

Music...

Sprinkled in during the day and night are programs of music. These programs cover a wide variety of music – something for everybody. A favorite program is Gregorian Chant done by monks in Europe. Then there are the Catholic artists in the US from the past: Perry Como, Bing Crosby and Kate Smith. Current artists include John Michael Talbot. Special church choirs share their talents. Christian classical music is provided by renowned symphony orchestras and their soloists.

Interviews...

Radio Maria has a regular program that covers special Catholic leaders that have been in the news. Recent interviews have covered the producer of the movie Bella, the president of Ave Maria University, some Catholic bishops as well as outstanding converts and authors.

Special Events...

Radio Maria is blessed to have high tech equipment that can cover special events and do so with high quality. Radio Maria covered the talks and Masses of Pope Benedict XVI during his visit to the US. Radio Maria has also broadcast the ordination of two bishops and many priests. Other events have included conventions of the Knights of Columbus, the annual Pro-Life march in Washington D.C. and the annual Steubenville South Alexandria Conference with its 5,000 teenagers. Each weekend Radio Maria broadcasts a Mass from a parish in Louisiana, Texas or Ohio.

Entertainment...

Entertainment and relaxation is good for everyone. Radio Maria has long had a Sunday afternoon program, Family Theatre Classic Radio, begun long ago by Fr. Peyton, The Rosary priest. This program is hosted by prominent Catholics such as Bing Crosby, Loretta Young, and Ricardo Montalbon. The plots and content are for the whole family. No need to worry about foul language and emphasis on sex.

Radio Maria Family...

Radio Maria is a family. The network of the radio stations of Radio Maria is more than a company or corporation. It is a family, a worldwide family. The family of Radio Maria includes the technicians, presenters, volunteers, and benefactors. Retreats, meetings and special events give all the opportunity to grow close to Our Blessed Mother, her Son, and to each other. An outstanding characteristic of Radio Maria is that it is truly a praying family.

Marian Spirituality...

The spirituality of Radio Maria is Marian. Radio Maria is Mary's special apostolate and tool of Evangelization. Mary longs to introduce everyone to her Son, Jesus and to be His followers. The rapid growth of Radio Maria has been miraculous. This growth has been possible only by the grace of God and the donations of the listeners. It is only by the grace of God that Radio Maria continues to be a non-profit organization, funded only by donations. Special devotion to Our Blessed Mother is basic for the broadcasts, workers and volunteers of Radio Maria. This is summarized by the following prayer written and prayed by Pope John Paul II at a large gathering at the Vatican for Radio Maria workers and supporters.

Prayer of the Holy Father

“Mary, guide us in our major decisions and give us strength in times of trial so that we may, with humble courage, follow the hidden ways of Heaven, keeping faith with God and mankind so that we can bring the joyful message of Christ, the Saviour, to the hearts and minds of all. Mary, guiding star of evangelization, be with us. Be with Radio Maria as guide and be its protector.”

Radio Maria is...

...an intercessor

...a teacher

...a comforter

...a guide

...a family

...a Christian voice in your home

RADIO MARIA

...a Christian voice in your home

601 Washington St.
Alexandria, LA 71301
1-888-408-0201
info.usa@radiomaria.org

The Beginning...

In 1983 there was a very successful parish mission and spiritual renewal in a parish and city east of Milan, Italy. The pastor began a needed follow-up by a local broadcast from the church bell tower. Soon there was a radio station called Radio Maria and then more stations, popping up all over Italy. A special organization of these radio stations, their ministries, staff and volunteers began in 1998. It was called World Family of Radio Maria. Today Radio Maria is broadcasting in over 50 countries in 15 languages. The flagship for Radio Maria and its English speaking stations and programs in the US, 24/7, is in Alexandria, LA. All programs go through Alexandria, some originating in many cities and states, coast to coast. Radio Maria USA went on the air in Alexandria in May 2000 and is becoming national in its outreach.

Prayer...

Radio Maria meets needs of Roman Catholics that are often felt very deeply. Presently Radio Maria USA has about 50 people who have programs that cover the following felt needs. First of all prayer, the broadcast day begins with the Angelus at 6am (CT), followed by the Liturgy of the Hours and then the Rosary led by Bishop Guillory of Beaumont, TX. This is followed by a broadcast Mass at 8am (CT) and repeated in the evening. During Communion time, there is a spiritual communion prayer for all listeners especially for shut-ins, prisoners, and travelers. Besides praise, worship, and liturgy, Radio Maria is very devoted to praying for others.

Intercessory Prayer...

Radio Maria has many ways and programs for praying for people and their needs. To understand the power and need of this intercessory prayer consider your automobile. It has powerful gasoline and a powerful motor. However you won't move an inch unless you get the gasoline to the motor. You need a fuel pump, so too with intercessory prayer. The power and grace of God needs a spiritual fuel pump in order to get into the lives and hearts of people. One very popular prayer program on Radio Maria USA is entitled "House Calls": Just as Jesus went to homes in

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Galilee to heal the sick, so too during "House Calls". During this call-in program many people call-in and the audience is then invited to join in prayer right then on the air for the caller. All petitions are put in a petition book which is included during the morning broadcast Mass as well as during the Holy Hour following the Mass. The largest number of calls from outside of the USA presently comes from Romania.

Participation in these many forms of prayer has increased a hunger for God as well as letters of thanks from the listeners.

A listener recently wrote to Fr. Duane, "I would like to thank you and Radio Maria for your part in my return to the Catholic faith. I had been away for 7 years. In early 2007 I was involved in a long term relationship with a woman. Every other weekend I would drive from North Louisiana to South Louisiana.

One day while driving I came upon Radio Maria. I soon became interested to hear more and more. Soon I would listen to Radio Maria most of the way to and from South Louisiana. I soon began attending Mass and talking with a local priest.

I would like to thank you for the work you do. Please pray for me and I will be sure to pray for you!"

An incarcerated listener writes, "I am in federal prison in Texas. But I have been listening to Radio Maria the last 6 months – and I think the Catholic Church is the true Church of Jesus. I am not a Catholic as of yet, but I have learned to say the Rosary and most of the Mass prayers, the Divine Mercy Chaplet too. I want you to know that you father have changed my life. I want to become a Catholic when I get out in April 2009. I want you to know Radio Maria is where I learned to say the Rosary and now I want to become Catholic."

Teaching...

When Jesus walked this earth, His followers saw, heard, and experienced His person and presence. Radio Maria has the goal of bringing its listeners into the presence of Jesus and in believing His teachings. Radio Maria is neither liberal nor conservative. It is Papal. Therefore obedience to the Pope as well as being orthodox is very important as Radio Maria follows the teachings of the Church. This is seen in the programs on the Catholic Catechism, Scripture, and programs on how to grow closer to God and surrender to Him.

Human Development...

Besides spiritual growth and development, Radio Maria programs have a focus on human development. Catholic professionals have volunteered their time and talent in marriage counseling in their call-in programs. More than half of the marriages today end in divorce. Then there are the programs devoted to home health care. Home health care professionals meet a great need in homes and families today. In Louisiana there are nearly 10,000 home care employees. Across the nation there are 45 million people involved in caring and helping the sick in their homes. Professional guests on these programs are speaking from their offices across the country. Radio Maria has been told that this program is the only one of its kind on the radio.

Sober and Free is the title of an hour call-in program the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. A team of 6 recovering alcoholics share their past and present with addiction to alcohol and drugs. This program is mainly a study and sharing on the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. There are over 100 recovery programs that use the 12 step program of AA.

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