

Avila News

PRAYER, SACRIFICE, SERVICE, AND STUDY

FIFTY-FIRST YEAR VOLUME I

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SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER 2022



**REGULAR MEETING
AND HOLY HOUR**
Wednesday,
September 21, 2022

**PLEASE GATHER IN
FOUNDERS' ROOM
AT 10:00AM**

**HOLY HOUR WILL BEGIN
AT 10:30AM**

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

SPEAKER:

**Most Rev. Martin Amos
Bishop Emeritus
of the
Diocese of Davenport, Iowa**

As always, friends/guests are most welcome! Please contact **Chris Ryan at 440-983-0805 or chrisryan78@yahoo.com, no later than noon on Monday, September 19, if you cannot attend or to make additional reservations. Guest donation is \$13.00. 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 meetings and cannot call to cancel luncheon reservations might consider becoming a sustaining member. Thank you.**

President's Corner



September is the month of Our Lady of Sorrows. Though she certainly had very difficult struggles, her sorrows are not tragedies. Because Mary was and is so close to God, anything that happened in her life could not be ruinous. Her Son was crucified, died and was buried. But! He rose again! Love of God sustained her through her sorrows as the love of God sustains those who trust and believe in Him. As Christians, we should remember that when we look at the Crucifix we should never see it without remembering the Resurrection. When the world trips us up or sadness floods into our lives, we should remember Noah's rainbow and think of God's promises. Look forward to eternal life in heaven with all your might, offering every sorrow of this life to God!

September 15th is the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, one of Mary's many titles. Pray her Seven Sorrows.

Our next Avila Meeting, Mass, and Luncheon will be on September 21. Our speaker will be Bishop Martin Amos. I am very happy to tell you that we will be going back at the Center for Pastoral Leadership in September. Starting in September, we will return to the original way of making reservation for luncheons. Active members need not call in, but guests will need a reservation. The price of guest meals will be \$13.00. Reservations can be made with our new Reservation Chairperson, Chris Ryan, at 440-983-0805 or via email at chrisryan78@yahoo.com.

October 14 is our Annual Avila Day of Prayer. The day will begin at 9:30AM and end at 3:00PM. We are blessed that Bishop Michael G. Woost will celebrate Mass and give a talk on St. Teresa of Avila. Father Eric Garris will also give a talk. More details to follow.

It will be nice for all of us to be together again!

*Blessings,
Marianne Repinski*

Labor Day Prayer

Dear Father and creator of us all – the one who gives us strength to work, minds to envision and hearts to persevere – thank you for creating us with the ability to do tasks, create products and contribute ideas that benefit the world.

We remember in grateful prayer today all those who labor diligently in our factories, in our restaurants, in our maintenance industries, in transportation, in communications, in agriculture, in construction, in mining, in our nursing homes and hospitals, in law enforcement, in childcare and in our retail industry.

Thank you that they provide so many necessary services that keep our lives and our country working like clockwork.

We pray the blessing of Ecclesiastes upon each worker, "That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil – this is the gift of God." (Ecclesiastes 3:13 NIV)

Keep our workers healthy, safe and strong. May the work of their hands provide the means they need to care for themselves and their families.

Grant them work environments that allow them to do their jobs in safety, where they are respected and valued by their superiors and where they are rewarded by a sense of accomplishment.

Help all of us to treat them as we would want to be treated. Let us never overlook them or to underestimate their value.

Open our eyes to their labors on the behalf of our world and help us to voice our thanks to them for tirelessly doing their allotted jobs.

May we learn your grace from their example of faithfulness in every task of every size to which we put our hands to doing.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth who labored as a carpenter, Amen.

Guided by You Prayer by St. Teresa of Avila

Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by You,
always follow Your plans,
and perfectly accomplish Your Holy Will.

Grant that in all things, great and small,
today and all the days of my life,
I may do whatever You require of me.

Help me respond to the slightest prompting of Your Grace,
so that I may be Your trustworthy instrument for Your honour.

May Your Will be done in time and in eternity by me,
in me, and through me.

Amen.



Pattie Collett

Susan Federico

Joan Keating

Arch Tunnell



For prayer requests contact Joan Evans at
joanevans1130ad@gmail.com or
440-331-2383.



Arch and Marlyn Tunnell

on the death of
their son

David.

☪

Jerri Donohue

on the death of
her mother

Bethene Ray.



Always
give
yourselves
fully to
the work
of the
Lord ...

1 Corinthians 15:58

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*

September 2022

Please include the special intentions of the members of the following groups

September 4, 2022	Little Sisters of the Poor (LSP)
September 11, 2022	Sisters of the Precious Blood (CPPS)
September 18, 2022	Society of the Precious Blood (CPPS)
September 25, 2022	Sisters of Providence (SP)
October 2, 2022	Religious of the Good Shepherd (RGS)

FEAST OF THE SEVEN SORROWS OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER

Mary, in a unique way, willingly suffered a spiritual martyrdom alongside her Divine Son as He gave His life to save the world. She felt the bitterness of His Passion as only a mother can. It was revealed to St. Bridget of Sweden in the 14th century that devotion to the Blessed Virgin's Seven Sorrows would bring great graces. So great a love has our Blessed Mother for us that she deserves our gratitude. The Seven Sorrows of Mary are important for us to know and pray. They are all based on scripture and help us recall Mary's role in salvation history. The purpose of the Devotion of the Seven Sorrows is to promote union with the sufferings of Christ through union with the special suffering that Our Lady endured because she was the Mother of God. By uniting ourselves with both the Passion of Christ and His Holy Mother, we enter into Jesus' Heart and honor Him greatly. He is more honored because we have so honored His Mother. This devotion is especially remembered during September, the Month of Our Lady of Sorrows (the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows is September 15th), and during the season of Lent. The devotion consists in praying seven Hail Mary's while meditating on each of her Seven Sorrows.

The Seven Sorrows of Mary:

1. *The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:34-35)*
2. *The Flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-21)*
3. *The Loss of Jesus for Three Days (Luke 2:41-50)*
4. *The Carrying of the Cross (John 19:17)*
5. *The Crucifixion of Jesus (John 19:18-30)*
6. *Jesus Taken Down from the Cross (John 19:39-40)*
7. *Jesus Laid in the Tomb (John 19:39-42)*

The Blessed Virgin Mary grants seven graces to the souls who honor her daily by meditating on her seven sorrows (dolors).

1. *"I will grant peace to their families."*
2. *"They will be enlightened about the Divine Mysteries."*
3. *"I will console them in their pains and I will accompany them in their work."*
4. *"I will give them as much as they ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of my Divine Son or the sanctification of their souls."*
5. *"I will defend them in their spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect them at every instant of their lives."*
6. *"I will visibly help them at the moment of their death. They will see the face of their Mother."*
7. *"I have obtained this grace from my Divine Son, that those who propagate this devotion to my tears and dolors, will be taken directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness since all their sins will be forgiven and my Son and I will be their eternal consolation and joy."*

Mary had three loves in her Immaculate Heart: God, her Son, and souls. She so loved the world that she gave her only Son. As St. Bernard said, "The sword would not have reached Jesus if it had not pierced Mary's heart." Mary loved souls on Calvary, after suffering such cruel torments, she merited being the Mother of all mankind. Behold Mary on Calvary. She suffers and prays. She stands as one offering sacrifice. St. Ambrose said, "I read that she stood, but I do not read that she wept." When Mary gave us her Son, she gave us everything. Therefore it can very well be said, "Behold this heart which has so greatly loved all people that it has spared nothing for them."

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*

October 2022

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

October	2, 2022	Religious of the Good Shepherd (RGS)
October	9, 2022	Religious Women and Men of the Diocese of Cleveland
October	16, 2022	Religious Women and Men in Formation
October	23, 2022	Seminarians in Formation in the Diocese of Cleveland
October	30, 2022	Priests of the Diocese of Cleveland
November	6, 2022	Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland (OSU)

OUR PATRON SAINT TERESA OF AVILA

Our patron, St. Teresa of Avila, was born in March 1515. Fascinated by stories about the martyrs, she convinced her brother to run away with her to Muslim lands so they could be martyred and see God. Family members found them outside the town walls and brought them home. When Teresa was eleven years old, her mother died, leaving her grief-stricken and embracing the Virgin Mary as her spiritual mother. After completing her education, she at first resisted the idea of religious life, but later gave in. At age 20, she entered the local Carmelite convent. Her health soon deteriorated, she was an invalid for three years and developed a love for mental prayer. She nearly died, and after her recovery, which she attributed to St. Joseph's intercession, she stopped praying. She continued for 15 years divided between a worldly and a divine spirit until she underwent a religious awakening coming to understand the awful horror of sin and becoming conscious of her need for absolute surrender to God.

Teresa reported visions of Jesus and Mary, and was also known for bouts of religious ecstasy, sometimes with levitation. She was a strong believer in the power of holy water, using it successfully to repel evil spirits and temptations, and wrote: "I know from frequent experience that there is nothing which puts devils to flight better than holy water."

In 1558 Teresa wanted the restoration of Carmelite life to its original state of strictness and complete withdrawal so that the nuns could meditate on divine law and, through a prayerful life of penance, exercise their "vocation of reparation" for the sins of mankind. In 1562, with Pope Pius IV's authorization, she opened the first convent of the Carmelite Reform resulting in much hostility from some of the local municipal and religious people, but she insisted on poverty and support only through public donations. In March 1563, after Teresa moved to the new convent house, she received papal approval, her plan being the revival of earlier stricter monastic rules. For five years, she remained in seclusion, engaged only in prayer and writing. Four years later, she received permission to establish more houses requiring many visits and long journeys across almost all the provinces of Spain. She was also given permission to set up two houses for men who wished to adopt the reforms, and convinced two Carmelite friars, John of the Cross and Anthony of Jesus, to help. The first monastery of Discalced Carmelite brothers was started in November 1568. After persecution and attack by unreformed members of the Carmelite order, she was instructed to go into "voluntary" retirement and chose St. Joseph's at Toledo. Meanwhile, her friends and associates were subjected to further attacks, but the reform was permitted to resume in 1579.

Despite frail health and great difficulties, Teresa spent the rest of her life establishing 16 more convents throughout Spain. Her final illness overtook her on one of her journeys, and she died in 1582. Her last words were: "My Lord, it is time to move on. Well then, may your will be done. O my Lord and my Spouse, the hour that I have longed for has come. It is time to meet one another." Nine months later, her body was found to be intact. She was canonized by Pope Gregory XV in 1622. The title Doctor of the Church was bestowed upon her by Pope Paul VI on 27 September 1970, along with Catherine of Siena, making them the first women to be awarded the distinction. Teresa is also revered as the Doctor of Prayer, and is regarded as one of the foremost writers on mental prayer. Her definitions have been used in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Teresa states: "Contemplative prayer in my opinion is nothing other than a close sharing between friends. It means frequently taking time to be alone with Him whom we know loves us."

How much we can learn from this great saint whom we are blessed to have as our patron and model! St. Teresa of Avila, please pray for our Church and our priests – and for all of us.

***Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing make you afraid.
All things are passing. God alone never changes.
Patience gains all things. If you have God you will want for nothing. God alone suffices.***