



To Our beloved Son
Bernard Cardinal Griffin
Archbishop of Westminster

We have learned with paternal interest, Beloved Son, of the Family Rosary Crusade which is being conducted in the Archdiocese of Westminster and in the Dioceses of Southwark and Brentwood, under the directorship of Our beloved son, Patrick Peyton.

Never before has the world been so direly in need of prayer as at the present time, when a dangerous form of materialism tends to undermine man's relations with his Creator and with his fellowmen and to destroy the sanctity of family life.

The most powerful antidote against the evils that threaten human society is prayer, especially collective prayer, for Our Divine Lord has said: "if two of you shall consent upon earth concerning

any thing whatsoever they shall ask, it shall be done unto them by my Father who is in heaven. For where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them» (Matt. XVIII, 19-20).

And what form of collective prayer could be more simple and yet more efficacious than the Family Rosary, in which parents and children join together in supplicating the Eternal Father, through the intercession of their most loving Mother, meditating meanwhile on the sacred mysteries of our faith? There is no surer means of calling down God's blessings upon the family and especially of preserving peace and happiness in the home than the daily recitation of the Rosary. And apart from its supplicatory power, the Family Rosary can have very far-reaching effects; for if the habit of this pious practice is inculcated into children at a young and impressionable age, they too will be faithful to the Rosary in after life and their faith will thereby be nourished and strengthened.

From Our heart, therefore, do we express the prayerful hope that the Family Rosary Crusade, which has been organized under

your zealous guidance, Beloved Son, and under that of Our Venerable Brothers, the Bishops of Southwark and Brentwood, may be productive of much spiritual fruit. We earnestly exhort those of Our beloved children towards whom the Crusade has been directed to regard the joint recitation of the Rosary in the family circle as a most important collective act in their daily lives and a most certain way of obtaining the spiritual and temporal favours of which they stand in need.

We invoke God's special blessings on all those who have collaborated with the Family Rosary Crusade, and in pledge thereof We cordially impart to you, Beloved Son, to Our Venerable Brothers Cyril Corderoy and George Beck, and to the clergy and faithful gathered at Wembley Stadium for the final assembly, Our special Apostolic Benediction.

From the Vatican, July 14, 1952

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