



THE CENTER FOR THE
SECRET of PEACE
MINISTRIES

Message from the Executive Director

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The Mustard Seed and the Mountain

There is so much and so many to pray for in our world today. Whether you are a news junkie or try to avoid it all together, there is no missing the growing levels of brokenness, pain, hardship, and torment. We see it. We experience it.

It is easy to become overwhelmed or to think that the prayers or witness of one person won't make much difference. But that is the farthest thing from the truth! Father Ubald was one man. His prayers and witness impacted a parish, a community, a nation, people in other nations. Hundreds of thousands of people over the course of his lifetime. And still his impact is growing! How did he do this? He simply remained faithful to the call of Christ.

“Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you” (Matthew 17:20).

This issue of the newsletter shares stories of the impact one person can have on the life of another. As we each live every day striving to be faithful to the call of Christ, we can make a difference. God is a personal, relational God and he works with each of us on a personal basis. We need simply imitate His example.

May you be encouraged and inspired, and, most of all, reminded that you matter; faith can move mountains; and God has a plan and a particular purpose for each one of you!

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Thank You!

Special thanks to all the generous supporters who made gifts during our Lenten \$40 in 40 days campaign.

And, to those who made a gift in honor of Fr. Ubald's birthday.

We are so very grateful for your generous support that keeps us going.



Fr. Ubald's Birthday, May 16

In the 1950s in Rwanda, people did not keep the same type of official documentation or birth records that many are accustomed to in the U.S. or other countries. Fr. Ubald didn't know precisely the date of his birth. However, he did know that he was named for St. Ubald Baldassini, an Italian Bishop who lived from 1084-1160. And the feast of St. Ubald is remembered and celebrated by the Catholic Church on May 16. So, when it came time to document his birth date, Fr. Ubald, knowing the faith and faithfulness of his parents, determined that May 16 must be his birthday as well.



At the Center for the Secret of Peace we celebrate a special name day Mass in honor of Fr. Ubald. After Mass there are prayers of thanksgiving for the life of Fr. Ubald at his graveside.

Fr. Robert and Fr. Ubald Habimana (named in honor of Fr. Ubald) leading prayers at the grave of Fr Ubald.

Did you Know?

We would like to begin sharing with you some information about Fr. Ubald that not only helps us learn more about him, but also serves to inspire each of us as we live and navigate the trials and joys of our daily lives.

One of the saints who was very near and dear to Fr. Ubald's heart is St. Josephine Bakhita. Born in Sudan in 1869, Josephine had a relatively comfortable and happy childhood. Around age 12 she was kidnapped and sold into slavery. For 12 years she was bought and sold a dozen times, and suffered great physical abuse at the hands of her owners. She ultimately was sold to an Italian man who did not beat her and agreed to take her to Italy. In Italy, she eventually was put in the temporary custody of an order of nuns who taught her about God and Jesus. She chose to be baptized and enter the Catholic Church. Ultimately, St. Josephine discerned a call to join this order of nuns. At this same time she learned that slavery was outlawed in Sudan. So, Josephine was deemed a free woman.



St. Josephine Bakhita

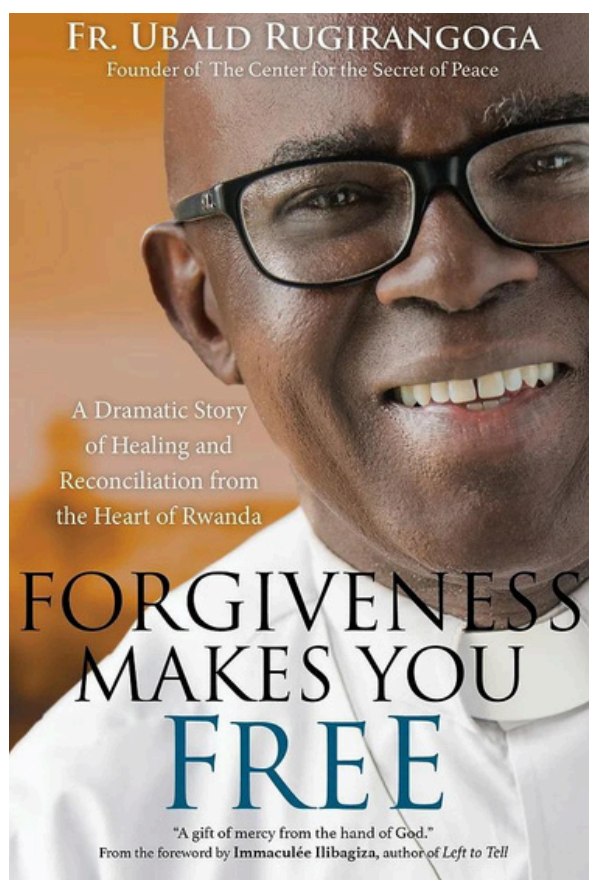
St. Josephine chose to become a nun and spent more than 40 years of her life serving God in this way. She often gave thanks for those who kidnapped her because that path led her to know Jesus and be baptized and enter the Catholic Church.

It's no wonder that Fr. Ubald drew such inspiration and strength from St. Josephine Bakhita. Here was a woman from Africa who set an example of seeing God working in spite of the most horrific of experiences, who dedicated her life to serving God, and who became a model of forgiveness, a beacon of gentleness, and always had a smile on her face. She truly found and lived peace and forgiveness.

What a reminder that we are not alone in our struggles in life. There is a communion of saints and we can look to them for encouragement and inspiration. While circumstances and details are always individual, there are others who have gone before us to help show the way to the Father and to have life in the Spirit through his Son.

St. Josephine Bakhita, pray for us.
Fr. Ubald, pray for us.

The Power of a Testimony



Have you read Fr. Ubald's book "Forgiveness Makes you Free"?

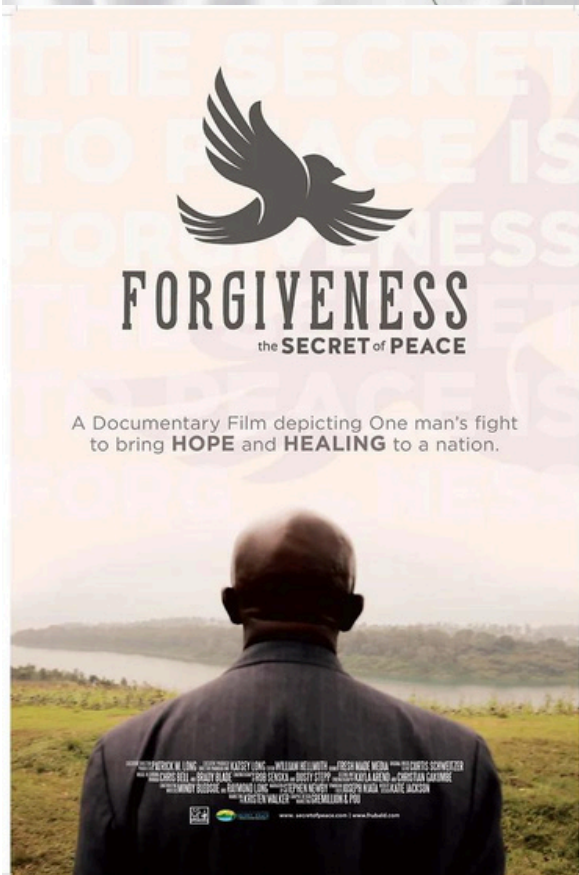
Recently a woman was given a copy of Fr. Ubald's autobiography and learned about him for the first time. Her greatest take-away from the book was a realization that we all have a common mother in Mary, the Blessed Mother.

This woman was so moved by Father Ubald's devotion to the Blessed Mother. And she eagerly wanted to know more.

"Why don't more people know about Mary?" she asked.

She ventured into the local Catholic church in her town and asked to learn more about Mary and how to pray the Rosary. She now comes every morning to the Catholic Church to join in praying the Rosary.

What an amazing testimony of the Holy Spirit and the Blessed Mother working through Father Ubald! We never know the impact that one person's story can have. If you haven't read his book, or if you need an inspirational gift to give someone, consider purchasing Fr. Ubald's book or DVD and be prepared to see God at work!



New Projects!

We are very excited to be undertaking two new major projects this year. And we welcome your support to help bring the about to fruition!

We are in the beginning stages of translating many of Fr. Ubald's writings, homilies, and spiritual instruction. This is a lengthy process but one we are very enthusiastic about. We can't wait to see what treasures of faith Fr. Ubald has to share with us. This is a costly and lengthy process. We welcome your financial support to help make it happen!

Our website is the primary source of information about Fr. Ubald. And, it has not been updated since Fr. Ubald died 3 years ago. We are in the midst of a major communications upgrade and outreach initiative. Later this year we look forward to rolling out a new website, blog, video archive, and online store. This will help many more people learn about Fr. Ubald, the ongoing work of the Center for the Secret of Peace, and serve as a wonderful tool for evangelization as well!

If you are able to support either of these initiatives, we would be most grateful.

Your gift will be doubled by an anonymous donor.

Give online



Mail checks to:

Center for Peace

P.O. Box 3534

Jackson, WY 83001

Prayers for Healing

We give thanks and praise to God for the gift of Fr. Ubald and his life work on earth. We know that Fr. Ubald is not done praying for us! Let us remember to ask his intercession for continued healing in our own life, our families, our churches, our communities, our nations, and our world.

For private use

Heavenly Father we give you thanks for your servant and priest Fr. Ubald Rugirangoga, whose life and ministry manifested the miraculous power of Your Divine Mercy. Facing unspeakable pain and sufferings, he entrusted himself to You through intense prayer and total surrender. In your infinite goodness, you sent Fr. Ubald to his beloved Rwanda and to the world as a joyful apostle of peace and reconciliation, preaching forgiveness and healing in the name of Jesus. His testimony, fueled by his love for the Eucharistic Presence and his filial devotion to the Blessed Mother, brought a multitude of souls to the Church and to a living and loving relationship with You in the Holy Spirit.

If it be Your will, O God, glorify Your servant Fr. Ubald and make known his holiness by granting the favor I now ask through his prayerful intercession:

(Mention your request.)

Submit your testimonies of healing on our website secretofpeace.org