

Avila News

PRAYER, SACRIFICE, SERVICE, AND STUDY

FIFTY-SECOND YEAR VOLUME I

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SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER 2023



**REGULAR MEETING
AND HOLY HOUR**
Wednesday,
September 20, 2023

**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:

**Rev. Joseph Brankatelli
Parochial Vicar
St. Clare Parish, Lyndhurst**

As always, friends/guests are most welcome! Please contact **Chris Ryan at 440-983-0805 or chrisryan78@myyahoo.com**, no later than noon on **Monday, September 18**, 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

The month of September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows, whose memorial the Church celebrates on September 15. The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is on October 7. Pope St John Paul II called the rosary his favorite prayer "*in which we meditate with Mary upon the mysteries which she as a Mother meditated on in her heart.*" (Luke 2:19)

Our next Avila meeting, Mass, and Luncheon will be on September 20th. Our speaker will be Father Joseph Brankatelli, Parochial Vicar at Saint Clare Parish in Lyndhurst. I promise you he has a fascinating vocation story to tell.

Also please be sure to mark your calendars for our annual Avila Day of Prayer which will be on Wednesday, October 18th. We are honored that Bishop Michael Woost has agreed to be the celebrant of our Mass that day. More information and details will be forthcoming.

I remind you that, as Avila members, we are always called to pray for our priests, seminarians, and religious, and that more young men and women answer the call to a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. Let us pray more rosaries in October asking our Blessed Mother for her intercession for her beloved sons and daughters and for us, our families and friends.

Thank you and may God bless us all.

Marianne Repinski



*"Let nothing Disturb you, Let nothing frighten you,
though all things pass, God does not change. Patience wins all things.
But he lacks nothing who possesses God;
For God alone suffices." – St. Teresa of Avila*

IMPORTANT 2023-2024 VOCATION DATES

Please keep all these events in your prayers - thank you!!

Priesthood Sunday - Diocese of Cleveland
October 29, 2023

National Vocation Awareness Week
November 5-11, 2023

Family Day at the Seminary
November 12, 2023

Pro Orantibus Day
November 21, 2023

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life
February 2, 2024; Celebrated in Parishes – February 3-4, 2024

40th Bishop's Seminary Brunch
April 14, 2024

World Day of Prayer for Vocations
April 21, 2024

O Virgin Mary,
grant that the recitation of thy Rosary
may be for me each day, in the midst of my manifold duties,
a bond of unity in my actions, a tribute of filial piety,
a sweet refreshment, an encouragement to walk joyfully
along the path of duty.

Grant, above all, O Virgin Mary,
that the study of thy fifteen mysteries may form in my soul,
little by little, a luminous atmosphere,
pure, strengthening, and fragrant,
which may penetrate my understanding, my will, my heart,
my memory, my imagination, my whole being.
So shall I acquire the habit of praying while I work,
without the aid of formal prayers,
by interior acts of admiration and of supplication,
or by aspirations of love.

I ask this of thee, O Queen of the holy Rosary,
through Saint Dominic, thy son of predilection,
the renowned preacher of thy mysteries,
and the faithful imitator of thy virtues.

Amen.



Ruth Merriman
Arch Tunnell
Margaret Zeis



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



Joan Keating
on the death of her sister,
Avila Member, Patricia Keating.

Anne Williams
on the death of her sister,
Rosemary Capotosto.

Happy Feast Day Avilas!!

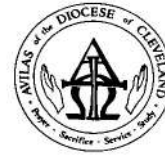
October 15



Saint Teresa of Avila

Pray for Us!

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 2023

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

September	3, 2023	Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (SSMI)
September	10, 2023	Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament (SIW)
September	17, 2023	Society of Jesus (Detroit Province) (SJ)
September	24, 2023	Congregation of St. Joseph (CSJ)
October	1, 2023	Sisters of St. Joseph (CSJ)

TRUST

In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus talks about the need to rely on our Father's loving care: *"Do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink, nor about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life? . . . For the Gentiles seek all these things; and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well."* (Matt. 6:25-27, 31-33)

Life is not predictable. There are ups and downs along the way. Many of us want to trust God. When times are good, it is easier. But when times are difficult, it is even more important to trust God. Life can be going along smoothly for a season. Your job is satisfying. Your friends and family are enjoyable. Your goals, finances, health, and outlook seem bright. Then, all of a sudden, life throws us a curveball. You or someone you know gets sick. You lose your job. A friend or family member betrays you. The things you felt secure in all of a sudden feel shaky and uncertain. How do you trust that God is there in these circumstances? How do you trust Him when you do not understand what is happening, when you cannot see a resolution?

Trusting God means believing in His reliability, His Word, His ability, and His strength. The Bible says that God cannot lie, that He always keeps His promises, that He loves you and has good in store for you. Trusting in Him means believing what He says about Himself, about the world and about you is true. **Trusting in God** is more than a feeling; it's a choice to have faith in what He says even when your feelings or circumstances would have you believe something different. Your feelings and circumstances matter, and God cares about them, but those things can change, but God never changes and He is therefore worthy of your trust.

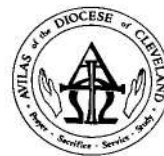
*"For a sun and shield is the Lord God, bestowing all grace and glory.
The Lord withholds no good thing from those who walk without reproach."* (Ps. 84:12)

This verse is clear in that God will never withhold anything that is good for us. So, if you prayed for something and God didn't give it to you, He perfectly knows that it won't be good for you. So, trust Him that He knows what's best for you. Thank God for the times when He said no to your prayers. It only means that He is protecting you or setting you up for something way better than what you have asked for. As humans, we don't know everything. Our knowledge is limited and thus, we can't see the whole picture. We are limited, God is not. Though we only know a few things, God knows everything. We may only see the trees, but God sees the forest. Our perspective is infinitely limited. Why trust what you can't see or understand? Trust in the Almighty, instead, for He perfectly knows the past, the present, and the future.

*"Be strong and steadfast; have no fear or dread of them, for it is the LORD, your God,
who marches with you; he will never fail you or forsake you."* (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Our Father will not bring us this far only to leave us. He will not call us just to simply leave us hanging in the air. He will never let you down.

*I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you
will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:6)*



“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 2023

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

October	1, 2023	Sisters of St. Joseph (CSJ)
October	8, 2023	Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Mark (Cleveland) (SJSM)
October	15, 2023	Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Mark (Youngstown) (SJSM)
October	22, 2023	Sisters of St. Joseph, Third Order of St. Francis (SSJ-TOSF)
October	29, 2023	Society of Our Lady of the Way (Secular Institute)
November	5, 2023	Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette

ST. LUKE - FEAST DAY - OCTOBER 18

On October 18, the Church celebrates the Feast of Saint Luke, one of the four Gospel writers. Luke wrote as a Gentile for Gentile Christians. There is a warmth to Luke's writing that sets it apart. Prior to and during his time as a leader in the early Church, Saint Luke was a medical doctor by trade. Saint Paul calls Luke "the beloved physician," (Colossians 4:14). Luke's profession as a doctor is even apparent from the way he wrote. He includes more miracles of physical healing than do any of the other Gospels (thirteen, compared to twelve in Matthew, eleven in Mark, and only two in John). His description of the sick people whom Jesus cures sometimes displays a knowledge of medicine that is not present in the other Gospels, such as the use of precise medical terms (ie "dropsy" in Luke 14: 1-6). It is interesting that, in telling about Jesus curing a woman with a hemorrhage, Luke doesn't include Mark's verse that she "had suffered greatly at the hands of many doctors and had spent all that she had. Yet she was not helped but only grew worse" (Mark 5:26)!

In traditional Christian symbolism, each of the four Evangelists is represented by a living creature (Matthew an angel or a man, Mark a lion, John an eagle and Luke an ox). The prophet Ezekiel wrote of a heavenly vision of four living creatures: "Each of the four had a human face, and on the right the face of a lion, and on the left, the face of an ox, and each had the face of an eagle," (Ezekiel 1:10). Each of the four creatures is meant to symbolize a particular quality or characteristic that stands out in one of the Gospels. Luke's symbol is the ox, a creature known for its strength, reliability, and service to mankind.

Each of the four Gospels stresses different themes and facets of Jesus' life. One of the emphases of Luke's Gospel is the role of the Virgin Mary. The first two chapters of his Gospel (made up of a hundred and thirty-two verses) are dedicated to the infancy of Jesus, of which Mary, of course, plays the most central role, besides Jesus. Luke chronicles the archangel Gabriel's visit to her, her visit to Elizabeth, Jesus' birth, the shepherds' visit, Jesus' naming and circumcision, His conversations in the temple at age twelve and His family life with Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. The level of detail in Luke's account of Jesus' early years has led historians to believe that Luke must have known Mary personally and heard about these events first-hand from her.

In addition to Mary, Luke also mentions Elizabeth, Simon's mother-in-law, a mourning widow, a prostitute, the women of Galilee who followed Jesus, Jairus's daughter, a woman with hemorrhages, Martha and Mary, a crippled woman and Mary Magdalene. In doing this, Luke highlighted the fact that the Gospel message was meant for the whole human race, men and women alike. Much of the ancient world was male-dominated, but Luke showed that Jesus went out of his way to bring God's love to women, many of whom were among the most forgotten and cast-out members of society. It is because of his emphasis on the Virgin Mary and women in general that Luke's Gospel has been called the "Marian Gospel," and the "Gospel of women."

Saint Luke also wrote the Acts of the Apostles, the book immediately following the Gospels. Although Saint Paul wrote more books, Luke's two contributions are long enough that they actually make up a greater percentage of the New Testament (about 24%) than those of any other author. Saint Luke is the patron saint of physicians and surgeons, artists and painters, brewers, butchers and notaries.

Most charming and saintly physician, you were animated by a heavenly spirit of love. In faithfully detailing the humanity of Jesus, you also showed His divinity and His genuine compassion for all human beings. Inspire our physicians with your professionalism and your divine tender heartedness for their patients. Enable them to cure the ills of both body and spirit that afflicts so many in our day. Amen.