



Twenty Eighth Greater New Orleans
ROSARY CONGRESS
FOR LIFE, REPARATION AND PEACE

Dear Prayer Group Leader,

The Greater New Orleans Rosary Congress 2018 is a tremendous gift from Our Lady to the Greater New Orleans area and to the hosting Parish. It begins on First Saturday, October, 6 and continues until Friday, October 12th— at Our Lady of Divine Providence, on West Metairie Ave. We would like to extend an invitation to your group to become a participant of this great event. We honor the Holy Family and pray for all Families, and Life, Reparation and Peace in our City, Nation, and World.

The Rosary Congress has proven to be powerful as we unite in prayer which becomes a stronger source than individual prayer, to call down God's Mercy upon us. The overall intention is to give honor and glory to God and show the beauty and diversity of our Catholic Church. The Church is opened 24/7. There are Masses, processions, banners, music, Rosaries, Chaplets of Mercy and quiet time and Eucharistic Adoration, happening during this week.

*We need to understand **why** the Greater New Orleans Rosary Congress is needed and necessary.*

THE HISTORY OF THE G.N.O. ROSARY CONGRESS

The first Rosary Congress was held at the Polish Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. A Polish Marian Prayer Group prayed strongly for Pope John Paul II to come back to his native country. They were inspired to have a “The Rosary Congress by gathering in front of the Blessed Sacrament with the Rosary and Masses for 7 days & nights. Their Spiritual Director advised that “Congress” was a political name and would not be wise in a Communist Country. The name was changed to “The Siege of Jericho.” On that last day of the “Siege” all sanctions were dropped. Pope John Paul II returned to Poland for nine days. That marked the beginning of what would become the end of Communism in this country.

Through prayer the Polish people were inspired to bring this idea to America under the name of “Rosary Congress.” They felt it would help to “save America” as it had saved Poland. Anatol a member of the Polish prayer group came to a Marian Group in America. A priest from the American group introduced Anatol to John Downs who greatly loved the Eucharist and Our Lady. John was a quadriplegic. John and his group took up the cause of the Rosary Congress with great zeal.

1. 1988 the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C. was the host to the first American Rosary Congress.
2. 1989 a delegation from New Orleans, Louisiana did attend the 2nd American Rosary Congress. This idea of a Rosary Congress was then brought back to the New Orleans Archdiocese.
3. 1990 the First Greater New Orleans Rosary Congress was hosted at the Shrine of Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Patroness of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana. Many prayer groups, adoration chapels and individuals joined to pray. On the last day of this First GNO Rosary Congress, the oldest abortion clinic in the city closed. What an encouragement to continue yearly! To date 2 Abortion clinics have closed and a hurricane dissipated.
4. Two years ago a relative of John Downs came to visit our G.N.O. Rosary Congress and began organizing Diocesan Rosary Congresses throughout this country. In 2017 there were eighteen cities that held Rosary Congresses in America.

“Among all devotions approved by the Church, none has been favored by so many miracles as the Rosary” –Pope Pious IX

The 28th Greater New Orleans Rosary Congress is scheduled to take place at Our Lady of Divine Providence Saturday, October 6 through Friday, October 12²⁰¹⁸. The theme is the “The Holy Family”. The prayer, “Jesus, Mary, Joseph I love you save souls.” is encouraged to be prayed in preparation, anticipation and during the Congress many times. Please start Praying.

To summarize, the G.N.O. Rosary Congress is seven days and nights of Masses, Confessions, and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, hourly Rosaries, meditating on the life of Jesus, Divine Mercy Chaplets, singing and silence. Masses daily, children & adult choirs. Prayers: for healing within families and individual prayers are all happening on different days and times. The G.N.O. Rosary Congress is a time for us to come together to pray for our Families, for Life, Reparation and Peace in our City, Nation and World. Personal intentions are also included. Sign up for your Adoration hour and/ or to offer help where needed. Flyers will have greater details and times. To sign up Call Marie 504-508-7100

Sincerely,

Marie Wojdac, Coordinator