

About the Author



Hello, my name is Fiona. As of 2017, I am 64 years old. Married to a Catholic Deacon, with one precious daughter.

I am a Catholic convert. Retired R.N. Adopted Texan. I have been homebound for 14 years with chronic illness - but as a result, I have found heaven here on earth.

The School of Prayer of the Holy Childhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary is my attempt to tell others about that heaven and to give others what I have received - so you may begin where I am ending.

Many years ago as a RN Supervisor at a nursing home, I carried chaplet beads in my lab coat pocket, mostly as worry-beads!... sometimes to pray, as I walked the hallways. Staff members were fascinated by, and attracted to the beads and I would write out the prayers for anyone interested. Over and over, I learned that the blessed people I worked with, like children, simply did not know **how** or **what** to pray.

Many were single mothers working two jobs. Whatever prayers they said had to be as simple and sacramental as mystical love poetry - they had to be "I-YOU" prayers that brought about encounter with GOD in brief interludes of time.

I wanted to press prayer beads into their hands and say, "Here! Take these beads! Pray these prayers!"... and KNOW that GOD would meet them there.

About the same time in my life, discouraged by the lives of the Saints - believing that **everybody** should be Saints - I presumed to tell the LORD that I wanted to become a Saint through the **ordinary**, everyday wellsprings of grace... the Sacraments... the Word of GOD... and the Will of GOD ("The Three Spiritual Foods.") I wanted **everybody** to have equal opportunity for sanctity! No more spiritual divas, LORD - just glorious, deified sons and daughters of GOD as numerous as the sands on the seashore!

Well, the LORD took me at my word! For there is nothing supernatural about this work! Rivers of unfailing grace, yes. Grace itself became my guiding-star... but no Damascus encounters. Just the light of Truth that has led to a transfiguring love of the Lamb... as one woman pondered the glories of Catholic doctrine and attempted to live in the light of that glory.

So, after 14 years, cloistered by GOD at home, with nothing else to do but pray, I have been compelled, from the very beginning, by some irresistible, unquestioning certainty, as presumptuous as it seems, to give away all I have learned, and to say to **you**... "Here! Take these beads! Pray these prayers! GOD will meet you here." LORD, BLESS!

Please Note:

1. You are not being asked to make these prayers your own. You are simply invited to experience these prayers from time to time to practice THE GAZE of the prayers.

Once you understand the spiritual gaze of these prayers, you can then bring this gaze to your **own** prayers - to the Mass, Adoration, the Rosary, the Divine Office, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and every other prayer from the Treasury of the Church.

2. The rules regarding *nihil obstat* and *imprimatur* apply only to printed matter, not yet to the Internet. Though the "School" is not in a fixed format, I have, nevertheless, sought to obey the **spirit** of canon law. I have had spiritual direction along the way. I have the blessing of one Bishop and I welcome any ecclesial comments of correction or advice regarding the content of the Book of Prayer. You may e-mail me @

schoolofprayerhcbvm@yahoo.com.

I leave you now with the blessing of the Sweet Infant Mary...



"The smallest shall become a thousand, the youngest, a mighty nation;
I, the LORD, will swiftly accomplish these things when their time comes."
Isaiah 60:22

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