diocese of Solwezi  
P.O. Box 110033  
Solwezi Zambia.

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Tom,

I am genuinely touched by the meaningful gift of the rosaries you gave me to distribute to the Christians in my parish; it is a reflection of your thoughtfulness and understanding. Looking forward to receive more rosaries and many thanks to Fr. Werner Iten for introducing me to you and your organization.

God bless you  
Fr. Kapalu Stephen  
Parish Priest



# From the Mission fields

Hi, Tom:

Fr. Greg Joeright sent me the attached photo of him giving our rosaries in the Amazon.

Thank you for all you and the other rosary makers are doing.

Jim Flickinger



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May take this opportunity to let you know that I have received the rosaries today on 22nd November 2023. The rosaries will be distributed and letters and pictures by beneficiaries will be sent to you. Thanks so much for your support, hope to receive more rosaries for our people. God bless you and the team.

Fr. Kapalu Stephen  
St. Kizito Parish Priest  
Solwezi Diocese



# From the Mission fields

Dear Tom,

Allow me on behalf of my parishioners to thank you so much for the thoughtful gift of the rosaries you sent to us. Your kindness brightened our life and made us feel truly valued. We are incredibly grateful for the amazing gift from your institution. All the rosaries were distributed to some parishioners. Your gesture shows how much you care about our Christians especially in Zambia and particularly in my parish. The rosaries are fantastic, and I can't thank you enough. I must be honest with you that many parishes didn't get rosaries. Those you sent were given to the Christians who received baptism. I am kindly requesting for more rosaries, a thousand or more can make a huge difference.

Thanks for your support

Rev. Fr. Kapalu Stephen  
Parish Priest  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SOLWEZI  
ST. KIZITO PARISH  
P.O. Box 110313 Solwezi-Zambia  
Kansanshi Mine Road.



The Board of Our Lady's Rosary Makers has placed a statue of Our Blessed Mother in the main office of Resurrection Cemetery, in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in honor and remembrance of all those living and deceased who have made rosaries or supported Our Lady's Rosary Makers since 1957. We wanted to share this information in case you wish to stop by and view the statue.



# From the Mission fields

Pictures below from:

Fr. Boniface SENTEZA  
DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR AND CHAPLAIN  
DIOCESE OF KASANA-LUWEERO



# From the Mission fields

Dear TOM KNEESHAW AND ROSARY MAKER MEMBERS,

I send you warm and prayerful greetings from Uganda. I pray that this Lenten period is fruitful for you and all people of goodwill, especially our dear Rosary Makers. Rosaries have been given out in parishes, high schools and other institutions of higher learning.

I am happy to let you know that although you live thousands miles away, you are spreading the Gospel in this part of the world. Thank you so much.

I am happy to let you know that we recently had 15 Muslim conversions in the Diocese due to Mariam devotion. This is possible because of your devotedness and commitment in sending rosaries to our country.

We thank you so much for your continued work and support.

Love and prayers from Uganda.  
Yours in Christ,

Fr. Boniface SENTEZA  
DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR  
AND CHAPLAIN  
DIOCESE OF KASANA-LUWEERO

**PICTURES ON PREVIOUS PAGE  
FROM Fr. Boniface Senteza**

**We wish to recognize  
our new rosary maker:**

**Welcome!!!!  
Alexa Lunt**

**The Rosary is the spiritual  
sword of Our Lady!  
Pray Often!**



Dear Tom,  
Thank you for your kind words, Tom. I made 1440 rosaries this past year of 2023. And like the previous year I sent most to the Daughter's of Charity located in Hyattsville, MD where I have the relationship with the sisters where I make and ship to them and they distribute the rosaries.

Just another note: I was shocked to find that inflation has struck Our Lady's Rosary Makers mission rosary parts and pieces where all prices have increased and some by 100%!

Joseph Kaupa

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Please remember if a loved one has passed away and you would like to remember them in a special way, consider a donation in their memory to Our Lady's Rosary Makers. We will include your loved one in our next newsletter, remembering them as we pray our rosaries. All donations are tax deductible. You may also donate electronically by clicking on this link:

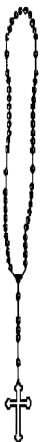
**Here is the link for donations for OLRM through PayPal:**

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=JFDJA7T2ARLSN](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=JFDJA7T2ARLSN)

OR

You may send your remembrance donation to:

Mr. Michael Despres  
Treasurer  
Our Lady's Rosary Makers  
4983 Brownstone Dr. N.E.  
Rockford, MI 49341



## From the Mission fields

The Director,  
Our Lady's Rosary Makers of Grand Rapids,  
Michigan  
Tom Kneeshaw  
[Tommkneeshaw@gmail.com](mailto:Tommkneeshaw@gmail.com)

*Ave Maria*

**Dt: 05/03/2024**

Dear Loving and Affectionate Rev. Father in Crucified Christ,

Greetings of love, peace and joy! From your spiritual brother in Christ Jesus, Fr. Jacob Prasad Pulapaka, Parish Priest of Kuchipudi.

Let me introduce myself to you. I am Fr. Jacob Prasad Pulapaka, (I met you on Facebook) I am a young Catholic Priest, Ordained on April 20th in the year 2006. In the beginning I rendered my humble services to PIME Society for 3 years, then I was appointed as first parish priest of the newly erected Muchintala Mission, later on in Velagalagudem Parish, Presently I am appointed as Parish Priest of Kuchipudi.

I am in a remote parish where many of the Catholics are "extremely poor and belong to the most vulnerable communities in India (Dalit and Tribal communities)". All of them are landless labourers and live on daily wage work for survival. Hardly, they earn One and a half Dollars (\$1.5) if only they go for work. This is the reality of the most abandoned people. I would like to do something for the development of these marginalized communities especially for the education of their children along with priestly ministry. Though these people are poor, Illiterate but they are highly devoted, God fearing and are faithful to their practices of Catholic faith. They are regular for all the Church activities and very much dependent on the providence of God.

Many children, old men and women even today, live in unhygienic conditions. They are very much primitive in their culture and tradition. Since they belong to the bottom rung of the financial and social ladder, their children cannot afford to go for further studies to attain better prospects. Many youths (both boys and girls) are unemployed. Due to lack of education and proper catechesis, the people really live under pathetic conditions. We need to empower all the people. As a priest, I took a commitment i.e. "Preferential Option for the poorest of the poor." So, my heart always goes for them.

In view of all these realities, I very much require your genuine help and support for my priestly ministry to bring Glory to God. I earnestly appeal to you, with folded hands to help me as much as you can and whatever the possible way you would like to...

I am direly in need your genuine help, may be in the form of little financial assistance, Few Mass stipends, Lenten alms, Little financial assistance for the most vulnerable children for their education for buying study material educational supplies, Mass Vestments, Mass kit, Holy Rosaries, Miraculous Medals, Brown Scapulars, Medals of various saints, Cords, Book Markers, Religious pictures and Religious Articles and few addresses of few generous people. Whatever is feasible; kindly extend your helping hands to continue the mission of Jesus among the poorest of the poor. I shall be immensely grateful to you for your magnanimity.

Assuring you of my sincere prayers and God's Choicest Blessings for all your family members, friends, near and dear ones. I remain under your fraternal/maternal Guidance.

Fraternally yours in Jesus, Mary & Joseph,

Rev. Fr. Jacob Prasad Pulapaka

**Note:** I would like to make an earnest personal appeal. In case you find it difficult to support this divine cause, kindly recommend my mission to any philanthropic persons or agencies that you know.

**"Give to the world the best you have, and the best will come back to you"**

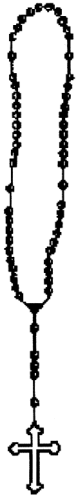
**See pictures on the following page from Fr. Pulapaka**

**A special thank you to Shawn Whyllie of Printing Productions Ink for his contribution in printing our newsletter! Thank you Shawn!**



From the Mission fields





**Our Lady's Rosary Makers  
Of Grand Rapids, Michigan**

2236 Van Singel Lake Road  
Byron Center, MI 49315  
<http://www.ourladysrosarymakers.com>

Postage

**Month of May**

**A Reflection on Mary**

Just as Joseph, the sone of Jacob, found favor in the eye of Pharoah and was made second only to Him in all the land of Egypt, so did Mary find favor in the eyes of the Lord and was made second only to Him in all of creation. The people of Egypt obeyed Joseph's every request and their land was blessed but too many people in the world will not even recognize Mary, much less obey her requests and we are plagued with sin, war and threats of annihilation. Leaders from every walk of life sign treaties and seek peace in every part of the world while ignoring all the while the only plan that will ever work, "Our Lady's peace plan from Heaven". Prayer, Penance and Consecration. Pray the Rosary every day. Do Penance, offer your every thought, word and deed in reparation for sin, all sin and reform your lives. Consecrate your lives to Her Immaculate Heart and wear our Lady's scapular as a sign of your consecration. We must if we want peace, reform, do penance and pray unceasingly, especially the Rosary, every day.

Since the early 1800's, Our Lady has been coming repeatedly and always with her Rosary. Time is running out if we are to avert punishment of untold proportions. Can't we read scripture, will we never learn? God is not mocked. You and I as children of Mary thank God are obeying Our Lady. We're not only praying our Rosary, but making them so others may pray all over the world. We must do more, make as many Rosaries as possible and pray as many as we can. Our Lady said, "When enough people pray, Russia will be converted and there will be peace." Let our lights so shine that others may see that this devotion may grow and good be multiplied.

*Written by,  
Lowell Vickery, Our Lady's Errand Boy, Third Order Franciscan,  
St. Clare Fraternity  
(deceased as of 1/30/2013)*