



### ***Habemus Papa!*** [We have a Pope]

We welcome our new Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI with our prayers and good works at Our Lady of the Roses Shrine. May Our Good Shepherd in Heaven guide our successor to Peter to lead His flock on earth.

We send our heartfelt prayers at the passing of our beloved Holy Father, Pope John Paul II (April 2, 2005). We pray that he will continue his work from above in gathering souls for Heaven.

### ***'We Will Go Forward'***

Pope Benedict XVI first Message to the world April 20, 2005

"After the great Pope John Paul II, the Cardinals have elected me, a simple, humble worker in the Lord's vineyard. I am comforted by the fact that the Lord knows how to work and act even with *insufficient* instruments. Above all I entrust myself to your prayers. With the joy of the Risen Lord and confidence in His constant help, we will go forward. The Lord will help us and Mary his most Holy Mother will be along side us. Thank you."

### ***'Do Not Be Afraid'***

"Dear Ones, this intimate recognition for a gift of divine mercy prevails in my heart in spite of everything. I consider this a grace obtained for me by my venerated predecessor, John Paul II.

It seems I can feel his strong hand squeezing mine. I seem to see his smiling eyes and listen to his words, addressed to me especially at this moment, ***'Do not be afraid.'***"

Pope Benedict XVI, April 20, 2005

### ***'Feed My Sheep'***

"*'Feed my sheep.'* says Christ to Peter, and now, at this moment, He says it to me as well. Feeding means loving, and loving also means being ready to suffer."

"Pray for me, that I may not flee for fear of the wolves. Let us pray for one another, that the Lord will carry us and that we will learn to carry one another."

"The task of the shepherd, the task of the fisher of men, can often seem wearisome. But it is beautiful and wonderful, because it is truly a service to joy, to God's joy which longs to break into the world."

Pope Benedict XVI, Inaugural Mass, April 24, 2005

[With permission; quotes from the V.I.S.-Vatican Information Service]

### ***Pope to not Leave Rome***

Jesus - "When you see, when you hear, when you feel the revolution in Rome, when you see the Holy Father fleeing, seeking a refuge in another land, know that the time is ripe. But beg and plead that your good Pontiff does not leave Rome, for he will allow the man of dark secrets to capture his throne."

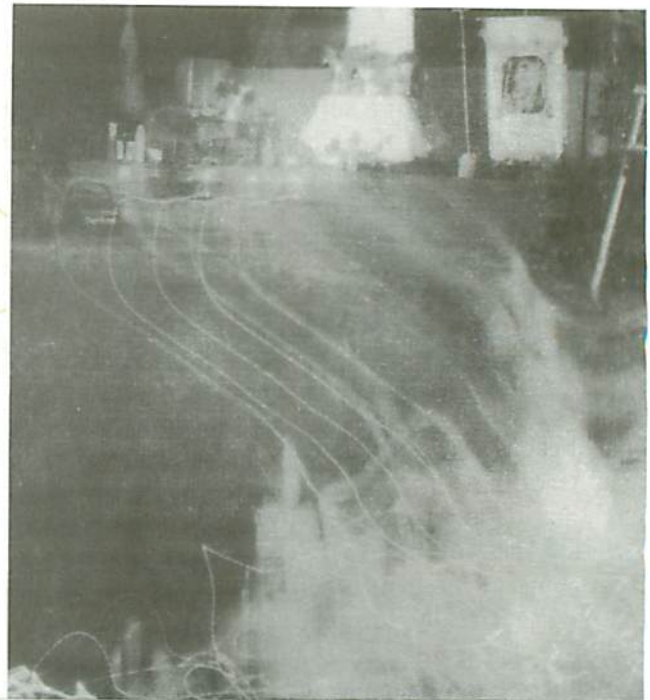
September 14, 1976

### ***Fisherman for Souls***

"Remember, I asked you many years ago to go fishing with me; and I said to you, my sister, that we will join and be fishermen for souls." St. Theresa to Veronica, October 2, 1979

### ***Go forward as Apostles***

Our Lady - "You will all now go forward as apostles of My Son, disciples of the latter days, under the banner of *'Our Lady of the Roses, Mary, Help of Mothers.'*" June 18, 1980



This amazing miraculous photo was taken at the Shrine Vigil of June 12, 2004 with a Polaroid SX-70 camera without a flash. The camera was aimed at the face of Our Lady's statue while standing slightly right of the Vatican Pavilion. Actually, the Shrine statue is on the bottom of the photo within the golden lights and rosary bead lines. Incredibly, on the photo the Shrine appears floating above 'in the sky' as it looked that evening. You can see clearly the Vatican Pavilion monument, 'excedra', the Shrine statue on the altar, the roses, petition box, candles, Papal and U.S. flags, Veronica's banner and the audio speaker. To be able to get that angle in the photo, it would have to be shot below ground level. Note in the center of the photo on the 'grassy area' behind the rosary lines, you can see the image of a face which looks like Veronica of the Cross, (1923-1995), when she received the messages from Heaven during the Vigils. On the very top at the left of the statue, there seems to be an image of 'Veronica's Veil' with the image of Jesus' face from the Way of the Cross. Veronica's name in Latin means 'true image'. Only Veronica was graced to interpret the full meaning of the miraculous photos.

## Testimonial Letters

### Conversions in Honor of Pope John Paul II (1920-2005)

*"Graces of cure and conversion will be given for the asking. Never tire, My child, in searching the world for a soul."* Our Lady - 5/22/74

April 7, 2005

Dear Our Lady of the Roses Brothers and Sisters,

I write this little letter in honor of the Holy Father John Paul and his inspiration that helped me return and remain in the Catholic Church. About 15 years ago I started to return to the Church and was involved in a few music ministries. Over time my faith waned and I fell away from Our Lord and Lady's Church. Still both of Them were always there for me waiting. I had always known that our Holy Father John Paul was deeply devoted to Mary. It was this devotion to Her through John Paul II's example that inspired me to never fully leave. I would simply see a picture of the Holy Father reading his Breviary or praying the Rosary and I would feel this inner tug of devotion arise within my heart. Or I would hear or see excerpts from the Holy Father's speeches in the midst of a suffering world and he would always urge us to Christian Charity. It was this devotion to Christ's compassion and Love that truly confounded me. How could someone, anyone, still accept a message of Hope in such a brutal world? When I was angered and vengeful and feeling a loss of hope in the truth of Christ's message, the Holy Father would always be there telling us not to exchange Christ's Love for our own selfish or seemingly even natural responses to injustice. Over time, the Holy Father's example worked its way into my heart. It was these examples of perseverance that graced me with a strong desire to commit myself to the Church and Its message for Humanity that so suffers in the world. Also, my first step in returning to the Church was to contact Our Lady of the Roses Shrine because these messages really seem to call a world in sin and sorrow by what it truly is. It is no coincidence that our Holy Father's pious example and Our Lady of the Roses worked together in re-igniting my love for Christ and His Church. Amen.

Mr. Rivera – Minnesota

April 4, 2005

Dear Friends,

In 1983, while at college one semester in Europe, I visited Vatican City. It was so exciting and exhilarating arriving in Rome at 6am on a beautiful day in May even after seeing so many magnificent cities throughout Italy and Western Europe by train. The first place I went to was directly to St. Peter's Basilica. It felt like the center of the world, the universe and history. Entering the huge arms of the piazza and the great doors of the Basilica seemed like entering the 'Heavenly Kingdom' on earth.

I had heard about the Holy Father's Angelus message on Sundays and attended with thousands of pilgrims in

St. Peter's Square. Everyone was silent and reverent and looked high up to the open window of the Vatican apartment with Pope John Paul II greeting us with his message in Italian. The only words I recognized were the ending solemn blessing from our Holy Father.

I learned later that I was standing in the center below the obelisk, which on top has a true relic of the Cross. It was a magnificent day and everyone was so happy. I was too, but it was also like a miraculous spiritual joy that I experienced and felt truly graced and stronger in my faith after our dear Holy Father's blessing.

When I got back to the United States a few weeks later, I graduated from college and began my summer job. It was then that a friend gave me the messages from Our Lady of the Roses and a Vigil audiotape message. I read and listened to Our Lady speak through Veronica and was completely amazed. It was an instant belief as it answered so many questions I had for years. I read everything and many good Catholic books. I never learned of any other appearances of Our Lady like Lourdes or Fatima and had never heard of a Brown Scapular. Even though I had attended Catholic grammar school and high school and received all the Sacraments faithfully, my faith had faltered because of all the modern day confusion and inconsistencies on moral issues which was very disturbing to me. I prayed daily to Our Lady for years to show me the truth and give me the right answers which I could not seem to get from home, church, school or friends. Instead, I was given vague answers that seemed to depend on how 'you felt' and not what was right and truthful.

I believe my prayers were answered and our Holy Father's blessing opened my eyes to recognize the truth of Our Lady of the Roses.

One other time which I felt this tremendous spiritual joy was after being blessed by Veronica with her Shrine crucifix at a Vigil. I am truly grateful and continue to do all I can to share Our Lady and Our Lord's words of truth and counsel to the world through Veronica of the Cross for the past 22 years. Thank you. Ms. H. - New York

Our Lady of the Roses®, Mary Help of Mothers Shrine is an apparition site of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus' appearances to the late Veronica Lucken from June 18, 1970 to 1995. Our Lady requested 3 hour Rosary Vigils on the Eve of the Feast Days for prayer penance and atonement currently held at the Vatican Pavilion Site in Flushing Meadows Park, Queens, Long Island NY. Countless cures and conversions have been received. All are welcome. Contact the Shrine below for a free blessed Rose Petal, testimonials, messages and Vigil schedule with a map and directions to the Shrine.

Copyright 2005, Our Lady of the Roses ®, a Registered Trademark