

Avila News

PRAYER, SACRIFICE, SERVICE, AND STUDY

FIFTY-SECOND YEAR VOLUME IV

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MARCH, APRIL 2024



REGULAR MEETING AND HOLY HOUR

Wednesday,
March 20, 2024

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. Dominic Gideon
Parochial Vicar
St. Albert the Great Parish

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, March 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 March is dedicated to St. Joseph. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. The Church has turned to St. Joseph for his patronage and protection. His feast day is March 19.



The Church encourages our devotion to Joseph because he was a model in the heroic practice of all the virtues. The example of virtuous living that he gave in the exact fulfillment of the duties of his state of life is worthy of our reflection.

The Feast of the Annunciation is celebrated on April 8 this year. The angel appeared to Mary, asking her to say yes to becoming the mother of Jesus. Pray that we have the same spirit of "yes" and obedience to God's will that Mary had.

During this lent let us commit to more prayer, sacrifice and fasting for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life and for our priests.

*Blessings to All,
Marianne*



EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL



It is important that we understand the Eucharistic Revival. We know that the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life by the Catholic Church in which the whole Christ is truly present – Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity – under the appearances of bread and wine. By consuming the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist, we

believe that we become united to the person of Christ through His humanity. This union with Christ also unites us to His divinity. The Eucharist is also an act of thanksgiving, a sacrifice of praise, rendered to God the Father for every gift He has bestowed upon us, most especially for the saving and healing work of His Only-Begotten Son.

For three years, every Catholic diocese, parish, school, apostolate, and family is invited to be part of renewing the Church by rekindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. The first year of the Revival from June 19, 2022, to July 11, 2023, invited diocesan staff, bishops and priests to respond to the Lord's personal invitation and equipped them to share this love with the faithful through Eucharistic congresses and events. The second phase from June 11, 2023, until July 17, 2024, aims to foster Eucharistic devotion at the parish level, strengthening liturgical life through faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, missions, resources, preaching, and organic movements of the Holy Spirit. The third and final phase of the initiative is the National Eucharistic Congress from July 17 to 21, 2024, in Indianapolis when more than 80,000 Catholics of all ages are expected to gather at this historic event to reconsecrate their hearts and lives to the Source and Summit of our faith. There was a Eucharistic Revival in Cleveland in 1935, and 170,000 attended candlelight Mass in Municipal Stadium.

Mary is the mother of the Eucharist and mother of the Church. The Jesus who is truly present in the Holy Eucharist is the same Jesus who lived in the womb of that Holy Virgin for nine months. Through the continuing work of grace and our response to God's loving invitations we are called to become "living monstrances," living tabernacles, wherein the Lord dwells. Like Mary, the Mother of the Lord - and the mother of all who follow her Son - we are invited to give our "Fiat," our surrender of love, our "Yes" to the God of love and allow Him to be spiritually formed within us. Every time we approach the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharistic liturgy, we also turn to Mary who, by her complete fidelity, received Christ's sacrifice for the whole Church. She is the Immaculata who receives God's gift unconditionally and is therefore associated with His work of salvation. Mary of Nazareth is the model for each of us, called to receive the gift that Jesus makes of Himself in the Eucharist. Mary is the model who shows us the way.



Patti Rollins
(great-granddaughter of Ellen Newcomb)

Barbara Stein

Mary Ann Trask

Arch Tunnell



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



Diane Kondik, and family,
on the death of her husband
James.

The family and friends
of long time Avila members:

Vera Casey

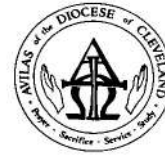
Ruth Merriman

Mary Ann Tady



May their souls
and all the souls
of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.
Amen.

God Bless,
Susan Federico
Newsletter and Meditations



“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 2024

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

| | | |
|-------|----------|--|
| March | 3, 2024 | Sisters of Providence (SP) |
| March | 10, 2024 | Religious of the Good Shepherd (RGS) |
| March | 17, 2024 | Religious Women and Men of the Diocese of Cleveland |
| March | 24, 2024 | Religious Women and Men in Formation |
| March | 31, 2024 | Seminarians in Formation in the Diocese of Cleveland |
| April | 7, 2024 | Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland (OSU) |

A REFLECTION ON EASTER

The ultimate among Solemnities, the greatest among Feasts – Easter is the day we celebrate the crowning, central truth of our faith in Jesus Christ. Easter is the most important day of the Christian calendar, more important than even Christmas. It is the day of the Resurrection and Christ's triumphant victory over sin and death.

Through the solemn observances of Lent, we join our sorrowful Blessed Mother in accompanying Jesus on the road to Calvary. Particularly on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, when we unite ourselves to our Lord's Passion, contemplating the suffering Jesus endured for love of us, we are transformed through this uniting in order to also share in Jesus' great culminating victory over sin and death. On Easter, we celebrate Jesus' glorious Resurrection from the dead – the basis for our faith, as Saint Paul emphatically reminds us in his first epistle to the Corinthians: “*And if Christ be not risen again, your faith is vain, for you are yet in your sins. Then they also that are fallen asleep in Christ are perished*” (1 Corinthians 15:17-18).

Just as we are called to share in Our Lord's Passion and Death, we are also called to unite ourselves to His Resurrection during Easter, for if “*we have died with Him, we shall also live with Him*” (2 Timothy 2:11). This greatest of gifts, given to us lovingly and freely by our Redeemer, has purchased for us eternal life. We can hope for no greater glory than to gain the Beatific Vision and live eternally with God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the angels, and saints in Heaven.

The joy of our faith and hope rests in the words of Jesus to Martha before He raised Lazarus from the dead: “*I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, although he be dead, shall live; and every one that liveth, and believeth in me, shall not die for ever*” (John 11:25-26). Let us join our voices to Martha's as we echo her response to Jesus: “*Yes, Lord, I have believed that thou art Christ, the Son of the living God*” (John 11:27).

Easter not only is the foundation of our faith, Easter also invigorates our hope. Hope draws our eyes upward, where God resides. Saint Paul encourages us: “*Therefore, if you be risen with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. Mind the things that are above, not the things that are upon the earth. For you are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ shall appear, who is your life, then you also shall appear with Him in glory*” (Colossians 3:1-4).

On Easter Sunday, let us all join with the chorus of the faithful as we proclaim,
“Yes, rejoice and be glad for Christ is truly risen! Alleluia!”

By Marta Timar, Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart



“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 2024

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

| | | |
|-------|----------|--|
| April | 7, 2024 | Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland (OSU) |
| April | 14, 2024 | Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown (OSU) |
| April | 21, 2024 | Vocation Ministers of the Diocese of Cleveland |
| April | 28, 2024 | Apostles of Jesus (AJ) |
| May | 5, 2024 | Order of St. Basil the Great (Philadelphia) (OSBM) |

THE HUMBLE FRUIT OF THE HARVEST



Do not be anxious. Rouse yourself to serve the Lord with steadfastness, attentiveness, and meekness. That is the true way to serve him. If you can refrain from trying to do all things, but instead attempt to do only some one thing, then you will do much. Practice the mortifications that most often present themselves to you, for that is the first duty to be done. After that you can take up the others. Lovingly kiss the crosses that our Lord himself lays upon your arms, without looking to see whether they are of precious or aromatic wood. They are more truly crosses when they are made of a wood that smells dirty and is considered useless.

You see, it is our Lord garbed as a gardener whom we meet day by day, here and there, in the ordinary mortifications that present themselves to us. We want more noble-seeming ones. But the ones that seem the most noble are not the best. Before we see him in his glory, he wants to plant many humble flowers in our garden, according to his plan. Our task is to let our hearts be ever united to his, and our wills to his pleasure.

Let us make our way through the low valleys of the humble little virtues. There we will see roses among thorns: charity shining forth amid interior and exterior affliction, lilies of purity, and violets of mortification.

We ought to love above all others these three small virtues: meekness of heart, poverty of spirit, and simplicity of life, together with those common labors of visiting the sick, serving the poor, and consoling the afflicted. Yet let it all be done freely and without anxiety.

Saint Francis de Sales