

Avila News

PRAYER, SACRIFICE, SERVICE, AND STUDY

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR VOLUME IV

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MARCH, APRIL 2019



REGULAR MEETING AND HOLY HOUR

Wednesday,
March 20, 2019

PLEASE GATHER IN
FOUNDERS' ROOM
AT 10:00AM

HOLY HOUR WILL BEGIN
AT 10:15AM

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

SPEAKER:

Sr. Mary Brendon Zajac, SND
St. Mary Seminary
Assistant Academic Dean,
Registrar,
Faculty Professor

As always, friends/guests are most welcome! Please call **Marlyn Tunnell, 440-442-7538** no later than **noon on Monday, March 18**, 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. **Members who are unable to regularly attend meeting and cannot call to cancel luncheon reservations might consider becoming a sustaining member.** Thank you!

President's Corner

As Avila's, we take our instructions from our patron saint, St. Teresa of Avila. She can teach us many things as a great mystic and Doctor of the Church. In this month of March, our lesson can be to have a devotion to St. Joseph that is marked with unlimited trust and confidence. "Would that I could persuade all men to be devout to this glorious saint," said St. Teresa. She wrote, "I took for my patron and lord the glorious St. Joseph I cannot call to mind that I have ever asked him at any time for anything he has not granted. I am filled with amazement when I consider the great favors God has given me through this blessed saint." She also says, "To other Saints Our Lord seems to have given power to succor us in some special necessity – but to this glorious Saint, I know by experience, He has given the power to help us in all. Our Lord would have us understand that as He was subject to St. Joseph on earth – for St. Joseph, bearing the title of father and being His guardian, could command Him – so now in Heaven Our Lord grants all his petitions." One of St. Teresa's earliest blessings came during a severe illness that she suffered. She was even at the point of death. She prayed and prayed to St. Joseph and was miraculously cured. Finally, St. Teresa also reminds us how St. Joseph helps us grow in holiness through devotion to him. "I have never known anyone who was truly devoted to him and honored him by particular services who did not advance greatly in virtue, for he helps in a special way those souls who recommend themselves to him," she said. "But I ask for the love of God that he who does not believe me will make the trial for himself — then he will find out by experience the great good that results from recommending oneself to this glorious patriarch and in being devoted to him. Those who practice prayer should have a special affection for him always." she advised.



Sincerely,
Virginia Kovacina

Happy Birthday, March 28,
Dear Patron,
Saint Teresa of Avila.

January Avila Gathering

Father Lester Knoll, a priest of the Capuchin Franciscan Order was our guest speaker at the January gathering. His home parish is Mater Dolorosa, it is in the small town of Chicora, Pennsylvania in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Father came from an old-fashioned Catholic family of twelve kids; six boys and six girls. Growing up he was a server in grade school. When he was in 7th and 8th grade he would go to a seminary that was close by for vocational retreats. He signed up to go to Seminary for Diocese of Pittsburgh.

All through the four years of high school and into college there were always ongoing arguments of who is better, the Capuchins or the diocesan priests.

(continued)

(January Avila Gathering continued)

Freshman year of college some of his classmates were applying for the Capuchins. He was not, he had a plan of going into the diocese. It was the last Sunday in October and there was Eucharistic adoration all day in the seminary. The Capuchins had a parish next door and they also had all-day Eucharistic adoration. In the evening the seminary was going to be singing for the closing of adoration. Father Knoll was in the choir. In the middle of the service he suddenly heard an inner voice that said, "I need to move towards prayer and community". It was very clear.

As soon as service was over, he found the spiritual director and told him what happened, he also floated the idea of becoming a Trappist monk. The spiritual director replied with, "all these years you've been feeling the call to active ministry then suddenly not at all? That is a big jump. The Lord usually works through ordinary means by the people you meet. Have you ever looked at the Capuchins? They are called into prayer and live in community and run the seminary." The spiritual director then handed him a pamphlet on religious life, told him to read it and to spend some time when going to chapel before the Eucharist and ask the Lord what he wants. It became very clear, like a sense.

At this time, it was 1955/1956 and there were many religious vocations and the bishop had a policy that if a young man applied for a religious order and was turned down then you could not apply to the diocese. A friend expressed the concern that if he applied to the Capuchins and was turned down then he could never become a priest in the diocese. His response was, "so what?"

This was a major turning point in his life. In this process he learned two very important things:

1. *When you receive an experience like Fr. Knoll did while in the choir, take it seriously.*
2. *Always talk with someone that is willing to give honest feedback.*

Father Knoll was ordained to the priesthood in 1964. Father has had a rich series of assignments as a priest, vocation director, principal of a seminary high school, missionary in Papua New Guinea in the South Pacific. For ten years he lived the contemplative life in the Capuchin hermitage and then later served as pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Herman, PA.

For four years Father served as the National Director of the Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers with headquarters in Pittsburgh. For three years he served as the Director of Spiritual Formation at St Vincent Major Seminary in Latrobe, PA. Presently, Father is the spiritual director for the Capuchin Formation Program at Borromeo Seminary, Wickliffe, Ohio.

Prayer for Priests—Diary of St. Faustina

O my Jesus, I beg You on behalf of the whole Church: Grant it love and the light of Your Spirit, and give power to the words of priests so hardened hearts may be brought to repentance and return to You, O Lord. Lord, give us holy priests; you yourself maintain them in holiness. O Divine and Great High Priest, may the power of Your mercy accompany them everywhere and protect them from the devil's traps and snares which are continually being set for the souls of priests. May the power of Your mercy, O Lord, shatter and bring to naught all that might tarnish the sanctity of priests, for You can do all things. Amen.



**Stanley Baranowski,
husband of Carol.**

Ann Frencel

**Peter Thomas,
husband of Minnie Thomas
and father of Virginia Kovacina.**

Fr. Stephen

*(from outside diocese
requesting Avila prayers)*



**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.**



**Tom and Barb Kovacic
on the passing of Tom's mother,
Barbara Kovacic.**

**Jeanne Maroun
on the passing of her husband,
Albert.
(brother-in-law of Patricia Boggins).**

**The family of Carol Tropp.
May the souls of all the faithful departed
rest in peace. Amen.**

**Sunday, March 24, 2019
Bishop's Seminary Brunch
Contact Virginia Kovacina for information.**

**Wednesday, April 3, 2019
Avila Board Meeting—10AM at CPL**

God Bless!

**Marianne Repinski, Publicity
Susan Federico, Scripture Resource**



"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*

March 2019

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

March	3, 2019	Pope Benedict XVI, Bishop Emeritus of Rome
March	10, 2109	Holy Father Pope Francis
March	17, 2019	Holy Ghost Fathers (CSSP)
March	24, 2019	Sisters of the Holy Spirit (CSSp)
March	31, 2019	Sisters of the Humility of Mary (HM)
April	7, 2019	Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Monroe) (IHM)

**FOR OUR
MEDITATION
DURING LENT,
ESPECIALLY
DURING
HOLY WEEK**



**Let the doubting
Soul read these
considerations
on
Divine Mercy
and become
trusting.**

Divine Mercy, gushing forth from the bosom of the Father, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, greatest attribute of God, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, incomprehensible mystery, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, fount gushing forth from the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, unfathomable by any intellect, human or angelic, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, from which wells forth all life and happiness, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, better than the heavens, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, source of miracles and wonders, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, encompassing the whole universe, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, descending to earth in the Person of the Incarnate Word, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, which flowed out from the open wound of the Heart of Jesus, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, unfathomable in the institution of the Sacred Host, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, in the founding of the Holy Church, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, in our justification through Jesus Christ, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, accompanying us through our whole life, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, embracing us especially at the hour of death, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, endowing us with immortal life, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, accompanying us through our whole life, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, endowing us with immortal life, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, accompanying us every moment of our life, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, shielding us from the fire of hell, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, in the conversion of hardened sinners, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, astonishment for Angels, incomprehensible to Saints, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, unfathomed in all the mysteries of God, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, lifting us out of every misery, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, source of our happiness and joy, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, in calling us forth from nothingness to existence, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, embracing all the works of His hands, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, crown of all God's handiwork, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, in which we are all immersed, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, sweet relief for anguished hearts, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, only hope of despairing souls, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, repose of hearts, peace amidst fear, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, delight and ecstasy of holy souls, I trust in You.
Divine Mercy, inspiring hope against all hope, I trust in You.

(taken from the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul)

"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*

April 2019

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

April	7, 2019	Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Monroe) (IHM)
April	14, 2019	Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Scranton) (IHM)
April	21, 2019	Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (SSMI)
April	28, 2019	Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament (SIW)
May	5, 2019	Society of Jesus (Detroit Province) Jesuits (SJ)

AN EASTER SERMON BY ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Is there anyone who is a devout lover of God? Let them enjoy this beautiful bright festival! Is there anyone who is a grateful servant? Let them rejoice and enter into the joy of their Lord! Are there any weary with fasting? Let them now receive their wages! If any have toiled from the first hour, let them receive their due reward; if any have come after the third hour, let him with gratitude join in the Feast! And he that arrived after the sixth hour, let him not doubt; for he too shall sustain no loss. And if any delayed until the ninth hour, let him not hesitate; but let him come too. And he who arrived only at the eleventh hour, let him not be afraid by reason of his delay.

For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first. He gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, as well as to him that toiled from the first. To this one He gives, and upon another He bestows. He accepts the works as He greets the endeavor. The deed He honors and the intention He commends. Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord! First and last alike receive your reward; rich and poor, rejoice together! Sober and slothful, celebrate the day!

You that have kept the fast, and you that have not, rejoice today for the Table is richly laden! Feast royally on it, the calf is a fatted one. Let no one go away hungry. Partake, all, of the cup of faith. Enjoy all the riches of His goodness! Let no one grieve at his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again; for forgiveness has risen from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Death of our Savior has set us free. He has destroyed it by enduring it.

He destroyed Hades when He descended into it. He put it into an uproar even as it tasted of His flesh. Isaias foretold this when he said, "You, O Hell, have been troubled by encountering Him below."

***Hell was in an uproar because it was done away with.
It was in an uproar because it is mocked.
It was in an uproar, for it is destroyed.
It is in an uproar, for it is annihilated.
It is in an uproar, for it is now made captive.
Hell took a body, and discovered God.
It took earth, and encountered Heaven.
It took what it saw, and was overcome by what it did not see.
O death, where is thy sting?
O Hades, where is thy victory?***

***Christ is Risen, and you, O death, are annihilated!
Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down!
Christ is Risen, and the angels rejoice!
Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!***

***Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead; for Christ having risen from the dead,
is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.***

To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!

