



Saint Maria Goretti

6th July 2020

While Jesus was speaking, up came one of the officials, who bowed low in front of him and said, 'My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her and her life will be saved.' Jesus rose and, with his disciples, followed him. Then from behind him came a woman, who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years, and she touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, 'If I can only touch his cloak I shall be well again.' Jesus turned round and saw her; and he said to her, 'Courage, my daughter, your faith has restored you to health.' And from that moment the woman was well again.

When Jesus reached the official's house and saw the flute-players, with the crowd making a commotion he said, 'Get out of here; the little girl is not dead, she is asleep.' And they laughed at him. But when the people had been turned out he went inside and took the little girl by the hand; and she stood up. And the news spread all round the countryside.

Matthew 9:18-26

Let us give thanks to the king of martyrs, for this is the hour when he offered himself in the last supper and laid down his life on the cross. – **We praise you, Christ the Lord.**

We praise you, Christ our Saviour, example and strength of the martyrs, because you have loved us to the end; – **We praise you, Christ the Lord.** Because you have promised repentant sinners the reward of eternal life, – **We praise you, Christ the Lord.**

Because you have called the Church to offer the blood of the new and eternal covenant, the blood shed for the remission of sins, – **We praise you...**

Heroic and angelic Saint Maria Goretti, we kneel before you to honor your persevering fortitude and to beg your gracious aid. Teach us a deep love for the precepts of our Holy Church; help us to see in them the very voice of our Father in Heaven. May we preserve without stain our white baptismal robe of innocence. May we who have lost this innocence kneel humbly in Holy Penance, and with the absolution of the priest, may the torrent of Christ's precious Blood flow into our souls and give us a new courage to carry the burning light of God's love through the dangerous highways of this life until Christ our king shall call us to the courts of Heaven. Amen.



Saint Maria Goretti

O St. Maria Goretti, beautiful model of mercy, pray for me. God's mercy is the only hope for mankind. I know we are called to imitate our Father's mercy to those around us, but it is hard, and I often fail. But you, even at the age of 11, were strong and courageous enough to offer mercy to your attacker, the one who hurt you the very most. Please pray that I will be able to do the same to those who hurt me. Please pray that I will not consider their unworthiness, but that I may consider our Lord, as you did. Please also pray for..... Amen

