

Prayerful Chain

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THE BROWN SCAPULAR

Have you ever considered wearing the Brown Scapular?

Our Blessed Mother gave a promise to St. Simon Stock in 1251, she said: **"Whosoever dies wearing this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire. It is my garment. To be clothed in it means you are continually thinking of Me, and I, in turn, am always thinking of you and helping you to secure eternal life."**

Blessed Claude de la Colombiere, the spiritual director of St. Margaret Mary, said there are many ways to show our love for Blessed Mother Mary; **"The Brown Scapular is the Most Favored of All!** No devotion has been confirmed by more numerous authentic miracles than the Brown Scapular."

The Church extended the first promise given by Blessed Mother that when a baptized Catholic is enrolled in the Confraternity of the Brown Scapular and vested in that tiny habit of brown wool, as she gave to St. Simon Stock and the Carmelites, that anyone dying in this habit shall not suffer eternal fire.

The second promise, known as the **Sabbatine Privilege**, was given by the Blessed Virgin to Pope John XXII in 1322 when she said, **"I, the Mother of Grace, shall descend on the Saturday after their death, and whomsoever I shall find in Purgatory, I shall free."**

The Sabbatine Privilege conditions are:

1. Wear the Brown Scapular
2. Practice chastity according to one's state of life
3. Daily recitation of the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Find out overleaf about the enrolment & history to the Brown Scapular.



This Newsletter is FREE for Internet users and is produced to promote the power of the Holy Rosary and the importance of prayer. Articles will include messages regarding the Holy Rosary from authenticated and unauthenticated visitations of Our Lady

Pope Pius XII referred to the Scapular as **"The Sign of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary."** The Scapular also represents the sweet yoke of Jesus Christ which Mary helps us to bear.

The Pope also said the Scapular marks us as one of Mary's chosen children, and becomes for us a: **"Garment of Grace."**

HISTORY OF THE BROWN SCAPULAR

the Carmelite order took its name from the place where it was founded - Mount Carmel, which is mentioned in the Bible in 1 Kings 18:16-40. It was there that the prophet Elijah took his stand against the pagan prophets of Baal and Asherah and revealed to them all the power of Our Lord and God.

The Carmelites eventually spread across Europe and settled in England in Aylesford Kent, where they held their first Chapter. When they arrived in England, St. Simon Stock became the sixth superior general of the Carmelites. It is believed that Simon had lived a life of prayer since the age of twelve as a hermit.

Despite their growing numbers, the Carmelites became oppressed even though St. Simon had petitioned the then Pope Innocent IV to change the Carmelite rule from living as hermits to having contact with the laity. In desperation St. Simon Stock and his monks prayed to Our Blessed Mother for help. She appeared with the Brown Scapular and said to him:

"Take, beloved son, this scapular of the order as a badge of my confraternity and for you and all Carmelites a special sign of grace; whoever dies in this garment, will not suffer everlasting fire. It is the sign of salvation, a safeguard in dangers, a pledge of peace and of the covenant"

This Scapular was a part of the Carmelite habit which the laity could wear and become members of the confraternity. This meant that the laity had now more contact with the monks and supported them with food and money and in return the laity was given spiritual support by the monks. All of which strengthened the relationship between the people and the monks.

Some Miracles of the Brown Scapular

After receiving the Scapular from Our Blessed Mother, St. Simon Stock was called promptly by Lord Peter of Linton: "Come quickly, Father, my brother is dying in despair!" St. Simon Stock placed his large Scapular over the dying man and prayed that Mary would keep her promise. The man instantly repented of his sins and died in a state of grace.

Blessed Pope Gregory X was buried wearing the Scapular, only 25 years after the vision. When his tomb was opened over 600 years later, the wool scapular remained perfectly intact and had not degraded in the least.

In May of 1957, a Carmelite priest in Germany published the unusual story of how the Scapular saved a home from fire. An entire row of homes had caught fire in Westboden, Germany. The pious inhabitants of a 2-family home, seeing the fire, immediately fastened a Scapular to the main door of the house. Sparks flew over it and around it, but the house remained unharmed. Within 5 hours, 22 homes had been reduced to ashes. Hundreds of people were witnesses to this miracle

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Scapular:

Q. May non-Catholics wear the Scapular?

A. Yes. Non-Catholics may wear the Scapular but are not enrolled in the Confraternity. Confraternity members are under the authority of the Catholic Church. When we give a Scapular to a non-Catholic, we should say one Hail Mary and ask them to say a Hail Mary each day. Our Lady will bring conversions to those who honor Her by this means.

Q. Must the Scapular be blessed before wearing it?

A. A Catholic need only be enrolled in the Brown Scapular once. The first Scapular to be worn must be blessed and imposed by a priest using the formula in the Roman ritual for reception into the Confraternity of the Scapular.

Q. What should be done when a Scapular wears out?

A. The Scapular, being a sacred object, when it becomes worn out, must be either buried or burned. It should not be disposed of in the regular trash.

Q. After being enrolled, do subsequent Scapulars need to be blessed?

A. No. Subsequent Scapulars do not need to be blessed.

Q. How should the Scapular be worn?

A. The Scapular must be worn over the shoulders in such a manner that one part hangs in front of the body and the other in back. Worn in any other way, it carries no indulgence or promise. It is not necessary to wear the Scapular next to the skin. Many Catholics may not know it is the wish of the Holy Father that the Scapular Medal should not be worn in place of the cloth Scapular without sufficient reason. Mary cannot be pleased with anyone who substitutes the medal out of vanity, or out of fear of making an open profession of faith. The medal has never been noted for any of the miraculous preservations attributed to the brown cloth Scapular. ("Garment of Grace," Imprimatur: Most Rev. Timothy Harrington, March 9, 1990.)

Q. Would there be a sin if you stopped wearing the Scapular after having received it?

A. No. It would not be a sin, but in doing so you would lose all the benefits promised. If you have not worn the Scapular, even for several years, and you decide to wear it again, no new ceremony or enrollment is necessary.

Q. Can I be enrolled in the Scapular by any priest?

A. One can be enrolled by any Roman Catholic priest.

Q. Why do we call it a Scapular?

A. The word "Scapular" comes from the Latin word "scapulae" meaning "shoulders". The Scapular is actually a miniature form of a monk's habit by the same name which is a sleeveless outer garment falling from the shoulders to the feet.

FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMAL IS 16TH JULY.

Saints devoted to the Brown Scapular:

- St. Alphonsus Liguori
- St. Peter Claver
- St. Robert Bellarmine, SJ
- St. Claude de la Colombiere, SJ
- St. Vincent Pallotti
- St. John Vianney, Cure of Ars
- St. Bernadette Soubirous, visionary of Lourdes
- St. John Bosco
- St. Maximilian Kolbe
- St. Francis Xavier Cabrini
- Pope St. Pius X
- St. Conrad



ENROLLMENT IN THE BROWN SCAPULAR OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

THE SHORT FORMULA OF ENROLLMENT AND BLESSING

Priest: Show us, O Lord, Thy mercy. **ALL:** And grant us Thy salvation.

Priest: O Lord, hear my prayer. **ALL:** And let my cry come unto Thee.

Priest: The Lord be with you. **ALL:** And also with you.

Priest: O Lord Jesus Christ, Savior of mankind, *by Thy right hand sanctify + these scapulars (the scapular) * which Thy servants will devoutly wear for the love of Thee * and of Thy Mother, the Blessed

Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel; * so that, by her intercession, * they may be protected from the wickedness of the enemy and persevere in Thy grace until death; * Who livest and reignest for ever and ever.

The Priest does the Aspersions and Invests Person(s) While Saying:

Receive this blessed Scapular and ask the Most Holy Virgin that by Her merits, it may be worn with no stain of sin, protect you from all harm and bring you to everlasting life. Amen.

After the Investiture the Priest Continues With the Prayers:

I, by the power vested in me, admit you to participate in all the spiritual benefits obtained through the mercy of Jesus Christ by the Religious Order of Mount Carmel. In the name of the Father+and of the Son+and of the Holy Ghost+. Amen. May God Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and earth, bless you, He who has deigned to join you to the confraternity of the Blessed Virgin of Mount Carmel; we beseech Her to crush the head of the ancient serpent so that you may enter into possession of your eternal heritage through Christ our Lord.

R - Amen.

For Further Information on the Brown Scapular visit the following:

<http://showerofroses.blogspot.com/2007/11/recently-amy-was-asking-about-scapulars.html>

<http://www.fatima.org/essentials/requests/weapons.asp>

<http://sacramentals.org/Images/BrownScapularText.html>

http://freebrownscapular.com/brown_scapular_enrollment.html

The Morning Offering

O my God, in union with the Immaculate Heart of Mary (*here kiss the scapular as a sign of your consecration*), I offer Thee the Precious Blood of Jesus from all the altars throughout the world, joining with It the offering of my every thought, word and action of this day. O my Jesus, I desire today to gain every indulgence and merit I can, and I offer them, together with myself, to Mary Immaculate, that she may best apply them to the interests of Thy most Sacred Heart. Precious Blood of Jesus, save us! Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us! Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!

THE ROSARY AND THE SCAPULAR ARE INSEPARABLE.
PRAY THE ROSARY DAILY.

PROPHECY TO ST. DOMINIC

"One day through the Rosary and the Scapular I will save the world" These were the words spoken to Saint Dominic by the Blessed Virgin Mary in the year 1208 when she appeared to him.

At Fatima, the Mother of God emphasized the vital importance of the *daily* recitation of the Rosary and signalled Her desire that all Catholics wear the Brown Scapular as a visible sign of their devotion. These two great Fatima devotions are joined indissolubly with those of the Five First Saturdays (which Our Lady instituted at Pontevedra, Spain in 1925) and the Seven Fatima Prayers that are traditionally associated with Her appearances.

Sister Lucia said, "One could not follow the Message of Fatima unless he fulfilled the five conditions, one of which is wearing of the Brown Scapular all the time--day and night."

On the 2nd July 1861 Our Blessed Mother first appeared in Garabandal as Our Lady of Mount Carmel. During this Visitation which lasted four years (still unauthenticated by the church) Our Blessed Mother placed great emphasis on wearing Blessed objects, the importance of the Sacraments and also in praying the Holy Rosary with meaning. In other words praying from the heart rather than just reciting it fast.



DO YOU KNOW WHAT A BLOCK ROSARY IS? THEN VISIT THE ADDRESS BELOW AND SEE IF YOU CAN BEGIN ONE.

<http://www.fatima.org/crusader/cr72/cr72pg35a.asp>

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