

# Avila News

PRAYER, SACRIFICE, SERVICE, AND STUDY

FORTY-SIXTH YEAR VOLUME III

JANUARY, FEBRUARY 2018



## REGULAR MEETING AND HOLY HOUR

Wednesday,  
January 17, 2018

PLEASE GATHER IN  
FOUNDERS' ROOM  
BETWEEN 9:45-10:00AM

HOLY HOUR WILL BEGIN  
AT 10:15AM

Followed by Community  
Mass with Seminarians,  
Luncheon, and Speaker.

### SPEAKER:

Father Kevin Estabrook  
Parochial Vicar  
St. Clare Parish  
Lyndhurst, Ohio

## President's Corner

### The Holy Name of Jesus

“For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of JESUS every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Phillippians 2:9-11)

January is traditionally dedicated to the most Holy Name of Jesus, with the feast day being January 3. God, Himself, chose this name because it was the angel Gabriel who instructed the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph that the name of the Child would be Jesus, which means “God saves.” The name of Jesus is Sacred. In His name we pray to the Father with assurance that our prayers are heard. It is in the name of Jesus that the sacraments are administered by our priests. It is in the of Jesus we receive blessings, healing and the evil spirits are cast out. Let us remember to invoke the name of Jesus with love and reverence. The name of Jesus is powerful and saving. Possibly continue the practice of a slight bow of the head when you say or hear the name, “Jesus.” Praised be, Jesus Christ, both now and forever!

*Blessings to all in this New Year,  
—Virginia Kovacina  
Avila President*

As always, friends/guests are most welcome! Please call **Marlyn Tunnell, 440-442-7538** no later than **noon on Monday, January 15**, if you **cannot attend** or to make **additional reservations**. **Guest donation is \$9.00**. Please remember to bring your Holy Hour Prayer Book. **Members:** Please leave your full name and phone number when calling to cancel reservation. Also, please note that **ALL Avila Members** have a standing reservation and need to call in cancellations when necessary. **Thank you!**

## NOVEMBER AVILA GATHERING

Holy Hour with the recitation fo the Rosary, followed by celebration of the Mass and installation of the new Avila members started our day. It is very special attending Mass with the seminarians.

Our speaker was Fr. Peter Kovacina, Parochial Vicar at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Parma. There was a sizable number of guests from St. Clare, Father's home parish, and from St. Anthony of Padua.

After a brief vocation story, Father talked about his parish ministry: RCIA, weddings, funerals, but he beamed as he talked of his time spent with the grade school students...encouraging them to use their rosaries and familiarizing them with the Lives of the Saints. Father talked of his experience as Chaplain to the Parma Police Department and poignantly described his experience ministering at Holy Family Hospice. It was a beautiful presentation, ending with a big hug from Mom!

**Welcome to New Members of the  
Avilas of the Diocese of Cleveland**

The Avilas would like to congratulate and welcome the new members who have joined this year and may God bless you in your generosity in praying Holy Hours weekly for vocations, those in seminaries and religious formation, priests, deacons, and those in religious life.

**Patricia Boggins, St. Anthony of Padua**  
**Diana Capretta, St. Clare,**  
**Jerri Donohue, Assumption of the BVM**  
**Susan Federico, St. Clare**  
**Lucy Hdrlicka, St. Clare**  
**Karen Hostoffer, St. Paschal Baylon**  
**Laura Lang, St. Barnabas**  
**Maria Licygiewicz, St. Anthony of Padua**  
**Jeanne Maroun, St. Anthony of Padua**  
**James Nagel, St. Paschal Baylon**  
**Ellen Newcomb, St. Paul**  
**Angie Noyes, St. Monica**  
**Virginia Sepic, St. John of the Cross**  
**Minnie Thomas, Holy Rosary**  
**Lita Tinio, Communion of Saints**  
**Margaret Wolfe, St. Francis Xavier**  
**Shirley, Wszelaki, Mary Queen of the Apostles**

**We Give Thanks**

**Michael Feldtz, Matthew Cortnik, and Richard Samide** were called to the Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacon on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Continued prayers for these exceptional men, as they move forward to Ordination to the Priesthood.

**Avila Day of Prayer with Kathleen Beckman, L.H.S.**

**"Praying for Priests and Families: Urgency, Promise, Vision"**

Those in attendance were treated to a most beautiful, spiritual, informative presentation that reinforced the mission of Avilas: Prayer, Sacrifice, Service and Study for vocations, especially to the vowed and ordained ways of life. Mrs. Beckman talked of Spiritual Motherhood (The Blessed Mother) and Spiritual Fatherhood (St. Joseph) and the power of the Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, intercessory prayer, Stations of the Cross and frequent attendance at Mass in the support of priests. There was so much more! Her book, Praying for Priests: A Mission for the New Evangelization was available for purchase...it is wonderful!

**BISHOP'S SEMINARY BRUNCH—SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018**

**A Celebration to Benefit  
the Priestly Formation of Our Seminarians**

**Information to attend this event, held at Landerhaven from  
12:00—3:00PM, will be sent to the Avilas mid-January.**



**Nancy Hach**

**Pat Hesland**

**Leona, daughter of  
Mary Ann Trask**



**May the dear Lord Jesus,  
who went about doing good and  
healing all, bless all of our Avila  
members and their families and  
friends who are sick, and let them  
recover their health soon. Amen.**

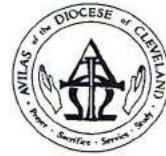


**...the family, friends,  
and the community of  
Ursulines of Cleveland  
on the death of  
Sister Laura Bouhall, OSU.  
Sister was a dear friend  
of the Avilas.**



**Happy Valentine's Day!  
God Bless!**

**Maureen McHugh  
Publicity Chairperson**



"There is but one road which reaches God and that is PRAYER;  
if anyone shows you another, you are being deceived." *Saint Teresa of Avila*

January 2018

Please include the special intentions of the members of the following groups  
in your Holy Hour this month:

January	7, 2018	Society of Mary (Marianists) (SM)
January	14, 2018	Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers (MM)
January	21, 2018	Mercedarian Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament (HMSS)
January	28, 2017	Sisters of Mercy of the Americas (North Carolina) (RSM)
February	4, 2018	Social Mission Sisters (SM)

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

After all the preparation, the Christmas Holidays are over (again). This is typically the time when many of us make New Year's resolutions. There are the old annual stand-by's: lose that pesky ten pounds that we've been trying to lose for years and start an exercise program, be more responsible with my finances, be nicer to my spouse or clean the closets (let's face it, the clothes we've been saving for when we lose weight are probably outdated anyway). The list of resolutions is endless, just like the excuses we make to not follow through with those we've made. What about our relationship with God in the new year? How's your prayer life? My guess is that most of us can improve. Don't set unrealistic goals for yourself, but here are some suggestions:

Fr. Larry Richards says, "No Bible, no breakfast. No Bible, no bed." Try to be in the Word daily.

- ◆ If you rise early, you can say the Rosary with Fr. Pacwa at 7:30 am on EWTN, then follow along with the Mass at 8 am. It's a good way to start the day and also to hear the daily readings. If you like to sleep in, be assured the Rosary is recited throughout the day, along with the Mass at noon and the Chaplet of Mercy later on.
- ◆ Try to attend Mass one or two days during the week in addition to your Sunday Mass obligation.
- ◆ Do some spiritual reading instead of reading the latest romance novel or the weekly "Enquirer." Wonderful daily meditations can be found in the "Magnificat" or in "In Conversation with God" just to name a few. If you have a Kindle, you can download many Catholic books for free or for a nominal price.
- ◆ Resolve to have a daily prayer time. If you don't already, start with 15 minutes. After a while, you'll realize how valuable this time is and that you will WANT to spend more one-on-one time with the Lord. Spend some time in silence to listen to what the Lord might be saying to you.
- ◆ Resolve to go to Confession at least once a month. Many graces await us there.
- ◆ As Avilas, we must not forget our weekly holy hour to pray for our Spiritual Sons or Daughters.

The great thing about our relationship with God is that we can always start fresh. He offers us a new day and a new dawn. Don't wait until you are perfect to come before the Lord. He loves us the way we are and wants us to be closer to Him. At the start of this new year, thank Him for 2017 and for all that happened, good or bad, ask His forgiveness in the areas that you have failed or fallen short, then dedicate 2018 to serving Him and loving Him more and more. Ask our Blessed Mother to help you. She always leads us to Her Son.

***Lord, thank you for this new year. I am reminded that, by Your grace, each day is fresh and bursting with Your love and mercy. I want to begin with a clean slate. I know that you are always ready to forgive me. Help me to be forgive myself and to forgive others. Help me to live in the goodness that comes from doing Your will. Help me to put aside any anxiety I may have about the past and the future so that I can live in peace with You in the moment. May I be an inspiration and an example of Your love to all those I meet. Give me the strength to stand tall in the midst of conflict, to speak Your name even when I'm scared to do so and to choose faith over fear. I want to surrender anything that stands between us. May I always be drenched and engulfed in Your amazing love. Amen.***



"There is but one road which reaches God and that is *PRAYER*;  
if anyone shows you another, you are being deceived." *Saint Teresa of Avila*

February 2018

Please include the special intentions of the members of the following groups  
in your Holy Hour this month:

February	4, 2018	Social Mission Sisters (SM)
February	11, 2018	For all Missionaries serving throughout the World
February	18, 2018	Sisters of the Most Holy Trinity (OSST)
February	25, 2018	Sisters of Notre Dame (SND)
March	4, 2018	Order of Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy (O de M)

### **WILL YOU BE MY VALENTINE?**

In the course of our busy days, we often take family and friends for granted and neglect to express our true feelings to them. Although Valentine's Day is very commercialized, we shouldn't let it pass us by, but rather use it as an opportunity to express our love and devotion to those we hold near and dear. Buy a card, cook a special dinner or give flowers or candy as a gesture of love and special affection. Whatever you do, don't forget to say, "I love you." But, our first love should really be Jesus. We should love Him first and foremost. He is our perfect model of love. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life" (John 3:16). This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay one's life for one's friends" (John 15:12-13). Jesus showed us how to love so that we might love Him back with all that we are and with all that we have. "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments" (Matthew 22:37-40).

### **LITANY OF THE LOVE OF GOD**

*Lord have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.*

*Christ, hear us. Christ, graciously hear us.*

*God the Father in heaven, have mercy on us.*

*God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.*

*God, the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us.*

*Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.*

*Response to the following: I love Thee, O my God.*

*Thou Who art Infinite Love, Who didst first love me, Who commandest me to love Thee,*

*With all my heart, all my soul, all my mind, all my strength,*

*Above all possessions and honors, above all pleasures and enjoyments,*

*More than myself and all that belongs to me,*

*More than all my relatives and friends, more than all men and angels,*

*Above all created things in heaven or on earth,*

*Only for Thyself,*

*Because Thou art the sovereign God, infinitely worthy of being loved, because Thou art infinitely perfect,*

*Even hadst Thou not promised me heaven, even hadst Thou not menaced me with hell,*

*Even shouldst Thou try me by want and misfortune,*

*In wealth and poverty, prosperity and adversity, health and sickness, life and in death, time and eternity,*

*In union with that love wherewith all the Saints and all the Angels love Thee in heaven,*

*In union with that love wherewith the Blessed Virgin Mary loveth Thee,*

*In union with that infinite love wherewith Thou lovest Thyself eternally,*

*My God, Who dost possess in incomprehensible abundance all that is perfect and worthy of love, annihilate in me all guilty, sensual, and undue love for creatures: kindle in my heart the pure flame of Thy love, so that I may love nothing but Thee or in Thee, until, being entirely consumed by holy love of Thee, I may go to love Thee eternally with the elect in Heaven, the country of pure love. Amen.*