

Press Release

**Pilgrimage Through Italy
Of the Sacred Image of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal**

Triveneto and Emilia Romagna, September 15- October 15, 2021

On November 11, 2020, when Pope Francis blessed the image of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in the Vatican, the pilgrimage of this image began on the occasion of the 190th anniversary of the apparitions to Saint Catherine Labouré. This initiative is promoted by the Congregation of the Mission in Italy in collaboration with the worldwide Vincentian Family.

After the pilgrimage to the areas of Monregalese and Cebano, now the sacred image can be viewed in the regions of Triveneto and Emilia Romagna.

Today, like 1830, the world is devastated by poverty, violence, and a health and financial crisis. The Blessed Mother invites us to the foot of the altar. After 190 years the Blessed Mother continues to provide for us ... and she does so because her love is unwavering. On the night of July 18-19, 1830, the Blessed Mother appeared for the first time to Catherine Labouré, a young Daughter of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. This was a rather lengthy encounter in which the Blessed Mother stated: *The times are very evil. Misfortunes afflict France and the entire world will experience misfortunes of every sort ... But come to the foot of this altar, there abundant graces will be spread over all those who ask for them with confidence and fervor. They will be given to the great and the small.* Then once again, on November 27th, 1830, the Blessed Mother appeared again to Catherine Labouré, holding in her hands a small globe (representing humankind). Catherine contemplated her beauty and accepted the mission to make a medal: *the persons who wear this medal will receive great graces.*

The members of the worldwide Vincentian Family, faithful to the Word of God, inspired by the charism which calls them to serve God in the person of the poor and encouraged by this initiative of the Blessed Mother to go on pilgrimage, want to remind us that the Blessed Mother continues to invite men and women to approach the foot of the altar.

From the afternoon of Tuesday, September 14 until Thursday, September 16, the sacred image of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal will be in **Gorizia**, with the Sisters of Mary of the Miraculous Medal. There the following program will unfold: Tuesday the 14th, 16:00 hours the image will be received; Wednesday the 15th, 09:00 hours, celebration of the Eucharist; 16:00 hours, catechesis; 17:00 hours, rosary; 18:00 hours, Eucharist. Thursday, the image will remain in the church. **From Saturday, September 18 until the afternoon of September 21**, the image will be in **Forlimpopoli (FC)** in the church of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. **From Thursday, September 23 until Sunday, September 26**, the image will be brought to Véneto, to **Castel D'Azzano (VR)** in the parish of the Holy Name of Mary. **From Monday, September 27 until Thursday, September 30**, the image will be brought to **Piacenza**, to the Colegio Alberoni. **During the month of October, from Friday, October 1 to**

Monday, October 4, the image will be in **Basilicanova** (PR) in the house of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul and in the parish. **From Tuesday, October 5 until Friday, October 8**, the sacred image will be in **Udine**, in the parish and in the house of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul. **On Saturday, October 9 and Sunday, October 10**, the image will be in Roncà (VR) in the parishes of the diocese of Vicenza, a pastoral area composed of four parishes: Roncà, Terrarossa di Roncà, Brenton and Saint Margherita. **From Monday, October 11 to Wednesday, October 13**, the image will be brought to **Mirano** (VE) in the parish of Saint Michele Arcangelo.

After 190 years, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal continues to watch over humankind and comes, as a pilgrim, to visit and to meet with the members of the Christian communities spread throughout Italy. Thus, Mary fulfills the promise of love that is contained in her message: *I will be remain with you, trust and do not be discouraged.*

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