

**THE PADRE PIO
PRAYER GROUP
of Cleveland**

**Spiritual Director:
Rev. Fr. Edward J. Janoch**

**Group Leader:
Cindy Russo**



St. Padre Pio Prayer Group Newsletter

MAY 2017

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5

**UPCOMING
EVENTS:**

May 13 -

Rosary for the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady's Message at Fatima at Noon, Twinsburg Town Square, Rts. 82 & 91

May 25 -

St. Padre Pio's Birthday

Jun 3 -

Padre Pio Prayer Group Gathering beginning with Mass at 8:30 AM, St. Barnabas Church, 9451 Brandywine Rd., Northfield

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

Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth

"Hail, Holy Queen enthroned above, O Maria. Hail, Mother of mercy and of love, O Maria. Triumph all ye Cherubim, Sing with us ye Seraphim. Heaven and earth resound the hymn. Salve, Salve, Salve Regina."

This is the song we sang to Mary as a child. It is probably one of your first memories of May Crowning. Do you still have that childlike faith and innocence of singing to our Mother of mercy and love? What happened in your life that you don't always immediately go to Our Mother for love, guidance and hope? May Crowning is the feast that recognizes Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth. To a person of any age, this is a mighty big title. How many queens does one get a chance to meet in a lifetime, much less crown? Our Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth, lifts us right out of the last cold days of winter and plants our hearts firmly in the warm and promising soil of spring. We should be forever grateful to Mary for her fiat. She brings us to her Son. You might not have discovered the gaze of Jesus if you had not first felt the maternal, nurturing, and safe embrace of our mother in heaven. That's why we crown her on our Catholic version of Mother's Day. She teaches us how to be good, nurturing, loving parents to our children. She teaches us to be a loving spouse, an obedient child to our parents, and a good friend. Through



Mary, we become enamored of the Holy Family. Through Mary, it is her feminine presence and the safety of her motherhood that helps us grow. Each May, one special day is devoted to mothers every-

where for having given their children the gift of life. But for the Mother who gave life to Jesus, the entire month is set aside in her honor. Let us get back to a child's heart so full of love for our Mother in heaven. Mary will always bring you to Jesus. Her Son never refuses Her requests. She brings the very aroma of heaven to our world which is so badly needed. She has appeared throughout the years to young innocent children.

She always reminded them to pray the most Holy Rosary and pray for all the sinners of the world. Pray to her for a child-like innocent heart. Mama Mary, we love you! Happy Mother's Day!

"Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope, to thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears, turn, then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us. And after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

"Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ."

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year.” No, I am not talking about Christmas as this line from a Christmas song would indicate, but that the Month of May, Mary’s Month, is the most wonderful time of the year. This is the month that we remember our Heavenly Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. I can still remember when I was in the seventh grade, we had the school May Crowning and some of us students took home the program of the event and we recreated our own May Crowning in the middle of an open field. In Kindergarten, I remember my grandmother bringing in four, one gallon, Clorox bleach containers, filled with daffodils for our morning Kindergarten class’s May Crowning. Also, my home parish of my youth, St. Mary of the Assumption Church, in Mentor, Ohio, also helped to support my devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. I am currently assigned to St. Mary Church, Chardon, Ohio; coincidences? No, a God Occurrence. Images of the Blessed Virgin Mary are important to me. These items I own include: a life-sized head of the Blessed Virgin Mary from Michelangelo’s *Pieta*, a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes, a statue of Our Lady of Fatima, a Statue of our Lady of Mount Carmel, a picture of our Mother of Good Counsel, a picture of Our Lady of the Rosary, many holy cards and prayer books that are dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. I also have many rosaries that have special memories for me. These include my grandmother’s rosary, the one she prayed with for all her grandchildren and that one would become a priest; my mother’s rosary when she made her first communion; my first communion rosary; a one decade rosary touched to the body of Mother Angelica of EWTN; my Knights of Columbus rosary that was given to me when I became a Knight; a rosary blessed by Pope Benedict XVI and another rosary blessed by Pope Francis; a rosary that touched the relic of St. Maria Goretti, when her relics were brought to Columbus, Ohio, in 2015; and the rosary that I received from St. John Paul II when the Seminary community visited Rome in 1999. I am sure that many of us have statues, images and rosaries that represent our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. We also know that the Saints, St. Padre Pio included, all have a great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The story about the travelling statue of Our Lady of Fatima that visited San Giovanni Rotondo and how Padre Pio could not get a chance to venerate this image and that as the helicopter was leaving with the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, it flew by his window and he got to see his Blessed Mother, as she was leaving. It shows the great devotion he has for his Mother.



Photographer: Fr. Edward J. Janoch © 2016
Statue of Our Lady of Fatima located
on the site of the Apparitions of 1917

What does all this devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God have to do to help us with our relationship with God? Well, we know the answer. It is a great help with our relationship with God. We know that it was God’s love for us that he sent us His only Son, so that all who believe in Him may have eternal life [John 3:16]. This giving of us of His Son was done by sending his Son to become like us, taking on our humanity. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us [John 1:14]. Mary became the Mother of God, by her obedience to God through the message of an angel; the Angel Gabriel. The Son of God became the Son of Mary who became the Son of Man. Mary’s eternal spouse is the Holy Spirit who overshadowed her and she conceived in her womb, Jesus. [Luke 1:35]. Since the Trinity played an important role in Mary’s life here on earth, she is able to help us to have a blessed relationship with the Blessed Trinity. She wants us to have the same relationship she has with the Trinity. Mary wants us to know her Son and she is always leading us to her Son. She does not make Jesus less important in our relationship with God, but instead enhances it because of her faithfulness to God. Mary is the most perfect disciple and wants us to also be the perfect disciple of her Son. Her love for us is to bring us into the greatest source of love ever known to all humanity; that is, GOD. Let us honor Our Mother, during this Month of May, but also every day of our life so that we can someday enjoy eternal bliss with her Son, Jesus Christ, in Heaven. Holy Mother of God, Pray for Us!

We are blessed to be living in this time to celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. It seems that we need to heed her request to pray for peace as our world appears to be heading for world conflict. Prayer, fasting, and sacrifice is needed now to save us and give us peace so that more innocent souls do not have to suffer the evil that this world chooses to engage in.

Praying for Loved Ones Estranged from the Church

We celebrated Divine Mercy a few weeks ago - a devotion emphasizing Jesus' profound desire to bring back and reconcile all His beloved to Himself. Today's article will consider the issue of family members who have given up a belief in God, joined another religion or another denomination, or simply don't attend church any longer. This can be very painful, especially when grandchildren are not church-ed. This article is basically a CHALLENGE to take on the task in a positive way. Please pause right now and ask Jesus for the grace to take on the challenge rather than making excuses and giving up.




1. Look upon the issue not so much as a problem but as an ADVENTURE. One of the "happiest" funerals lately was that of Fr. Dan Begin of Bedford. He was a happy priest, rarely complained. He welcomed everyone especially broken, not bitter over the closing of his inner city parishes. Parishioners were not problems. They were sheep to be loved. People of great variety of race, color and creed were there, with standing room only. He concentrated on being a humble servant, focusing on mercy and leaving the results to God. He had a solid prayer life, focusing on Jesus more than circumstances or people's short comings.
 - A spirit of adventure is a MINDSET which keeps us positive and puts problems in perspective. One day a very angry patient stormed into the reception room of a very successful physical therapist. The receptionist raced back to the therapist pleading for help. The therapist, with a twinkle in her eye, said "bring her on in". Within 15 minutes the patient was smiling. It was an adventure for the therapist. Consider Jesus on the boat in the storm, doubting Thomas, speaking to Peter after the resurrection. Consider family an adventure!
 - BARGAIN with Jesus: e.g. "Jesus, I will start saying the rosary every day to bring my son back." Put no time limit on it. It has worked for a couple in our prayer group.
2. Enter into their world. "The word was made flesh and dwelt among us." How humble of God! A father who had no interest in baseball, had a twelve year old son who was obsessed with becoming a major league ball-player. He simply did not have the physical skills. They were growing apart with the father trying to convince him. Taking the advice of his pastor and knowing it would mean a huge investment of time and effort, the father spent an entire summer going to different ball-

parks with his son and discussing all the players. The relationship became very strong. The son is now a successful accountant. E.G. Pope John Paul II praying at the wailing wall in Jerusalem.

- Zig Ziglar, a great sales coach said "You can get what you want by giving people what they want." E.g. Jesus with the woman at the well or the five loaves and two fish.
 - A man who believes in Eastern religion and only considers Jesus a teacher is now reading the Diary of St. Faustina and has a picture of Divine Mercy in his house because his Catholic friend read some of his books and discusses what his friend believes.
 - Learn to speak the language of another denomination because they find Catholic worship flat (please re-read last month's article) and its preaching dry. They want to be inspired, a matter of the heart not the head. Be willing to share what Jesus is doing in your heart and telling you. Share your mystical experiences. Read the same scriptures they read and discuss them, not so much theologically but for mutual inspiration.
 - Have the humility to attend their denominational church occasionally. Our recent Popes have been doing this.
3. Focus on what I can do.
 - When Mother Teresa was asked, "What are the greatest obstacles you face in your ministry?", she humbly answered "Myself." We cannot change anyone, only God can. It's not: myself->other. But rather a triangle with myself at one end of the lower line. My prayer and penance go up to God on the slanted line and God then sends down the graces to my loved one on the other side of the slanted line.
-
- Be humble, not thinking: "How could my son do this to me after all I've done for him?" If you have been critical or manipulative, ask for forgiveness.
 - Stop the blame game. Only Jesus can judge. Some people have a private relationship with God which they never talk about.
 - Confess resentment and ask to be purified of it, otherwise my negativity will transfer on the metaphysical level. Work on MY faults and offer up all the effort for my loved one's intention. I can change myself.

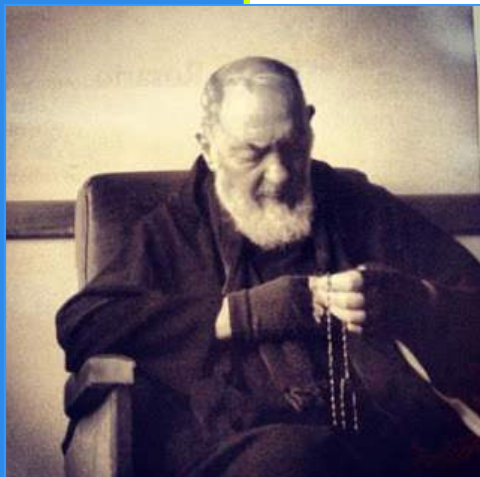
St.
Monica
and St.
Padre
Pio, Pray
for Us!

May, the Month of Mary, 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The First Joyful Mystery The Annunciation Easter Weekday <i>St. Joseph the Worker</i>	2 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Second Joyful Mystery The Visitation <i>St. Athanasius</i>	3 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Third Joyful Mystery The Nativity of the Lord SS. PHILIP & JAMES	4 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Fourth Joyful Mystery The Presentation in the Temple Easter Weekday	5 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Fifth Joyful Mystery Finding the Child Jesus in the Temple Easter Weekday	6 Pray the <i>Miraculous Medal Prayer</i> [see below]
7 Pray the <i>Divine Mercy Chaplet</i>	8 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The First Luminous Mystery The Baptism of the Lord Easter Weekday	9 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Second Luminous Mystery The Wedding Feast at Cana Easter Weekday	10 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Third Luminous Mystery The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God Easter Weekday <i>St. Damien de Veuster</i>	11 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Fourth Luminous Mystery The Transfiguration Easter Weekday	12 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Fifth Luminous Mystery The Manifestation of the Eucharist Easter Weekday St. Nereus & Achilleus <i>St. Pancras</i>	13 Pray the <i>Miraculous Medal Prayer</i> [see below] Easter Weekday
4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 14 Pray the <i>Divine Mercy Chaplet</i>	15 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The First Sorrowful Mystery The Agony in the Garden Easter Weekday	16 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Second Sorrowful Mystery The Scourging at the Pillar Easter Weekday	17 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Third Sorrowful Mystery The Crowning with Thorns Easter Weekday <i>St. John I</i>	18 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Fourth Sorrowful Mystery Carrying the Cross Easter Weekday	19 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Fifth Sorrowful Mystery The Crucifixion Easter Weekday <i>St. Nereus & Achilleus</i> <i>St. Pancras</i>	20 Pray the <i>Miraculous Medal Prayer</i> [see below] Easter Weekday <i>Our Lady of Fatima</i>
5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 21 Pray the <i>Divine Mercy Chaplet</i>	22 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The First Glorious Mystery The Resurrection Easter Weekday <i>St. Isidore</i>	23 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Second Glorious Mystery The Ascension Easter Weekday	24 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Third Glorious Mystery The Descent of the Holy Spirit Easter Weekday	25 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Fourth Glorious Mystery The Assumption Easter Weekday	26 Pray a decade of the Rosary: The Fifth Glorious Mystery The Coronation Easter Weekday	27 Pray the <i>Miraculous Medal Prayer</i> [see below] Easter Weekday <i>St. Bernadine of Siena</i>
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 28 Pray the <i>Divine Mercy Chaplet</i>	29 Pray the <i>Angelus</i> Easter Weekday <i>Memorial Day</i>	30 Pray the <i>Memorare</i> Easter Weekday	31 Pray the <i>Salve Regina</i> Easter Weekday THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday <i>Miraculous Medal Prayer</i> St. Philip Neri	Easter Weekday <i>St. Augustine of Canterbury</i>
ASCENSION OF THE LORD	Easter Weekday <i>Memorial Day</i>	Easter Weekday	THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Easter Weekday	Easter Weekday <i>Miraculous Medal Prayer</i> St. Philip Neri	Easter Weekday <i>St. Augustine of Canterbury</i>
<p>O Virgin Mother of God, Mary Immaculate, we dedicate and consecrate ourselves to you under the title of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. May this medal be for each of us a sure sign of your affection for us and a constant reminder of our duties toward you. Ever while wearing it, may we be blessed by your loving protection and preserved in the grace of your Son. O Most powerful Virgin, Mother of our Savior, keep us close to you every moment of our lives. Obtain for us, your children, the grace of a happy death; so that, in union with you, we may enjoy the bliss of heaven forever. Amen.</p>						

Prayer for Priests and Vocations

In this Month of May, let us pray the Rosary to the Blessed Mother daily for our priests, the newly ordained priests and for seminarians.



ROSARY FOR PRIESTS — THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

By The late John J. Cardinal Carberry of St. Louis

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit AMEN

Dear Jesus, how can we ever properly thank you for our priests? They have given up everything for us, forsaking the world to nourish our souls with the Eucharist and to heal our wounds through Confession.

Send forth your Holy Spirit, RIGHT NOW, in a flood--nay--a supernatural TORRENT of grace, in swift and sure answer to this plea, bringing consolations and courage and purity and joy to our beloved priests. As only You can do, whisper into their hearts that we love them so! As only You can do, enwrap each man wearing a cassock and collar in the loving maternal arms of your Mother, who wept with You and stayed with You during your hours of suffering during Your crucifixion.

We ask this in Your Holy Name, the name above all names: Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Amen.

First Joyful Mystery: THE ANNUNCIATION

The Angel Gabriel announces to Mary, a virgin, that she will become the mother of God, Word Made Flesh. For all centuries to come, Jesus will become flesh in the Holy Eucharist to nourish us in a most intimate union with Him.

We pray for all priests who daily through the words of the consecration at Mass, and through Holy Communion, bring us the Body and Blood of Christ. We pray for all future priests now being formed in the wombs of their mothers that they may be safe from physical harm, and come to Ordination as God intends. We pray for all future generations of priests. We pray also that priests may treasure the gift of celibacy.

Second Joyful Mystery: THE VISITATION

Mary visits her cousin, Elizabeth, who recognizes Mary as the living tabernacle for their Divine Lord.

We pray especially for priests who bring Holy Communion to the sick, the shut-ins, and Viaticum to the dying. We pray for all the priests who minister to the sick in other ways, counsel, comfort and console them.

Third Joyful Mystery: THE NATIVITY OF JESUS

Jesus is born in Bethlehem. The angels announce His birth; kings and shepherds come to adore Him.

We pray that all seminarians grow in knowledge and love of God to become holy priests. We pray especially for those who will be ordained soon, that they remain faithful all their lives to the sublime privilege of being "other Christs" among us. We pray that everyone will come to value the Eucharistic Feast and the Priesthood among God's greatest gifts to us. We pray that every priest will consider himself a member of the Holy Family, a true son of Mary and Joseph, and a brother-priest of Jesus, the great High Priest.

Fourth Joyful Mystery: PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE

Mary and Joseph, in obedience to the Law, bring Jesus to the temple to be dedicated to God. Simeon expresses his gratitude to God for revealing the Messiah to him before he dies.

*Enwrap
each
[priest] in
the loving
maternal
arms of
your
Mother*

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

We thank God for all priests who, like Simeon, have given us decades of faithful service. We pray that they may be rewarded for their generosity and self-sacrifice. We pray also for all priests whose hearts are pierced by loneliness, depression and rejection.

Fifth Joyful Mystery: FINDING JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

Jesus is found among the teachers in the temple; He returns home and is obedient to Mary and Joseph.

We pray that priests will always be found going about their Father's business, and will be obedient to the teaching of the Magisterium of the Church, our Holy Father and the bishops in communion with him. We pray for all young priests that the love and dedication they experience in the first years of their priesthood may increase in the future. We pray for all priests who teach the Faith to children and adults.

Our Lady of Fatima 1917-2017

May 13, 1917

[The following account of the Story of Fatima is based on the booklet, *“Lucia Speaks – The Message of Fatima,”* – a condensed version of Sister Lucia’s Memoirs – published by The World Apostolate of Fatima-USA.]



On May 13, 1917 the three children took their flocks out to pasture in the small area known as the Cova da Iria. After lunch and the rosary they suddenly saw a bright flash of something like lightning, followed quickly by another flash in the clear blue sky.

They looked up to see, in Lucia’s words, “a lady, clothed in white, brighter than the sun, radiating a light more clear and intense than a crystal cup filled with sparkling water lit by burning sunlight.” The children stood there amazed, bathed in the light that surrounded the apparition as the Lady smiled and said: “Do not be afraid, I will not harm you.” Lucia, as the oldest, asked her where she came from.

The Lady pointed to the sky and said: “I come from heaven.” Lucia then asked her what she wanted. “I have come to ask you to come here for six months on the 13th day of the month at this same hour. Later I shall say who

I am and what I desire. And I shall return here yet a seventh time.”

Lucia then asked if they would go to heaven and was told yes, she and Jacinta would go to heaven, but Francisco would need to say many rosaries first. The Lady then said: “Are you willing to offer yourselves to God and bear all the sufferings He wills to send you as an act of reparation for the conversion of sinners?” Lucia, as spokesman for all three, readily agreed. “Then you are going to have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort.”

Lucia recounted that at the same moment as she said these words the Lady opened her hands and streamed a “light” on the children which allowed them to see themselves in God. The Lady finished with a request: “Say the Rosary every day to bring peace to the world and the end of the war.” With that she began to rise into the air, moving towards the east until she disappeared.

The children got together and tried to think of ways they could make sacrifices as the Lady had asked, resolving to go without lunch and to pray the full rosary. Francisco and Jacinta received more support from their parents than Lucia, but the attitudes of the local inhabitants ranged from skepticism to utter contempt, and the children thereby suffered many insults. They would have much to suffer, just as the Lady had told them.

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KEEP OUR SICK SISTERS & BROTHERS IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

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

Bob Agnes
 Mary Agnes
 Mary Agnes (child)
 James Angellella
 Bradley Arters
 Jim Bogenpohl
 Mike Bradley
 Tom Bruno
 Theresa C.
 Ellen Covert
 Anthony Culovic
 Don Dahlhausen
 Bob Dodds
 Sean Doherty
 Tim Doherty
 Lorie Evans
 Steve Fiata
 Charles Fiore
 Marty Franck
 Louise Frein
 Richard Frein
 Chuck Gerwee

Chuck Jones
 Pat Jones
 Ferrel Kleem
 John Korosec
 Dean Kriska
 Leslie Langa
 Bishop Richard Lennon
 Carol Liming
 Dave Liming
 Joann Lloyd
 Colleen Maher
 Louise Martin
 Tina Mazzone
 Gail Mertz
 Jennifer Minniti
 Joe Morici
 Peter Morici
 Eleanor Phillips
 Janice Puccioroni
 Marion Remar
 Andrea Rice
 Robin Richards

Dana Robinson
 Abbot Christopher Schwartz OSB
 Brooklyn Shaft
 Roberta Sloan
 Erin Smith
 Grace Staab
 Ann Steel
 Michael Stirrup
 Thomas Stirrup
 Bernadine Sunagel
 Lil Tozser
 Ilah Vanyo
 Marie Walker
 Barbara Weisinger
 Andrew Zolata
 Marilyn Zolata
 SPECIAL INTENTION



OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF
 OUR RECENTLY DECEASED



Pray for All Souls in Purgatory

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



Pilgrimage to Franciscan University

On the eve of Palm Sunday, 49 pilgrims went to Franciscan University. We were met by 4 student ambassadors who gave us a tour of the campus, including the television studio where Dr. Scott Hahn and other EWTN hosts produce their programs. The tour also included a visit to the Lourdes Shrine, a replica of Portiuncula (where there is perpetual adoration for the students), a Shrine for the Unborn, Stations of the Cross, and a Shrine of the Nativity. We accidentally (or may we say we had a "God occurrence") when we bumped into the President of the University, Fr. Sean Sheridan, TOR. He extended a Franciscan blessing to us before we joined the Franciscan students for Holy Mass (standing room only!). It was quite impressive and wonderful to see students embracing their Catholic faith so joyfully and reverently. We took time off for fellowship at Scaffidi's Restaurant where we had a delicious Italian lunch and then headed to the Franciscan Sisters T.O.R. of Penance of the Sorrowful Mother Convent in Toronto, OH. Sr. Carrrie Ann McKeown gave a beautiful witness and we ended our visit with a healing service venerating the chalice of St. Padre Pio. What a beautiful way to prepare for the start of Holy Week!

See more pictures from our pilgrimage on the Photos page of our website (<http://www.padrepiocleveland.org/photos.html>).

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

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 FACEBOOK: WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PADREPIOCLEVELAND TWITTER: [@PADREPIOCLEVELAND](https://twitter.com/PADREPIOCLEVELAND)