

# Avila News

PRAYER, SACRIFICE, SERVICE, AND STUDY

FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR VOLUME I

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SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER 2019



**REGULAR MEETING  
AND HOLY HOUR**  
Wednesday,  
September 18, 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:**

**Reverend David Durkee**

**Pastor  
Queen of Heaven Parish,  
Uniontown**

As always, friends/guests are most welcome! Please call **Diana Capretta, 216-396-0358** no later than noon on **Monday, September 16**, 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

### Why Pray for Priests?

St. John Vianney, the patron Saint of parish priests, once said, "After God the priest is everything." Saint John Vianney was known for having the utmost dedication to his parish at Ars, France. He often spent between 12 and 16 hours a day hearing confessions for his parishioners as well as for many who traveled specifically to confess to him. Father John Hardon, SJ, also reminds us of the importance of our prayers for priests. He once said, "praying and offering God sacrifices for the priesthood are indispensably important because there is no Catholic Church without the priesthood."

As Avila members we are called and most blessed to have the privilege of praying for our priests, seminarians, religious, and for young men and women to answer the call to a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. What better way to pray than with our rosary in hand before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament asking our Blessed Mother for her powerful intercession for her beloved sons.

It is so important that we are faithful to make a Holy Hour once a week for priests, pray daily for our priest sons, send notes of encouragement assuring them of our prayers, and to faithfully attend Mass and the Avila Holy Hour and luncheon meetings.

Our priests, daily, bring us Jesus in the Eucharist, spend many hours hearing confessions, minister to the sick and dying, administering the sacraments. They are there in times of joy and sorrow. May we never take the gift of their holy priesthood for granted. In honor of St. John Vianney's exceptional ministry and his August 4 feast day, may we always remember to pray for our priests, give them our love and respect and assist them however we can. From a tune I heard recently; "In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus." No priest, No Eucharist.



### St. John Vianney's Prayer for Priests

God, please give to your Church today many more priest after your own heart. May they be worthy representatives of Christ the Good Shepherd. May they wholeheartedly devote themselves to prayer and penance, be examples of humility and poverty; shining models of holiness; tireless and powerful preachers of the Word of God; zealous dispensers of your grace in the sacraments.

May their loving devotion to your Son Jesus in the Eucharist and to Mary his Mother be the twin fountains of fruitfulness for their ministry.



## THE BEATITUDES

Jesus taught us many things during His short three years in public life. The Beatitudes are the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-10). Jesus teaches us that if we live according to the Beatitudes, we will live a good and holy Christian life.

The Beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness. This desire is of divine origin: God has placed it in the human heart in order to draw man to the One who alone can fulfill it ... The Beatitudes reveal the goal of human existence, the ultimate end of human acts: God calls us to his own beatitude. This vocation is addressed to each individual personally, but also to the Church as a whole, the new people made up of those who have accepted the promise and live from it in faith (Catholic Catechism of the Church #1718-1719).

How beautiful and pleasing to God would our lives be if we used the Beatitudes as a guide? Think of how we could impact the lives of those around us.

- ◆ Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ◆ Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.
- ◆ Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the land.
- ◆ Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.
- ◆ Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.
- ◆ Blessed are the clean in heart,  
for they will see God.
- ◆ Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.
- ◆ Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.



*Patricia Casey,  
daughter of Vera Casey.*

*Rosetta Comella*

*Greg Evans,  
husband of Joan.*

*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.*



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



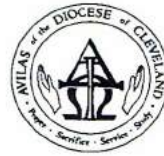
*May the love of God  
and the peace  
of the Lord, Jesus Christ,  
bless and console us,  
and gently wipe every  
tear from our eyes.*

*God Bless!*

*Susan Federico  
Publicity and Scripture Resource*



# Avilas of the Diocese of Cleveland



## Meditation For Holy Hour

"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*

September 2019

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

September 1, 2019	Order of Blessed Virgin Mary of Mercy (O de M)
September 8, 2019	Permanent Deacons of the Diocese of Cleveland
September 15, 2019	Poor Clare Collettine Nuns (PCC)
September 22, 2019	Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration (PCPA)
September 29, 2019	Little Sisters of the Poor (LSP)
October 6, 2019	Sisters of the Precious Blood (CPPS)

We celebrate St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Born in 1910, she joined the Sisters of Loreto in Dublin, and later established the Sisters of Charity in 1950. She died in 1997, and was canonized in 2016. Her life story is well known to most of us. She gave us much wisdom over her 87 years on earth, and was a legend even in her lifetime. It is good to meditate on the wisdom that she left to us:



- ◆ "Holiness is not the luxury of the few, it is a simple duty for each one of us."
- ◆ "It's not about what you do, but how much love you put into what you do that counts."
- ◆ "Keep the joy of loving God in your heart and share this joy with all you meet especially your family."
- ◆ "Let us take whatever God gives and give whatever he takes with a smile. That is holiness."
- ◆ "The best way to show my gratitude to God is to accept everything, even my problems, with joy."
- ◆ "If there has been resentment in our hearts or if we have not accepted humiliation, we will not learn humility."
- ◆ "If you're too busy to pray...you're too busy."
- ◆ "Everybody today seems to be in such a terrible rush, anxious for greater developments and greater riches and so on, so that children have very little time for their parents. Parents have very little time for each other, and in the home begins the disruption of peace of the world."
- ◆ "Before you speak, it is necessary for you to listen, for God speaks in the silence of the heart."
- ◆ "Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies."
- ◆ "Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier."
- ◆ "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin."
- ◆ "If you judge people, you have no time to love them."
- ◆ "God doesn't require us to succeed, He only requires that you try."
- ◆ "A sacrifice to be real must cost, must hurt, must empty ourselves. The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace."



"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*

October 2019

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

October	6, 2019	Sisters of the Precious Blood (CPPS)
October	13, 2019	Society of the Precious Blood (CPPS)
October	20, 2019	Sisters of Providence (SP)
October	27, 2019	Priests of the Diocese of Cleveland
November	3, 2019	Religious of the Good Shepherd (RGS)

October is the month when we have the opportunity to heighten our devotion to the Blessed Mother by increasing our devotion to the Holy Rosary. Despite its being such a powerful prayer with Heaven and because its repetitious nature, we may find ourselves becoming distracted as we pray, being sidetracked by what we will make for dinner or how we are going to pay a bill. Our minds wander despite our love for the devotion and for Our Lord and Our Lady. But we must remember the many favors that have been granted to individuals through devout recitation of the Rosary. We have seen great triumphs of the Rosary in history, and many can testify to its power in their lives. Pope Pius XII told us "the recitation of identical formulas, repeated so many times, rather than rendering the prayer sterile and boring, has on the contrary the admirable quality of infusing confidence in him who prays ..."



No form of devotion to Mary is more widely practiced among Catholics or is more satisfying than the Rosary, the badge of Catholic piety. No form of extra-liturgical devotion to Mary has been recommended more warmly or more frequently by the Popes. The Rosary takes us through the entire life of Jesus, His passion, death and resurrection. Of course, the Rosary also honors Mary too, and rightly so, because her mission and life is most closely linked with Jesus'. There is no one who has followed in His footsteps more closely and with more merit. The Rosary nurtures our faith, morality and spiritual perfection, fostering in various ways faith, hope, charity and the other virtues, and mediating special graces, all so that we may become more and more like Christ.

Pope Benedict XVI in an address at the Basilica of St. Mary Major where he prayed the rosary with the faithful said, "Today, together we confirm that the Holy Rosary is not a pious practice banished to the past, like prayers of other times thought of with nostalgia. Instead, the Rosary is experiencing a new Springtime. Without a doubt, this is one of the most eloquent signs of love that the young generation nourish for Jesus and his Mother, Mary. In the current world, so dispersive, this prayer helps to put Christ at the centre, as the Virgin did, who meditated within all that was said about her Son, and also what he did and said. When reciting the Rosary, the important and meaningful moments of salvation history are relived. The various steps of Christ's mission are traced. With Mary the heart is oriented toward the mystery of Jesus. Christ is put at the centre of our life, of our time, of our city, through the contemplation and meditation of his holy mysteries of joy, light, sorrow and glory. May Mary help us to welcome within ourselves the grace emanating from these mysteries, so that through us we can "water" society, beginning with our daily relationships, and purifying them from so many negative forces, thus opening them to the newness of God. The Rosary, when it is prayed in an authentic way, not mechanical and superficial but profoundly, it brings, in fact, peace and reconciliation. It contains within itself the healing power of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, invoked with faith and love at the centre of each Hail Mary."

As in many times in the past, Our Blessed Mother is again urging us to turn to the Rosary for help. If many of us follow her wishes, we can have greater confidence that we will be delivered from current dangers.