

June 27, 2023

Dear Mission Partners,

Today is the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help This is a title of the Blessed Virgin Mary associated with a 14th-century Byzantine icon. The icon is believed to have originated in an Eastern Orthodox monastery dedicated to Virgin Mary, but has been in Rome since 1499. Today it is permanently enshrined in the Church of Saint Alphonsus Rome since 1499. Today it is permanently enshrined in the Church of Saint Alphonsus of Liguori in Rome. The icon shows Mary, holding the Child Jesus.



The Child Jesus grasps the hand of the Blessed Mother, seeking her comfort. The position of Mary's hands – is both holding the Child Jesus and presenting Him to us. Mary is the one who guides us to the Redeemer. She is our Perpetual Help, who intercedes on our behalf with her Son.

The feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is celebrated on June 27. May we invoke the prayers and intercession of Our Blessed Mother in time of need. It has often been the day chosen when IHM novices receive their habits as members of the Community.

How fitting that devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help honors Mary, who is the patroness of Immaculata University! Be sure to stop and pray in front of our icon outside the chapel doors in Villa Maria.

Sincerely, in the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Sister Antoine Therese, IHM

