

**THE PADRE PIO
PRAYER GROUP
of Cleveland**

Spiritual Director:
Fr. Edward J. Janoch

Chaplains:
Fr. William E. Browne
Fr. Kevin C. Shemuga

Group Leader:
Cindy Russo, OFS

**UPCOMING
EVENTS:**

May 9 -

Group Leader
presentation, 7:30
PM, St. Columbkille
Church, 6740
Broadview Rd,
Parma

May 13 -

Feast of Our Lady of
Fatima

May 25 -

St. Padre Pio's
Birthday (1887)

Jun 1 -

NEW LOCATION

Padre Pio Prayer
Group Gathering
beginning with
Rosary at 8:00 AM
and Mass at 8:30 AM,
Our Lady of
Guadalupe Church,
9080 Shepard Rd,
Macedonia

Check the online
Community Bulletin
Board on our
website to view
upcoming events
in the area



St. Padre Pio Prayer Group Newsletter

MAY 2019

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 5

A New Era for Our Group

Dear Spiritual Brothers and Sisters,

I pray your Holy Week and celebration of Easter were blessed, and that each day you grow in holiness. What a whirlwind of a month it has been in April with many presentations at churches, praying with the sick, and moving to Our Lady of Guadalupe! The Indoor Shrine in the church is set up and all are welcome to visit. We are blessed to have Fr. Kevin Shemuga and the OLG Parish support.

Our vision for the future is more spiritual teachings of our Catholic faith. For the month of June we will be hearing a witness from Ken and Faith DiPippo on the gift of a Holy Marriage, and we will invite all couples married in the Catholic Church to renew their wedding vows at the altar during Mass. We plan on forming a committee for a "fun" fundraiser in September near St. Pio's Feast Day, with a vision to build a Padre Pio Pilgrimage Outdoor Shrine at OLG. Also during this year we are working on a retreat, and the next pilgrimage by motor coach in the Fall

will be to the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament and EWTN Global Catholic Network. We are so thankful to have Fr. Bill Browne and Fr. Edward Janoch guiding us spiritually.

And last, but never least, I want to wish all Mothers, Spiritual Mothers, and Godmothers a Happy Mothers Day! May you imitate our Blessed Mother and all of her virtues!

Sincerely,
Cindy Russo, OFS
Group Leader



*"I am delighted
to welcome the
Padre Pio
Prayer Group to
Our Lady of
Guadalupe
Parish! Our
Parish will be
blessed by your
presence as we
together pray
and hope and
learn not to
worry! May we
deepen our love
for Christ
crucified
through St. Pio's
intercession."*

-- Fr. Kevin
Shemuga,
Pastor of OLG

Heavenly Father, Bless all Holy Mothers who have made so many sacrifices for us during our lives. Thank you for the mothers who have taught us how to be Holy Catholics and happy children. Bless them for insisting on us living holy, pure and blameless lives. Bless and help all mothers to continue to be holy examples to us their children. Reward them for their continuous prayers they pour out for their good children.

Mary, you are the ideal Mother. Help all mothers to imitate your purity, faith, modesty, humility and obedience to God's will. You are our eternal Mother. You care about all mothers and their children. Help these mothers and their children to be full of God's graces and love. Give them the graces necessary to lovingly obey God's Laws and to enter into eternity in heaven. Amen.

As another Month of Mary comes our way, I thought it would be helpful to provide quotes from the Saints about their Queen of Saints, the Blessed Virgin Mary. From the very beginning of the Church, Mary's position and role were firmly established. Enjoy and reflect upon these words of love for their Mother and our Mother.



"The Divine Spirit, the love itself of the Father and the Son, came corporally into Mary, and enriching her with graces above all creatures, reposed in her and made her His Spouse, the Queen of Heaven and earth." (St. Anselm of Canterbury)

"The Blessed Virgin, by becoming the Mother of God, received a kind of infinite dignity because God is infinite; this dignity therefore is such a reality that a better is not possible, just as nothing can be better than God." (St. Thomas Aquinas)

"As flies are driven away by a great fire, so were the evil spirits driven away by her ardent love for God." (St. Bernardine of Siena)

"She is so beautiful that to see her again one would be willing to die." (St. Bernadette Soubirous)

"Her Son esteems her prayers greatly, and is so eager to please her that when she prays it seems as if she rather commands, and is rather a queen than a handmaid." (St. Peter Damian)

"If you invoke the Blessed Virgin when you are tempted, she will come at once to your help, and Satan will leave you." (St. John Vianney)

"When the Holy Spirit finds that a soul has drawn close to Mary, His dear and inseparable spouse, He quickens His activity of forming Jesus Christ in it." (St. Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort)

"Mother dear, lend me your heart. I look for it each day to pour my troubles into." (St. Gemma Galgani)

"Your name, O Mary is a precious ointment, which breathes forth the odor of Divine grace. Let this ointment of salvation enter the inmost recesses of our souls." (St. Ambrose)

"O name of Mary! Joy in the heart, honey in the mouth, melody to the ear of her devout clients!" (St. Anthony of Padua)

"Hail God's palace; hail Tabernacle of the Most High; Hail, House of God; Hail, his Holy Vestments; Hail, Handmaid of God." (St. Francis of Assisi)

"He who is devout to the Virgin Mother will certainly never be lost." (St. Ignatius of Antioch)

"Cling to His most sweet Mother who carried a son Whom the heavens could not contain; and yet she carried Him in the little enclosure of her holy womb and held him on her virginal lap." (St. Clare of Assisi)

"The devotions we practice in honor of the glorious Virgin Mary, however trifling they may be, are very pleasing to Her Divine Son, and He rewards them with eternal glory." (Saint Teresa of Avila)

"Love the Madonna and pray the Rosary, for her Rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today. All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother." (St. Pio of Pietralcina)

"Mary is the lily in God's garden." (St. Bridget of Sweden)

"No man is delivered or preserved from the world-wide snares of Satan save through Mary; and God grants His graces to no one except through her alone." (St. Germanus)

"Such is the will of God that we should have everything through Mary." (St. Alphonsus Liguori)

"By the fall a poison was handed to mankind through a woman [Eve], by the Redemption man was given salvation also through a woman [Mary]." (St. Augustine)

"Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did." (St. Maximilian Kolbe)

"Through Mary, we come to her Son more easily." (St. John Paul II)

"If you ever feel distressed during your day — call upon our Lady — just say this simple prayer: 'Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now.' I must admit — this prayer has never failed me." (St. Teresa of Calcutta)

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

To Jesus through Mary.

What Is Your Spiritual Default Mode?

We know that the default mode on a computer is the place that a computer returns to when nothing is searched out. Each person has a spiritual default mode. It is formed even in the womb. Mothers on drugs give birth to crack babies. Mothers who crave a lot of sweets give birth to babies who crave sweets. "Mirroring" is the phenomenon which occurs when the newborn until about four months cannot form its own self-concept. In most cases if the parents smile and give the infant tender loving care, the infant begins to have the self-concept "I am loved, and the world is a safe place." As the infant grows and throughout his/her entire life, the self-concept can radically change, and according to the self-concept the person continuously returns to their spiritual default mode; for example: "I am loved," "I'm no good," "I will never amount to anything," "God can't love me." This affects our moods. Some people are pessimists, others are optimists. What we hear and experience is very formative. Some people never recover from the trauma of the teenage years in which the teen can become very self-critical and other teens can be merciless in their criticism. Their spiritual default mode can become very negative. The good news is that everyone's self-concept and spiritual default mode can change radically for the good. The basic principle is that FAITH COMES THROUGH HEARING (and by extension EXPERIENCING.)



Examples abound of how people were transformed from negative or weak-faith spiritual default mode to a faithful default mode.

- Many teens through Life Teen and other dynamic groups have been transformed from being spiritually confused to being turned on to Jesus. Some even go on to become priests or nuns.
- Many people who go to shrines like Lourdes and Med-

jugorje come back with much more faith, buoyed up not only by the place itself, but also by the faith of their fellow pilgrims.

- Mother Angelica grew up in a very negative family and neighborhood and as a 19 year old was healed through Rhoda Wise and has helped change the world. Her spiritual default mode changed.
- St. Francis of Assisi changed from a party boy to a saint.
- Donald Trump, with all his eccentricities, changed from being pro-choice to being the most pro-life president ever by his acquaintance with a pro-life couple with a special-needs child.
- Vince Lombardi, the famous coach of the Green Bay Packers, a daily communicant, influenced many of his players to change from being worldly or spiritually neutral to becoming Godly men. In fact, the default mode of the entire team became spiritual!
- Four male students from Franciscan University were praying outside a strip club and engaged in a friendly conversation with one of the strippers. They asked her, "what would it take for you to stop being a stripper?" She responded, "Money. In fact, right now, I need \$400 to pay my rent tomorrow." That same evening, the four students came up with the \$400 and prayed with her. She was so touched by what she heard and experienced that she met with the students the next day and gave her life to Jesus.

The common thread in most people coming from a discouraged, confused, lukewarm, etc. default mode is the principle: "Faith comes through hearing (and by extension experiencing)." To influence others in the faith, we ourselves first need to hear and experience Jesus through scripture reading, prayer, friendship and fellowship, etc. We "put on the mind of Christ." It is extremely important that we eliminate hearing negative faith through worldly media, etc. We should not shun negative or Godless people, but after encountering them

we need to come back to Jesus in prayer. We need to seek out and become friends with Godly people. In this way, we can overcome the so often negative, secular, crude, depressing and discouraging default mode of the world we live in and move to a spiritually dynamic one in tune with the spirit of this Easter season which we are now celebrating.

And finally, what is one thing I can do to improve my spiritual default mode?

Mary Day by Day for May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>To you, Mother of the human family and of the nations, we confidently entrust the whole of humanity, with its hopes and fears. Do not let it lack the light of true wisdom. Guide its steps in the ways of peace. Enable all to meet Christ, the Way and the Truth and the Life. Sustain us, O Virgin Mary, on our journey of faith and obtain for us the grace of eternal salvation. O clement, O loving, O sweet Mother of God and our Mother Mary!</i></p>						
<p>3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p>12 O Mary, you are the Refuge of Sinners. Help me to receive the Sacrament of Penance worthily, so that my sins will be forgiven and I will sing your praises forever.</p>	<p>6 O Mary, your Divine Son has placed His own mighty power into your hands. By that power, help me to flee all sin and practice my faith conscientiously day after day.</p> <p>St. John Paul II</p>	<p>7 O Mary, I offer you deep thanks for your great love for all those redeemed by your Divine Son. Help me to respond to that love by loving my neighbor for the love of you and Jesus</p>	<p>1 O Mary, you are the Sunshine of our lives. Let your rays of grace shine into my heart and cast out the darkness of sin and despair. Let me hope always in you.</p> <p>St. Joseph the Worker</p>	<p>2 O Mary, help me to meditate often on your life and to imitate your virtues. In so doing, I will attain a living knowledge of Jesus and the Father—which Jesus said constitutes eternal life.</p> <p>St. Athanasius</p>	<p>3 O Mary, you are all beautiful in both soul and body. I praise you as the Queen of heaven and earth. Let me appreciate your beauty and spiritual might ever more each day</p> <p>SS. PHILIP & JAMES First Friday</p>	<p>4 O Mary, grant me the graces God intends for me this day. Then offer to your Divine Son all the good works that I do as a result of these graces.</p> <p>Easter Weekday</p>
<p>4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p>19 O Mary, you are the first among the believers in Christ. Increase my faith in your Divine Son. Make it so alive that it will shine out even in the littlest thing I do.</p>	<p>20 O Mary, you are the Mediatrix of all graces. Let me ask you each day for the graces I need to lead a truly Christian life, and obtain them for me from your Divine Son.</p> <p>Our Lady of Fatima</p>	<p>14 O Mary, you magnified the Lord by your life as well as your words. Obtain for me the grace to glorify the Lord and rejoice in Him by the purity of my life.</p> <p>ST. MATHIAS</p>	<p>15 O Mary, you are more devoted to the salvation of your children than any earthly mother can be. I thank you for your loving concern for me, which will only rest when I am in heaven with you.</p> <p>St. Isidore the Farmer</p>	<p>16 O Mary, you meditated continually on the things God sent into your life. Help me to meditate daily on the events that touch my life and to discern God's hand and will in them.</p> <p>Easter Weekday</p>	<p>17 O Mary, you were forever working for the Christian apostolate. Teach me to work with you so that I may obtain the best fruits from this activity, with Jesus commanded us to do.</p> <p>St. Damien of Molokai</p>	<p>18 O Mary, you are the Book of Life for your servants. Help me to be so devoted to you that I will remain free from serious sin and deserve to have my name written in that Book.</p> <p>St. John I</p>
<p>5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</p> <p>26 O Mary, you obtain the grace of final perseverance for your children. Help me to be a devoted child of yours, so that I may remain in the state of grace until death and join you with your Son in heaven.</p>	<p>27 O Mary, you are the Co-Redemptrix with your Divine Son. Help me to unite all my words and actions with your Heart and the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the salvation of the world.</p> <p>St. Augustine of Canterbury Memorial Day</p>	<p>21 O Mary, you are our Advocate with God. Grant that I may call upon your intercessory power and so be able to bring forth the fruits that your Divine Son expects from me.</p> <p>St. Christopher Magallanes & Companions</p>	<p>22 O Mary, you are entrusted with our salvation. Keep me safe from the snares of the devil. Help me to say often: "Immaculate Heart of Mary, be my salvation."</p> <p>St. Rita of Cascia</p>	<p>23 O Mary, you bring Jesus to us in a way we can understand. Let me come to know Jesus more deeply, love Him more dearly, and follow Him more closely.</p> <p>Easter Weekday</p>	<p>24 O Mary, you bring us the love of God through the Holy Spirit. Make me acutely aware of the Holy Spirit and grant me the grace to follow His promptings and grow in His love.</p> <p>Easter Weekday</p>	<p>25 O Mary, in accord with the will of your Divine Son, you are the Refuge of Sinners. Beg Him to forgive my past sins and help me to avoid sin in the future.</p> <p>St. Bede the Venerable St. Gregory VII St. Mary Magdalen de Pazzi</p> 
<p>6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</p>	<p>St. Augustine of Canterbury Memorial Day</p>	<p>28 O Mary, you bore Christ in your heart as well as your body. Help me to bear Him always within my heart by doing the things that are pleasing to Him.</p> <p>Easter Weekday</p>	<p>29 O Mary, you intercede even for the most hardened souls. Convert the most rebellious and bring them back to Jesus.</p> <p>Easter Weekday</p>	<p>30 O Mary, teach me to unite myself with the Church in the Liturgy of the Hours each day. Let me recite your magnificent hymn of praise often.</p> <p>Easter Weekday</p>	<p>31 O Mary, you visited Elizabeth on a mission of mercy even while bearing Jesus. Teach me to be concerned for others and bring Jesus to them by my visits.</p> <p>THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</p>	

Mother Mary Angelica of the Annunciation, PCPA

Rita Antoinette Rizzo, is born on April 20, 1923 in Canton, Ohio. Her parents are John Rizzo, an abusive husband and unemployed tailor who wanted to remain childless, and the mentally fragile Mae Rizzo. They were soon divorced.

After a visit on January 8, 1943 with mystic Rhoda Wise, Rita receives a miraculous healing from her recurring stomach ailment. The experience changed her life. She realizes that God loves her personally – and she begins to love Him back. In the fall of 1943, facing a statue of Our Lady of Sorrows, Rita suddenly realizes she has a vocation, which she needs to keep a secret from her mentally unstable mother. Rita seeks out Rhoda Wise and she gives her a list of communities to contact, but Rita's grades are so poor, she has a hard time finding a community that will accept her. Rita Rizzo enters the convent in Cleveland, Ohio on August 15, 1944 and becomes Sister Mary Angelica of the Annunciation, a Franciscan Nun of the Most Blessed Sacrament. The order later changes its name to Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration. Sister Mary Angelica's brash personality and poor health make convent life difficult. The abbess tells Sister Mary Angelica she feels the five stories of steps are causing her water on the knee problems so she has decided to send her to the Sancta Clara Monastery in Canton, Ohio on October 1, 1946. Sister Angelica takes her final solemn vows on January 2, 1953.

In the face of a risky operation to repair her back injury, Sister Angelica promises God she will start a monastery in the South if He permits her to walk again after surgery. Although the spinal surgery is a medical failure, Sister Angelica can move both legs when she wakes up on July 31, 1956. Rome grants her permission on February 3, 1961 for an Alabama Foundation. Mother Angelica leaves her convent in Ohio to found Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Irondale, Alabama, which has a Catholic population of 2 percent. On their way down to Birmingham, the nuns spend the night at a motel where, for the first time, Mother Angelica sees a television set. The nuns are housed by the Sisters of the Holy Trinity in Birmingham as they search for land. With a number of other Poor Clare nuns, she worked to raise the necessary funds, partially from a small business venture making and selling fishing lures and selling peanuts. In 1961, the nuns bought a building and land, and in 1962, the community was

officially established. It was named Our Lady of the Angels Monastery and located in Irondale, Alabama, although it was later relocated to the grounds of the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament. In 1962, Mother Angelica began a series of community meetings on matters relevant to Catholicism and also began recording her talks for sale. Bishop Joseph Vath noticed her talent for communicating with the lay public and encouraged her to continue; she began taping a radio show for broadcast on Sunday mornings and published her first book in 1972. In the late 1970s she began videotaping her talks for television, which were broadcast on the satellite Christian Broadcasting Network. In 1981, after visiting a Chicago television studio and being impressed by its capability, she formed the non-profit EWTN Corporation. Initially, she recorded her shows in a converted garage at the monastery's property. The rest is history. EWTN reaches 264 million households globally.



Mother Angelica held the Catholic belief in Redemptive suffering, the belief that human suffering can become meritorious if offered to Jesus Christ and mystically united with His suffering. Because of this belief, in her period of declining health, Mother Angelica "instructed her nuns to do everything to keep her alive, no matter how much

she suffered, because every day she suffered, she suffered for God." She wanted every day to be "one more act of suffering to God." EWTN chaplain, Father Joseph Mary Wolfe, told reporters that Mother Angelica's desire to unite with Jesus in suffering was fulfilled when she "went into her death throes on Good Friday". She died On March 27, 2016 (Easter Sunday) at the age of 92 from complications due to the stroke she had 14 years prior. At the time, she also suffered from Bell's palsy, heart disease and asthma.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU!

Fr. Edward Janoch ordained May 20, 2000

Fr. Bill Browne ordained May 15, 2004

Fr. Kevin Shemuga ordained June 11, 1983

We are very blessed to have faith filled Priests associated with our Padre Pio Prayer Group who said yes to God's call. It takes a special heart to give their whole life to Him as His Priest. Our prayer is as St. Teresa of Calcutta once said: "... is to ask Our Lady to be Mother to you, to give you Her heart, so beautiful and pure, so full of love and humility that you may always receive Jesus in the Bread of Life and bring Him to others with great love. Just learn to love Jesus with the conviction that nothing and nobody can ever separate you from His Love. Be only all for Jesus through Mary. Amen."



*Fill your
priests
with
the sure
knowledge
of your
love.*

Prayers for Priests and Consecrated Religious Life

In our prayer for those in the priesthood and the consecrated religious life, let us keep them in mind as we pray the rosary. Our Lady told Blessed Alan de la Roche, *"When you say your Rosary, the angels rejoice, the Blessed Trinity delights in it, my Son finds joy in it too, and I myself am happier than you can possibly guess. After the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, there is nothing in the Church that I love as much as the Rosary."*

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

We thank you, God our Father, for those who have responded to your call to priestly ministry. Accept this prayer we offer on their behalf:
Fill your priests with the sure knowledge of your love.
Open their hearts to the power and consolation of the Holy Spirit.
Lead them to new depths of union with your Son.
Increase in them profound faith in the Sacraments they celebrate as they nourish, strengthen and heal us.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant that these, your priests, may inspire us to strive for holiness by the power of their example, as men of prayer who ponder your word and follow your will.

O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother, guard with your maternal care these chosen ones, so dear to the Heart of your Son. Intercede for our priests that, offering the Sacrifice of your Son, they may be conformed more each day to the image of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(St. John Neumann, C.Ss.R.)



Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy!
Guard the kingdom of Thy Vicar on earth,
our chief bishop.
Pray for the people;
intercede for the clergy;
protect the consecrated virgins.
Give us strength against our enemies and thine.
Give courage to the fearful; joy to those that mourn;
peace to the contrite of heart; perseverance to the just.
Let all experience thy protection, Virgin and Mother.
Through thee the nations are brought to repentance,
the demons are put to flight.
They that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death
are filled with the knowledge and love of Thy Son. Amen.

PRAYER FOR WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS ON MAY 12, 2019 (Prayer from the USCCB)

Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate,
give to our young people the generosity necessary
to follow Your call and the courage required
to overcome all obstacles to their vocation.
Give to parents that faith, love and spirit of sacrifice
which will inspire them to offer their children
to God's service and to rejoice whenever
one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life.
May Your example and that of Your Blessed Mother
and Saint Joseph encourage both young people
and parents and let Your grace sustain them. Amen.

Does Your Soul Magnify the Lord?

The month of May is devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary honoring Her as "the Queen of May". The Magnificat, Luke's Gospel (1:46-55), is the Blessed Virgin Mary's hymn of praise to the Lord. It is also known as the Canticum of Mary in the Liturgy of the Hours, a special collection of scripture readings, psalms, and hymns that constitute what is known as the prayer of the church. (Priests and religious are required to pray sections from the Liturgy of the Hours each day.) Although the Magnificat has had numerous musical settings from such composers as Palestrina, Bach and Mozart, it can be recited as well as sung. Its name comes from the first line of its text in Latin ("Magnificat anima mea Dominum") translated in the first line below. Mary proclaims the Lord's greatness with characteristic humility and grace here.



for meditation on the Visitation, the second Joyful Mystery of the Rosary, when the angel Gabriel informs Mary that she is to be the Mother of God.

Speaking of magnifying, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen once referred to our Blessed Mother as being like "a magnifying glass that intensifies our love of her Son." How about you? Does your soul magnify the Lord? We may never be able to approach Him from Mary's level of sanctity as the Mother of God, but we are all called to be saints nonetheless.

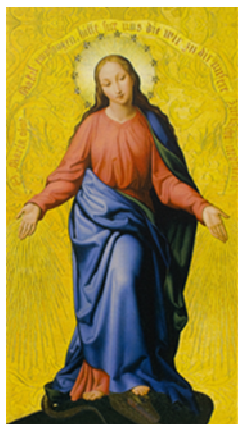
Your good example, like our Blessed Mother's, can help others in their spiritual growth. Do people see Christ's love and goodness in you? Are you letting God work within you to accomplish His will? Let Mary help give you the graces you need to follow her Son and His Church in praying the Magnificat Prayer. We must all follow Mary's example.

My soul magnifies the Lord, And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; Because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid For behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed; Because He who is mighty has done great things for me, and Holy is His name; And His mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear Him. He has shown might with His arm, He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart. He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and has exalted the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent away empty. He has given help to Israel, his servant, mindful of His mercy, even as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to His posterity forever. Amen.

The Magnificat provides great material

"33 Days to Morning Glory" Consecration Prayer

(May is a great month to reconsecrate yourself to Mary.)



I, _____, a repentant sinner, renew and ratify today in your hands, O, Immaculate Mother, the vows of my Baptism. I renounce Satan and resolve to follow Jesus Christ even more closely than before.

Mary, I give you my heart. Please set it on fire with love for Jesus. Make it always attentive to his burning thirst for love and for souls. Keep my heart in your most pure Heart that I may love Jesus and the members of his Body with your own perfect love.

Mary, I entrust myself totally to you: my body and soul, my goods, both interior and exterior, and even the value of all my good actions. Please make of me, of all that I am and have, whatever most pleases you. Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for bringing the greatest possible glory to God. If I fall, please lead me back to Jesus. Wash me in the blood and water that flow from his pierced side, and help me never to lose my trust in this fountain of love and mercy.

With you, O Immaculate Mother - you who always do the will of God - I unite myself to the perfect consecration of Jesus as he offers himself in the Spirit to the Father for the life of the world. Amen.

KEEP OUR SICK SISTERS & BROTHERS IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

Call Helen Husky 440-232-3462 to add a member to the list.

Bernadine Antonio
Carol Basek
Jack Bolton
Dr. Biagio Boytim
Mike Bradley
Tom Bruno
Florence Catafumo
Sue Cleary

Catlin Dean
Christine DeMauro
Vincent DeVentura
Kelly Morici Diaz
Bob Dodds
Tim Doherty
Steve Fiata
Louise Frein

Richard Frein
Kathleen Graham
Helen Husky
Ray King
Virginia Kovacina
Carol Kriebel
Cookie Laba
Lori Landfear

Laura Lang
Bishop Richard Lennon
Jennifer Minniti
Joe Morici
Peggy Pongracz
Abbot C. Schwartz OSB
Rita Slivka
Joe Trapani



† OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF OUR RECENTLY DECEASED †

Robert (Bob) Franko, prayer group member

FOR ALL THE INTENTIONS IN OUR ONLINE PRAYER BASKET, LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Jake's Corner

For the month of May, I have chosen to write about Blessed Bartolo Longo. Blessed Bartolo Longo's story is very fitting for Mary's month. Our Lady, through her Rosary, saved Bartolo from the devil.



Bartolo Longo was born on February 10, 1841, in Latiano, Italy, to Dr. Bartolomeo Longo and Antonia Luparelli. The Longo family was a wealthy devout Catholic family who prayed the Rosary together daily. After Bartolo's mother died in 1851, he distanced himself from the Church. Bartolo wanted to become a lawyer and went to the University of Naples. At the University of Naples, he met a group that practiced the occult. Eventually, Bartolo was "ordained" a Satanist Priest. Bartolo hated the Church with a strong passion. He did all in his power to lead souls away from Christ and His Church.

The more Bartolo grew in the occult, the deeper he sank into depression and demonic possession. He began to experience confusion, nervousness, and paranoia. Bartolo was horrified with the diabolical visions he experienced. He had a mental breakdown. At his darkest time, he heard his deceased father's voice telling him to return to God. He was moved by this urgent plea and sought out a Priest. At the advice of his friend, Professor Vincenzo Pepe, Bartolo went to see the saintly Dominican Priest, Father Alberto Radente. Father Radente heard Bartolo's Confession and reconciled him with God and the Church.

After Father Radente heard his Confession, Bartolo was walking beside an old Chapel in Pompeii and had a mystical experience. In this experience, Bartolo was encouraged to propagate

the Rosary. Our Lady had promised that all who propagate the Rosary would be saved. Bartolo remembered Father Radente told him that, and Bartolo took that to heart. Bartolo began to propagate the Rosary everywhere he went. Bartolo started a Rosary Confraternity and became a Third Order Dominican. Bartolo made his profession on March 25, 1871, taking the name Brother Rosario.

He met Countess Mariana di Fusco through a charitable organization and, under the recommendation of Pope Leo XIII, Bartolo married her. After his marriage, the couple looked for an image of Our Lady to be a focus point for a Confraternity. Sister Maria Concetta de Litala gave Bartolo the famous image of Our Lady of the Rosary of Pompeii. Bartolo placed the image in a Church he renovated in October of 1873. Miracles were reported almost instantly. He was encouraged to build a larger Church. Now the Church is known as the Pontifical Shrine of the Blessed Virgin of Pompeii. Bartolo died on October 5, 1926, at the age of 85. On October 26, 1980, His Holiness, Pope Saint John Paul II Beatified Bartolo Longo.

Blessed Bartolo Longo is one of my favorite Saints. I believe that Blessed Bartolo Longo is a great example that God's mercy is limitless. Also, I believe that he is a great example of how powerful and important devotion to Our Lady is. I ask all of you to pray the Rosary every day this month, but it would be even better to pray your Rosary every day of the year! In this month of May let us be like Blessed Bartolo Longo and be Champions of the Rosary!

Written by Jake Snyder with some information taken from:
<http://www.ncregister.com/blog/astagnaro/blessed-bartolo-longo-the-ex-satanist-who-was-freed-through-the-rosary>

BEST WISHES to our Spiritual Children celebrating birthdays and special occasions in the month of May!

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