



The Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter

450 Venard Road, South Abington, PA 18411

November 2021

*“Rejoice heartily, O daughter Sion, shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your King shall come, a just Savior of the world is He.”
—Zach. 9:9*

Dear Friend of the Fraternity,

We live in a world of pleasure and comfort. But how often do we experience genuine, lasting joy?

Nowadays, there are countless ways to make our daily duties more convenient and our lives easier. There are also innumerable means of entertaining ourselves—of filling every spare moment with a supposed delight. These diversions, however, pale in comparison to joy.

As St. Thomas Aquinas points out, joy is not among the theological, moral, or intellectual virtues. What, then, is it?

St. Thomas teaches that one cause of joy is love—and more specifically, the presence of a thing we love. If we were to stop here, we might decide that the goods of this world are all we need to remain joyful. But consider how quickly these things perish—and how the human heart longs for lasting joy.

The only such joy is spiritual. St. Thomas helps us again by explaining that the cause of spiritual joy is charity, which is the love of God whose goodness is unchangeable. If, then, we heed the exhortation above to “rejoice heartily,” our joy cannot be rooted in the fleeting things of this world! Instead, we must pray that our love of God—and our love of neighbor for God’s sake—will increase.

Knowing this, we can begin to understand why one of the best ways to sustain our joy is through proper liturgy, which always has God as its object.

FSSP priests will joyfully celebrate a special Mass for the intentions of all our supporters on Christmas morning. Please share the spiritual benefits of this Mass with your loved ones by enrolling them using the form provided. No gift is required—but please remember that your donation will help support the formation of our next generation of priests and ongoing work of the priests at our apostolates, who will work tirelessly to share the joy that comes from knowing Our Redeemer.

Your friendship and support are enabling the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter to grow and thrive in North America. Know that we will be praying for you and your intentions with the deepest gratitude throughout this Christmas season.



We’ve enclosed an extra copy of the Advent prayer card because we know you will want to share it with a friend.

Even if you don’t have an Advent wreath, remember to say the prayers each week from now until Christmas!