

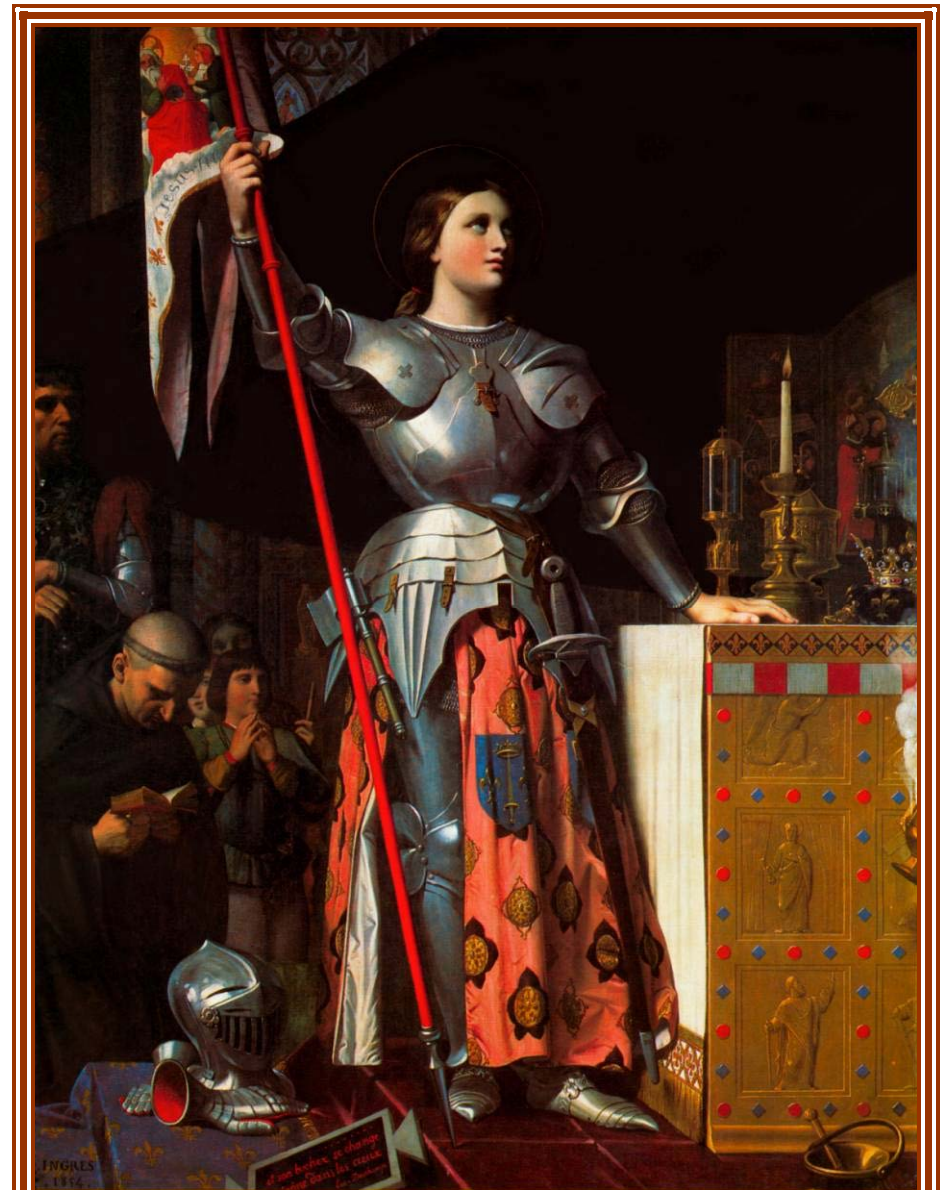
mounting the pile of wood, she asked for a cross and an English soldier made one. Joan kissed it devoutly. She asked that a crucifix be held before her as she was dying and a monk ran to get one and held it before her eyes until her end. Joan was led up the steps to the pile of wood and tied to the stake. A mitre was put on her head bearing the words: **"Heretic, relapsed heretic, apostate and idolater!"** While the flames burned her body, Joan cried out several times: **"Jesus!" "Jesus!"**

After Joan's body had burned to ashes, her heart was lying there, fresh and bleeding, as though alive! Upon seeing Joan's heart, an English soldier cried: **"I've burned a saint!"** and ran to the church to confess his sin. Joan's heart and her ashes were put into a sack and thrown into the Seine River. It is believed that since fire could not destroy Joan's heart, neither could the Seine River, and that someday through a miracle, her heart will be found!

In 1437, the French recaptured Paris, just as Joan had prophesied before she died. From 1449-1450, Rouen, Normandy and Guyenne were also recaptured and the war was ended. In 1450, King Charles ordered an inquiry to be made into Joan's trial, to declare that she was innocent of any wrongdoing. But this and a second trial both came to nothing even though they proved that Joan was innocent. Pope Callixtus III opened a new trial in 1455 and this trial had both church and state claim that Joan was completely innocent. Pope Benedict XV declared Joan a saint in 1920.

St. Joan of Arc...Pray for Us.

The End



St. Joan of Arc THE GUARDIAN OF CRUSADERS

Bulletin of the Eucharistic Crusade for Canada

May 2012 # 225

St. Joan of arc – a model for Crusaders

Dear Crusaders,

On January 6, 2012, we celebrated the 600th anniversary of the birth of St. Joan of Arc. As you know, that saint is especially honoured by the French people, as the one who managed to save their home land in a very critical time, when the British were trying to get full control over France.

St. Joan of Arc is, nevertheless, an example of virtue not only to the people from France, but also to all the other nations all over the world.

So, when the French settled in New France, they imported from the Old Countries to Canada the devotion to the saint protector of their home land. That is why St. Joan of Arc is especially honoured in Canada. For instance, in the Memorial Chamber of the Parliament building in Ottawa, there is a stained glass window that pictures St. Joan of Arc as an example of military virtue to the Canadian soldiers who made the sacrifice of their lives during the wars.

St. Joan of Arc was a fighter, who went for a twofold crusade: at first, to strengthen the courage of King Charles VII, to perform his duties as king of France; then, she was given the mission to kick the enemies out of the country.

In that regard, the life of St. Joan of Arc should be taken as an example for all Crusaders. With her help, you will be able to have the courage to perform your duties as Crusaders, and to kick out the enemies of your souls, which are the devils.

Fr. Dominique Boulet

*** On April 28, a Mass will be said for the intentions of the Eucharistic Crusade in Canada**

*** Eucharistic Crusade Canada, 1395 Rue Notre-Dame,
St. Césaire, QC, J0L 1T0 EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com**

Charles ordered a retreat. Joan's heart was crushed. But she obeyed the king and withdrew with her soldiers from Paris. Her enemies in the King's council were working for her ruin.

Here and there Joan and her soldiers attacked the English or the French enemies of Charles VII until on May 23, 1430, she was finally captured by the English and thrown into prison. Joan was neglected and forgotten by King Charles VII, and scorned by his court. She remained in chains for nine months in a gloomy prison with only men guards. She wanted women guards, but they would not give her any. She tried to escape from her castle prison and in her attempt she fell more than sixty-five feet to the ground. She lived and was carried back to the prison. Joan sensed that she had disobeyed her voices but St. Catherine consoled her and told her to confess her sin and ask God's forgiveness, which she did.

On March 15, 1431 Joan's voices told her: ***"Take everything in stride. Do not worry over your martyrdom! In the end you will come to the Kingdom of Heaven."***



Bishop Cauchon was on the side of the English and cross-examined Joan daily. Joan declared that she was innocent and that she wanted a fair trial, but the English would not listen to her pleadings. Her court trial lasted five months. Cauchon declared that Joan was a ***"Heretic, relapsed heretic, apostate and idolater!"*** The day before she was burned, Joan told Cauchon: ***"Bishop, through you I die!"... "I appeal to God against your sentence."***

On May 30, 1431, the day of Joan's death, even though Bishop Cauchon said she was a heretic and an apostate, he allowed Fr. Martin to hear Joan's confession and give her Holy Communion. This ceremony was held openly with candles, churchmen, a procession and prayers for the dying.

At Rouen, where she was to be burned at the stake, Joan spent much time praying to God, Mary and the saints. Before

ST. JOAN of ARC—the SAVIOUR of FRANCE

Before going to Orleans, Joan chose her standard—a flag with the figure of Christ the King and two adoring angels on one side and the words “**Jesus**” “**Maria**” and the Annunciation scene on the other side. Fleurs-de-lis covered the banner. Joan was given the good Duke of Alençon as an escort and an army of rude soldiers. She had them go to confession, not use bad language, and say prayers before going into battle. She said: **“Priests will say Mass in between our battle times and God will be our Victor.”**

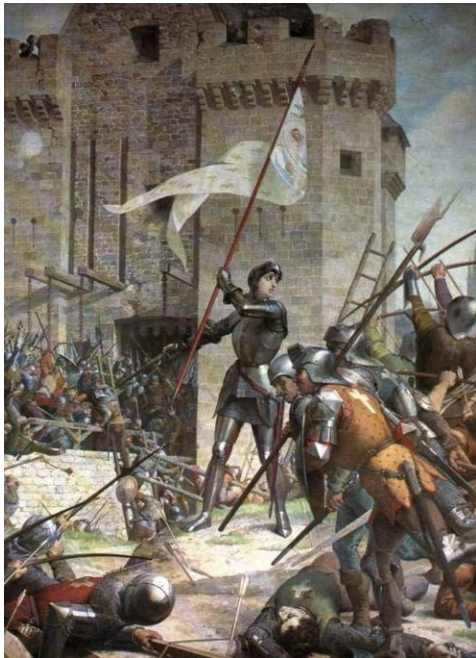
To the chant of **“Veni Creator”** she marched on Orleans and entered it on April 30, 1429. By May 8th, the English had lost the ring of forts around the city and the battle was won. Church bells rang and the people shouted for joy as Joan with her banner rode to the cathedral to thank God for the victory.

Joan kept her army on the run—there was no time to lose and more places to win: Jargeau, Beaugency, Patay, Troyes, and Rheims. Joan and her soldiers won these battles with ease. On July 16th, Joan, the Dauphin and the whole army marched into Rheims.

The coronation of King Charles took place the next day, on Sunday, July 17, 1429. The cathedral was a blaze of glory—garlands and banners hung from the lofty arches. Joan, with her banner, stood near the Dauphin, as he was crowned King

Charles VII of France. Then the people shouted: **“Long live Charles, our King!”** Joan thanked God for her victory—she had now done what her voices had commanded her to do.

But Joan was not satisfied! She wanted to attack Paris where the English had great power. The King’s advisers opposed her plans and the King gave only a half-hearted consent. Joan and her little army fought bravely against the English in Paris. Again and again they attacked the city. And just when they were about win the battle, King



This story of St. Joan of Arc is in honour of the 600th Anniversary of her birth. Joan was born at Domremy, near France, on January 6, 1412. She was the youngest in the family. As a child her mother taught her to pray each night, **“O God, save France!”** She never learned to read or write but she was skilled in sewing and spinning. She was pious and loved to pray in church and go to Mass. She loved the poor and often gave them her bed to sleep in.

In the summer of 1425, when Joan was thirteen, she first heard the voice of St. Michael the Archangel. He called: **“Joan! Joan!”** At first Joan was afraid. Then she saw a great light and the noble face of St. Michael. He said: **“Joan! Be good and wise. Love God very much. Go to church often!”**



After that, Joan heard her voices a few times a week. St. Catherine and St. Margaret also spoke to her. During this time Joan made a vow of perpetual virginity and became known as **“Joan the Maid.”** Sometimes she was carried up to the angels and when she was finished talking to her saints, she came away with a sense of courage, confidence, devotion, and humility.

One day Joan’s voices told her: **“The Kingdom of France is in a terrible state of affairs.”** Some time later they said: **“It’s you daughter of God! You will free France! Go to France! You must!”** Poor Joan began to cry: **“I am only a poor girl! I don’t know how to ride a horse or make war...”** But St. Michael commanded her: **“Go! Go! Go! You must go to France!”**

Joan's voices promised that they would help her and guide her. For more than three years her saints counselled her—in church, in the field, and in the forest they continued giving her messages. Finally at seventeen Joan decided to carry out Heaven's plans. In May 1428, St. Michael advised her to go to Vaucouleurs to get Robert Baudricourt, the captain of the Dauphin's army, to escort her to the Dauphin. Joan, accompanied by her Uncle Durand, approached Baudricourt. He thought Joan was crazy saying: **"Durand, take Joan back to her father's house and give her a few good slaps."**

Instead of going home, Joan's uncle took her on a pilgrimage to a Shrine of St. Nicholas, with a passport to the Duke of Lorraine, at Nancy. The Duke gave Joan some money and Durand brought Joan back to Vaucouleurs. She tried to get Baudricourt to change his mind but he would not budge.

Many meetings were held at Vaucouleurs and some of the soldiers began to agree with Joan. The priest exorcised Joan and found that she was good, but Baudricourt still held back. Then Joan announced to Baudricourt: **"The French have just been defeated at Rouvray, near Orleans."** A few days later, a messenger rode into Vaucouleurs and told Baudricourt that the French army had been defeated on that very day Joan had foretold. The captain no longer doubted Joan. He appointed soldiers to escort her to the Dauphin in Chinon. The people of Vaucouleurs and her uncle gave Joan all that she needed for battle, including: men's clothing, a suit of white armour, a horse, a tunic, and a sword. Joan was their hero who would save France.

Joan and her escort of soldiers left Vaucouleurs on February 23, 1429. St. Michael, St. Margaret and St. Catherine were leading them so Joan was full of courage. The little band galloped the whole night through the land to escape the enemies. They rode for about two weeks, along poor roads, through forests and over flooded rivers, until at last at noon, on March 6, 1429, Joan and her soldiers rode into Chinon. Shouts of joy greeted their ears: **"Hail to the Maid of Domremy!" "Hail to the Saviour of France!"**

Joan was given a place to stay and there she prepared to see the Dauphin. She asked to see him soon after her arrival. But the Dauphin first sent for two soldiers and asked them about Joan. He then had the maid questioned by church clerics and lay people.

(Continued on page 9)

(...Continued from Page 4)

Joan waited and prayed and finally on March 9th, she met the Dauphin. It was night and the castle was ablaze with lighted candles. There were knights, earls, dukes, bishops, and lovely ladies in their beautiful gowns. Joan was led to a crowned man on a throne but she cried out, **"That's not the Dauphin!"** Then she walked right up to the Dauphin dressed as a knight, and said: **"Good Prince, may God grant you many years."** He had tried to fool Joan but her voices told her who he was. She said: **"I am Joan the Maid. I come as a messenger from God to help you and your kingdom. The King of Heaven bids me to tell you that you will be crowned at Rheims."**



This sounded like good news to the cowardly Dauphin. He called his advisers and had them ask Joan questions. She answered their questions to their satisfaction and assured them that she would drive the English from Orleans if the Dauphin would give her soldiers.

The Dauphin was deeply moved by Joan's courage, but he doubted that he was the true heir to the throne of France. Then Joan spoke to him secretly. She probably told him that he was the true heir of France. She also told him other secret things that only he knew about and she won him to her cause.

But the Dauphin still wanted Joan questioned further, so he sent her to Poitiers. There she was examined by church clerics. They asked her for proof that she was chosen by God. Joan answered: **"In the name of God, I haven't come to Poitiers to give signs. But lead me to Orleans, and I'll show you the sign for which I have come!"** Finally after many weeks the clerics declared that Joan was good, simple, honest, pure, and devout.

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C	Z	E	P	A	R	I	S	N	R	I	C	R	T
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A	R	M	O	U	R	S	R	E	I	D	L	O	S
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ST JOAN OF ARC
ST CATHERINE
ST MARGARET
ST MICHAEL
DOMREMY
SOLDIERS
ORLEANS
DAUPHIN
ARMOUR
BANNER

ENGLISH
FRANCE
ANGELS
NOVICE
VOICES
SAINTS
MARIA
HEART
UNCLE
CROSS

PARIS
JESUS
DUKE
RUDE
PRAY
MAID
KING
HEIR
VOW
GOD

The more heavily the Cross presses on our shoulders, the sooner we lift our mind from earth and raise it towards Heaven. If you have a Cross, which is very light, you will more often think about this world and not think about the things of Heaven. But if you have a Cross, which is heavier, then you will more often forget about the things of this world and think about the beauty of Heaven.

In a certain monastery, a young novice called James, came to his Superior and complained that he could never think much about Heavenly things. He said his mind was more often filled with temptations and pleasures of the world. His Superior encouraged him to be patient and persevering. Then the Superior told the Master of Novices to watch over James very closely, to give him the hardest work, and to punish him for breaking of the rule in the slightest way.

After some time the Superior asked James: ***“Are those thoughts you had before, still bothering you?”***

James replied: ***“Your Reverence, I have no time and no desire any longer for such thoughts. The Master of Novices is so strict with me that I am glad to keep doing my daily duties and to keep the Rule of the Order. And I have to pray always to Jesus, Mary and Joseph to give me strength enough to persevere.”***

“And do you think more often about Heavenly things now than you did before?” continued the Superior.

“Heaven is my greatest happiness and my hope. I have no more delight for the things of this world. For all the things of this world will one day turn to dust and Heaven will last forever!” said James.

The Superior was pleased with this answer and hoped that one day all his Novices would keep their thoughts on Heavenly things.

God often treats us in like manner. When He sees that we like the things of this earth too much, by desire or by sin, He punishes us with sufferings so that we may lose the taste for the temptations and things of this world, and look up to Heaven, which is our true home.

Thomas a Kempis, the holy author of the great book called the ***“Imitation of Christ”*** says: ***“Without the Cross there is no way to the Kingdom of Heaven.”***

So remember when things get tough: your parents scold you, you must clean your room, rake leaves, or wash dishes, that when you offer these Crosses to God He will help you think about Heaven.

INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF May 2012

Daily offering

(To be recited every morning when you wake up)

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Thy Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, and in reparation for my sins. I offer them particularly **for the sick and the dying.**



February 2012 Treasure Sheets										
	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacrif.	Dec. Ros.	Visit Bl. S.	15 Min.	Good Example	Quantity
NB & NS	60	15	9	5	25	38	0	2	17	2
QC										
ON	1099	446	364	799	1636	5197	424	340	1341	41
MB	196	62	54	138	886	1472	28	101	150	11
SK	221	30	30	175	4738	1261	34	28	221	9
AB	196	62	54	138	886	1472	28	101	150	11
BC	386	82	63	102	313	1060	48	3	110	16
Total	2158	697	574	1357	8484	10500	562	575	1989	90

TREASURE CHART FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2012

Day	Daily Off.	Mass	Sacr. Com.	Spir. Com.	Sacr if.	Decades of Rosary	Visits Bl. Sacr.	15 Minutes Silence	Good Example
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31									
Total									

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May 2012

Total of the Month										
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To be sent to the secretariat of the Eucharistic Crusade,
1395 Notre-Dame, St-Césaire, QC, J0L 1T0,
or e-mail: EucharisticCrusadeCDN@gmail.com