

The Blessed Virgin Mary is so conformed to the Mystery of the Incarnation as to be proclaimed with absolute certainty not only the Mother of God, but also to be recognized as allied to Christ in the work of Redemption, to which she contributes albeit in a subordinate manner.

These gifts of the Mother of God, inspired by the sense of faith, are fixed in the minds and hearts of the disciples of her Son Jesus so much so that he who desires to receive any grace in virtue of the merits of Christ, according to the Divine Will, always has recourse to her.

Precisely for this reason it happens that, for over seven centuries, moved by trust towards the Mother of God, the faithful flock from all over the Christian world to the Holy House of Loreto, in which place they celebrate with singular devotion the memory of the Divine Word made man in the womb of Mary. In truth, God, rich in Mercy, through the intercession of the Virgin Mother, does not cease to pour out benevolently there, in that House, the abundance of heavenly gifts for health of soul and body.

Shortly after the end of the Great War, rightly called "horrendous and useless slaughter", Pope Benedict XV on March 24, 1920, interpreting perfectly the signs of the times declared the Blessed Virgin Mary of Loreto as Patroness of Aviators.

Given these premises, to ensure that the Solemn celebrations of the First Centenary of this devotion inspire more the hearts of the faithful to nurture Faith, Hope and Charity, and to corroborate the Catholic sentiment of the Church, in hierarchical communion with the Apostolic See, as well as to establish an increasingly correct discipline of customs, with paternal heart the Holy Father Francis decided to grant the gift of Plenary Indulgence in the following ways:

- The faithful are granted and benignly imparted from the heavenly treasures of the Church, a Plenary Indulgence in the form of a Jubilee and the remission of all sins, to be obtained in the Basilica Shrine of the Holy House of Loreto from 8 December 2019 to 10 December 2020;

- Such Indulgence is applicable also to the souls in Purgatory in the form of suffrage, if the faithful themselves truly repentant, having confessed and received Holy communion, participate in the sacred rites in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or at least, in front of her picture exposed to public veneration, for a sufficient length of time, they offer their humble prayers to God for the propagation of the Faith and according to the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff, concluding the prayers with the Our Father, the Creed and the invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary, especially the Litany of Loreto or the jubilee prayer;

- The same considerable spiritual benefits can be obtained in the chapels of civil and military airports as well as in the chapels of the Air Force departments, whenever the

respective requests, accompanied by the due notice, will be duly approved by His Excellency Archbishop Fabio Dal Cin, Archbishop Prelate of Loreto;

- The elderly, the sick and all those who, out of legitimate cause, cannot leave the house, joining spiritually to those who carry out the pious visit, can equally obtain Plenary Indulgence provided they are completely detached from sin and with the intention of complying as soon as possible the three usual conditions. In the presence of a small image of the Madonna of Loreto, they will recite the prayers as above, humbly offering to the merciful God, through Mary, the pains and hardships of one's life.

So that this opportunity to attain divine grace through the power of the keys of the Church can be realized more easily through pastoral charity, this Penitentiary assiduously prays that the clergy of Loreto and airport chaplains offer with an open and generous spirit the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and frequently administer Holy Communion to the sick. This Decree is valid for the entire jubilee year.

Despite any contrary provision.

Given by the See of the Apostolic Penitentiary on November 1, 2019

Mauro Card. Piacenza
Major Penitentiary
H.E Msgr. Krzysztof Nykiel
Regent