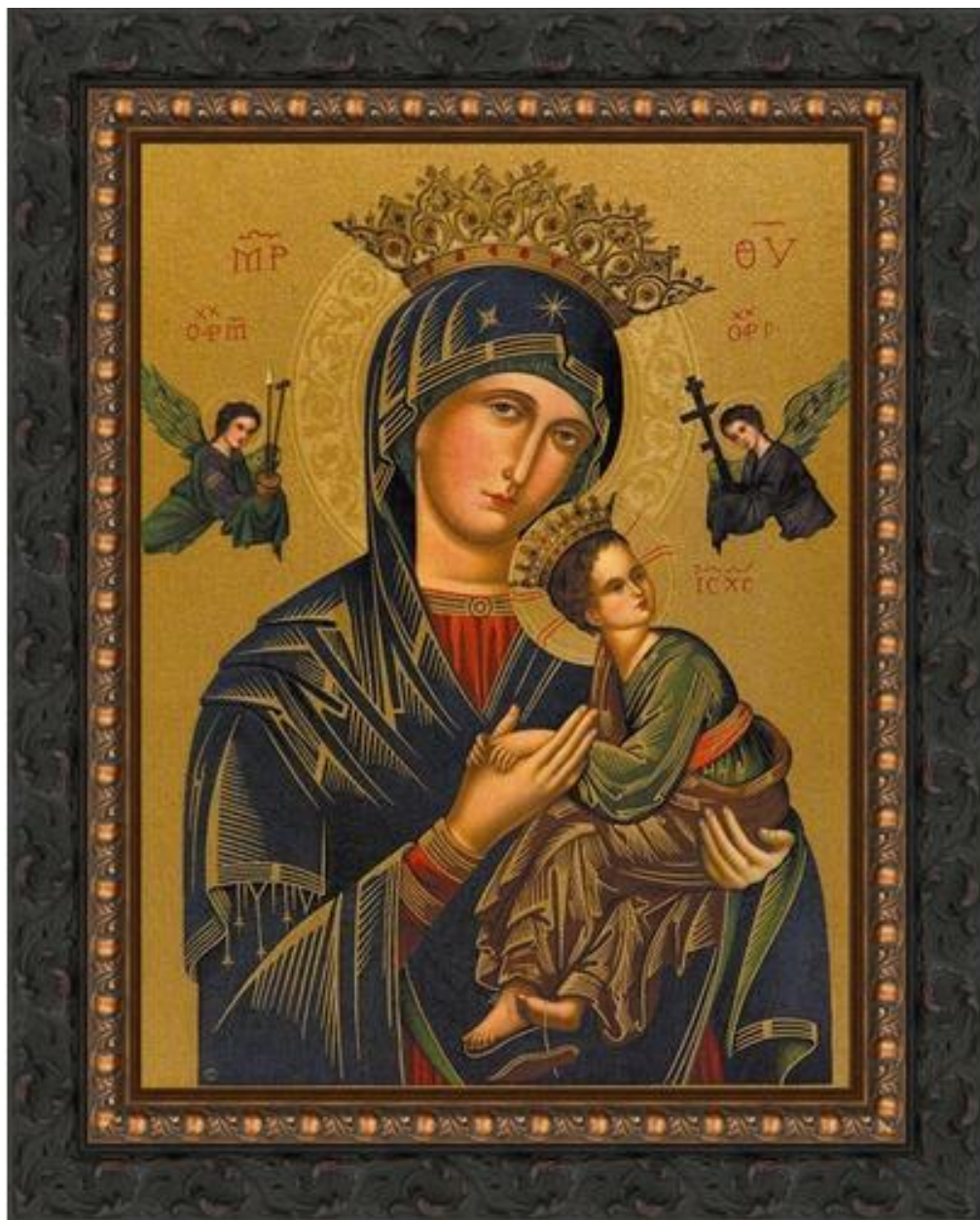


*The More the Soul is Humiliated
and Beaten on the Anvil of
Mortification, the More she Sparkles
with Celestial Fire*



Paragraph 736 - V. The Spirit and the Church in the Last Days

736 - "We live by the Spirit"; the more we renounce ourselves, the more we "walk by the Spirit."¹³⁰ (1832) **CCC**

Ecclesiasticus – 38:29

So doth the smith sitting by the anvil and considering the iron work. The vapour of the fire wasteth his flesh, and he fighteth with the heat of the furnace.

V3 – December 30, 1899 - "Humiliation Must not only Be Accepted, but also Loved; So Much So, as to Chew it Like Food. And just as when a food is bitter, the more one chews it, the more he feels the bitterness, in the Same Way, Humiliation, when it is Well Chewed, Gives Rise to Mortification. And these – that is, Humiliation and Mortification – are Two Most Powerful Means in order to get out of certain hitches and obtain those Graces which are Needed. While it seems to be noxious to the human nature, just like the bitter food which seems to do harm rather than good - so with Humility and Mortification. But it is not so. The More the piece of iron is beaten on the anvil, the more it sparkles with fire and is purged. The same for the soul: the more she is Humiliated and Beaten on the Anvil of Mortification, the More she Sparkles with Celestial Fire and is Purged - if she Really Wants to Walk Along the Path of Good. If then she is false, it happens all the opposite."