

**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:**

Oct 12 -

**Annual Rosary Rally
at Noon, Twinsburg
Square (or find a
rally in your area)**

Oct 13 -

**St. Padre Pio Day at
Sorrowful Mother
Shrine, 4106 OH-
269, Bellevue, begins
with Rosary at 10:30
AM (see our website
for more details)**

Nov 2 -

**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

OCTOBER 2019

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 10

Our Life, Our Sweetness and Our Hope

October is the month of the rosary. On October 7th is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. It was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that She gives the Church, in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

It is not a coincidence that the Miracle of the Sun happened in the month of October. When the Blessed Virgin enters into the life of a soul, She causes a radiant springtime to blossom there. She chases away gloomy clouds of sadness, doubt, and discouragement. Hearts that give themselves sincerely to Her are flooded with clarity, peace, and happiness. If you sincerely desire to transform your life and practice easily those virtues God asks of you, go to Mary. There is no more a direct route to Our Lord. It is Mary who gives Jesus to the world. Our Lord is not merely content with coming into the world in Bethlehem. He desires to be born in each of our souls. He wishes to grow and take form in our deepest being. This happens when we advance in virtue. The mysterious birth and growth of Our Lord within us is the work of the Virgin Mary. Our Lady bestows the graces the Savior merited for us by His precious blood. No Catholic should have the slightest doubt about this. All favors from

heaven come to us through Her hands. Such is the unanimous teaching of Catholic Tradition.

When your heart is discouraged by trials, throw yourself into the arms of our heavenly Mother. When you feel that you no longer have the strength to even murmur a simple Hail Mary, call out to Her by her blessed name. At that very moment, She will cover you with

Her mantle, console and comfort you. Mama Mary is the life of our souls because She gives us Jesus, the Author of all life. She is our sweetness. She is not content merely with working efficaciously for our salvation; indeed She finds ways to make it easier. With the tenderness of a mother, She strews flowers on the difficult path of virtue we walk.



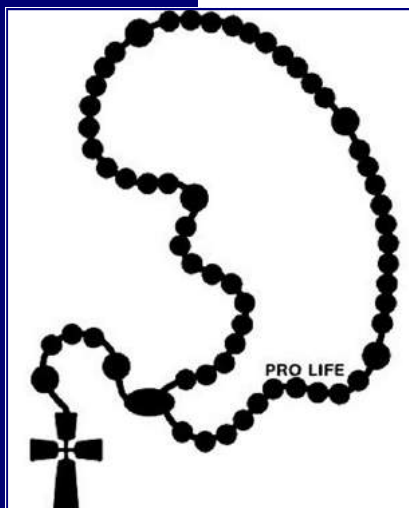
The Mother of God is well aware that She is somewhat indebted to us for the immense privileges She has received. Mary sweetens

our lives by interceding with Our Lord to ward off the pains and punishments we so often deserve. When trials arise in our lives, Mary obtains such an abundance of grace for all those who call upon Her, that they do not feel the cross that weighs upon them. For hope and love call upon Mama Mary. Remember the evil one can't even stand hearing the name Mary.

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 valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! Amen.

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you." — Jer 1:5

The following headlines from September 19th through the 23rd from LifeNews.com, shows us "the good," "the bad," and "the ugly" for the protection of unborn life.



Abandoned Newborn Baby Boy Saved After He Was Left Next to a Dumpster

Elizabeth Warren Bought Lemonade From Two Kids, They Sent Her Money to the March for Life

Pete Buttigieg Hopes 2,246 Aborted Babies Won't Stop Abortions: "Women Need" to Kill Their Babies

Miracle Baby Goes Home After He's Born Weighing 1 Pound, Feet Were the Size of a Penny

Judge Won't Dismiss Case, May Punish David Daleiden for Exposing Planned Parenthood Baby Part Sales

34-Week-Old Aborted Baby Cries and "Comes Back to Life" as Stunned Parents Were Saying Goodbye [The parents are suing the doctors because this was a "botched abortion."]

Mark Zuckerberg Admits Facebook Censored Pro-Life Group, But Refuses to Apologize

Pro-Abortion Nurse May Have Reported Pro-Lifer to CPS to Get Her Kids Taken Away

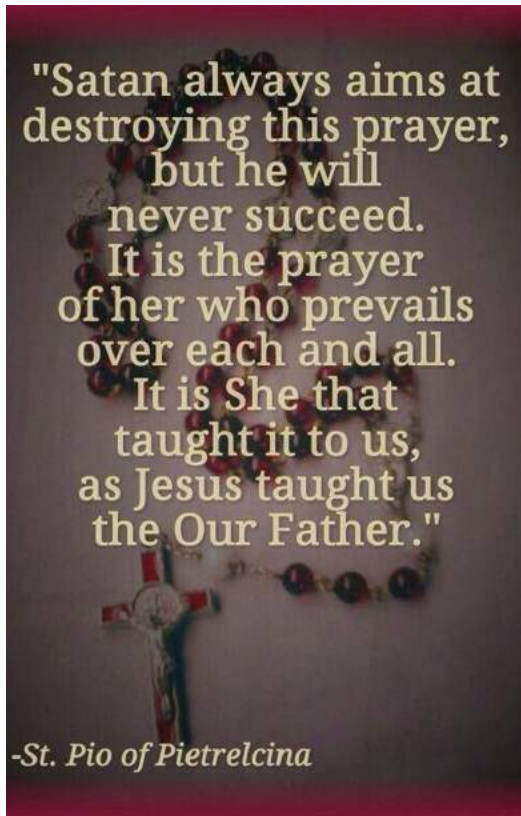
Videos Show Abortion Activists Kicking, Shoving and Harassing Peaceful Pro-Lifers

Abortion Activist Arrested After Attempting to Bomb Pro-Life Event

Justice Ginsburg Tells Abortion Activists the ERA is Dead: "Start Over Again"

Pro-Abortion Cory Booker Desperately Seeks Donations to Stay in Presidential Race

I cannot believe that there are still news stories that shock me. We would think that we have heard it all and someone reports the following: "Musicians sign Planned Parenthood protest of pro-life laws" or "Liberals Say They Would Abstain From Having Children to Save the World From 'Climate Change.'" It is a God Occurrence that October is the Month of Pro-Life and the Month of the Rosary. Let us pray for those who are a part of the Culture of Death that they will repent and give up their participation against Life, and for those who are a part of the Culture of Life that they will receive the grace and strength to continue to their participation for Life.



REFLECTIONS FROM OUR SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

Confronting Without Offending

Divorce, the silent treatment, relatives and neighbors not speaking to one another, politicians blaming each other: Our world is filled with conflict. In the midst of all this we have “Good News” – the Gospel to show us the way to be peacemakers and be at peace in the midst of conflict. An evangelical author, Deborah Pegues, was recently on “Focus on the Family” (7:00am, 5:00pm on 1220AM and 8:00pm on 103.3FM) to discuss her very enlightening book “Confronting Without Offending.” This article is a very brief summary of some of her ideas.

Conflict inevitably occurs in our lives. Sometimes people blame us rightly or wrongly and Jesus calls us to try to make peace (Matthew 5:23-26). At other times we feel offended by people and Jesus calls us to attempt to make peace (Matthew 18:15-18). He never tells us to explode in anger or stuff it and become resentful, ruminating about it 24/7. He calls us to confront the person peacefully. The word **confront** is derived from two words: “con” meaning “with” and “front” meaning “face.” We need to gently and peacefully “face” the other person. This is a learned skill. We will not do it correctly all the time but can learn from our mistakes. It involves risk. Therefore, we need to enliven the gifts of courage, knowledge, and fortitude given to us at our Confirmation. We should not go it alone. We often need our confessor or a mature spiritual friend to advise and support us, especially when the other person hardens their heart and says “no” to the Holy Spirit.

There are four styles of relating:

1. The Dictator. These people can be difficult because they want to control usually at all costs. They are power based, not Gospel based, and are usually quite rigid, black and white thinkers not taking into account the other person’s feeling. If you have dictatorial tendencies, humbly pray and work with your confessor or a mature spiritual friend to achieve gentleness, a fruit of the spirit.
2. The Abdicator. This person has a fear of and flees from confrontation, is easily manipulated, takes on victim consciousness, has low self-esteem and serves a “small” God whom they believe cannot help them. They need lots of support to grow.
3. The Accommodator. Most Christians are this type. They want to be “nice.” They confront only a little bit, tolerate a lot of unnecessary static in close relationships,

carry a burdensome amount of resentment and because of repressed feelings don’t feel that the Gospel “works” for them.

4. The Collaborator. This word is derived from the word “co” meaning “together with” and “labor”. This person is like Jesus who worked with his disciples, correcting Peter, upbraiding doubting Thomas, saying to the disciples in the boat on the stormy sea, “Oh you of little faith.” He loved them unconditionally and never gave up on them. He worked with them no matter how obtuse they were. He, at the same time, knew his limits. Judas’ betrayal was not his fault, but Jesus loved him to the end and finally had to let go of the relationship. Not all relationships work out.



There are seven helpful strategies:

1. Understand the purpose of confrontation – which is to either a) start good behavior; or b) stop bad behavior, especially with a dictator or insensitive person.
2. Timing is important. Talk when you have calmed down.
3. Be specific. Sincere people often don’t realize how their behavior can negatively impact others. Women especially need to realize that men are not as intuitive as they are.
4. Use the sandwich technique: a) Affirm, b) Mention the problem, c) Affirm. For example: “Honey you are a great husband, etc. However, leaving your clothes on the floor is a hazard, etc. But do know that I love you so much.”
5. Ask the right question. Don’t start off with blaming. For example: “I was counting on you being here at 5:00pm. You are usually prompt. Did something come up at work?”
6. Respond slowly and gently. Don’t shoot back letting your negative emotions predominate.
7. Behave positively. Ultimately, all of us are sinners and no one is perfect. Jesus calls us to forgive 70 x 7 and to “bear with one another.” Our forgiving and positive attitude may inspire the other person to change.

Relationships go through up and down seasons. Patience is a virtue!

Mary Day by Day October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>6 O Mary, you are blessed among women. May all women take you as a Model of Womanhood and thus obtain greater blessings for the world from your Divine Son.</p> 	<p>7 O Mary, you are Our Lady of the Rosary. Enable me to share in the spiritual victories over evil that you accomplish with Jesus' help through the Rosary.</p> <p>Our Lady of the Rosary</p>	<p>1 O Mary, you are the Protector of your people. In times of affliction, let me always turn to you with the confident assurance that you will come to my aid.</p> <p>St. Therese of the Child Jesus</p>	<p>2 O Mary, you are the Queen of Angels. Grant me the grace to be truly devoted to the Angels, especially my Guardian Angel, and to follow all the inspirations they bring me from your Divine Son.</p> <p>The Holy Guardian Angels</p>	<p>3 O Mary, you are the Queen of the Holy Rosary. Let me say my Rosary faithfully and so grow in love for you and Jesus.</p> <p>Weekday</p>	<p>4 O Mary, your holy Name is a never-failing treasure. May it be always on my lips and in my heart—in times of distress and in times of happiness.</p> <p>St. Francis of Assisi First Friday</p>	<p>5 O Mary, your Rosary is a School of the Faith. Let me recite it with understanding so that I may grow in faith, hope, and love.</p> <p>Weekday Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos BVM First Saturday</p>
<p>13 O Mary, let me follow St. Louis de Montfort's advice and say a Rosary a day. But I cannot always do that, let me at least say a "Hail Mary" in your honor.</p> <p>27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p>	<p>14 O Mary, help me to recite my Rosary faithfully. Grant that it may keep me close to you on earth and gain for me eternal life and union with you in heaven.</p> <p>Weekday St. Callistus Columbus Day</p>	<p>8 O Mary, your Rosary is a sign of salvation. Help me and all who recite it to advance rapidly in grace, live perfectly, die peacefully, and rise surely to eternal life.</p> <p>Weekday Ss. Denis and Companions St. John Leonardi</p>	<p>9 O Mary, when I say the Rosary, I meditate on Christ's Mysteries in union with you. Help me to imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise.</p> <p>Weekday Ss. Denis and Companions St. John Leonardi</p>	<p>10 O Mary, what return can I make to your Divine Son and to you for all that you have done for me? I offer all that I am and all that I have—wrapped up in my daily Rosary.</p> <p>Weekday</p>	<p>11 O Mary, teach me to understand each Mystery by contemplation, apply it to my life by reflection, and offer it for some personal or public good by intention.</p> <p>Weekday St. John XXIII</p>	<p>12 O Mary, as I recite my Rosary, foster the virtue of hope in me. Teach me to wait with patience for the fulfillment of God's promises.</p> <p>Weekday BVM</p>
<p>20 O Mary, your Rosary in its original form had 15 decades and 150 Hail Marys, like the 150 Psalms. Grant me the same reverence for the Rosary that I have for the Psalms.</p> <p>28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p>	<p>21 O Mary, you are the Hope of the hopeless. Take pity on sinners and give them hope of conversion, so that you can then bring them back to your Divine Son.</p> <p>Weekday St. Callistus Columbus Day</p>	<p>15 O Mary, the Rosary is our ticket to Jesus. We speak to you and we come to Jesus. Help me to recite my Rosary with attention and devotion.</p> <p>St. Teresa of Jesus</p>	<p>16 O Mary, you are the Mother of Hope. I put all my trust in you. Keep me safe in the Heart of your Divine Son forever.</p> <p>Weekday St. Hedwig St. Margaret Mary Alacoque</p>	<p>17 O Mary, it is through you that the Spirit pours forth His graces. Help me to cooperate fully with the particular gifts of the Spirit that are bestowed on me.</p> <p>Weekday</p>	<p>18 O Mary, the Rosary beats out the rhythm of human life. Help me to meditate on the Mysteries of Jesus and apply them to life.</p> <p>Weekday St. Luke</p>	<p>19 O Mary, your Immaculate Heart holds the secrets of loving God. Teach me to love God with all my heart and to do His will in all things.</p> <p>Ss. John de Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues and Companions</p>
<p>27 O Mary, you are the Spiritual Mother of all Christians. Help me to be your devoted child by remaining true to the Church and to her teachings, which come from your Divine Son.</p> <p>30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p>	<p>28 O Mary, you draw down upon souls the Holy Spirit with all His fruits. Grant that by being devoted to you I may receive these fruits without measure.</p> <p>Weekday</p> <p>Ss. SIMON AND JUDE</p>	<p>22 O Mary, you know my deeds and my weaknesses. Come to my aid even when in my distraction I fail to call upon you.</p> <p>Weekday St. John Paul II</p>	<p>23 O Mary, you are the Queen of Peace. Bring peace to my heart, so that I may work for peace in my family, in the Church, in my country and in the world.</p> <p>Weekday St. John of Capistrano</p>	<p>24 O Mary, increase my love and regard for you as my Mother. Help me to serve you in all things, for in doing so I will be serving and obeying your Divine Son.</p> <p>Weekday St. Anthony Mary Claret</p>	<p>25 O Mary, you are the Model of purity of heart. Give me a right intention in all things, so that all my words and works may be pleasing to your Divine Son.</p> <p>Weekday BVM</p>	<p>26 O Mary, you beget us in Christ. Help me to live as befits someone who has Christ as a Brother, God as a Father, and you as a Mother.</p> <p>Weekday BVM</p>
<p>29 O Mary, you are the Spiritual Mother of all Christians. Help me to be your devoted child by remaining true to the Church and to her teachings, which come from your Divine Son.</p> <p>30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p>	<p>29 O Mary, you are a most compassionate Mediatrix for all who come to you. Let me never fear to approach you.</p> <p>Weekday</p> <p>Ss. SIMON AND JUDE</p>	<p>29 O Mary, you were filled with love for God and human beings. Help me to strive to share that love on earth so that I may share your glory in heaven.</p> <p>Weekday</p>	<p>30 O Mary, you are my life. Let me remain united to you all my days. Keep me from the path of sin and out of the clutches of the devil.</p> <p>Weekday</p>	<p>31 O Mary, you are my life. Let me remain united to you all my days. Keep me from the path of sin and out of the clutches of the devil.</p> <p>Weekday</p>	<p>"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."</p> <p>ST. PADRE PIO</p>	

The Importance of Holy Water

“From long experience I have learned that there is nothing like holy water to put devils to flight and prevent them from coming back again. They also flee from the Cross, but return; so holy water must have great virtue. For my own part, whenever I take it, my soul feels a particular and most notable consolation.”—St. Teresa of Avila

We should be reminded of the importance of holy water when we read this quote. We dip our fingers in holy water and make the Sign of the Cross when entering a church in order to recall our baptism and our baptismal promises. The baptismal promises included renouncing Satan and disdaining sin. We forget this, however, and take holy water for granted most of the time. We must remember that holy water, through a priest, is blessed by God in virtue of Christ's baptism. The Catholic Church possesses enormous power in being able to impart sacramental grace—and holy water as a sacramental receives its power through the prayer and authority of the Church. The rite of blessing said over water by a priest to make it holy contains prayers of exorcism. It can banish demons, heal the sick, and send unwarranted grace upon us—yet most of the time we cross ourselves with this water without even thinking about how holy it really is.

Holy water is a powerful sacramental and we ought to use it daily. We should consciously find ways to use it more. Holy water can be used to bless people, places, and things that are used by humans in their goal of glorifying God with their lives. Here are ways to use holy water in your everyday life:

- **Bless yourself.** If we are only blessing ourselves with holy water on Sunday, then aren't we missing out on the rest of the week? You can never have too much grace or blessing in your life. Use holy water daily. Keeping a holy water font in the home is a great idea so that you, your family, and guests can be blessed in the comings and goings from your home near your front door.
- **Bless your house.** If you haven't taken the time to bless your house with holy water, then no time is better than now. Your home is the domestic Church and is in need of spiritual protection. You can sprinkle holy water in your home yourself.



- **Bless your family.** Use holy water to pray and make the Sign of the Cross over your spouse and children before they go to sleep at night. Keep a holy water bottle by the bedside for this purpose.
 - **Bless your work space.** Sprinkling your work space with holy water is a great idea, not only for spiritual protection on the work front, but also to sanctify your daily work for the glory of God.
 - **Bless your car.** The car is probably the most dangerous place where you spend a significant amount of time each day. Never underestimate the power of holy water applied to your vehicle to keep you safe from harm's way, when used in faith and trust in God. You can also have a priest bless your car.
 - **Bless your garden.** In the Middle Ages people would sprinkle their vegetable gardens with holy water in times when people were very dependent on crops for their livelihood. Using holy water to bless the plants that would be used for the family's sustenance showed their reliance on God's grace.
 - **Bless the sick.** Blessing your sick friends and family with holy water probably counts as a corporeal and a spiritual work of mercy. When visiting the sick in a hospital or nursing home, bless their living space with holy water and leave a holy water bottle with them as a comfort in their time of need.
 - **Bless your pets.** Many parishes on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4th) have a rite of blessing for pets. Pets are loved companions for individuals and families and often provide a great service to them, and even these can be blessed with holy water because all creation has the end of giving glory to God.
- Holy water is one of those beautiful gifts (and weapons) from God to keep us sanctified and holy in our daily lives, and to keep the things we regularly use sanctified and holy. If we stop and think about what a generous gift holy water is, we will use it more frequently, thoughtfully, and gratefully!

**Give us
priests
who are
on fire,
and who
are true
children
of Mary**

Prayers for Priests

In this month of October, the Church celebrates the feast day of **St. Therese the Little Flower of Jesus** on October 1 and **St. Teresa of Avila** on October 15. Both these saints are Doctors of the Church. A "Doctor of the Church" is a title given by the Pope that indicates that the writings and preachings of a person are useful to Christians "in any age of the Church." Such men and women are also particularly known for the depth of understanding and the orthodoxy of their theological teachings.



Prayer for Priests (St. Therese the Little Flower)

O Holy Father, may the torrents of love flowing from the sacred wounds of your Divine Son bring forth priests like unto the beloved disciple John who stood at the foot of the cross; priests, who as a pledge of your own most

tender love will lovingly give your Divine Son to the souls of men.

May your priests be faithful guardians of your Church, as John was of Mary, whom he received into his house. Taught by this loving Mother who suffered so much on Calvary, may they display a mother's care and thoughtfulness towards your children. May they teach souls to enter into close union with you through Mary who, as the Gate of Heaven, is specially the guardian of the treasures of your Divine Heart.

Give us priests who are on fire, and who are true children of Mary, priests who will give Jesus to souls with the same tenderness and care with which Mary carried the Little Child of Bethlehem.

Mother of sorrows and of love, out of compassion for your beloved Son, open in our hearts deep wells of love, so that we may console Him and give Him a generation of priests formed in your school and having all the tender thoughtfulness of your own spotless love. Amen.

St. Teresa of Avila reminds us: " ... be occupied in prayer for those who are defenders of the Church and for preachers and learned men who protect her from attack ... " (Way of Perfection 1:2)

Prayer for Priests (St. Teresa of Avila)



O my Most Sweet Jesus, O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, keep Thy priests in the shelter of Thy Sacred Heart, where no one can hurt them.

Keep their anointed hands unsullied, which daily handle Thy Sacred Body. Keep pure the lips which are reddened with Thy Precious Blood. Keep pure and unworldly their hearts which are sealed with the sublime token of Thy glorious priesthood.

Cause them to grow in love and loyalty to Thee and protect them from the contamination of the world. With their power of transforming bread and wine, give them the power of transforming hearts. Bless their work with rich fruit and grant them one day the crown of eternal life. Amen.



New Name Badge Procedure

If you have not already done so, please pick up your name badge and keep it. You are responsible for bringing it to each gathering. Thank you.

Dear Spiritual Children of Padre Pio

The month of September has been a very busy month. It was wonderful having Fr. Michael Petkosek share his powerful witness. This is what he wrote afterwards: "Thank you so much for inviting me out to meet and celebrate Mass with the group. Indeed, a beautiful morning! It was a morning of many spiritual and emotional consolations for me, certainly a mountain top that I did not want to leave. Thank you for sharing the reality of Pio's presence. I think that I certainly felt it.



Thank you again for all of your prayers, the prayers of the group, and the wonderful vestment!" I did not realize when we presented the vestment to him, that it was the vestment we used on Our Holy Pilgrimage to Poland and Italy where Mass was celebrated at the shrines of St. Faustina, St. Francis and St. Padre Pio. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for Terry Lubrano's beautiful Good News testimony.

diligently on the event. I was overwhelmed of the generosity of the donations we received. The entertainment was quite astounding! Philip Keller (Trapper Jack), DJ Rocco Russo (Fr. Guido Sarducci) and The Sister Act performance kept the evening full of surprises, and Jane Dahlhausen was the big winner of the Live Auction for the one week vacation at a Club Wyndham Plus Resort. Thank you to everyone who was involved in some way. It was truly a team effort!

Many Holy Saints Feast Days are in the month of October: St. Therese of Lisieux 1st, Guardian Angels 2nd, St. Francis of Assisi 4th, St. Faustina 5th, Our Lady of the Rosary 7th, St. John XXIII 11th, Sts. Francesco and Jacinta 13th, St. Teresa of Avila 15th, and Sts. Simon and Jude 28th.

We invite everyone to Twinsburg Square at Noon on Oct. 12th for the Annual Rosary Rally. Next day on Oct. 13th we will be celebrating at Sorrowful Mother Shrine in Bellevue OH a Padre Pio Day! We have been blessed with such Holy Priests leading the way!



On Sept. 21st, I was invited to Magnificat, a ministry to Catholic Holy Women at Walsh University. I shared my spiritual journey including my encounter with St. Padre Pio. Thank you all who attended and prayed for me. It was very spirit filled day.

God Bless you,
Cindy Russo OFS, Group Leader

Our Padre Pio Feast Day Mass was very well attended. There was a testimony read of St. Padre Pio's last hours on earth. It was very moving.



There's more photos from the Pilgrimage Shrine "FUN"draiser on the Photos page of our website.

Our Pilgrimage Shrine "FUN"draiser on Sept. 28th was a huge success! The core member committees did an awesome job lead by co-chairs Leslie Magda and Mary Dye. We met all summer long and worked



KEEP OUR SICK SISTERS & BROTHERS IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

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

Bernadine Antonio	Norman Burkket	Louise Frein	Bishop Richard Lennon	Susie Sawyer
Carol Basek	Sue Cleary	Richard Frein	Carol Limming	Abbot C. Schwartz OSB
Caitlin Blaydes	Brian D'Ambrose	Kathleen Graham	Dave Limming	Joe Trapani
Jack Bolton	Catlin Dean	Heather Gunde	Del Malloy	Beth Whelan
Dr. Biagio Boytim	Christine DeMauro	Valerie Hawkins	Shirley Marsh	
Jan Boczek	Vincent DeVentura	Helen Husky	Jennifer Minniti	
Mike Bradley	Kelly Morici Diaz	Ray King	Joe Morici	
Bill Bray	Bob Dodds	Carol Kriebel	Florence Palmer	
Rocco Bray	Tim Doherty	Cookie Laba	Eleanor Phillips	
Tom Bruno	Steve Fiata	Lori Landfear	Peggy Pongracz	
Mario Brushi	Marty Franck	Laura Lang	Frank Raso	

† OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF OUR RECENTLY DECEASED †

Lou Montesano, Spiritual Child



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

Jake's

Corner

For the month of October, I am writing about a Saint who is very dear to me because I was born on

her feast day, October 5th. This is the great Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska. Saint Faustina was born on August 25, 1905 in Głogowiec, Poland to Marianna and Stanisław Kowalski. She was Baptized with the name Helen. Saint Faustina was a very holy and devout child and she was well liked. She had a great love of God from an early age. When she was seven years old, she felt the call to become a nun, but her parents would not let her enter the convent. Helen even left home at age sixteen to help financially support herself and her family. Eventually, she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Warsaw on August 1, 1925, and was given the name Sister Maria Faustina of the Most Blessed Sacrament.



She showed no signs of the mystical life, but performed her duties with utmost adherence to the Rule of her Order. She had a great love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and for Our Lady. Eventually, she entered into the mystical life. One day while she was praying Jesus appeared to her and two rays of white and red of Mercy flowed from His Sacred Heart. He told Sister Faustina to make an image of what she saw and have under the image these words: "Jesus, I trust in You." Jesus chose Sister Faustina to be the Apostle of His Mercy. Along with the help of her Holy Confessor, Blessed Michael Sopoćko, the Divine Mercy message was spread. Jesus told Sister Faustina that His Mercy was for everyone, especially toward great sinners. He told her: "the greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to My mercy" (Kowalska, 723). Jesus

taught Sister Faustina a special chaplet - the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and wanted that the Sunday after Easter be declared Divine Mercy Sunday.

Sister Faustina eventually contracted tuberculosis and sufferings which she willfully accepted for the salvation of souls, recognizing that she did not suffer alone, but with the Crucified Jesus. On October 5, 1938, Sister Maria Faustina died of tuberculosis at age thirty-three. The reputation of Sister Faustina's holiness was widespread. On April 18, 1993, Pope Saint John Paul II, a longtime devotee of Divine Mercy, Beatified Sister Faustina, and on April 30, 2000, Divine Mercy Sunday, she was Canonized a Saint.

Saint Faustina was entrusted by Jesus to spread His infinite Mercy to all the world. The biggest virtue and lesson I think we can learn from Saint Faustina is trust in God's Mercy. His Mercy is unfathomably out poured in the Sacrament of Confession. Jesus asks Saint Faustina many times in her diary to tell more people to go to Confession. May we this October, strive to be like Saint Faustina, and become Apostles of Divine Mercy like she was.

SOURCES:

- Kowalska, Sr. Maria Faustina. "Divine Mercy in My Soul" Kraków, Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, 1981.
- "Biography: Mercy - Saint Faustina - Diary - Jesus, I Trust in You - Congregation." Lang, Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, www.faustyna.pl/zmbm/en/biography/.
- "St. Maria Faustina Kowalski - Biography." The Divine Mercy, Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M., 29 May 2019, www.thedivinemercy.org/message/stfaustina/bio.

Written by: Jake Snyder

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

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