

# Avila News

PRAYER, SACRIFICE, SERVICE, AND STUDY

FORTY-SEVENTH YEAR VOLUME VI

avilascleveland.weebly.com

JULY, AUGUST 2019



*Enjoy!*

*Vacation  
Time!!*

*Be Safe!!!*

*Relax!!!!*

## ✧ May Avila Gathering ✧

We were pleased to host Father Sean Donnelly as our May speaker. He was born in Rhode Island, the eldest of 13 children. He grew up in a solid Catholic family, and their parents took them to church every Sunday. The family moved frequently; they lived in many different places and the children attended many different schools. His interest in the priesthood began at the age of 20, and he attributes much of his vocation to the prayers of his grandmother. He studied at St. Mary Seminary (while it was still on Ansel Road) and at Borromeo. He was ordained on January 16, 1982, on one of the oldest days of the year. Since his ordination, he has served in five parishes, in addition to serving a Military Chaplain in the United States Air Force during the Persian Gulf War.

Father Donnelly was blessed to have visited Lourdes and Rome many times. He suggested that we too can make pilgrimages without going overseas, and listed many places we could go. He has a passion for the unborn, and began participating in the Rosary for Life each first Saturday in 1994. He knows that there is strength in the number of people who pray for the closing of abortion facilities, and he has been a witness to this miracle. He is a compassionate priest, and his mission as a priest is to bring people to Jesus by encouraging frequent visits to the Blessed Sacrament, praying the Rosary and attending daily Mass whenever possible. He offers Confession on Saturday evenings and after every weekend Mass.

*Father Donnelly is glad he heard the Lord's call, and so are we!*

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The Avilas of the Diocese of Cleveland installed new officers at the May 15, 2019 meeting. Please pray that the gift of wisdom is bestowed upon them by the Holy Spirit. We can support them by routinely praying the Prayer for Avilas:

*God of love, we earnestly pray that You instill in the Avilas of the Diocese of Cleveland an intense realization of our responsibility to fulfill by prayer and action Christ's commission to spread the faith. Lord Jesus, may we bring to Your service all that we are, generously responding to the inspirations of Your Spirit. Holy Spirit, make us faithful to our commitment to participate in the ministry of the Church, and grant us the grace needed to accomplish this in a way that gives glory to the Holy Trinity. Holy Mystery, help us as Avilas to call forth from our faith community men and women to serve Your Church as sisters, brothers, deacons and priests. Grant us the grace to represent You effectively in our world today. Amen.*

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**A special thank you to our out-going Avila Officers  
for their guidance and leadership during their terms of election!!**

The Avilas were pleased to see the fruitfulness of their prayers on May 18, when nine transitional deacons were ordained to the priesthood, seven of whom will serve in the Diocese of Cleveland (one was ordained for the Congregation of St. Joseph and another for the Archdiocese of Deagu, South Korea).



O Jesus, our great High Priest, hear our humble prayers on behalf of your newly ordained priests. Give them a deep faith, a bright and firm hope, and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of their priestly lives. Show them that they are needed by the Church, they are needed by souls, they are needed for the work of redemption.

O loving Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Priests, take to your heart your sons who are close to you because of their priestly ordinations and because of the power which they have received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs them so much. Be their comfort, be their joy, be their strength. Amen.



Join the Diocese of Cleveland at *The FEST* on Sunday, August 4, 2019 from 12 noon to 10 pm on the grounds of the Center for Pastoral Leadership. The FEST is a day of faith, family and fun for all ages with many ways to spiritually and socially connect. Guests may pray the rosary, go to confession or attend adoration, and are encouraged to stay for the 8 pm Mass celebrated by Bishop Nelson J. Perez.

Throughout the day the main stage will feature live music from top Christian artists including Casting Crowns, Tenth Avenue North, Matt Maher and Jordan Feliz. Throughout the grounds of the event, guests have the opportunity to visit many of the supporting organizations within the diocese. *The FEST* has something for the whole family from a kids zone area that includes inflatables and value-based crafts to an amazing *relaxation station* for mothers and a *man cave* for dads.

This event is FREE and open to all. For a complete listing of the days events visit [thefest.us](http://thefest.us).

**PLEASE UPDATE YOUR AVILA ROSTER**

**Barbara Kahoun**

22441 Lake Road #101, Rocky River, OH 44116

**Ruth Merriman**

22441 Lake Road #208, Rocky River, OH 44116

**Ann Marie Zelenka**

712 Ecton Road, Akron, OH 44303



Patricia Casey,  
daughter of Vera Casey.

Rosetta Comella

Valerie Ferrante

Norma Mlady

Ann Williams

Ann Marie Zelenka



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 of  
long-time Avila member,  
Nancy Hach.

The family of  
Dominic Avenoso,  
father of Mary.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and  
may perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and all the souls  
of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace. Amen.

God Bless!

Susan Federico  
Publicity and 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*

July 2019

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

July	7, 2019	Society of Mary (Marianists) (SM)
July	14, 2019	Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers (MM)
July	21, 2019	Mercedarian Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament (HMSS)
July	28, 2019	Sisters of Mercy of the Americas (North Carolina) (RSM)
August	4, 2019	Social Mission Sisters (SM)

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## **SPIRITUAL PARENTHOOD**



Spiritual maternity and paternity are gifts of the Holy Spirit who is a vessel of life-giving grace.

Spiritual mothers and fathers are men and women of grace and virtue, the greatest of which is charity. Love by its nature is self-giving, and spiritual mothers and fathers place themselves at the service of God's plan for the salvation of souls. Spiritual parenthood is love in action, the response of their love for Jesus.

Those called to spiritual maternity and paternity of priests must have a readiness to stand by all priests, but in particular for the particular priest entrusted to them.

Spiritual parents are virtuous men and women whose lives are centered on God. They should do their best to avoid anything that would impede their own growth in holiness: unforgiveness, hardness of heart, pride, etc. The most effective means of our overcoming obstacles to holiness include frequent Confession and Holy Communion, meditation on God's Word, adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, and adhering to the Commandments.

As spiritual mothers look to Our Lady as guides for spiritual maternity, spiritual fathers can look to St. Joseph for guidance in spiritual paternity. They are the perfect intercessors for our spiritual parenthood.

We should be confident in the fact that some day we will see the eternal effects that our prayers and sacrifices have had for our spiritual sons!



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if anyone shows you another, you are being deceived." *Saint Teresa of Avila*

August 2019

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

August	4, 2019	Social Mission Sisters (SM)
August	11, 2019	For all Missionaries serving throughout the World.
August	18, 2019	Sisters of the Most Holy Trinity (OSST)
August	25, 2019	Sisters of Notre Dame (SND)
September	1, 2019	Order of Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy (O de M)

## **INTERCEDING FOR OUR SPIRITUAL SONS**

- Devote one Holy Hour each week to your spiritual sons which will draw graces upon them, specifically offering prayers of spiritual warfare as protection for them.
- Offer your Holy Communion for your spiritual sons on the first Friday, Saturday or Sunday, asking Jesus for an infusion of His divine love.
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- Dedicate one small sacrifice each day for your spiritual son.
- Recite one Rosary a week for your spiritual son, asking Our Lady to keep him safe in the refuge of her Immaculate Heart.
- Recite one Divine Mercy Chaplet a week for your spiritual son that he might become a vessel of mercy for others.
- Send them frequent notes of encouragement, not just for their birthday or anniversary of their ordination, but for holidays or any time throughout the year. Set a goal of monthly written communication.
- Send them a spiritual bouquet a few times a year, letting them know exactly how you pray for them.
- Pray daily or weekly to a saint who is a patron for priests, such as St. John Vianney, St. Thomas Becket, St. Charles Borromeo or St. Monica.

### **Specific prayer intentions may include:**

- ♦ For your spiritual son to be blessed with expectant faith, constant hope and the fullness of God's love.
- ♦ For your spiritual son to be grounded in the humility of the one eternal High Priest who lowered Himself to become a servant of all.
- ♦ For your spiritual son to be blessed with the grace to faithfully live out their promise of celibacy, making them fully able to serve the Church with single hearted devotion.
- ♦ That your spiritual son will have the power of the Holy Spirit to animate their priesthood, especially their preaching.

