

### The Hurricane Lady

It is told that a sea captain in the early 1800s was near Florida on a cargo ship from Spain. A storm arose so the captain did what was done in the time period; he started throwing things overboard to lighten his load. A crew member came up and said there was a Madonna in the hold of the ship. No one on board remembered seeing it loaded and it didn't have any tag on it saying where it was going or who it was from. It has been said that the captain his crew offered the following prayer;

*"Dear Lady, if you will get us safely into port, we will place your statue with the first Christian family we meet,"*

after which the winds subsided and the ship limped into the St. Augustine port. The statue was passed down through St. Augustine families to where it current resides, in the O'Reilly House Museum of the Sisters of St. Joseph.



### Prayer to Avert Storms

Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear of your power into praise of your goodness. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*"The Hurricane Lady"*  
The Father Miguel O'Reilly House Museum  
32 Aviles Street  
St. Augustine, FL