

About

The Brown Scapular

The Scapular is a sacramental that is effective according to the dispositions of its wearer. It is a sign of our contract, of our covenant with Mary. She promised: "Whosoever dies clothed in this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire."

The condition for obtaining this promise is to wear the Scapular imposed by the priest devoutly and at all times.

The Sabbatine Privilege

Our Lady appeared to Pope John XXII telling him: "As a tender Mother, I will descend into purgatory on the Saturday after their death, and will bring them into the heavenly mansions of life everlasting." This Sabbatine Privilege was promulgated and taught by Pope John XXII in the famous Bull "*Sacratissimo Uti Culmine*" in 1322. Yet the Holy See gave it a definitive ratification only in 1908 during the pontificate of St. Pius X.



The conditions for obtaining this promise are:

- to wear the Scapular imposed by the priest devoutly and at all times;
- to strive particularly for the virtue of chastity by observing ardently the 6th and the 9th commandments;
- to choose amongst the following prayers:
 - either to pray the Little Office of Our Lady every day (original condition);
 - or for one week to fast on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday (original condition);
 - or to pray the rosary (privilege granted by Pope Pius XII);
 - or to say the prayer imposed by the investing priest (generally one decade of the Rosary).

Your Scapular...



...is a rich present brought down from Heaven by Our Lady herself.

"Wear it devoutly and perseveringly", she says to each soul,

"It is my garment. To be clothed in it means you secure eternal life."

"Scapular, Rosary and Miraculous Medal — here are three things that the Immaculata herself has deigned to offer for the salvation of mankind."

*St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe
(Hrodna, July 1925)*



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The brown Scapular



"Accept this Scapular. It shall be a sign of salvation, a protection in danger and a pledge of peace. Whosoever dies clothed in this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire."

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
to Saint Simon Stock
on the 16th of July 1251

The Scapular is a prayer

Our Lord taught us to say the "Our Father."

Mary taught us the value of the Scapular. When we use it as a prayer, Our Lady draws us to the Sacred Heart of her Divine Son. It is well, therefore, to hold the Scapular in the hand, while addressing Our Lady.

A prayer uttered thus while holding the mystical Scapular is as perfect as a prayer can be. It is especially in time of temptation that we need the powerful intercession of God's Mother.

The evil spirit is utterly powerless when a Scapular-wearer who is facing temptation, besides his silent devotion, calls Mary.



"If thou hadst recommended thyself to me, thou wouldst not have run into such danger"

— was Our Lady's gentle reproach to Blessed Alan de la Roche.

The Scapular Represents three things

- It is a sign of our Catholic Faith, by which we become sons and servants of Mary.
- It is a sign of our love for the Mother of Christ, who is also our own spiritual Mother.
- It is a sign of Our Lady's protection for she watches over her sons & servants.

For those Who love Mary's Scapular

Pope Benedict XV granted an indulgence of 500 days each time the Scapular is kissed. Mary's Motherhood is not limited to Catholics, it is extended to all men. Many miracles of conversion have been wrought in favour of good non-Catholics who have been induced to practice the Scapular devotion.



The craftsmanship of a Brown Scapular

The regulations regarding the make-up of a Scapular are these: it must be of brown wool; the colour of the string connecting the wool is not important; the wool is not required to have writing nor pictures.

The Scapular must be worn on the shoulders in such a manner that one part hangs in front of the body and the other on the back. Worn in any other way it carries no indulgence or promise.

Please keep this in mind when you receive your Scapular. It is the act of wearing the Scapular which will bring benefits, not the perfect appearance of it.

St. Alphonsus says: "Just as men take pride in having others wear their livery, so the Most Holy Mary is pleased when her servants wear her Scapular as a mark that they have dedicated themselves to her service, and are members of the Family of the Mother of God."

A short history of The Scapular

- On the 16th of July 1251 Simon Stock, Superior General of the Order for Carmelites poured out his heart to the Blessed Virgin Mary — the Flower of Mount Carmel — asking her to help him and all the Carmelites.



Then, accompanied by a multitude of angels, the Blessed Virgin appeared to him, holding in her hands the Scapular of the Order, and said: "This shall be to you and to all Carmelites a privilege that anyone who dies clothed in this [Scapular] shall not suffer eternal fire." Wearing the Brown Scapular is a sign of predestination just as reciting the Holy Rosary is a sign of predestination.

- At Lourdes in 1858, the Virgin chose to make her last apparition on the 16th of July, feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the day the Church commemorates her apparition to Saint Simon Stock. On the 16th of July 1858, on the eighteenth and last apparition of Our Lady at Lourdes, she appeared to Bernadette, dressed as Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

- Our Lady of Fatima, on the 13th of October 1917, held the Brown Scapular in her hand, making the three child seers, Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco, understand that she wants all of us to wear the Scapular.

In a letter of 1936, written at Pontevedra, Sister Lucia quotes Our Lord as saying that He wants devotion to His Mother's Immaculate Heart alongside devotion to His own Sacred Heart. So consecration to Mary, as a means of giving her greater honour and love, is God's will for us, and in no way detracts from His own glory.