

Cum Petro



The Newsletter for

THE CONFRATERNITY OF ST. PETER

Easter - May 2025

From the Chaplain

by Fr. James Fryar, FSSP

It is not very often that we live through the events that just took place, the passing and the election of a pope. It may occur a few times in each of our lifetimes. When a pope passes from this life there are sentiments among the faithful of a great absence. The time between popes can cause a certain unrest. It is a feeling that nobody is in charge very much like sheep without a shepherd. Then at the moment of the white smoke, the Plaza of St Peter's Basilica erupts in a joy that is truly felt throughout the Catholic world: *habemus papam*.

The Very Rev. Fr. Berg, our Superior General, talks of three pillars of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter. *Fidelity to the Traditional Mass and Sacraments, formation based on the teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas and fidelity to the See of Peter*. As members of the Confraternity of St. Peter we should also make these pillars part of our own spiritual lives.

We see this fidelity to the Holy See from the very first moment of the founding of the FSSP. Wishing to stay true to the Traditional Mass yet not wanting to follow the path of the Society of St. Pius X, our founders did the correct thing. They went to St. John Paul II with the confidence of a child in their father. As a result the FSSP was established.

Not too long ago in the general sorrow and confusion following the *Motu Proprio Traditionis Custodes*, the Fraternity did the same thing. They went to Pope Francis with the confidence of a child in their father. While professing our fidelity to Peter they asked that we could continue our charism of fidelity to Tradition. The Holy Father gave us a document assuring our right to preserve the Liturgical Books of 1962.

I have only lived through the election of a few popes, however it seemed to me that more prayers were being offered to God throughout the world for the conclave this year than the other times. And again, as it seems to me, we all feel that our prayers have been heard with the election of Pope Leo XIV.

We are overjoyed with the new Successor of the Apostles. The last Pope Leo, who died in 1903, promoted devotion to the Rosary, ordered the St. Michael Prayer to be said after Mass in response to a vision that the devil would have extraordinary power for a hundred years, promoted the teaching of St. Thomas Aquinas, and many other great things. Now, more than one hundred years later, we have the next Pope Leo, which fills us with hope.

As members of the Confraternity we should continue our prayers for the Holy Father. We should pray each day for Pope Leo that God protect him and guide him as he navigates the Bark of Peter through the perilous waters of a raging world. If you notice the monthly prayer cards that we send out with a priest to pray for each day also includes days where we pray for the Holy Father. While the Confraternity prays for the sanctification and work of our FSSP priests, we should also offer daily prayers for the Holy Father.

A simple practice could be to add the traditional prayer for the Holy Father to our daily prayers: *May the Lord preserve him, and give him life, and make him blessed upon the earth, and deliver him not up to the will of his enemies.* ✠

God bless you,



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The Newsletter of the
Confraternity of St. Peter
Easter 2025

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The Confraternity of St. Peter

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Three Feasts of Great Sainly Mothers

by Fr. Jeremy Chua, FSSP

On May 3, we remember the Finding of the Holy Cross. The story of this great discovery really is the story of motherly love. It was a mother who found the Holy Cross. A Queen Mother, who was the mother of a great empire and the mother of an Emperor. This Queen Mother was Saint Helena. She was already eighty years old, but she still makes the journey to Jerusalem to find this great relic of the True Cross in order to benefit her son and his empire. About five months after she finds the Holy Cross, she dies in the arms of her son, the Emperor Constantine. As a mother of a great empire, she showed a great maternal care for its people by ensuring that a great basilica was built on the spot, so that pilgrims from all over the empire could come and devoutly pray under a roof. As a mother of an Emperor, she showed a great maternal care for her son by giving him a means to curb pride. She placed one of the nails from the Holy Cross in his Crown, so that he would constantly be reminded that he was subject to the King of Kings. In this month of May, let us honour all mothers, for it is their great maternal love that is one of the key foundations of a truly Christian society.



On May 4th we celebrate the feast day of Saint Monica. Saint Monica was a wife of a pagan and the mother of a wayward son. As a wife, her constant affection and her constant prayer, converted her pagan husband, as well as her mother-in-law. As a mother, she also constantly prayed and fasted for her first-born son's conversion. Her wayward son was living an immoral life. She had clothed him, had fed him, and had sheltered him. She who had given birth to him and had suckled him at her bosom, saw that her own first born son, her own flesh and blood was spiritually dead. And she saw that Augustine needed to undergo a spiritual birth. Night and day, she prayed and fasted for 10 years. It was through her persistence and endurance that Augustine finally converted and was baptised by Saint Ambrose. She did not live to hear his great preaching or read his sublime writings, for she died that same year. Augustine went on to become a Bishop and one of the greatest Church Fathers. God chose this motherly intercession to be a very instrument to bring this all about. In this month of May, let us give thanks for the hidden daily heroic natural and supernatural sacrifices of wives and mothers. God has chosen their great maternal love to be an instrument that brings down many graces for mankind.

Finally, on May 6th, we are reminded of the story on this feast of an intercession by a mother, the mother of the sons of thunder: James and John. This intercession was made by Salome, the wife of Zebedee. James and John sought worldly honours and thought their own plea would be insufficient. They went to their mother to seek her intercession. And this Salome, who was a widow, boldly asks on behalf of her two precious sons. The Lord hears her petition and sees her heart. It is a mother's heart. The heart that seeks what is best for her children. And He seeks to give over and above what was asked for. This mother's heart was the great instrument in the

Divine Plan to bring forth the graces that James and John needed for their witness to the faith. This mother did all she could, and all that was needed was for her sons to choose to suffer for the sake of the kingdom. This they freely choose. Saint James would be beheaded in Jerusalem, and in his old age, Saint John would be scourged and thrown into a large pot of boiling oil. The feast today reminds us of this event. It was through the intercession of his mother that Saint John began to grow in the virtues and graces necessary to endure martyrdom. But through a great miracle, Saint John was unharmed by the boiling oil and emerged from the pot refreshed. This

occurred at the Latin Gate in Rome. Saint John who stood at the foot of the cross with the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Mary Magdalene, was a martyr of love rather than a martyr of blood. Salome, his own mother, was also there. In this month of May, and as we prepare to celebrate Mothers Day, let us give thanks for our mothers, who seek what is best for us and out of their great maternal care for us freely intercede on our behalf. Let us give thanks for mothers, for they are always right there with us, supporting and loving us, without expecting anything in return.

The three mothers in their particular virtues stand as great role models and examples for all mothers at the beginning of this month of May, as we celebrate the specular holiday of Mother's Day. And we must always look to our heavenly Mother, Queen of All Saints and Mother of All Mothers for intercession to support and lift up holy mothers in our own day and age. ✂



Fr. Jeremy Chua, FSSP

Fr. Chua was ordained in 2024 and is currently stationed at Holy Family Parish in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Rolling Back the Stone

A Sermon given for Easter Sunday

by Fr. Joseph Duffy, FSSP

And looking, they saw the stone rolled back . . .

A penitent made her way to the confessional. She had anxiously gone through her sins in a detailed examination of conscience, now ready to make a general confession of her life. She knelt down and went through the list of her sins, in fear and trembling, making meticulous explanations for each item listed. When she reached the end of the list, she heard a voice from the other side of the confessional: “You have forgotten something very important.” “I thought I must have!” she exclaimed, nervously scrambling through her notes, prepared to read them again. She then heard the voice say, “Your sin is not in your notes, and it offends me much more than all you have said. Accuse yourself of a lack of trust.” Such advice moved her, and she wished to see if it was really her confessor who gave her that advice. She found the other side of the confessional empty. Our Lord had come to teach her a very important lesson of trust.

Taking this little story, we can compare the nervous attitude of this woman to the fear of the Apostles, both during and after the Passion. Christ had been with them at His last Supper, giving them an unforgettable farewell discourse. He had been so kind to them and yet, at the first sign of peril, they fled from him. They all must have been quite upset on the turn of events, how they had pledged at the Last Supper to die with our Lord, and yet, when the test came, they all ran. Peter especially must have been overcoming the shame of defeat, as he had been the first to say to our Lord that he would lay down his life for Him, and yet, he denied his Master three times. Surely,



“How many times do we get so caught up in our daily worries, that we forget to look up, see the stone rolled back...”

they all must have had some surprise, but also fright, when the women returned from the tomb that Easter morning and exclaimed to them, “the Lord has risen!” It’s possible that they were thinking: “If He has risen, what will He say to us? Surely, He will be furious that we abandoned Him.”

Yet let us listen to the words of the angel to the women in this morning’s Gospel: “But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he goes before you into Galilee. There you shall see him, as he told you.” Christ is eager to share the joy of the resurrection with His Apostles. The morning of the resurrection is a time of renewed confidence in Christ, who has come to redeem mankind. He has said, through His angel, that He will go before His followers into Galilee.

We can probably recall some recent events which we looked to with anxious anticipation, thinking that this time, the stone will be much too large for our Lord to roll back. How many

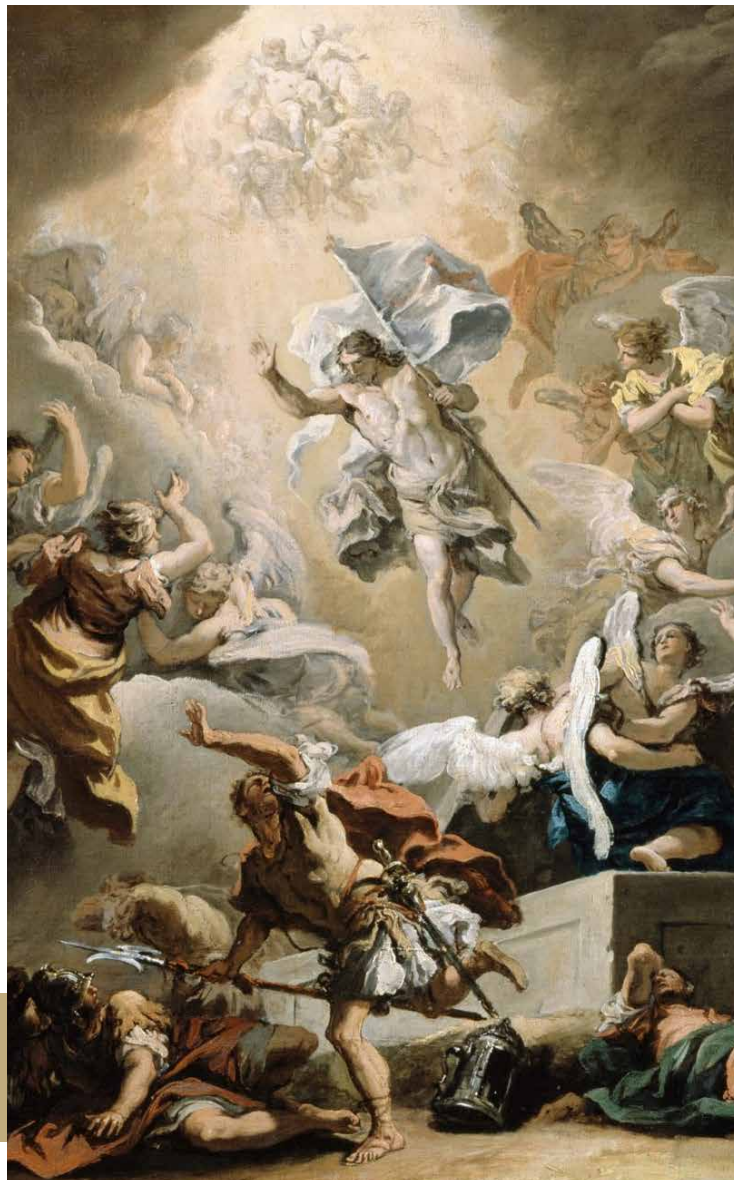
times do we get so caught up in our daily worries, that we forget to look up, see the stone rolled back, the tomb empty, and the mystery of redemption fulfilled in a most beautiful and unimaginable way, beyond our wildest hopes? How many times have we forgotten our Lord’s words, that, instead of a severe burst of anger, He tells us, “I have conquered death and now go before you into Galilee.”

What confidence ought to be ours then on this Easter day! Christ our king leads the way before us. He has tread the path; all we need to do is follow. In our daily prayers,

let us not forget to make frequent acts of trust to our Lord, knowing that when all seems dark, when it seems that God Himself is hidden from our sight and the crushing stones of life impede our progress towards Him, He is actually not far from us. When we encounter worries and anxieties, do not dread what the outcome may be; rather, give it to our Lord immediately. The next time you receive communion or confession, thank our Lord for redeeming us, and make a fervent act of trust in Him. Those holy women on that first Easter morning, were still greatly disheartened by the death of Christ. In complete dismay, they wondered who would roll the stone back for them, for as if things were not bad enough, they thought that they would not even be able to get into the tomb to anoint our Lord properly. Yet all they had to do was to look up, and see the stone removed.

If we too can look up trustfully towards our resurrected Lord, rather than looking down on our own fears and troubles, if we can look towards the path He has tread for us, knowing that He has given us the example to follow and now goes before us into Galilee, then we will not fail to notice, when difficulties and worries hit us, that just up ahead, Christ has rolled back the stone for us.

May God bless you and our Lady keep you. ✂

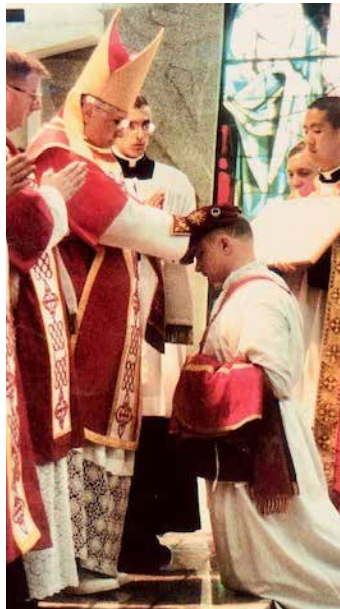


Fr. Joseph Duffy, FSSP

Fr. Duffy was ordained in 2024 and is currently stationed at Corpus Christi Chapel in Naples, Florida.

INTENTIONS FROM THE PRIEST PRAYER CARD

JUNE 2025



Fr. William Define, FSSP was ordained in 2002 and is currently Delegate for Clergy at Provincial headquarters in Scranton. He is featured on our Priest Prayer card on June 26th. His special intentions are as follows:

Pope Leo XIV and the priests, deacons, and seminarians of the FSSP; the happy repose of the souls of Pope Francis, my parents Donald and Betty, my Godparents and grandparents and all of my deceased relatives and benefactors; my sisters and brother, Susan, Nancy, Mary, and Tim, and their families; my Godchildren, Lindsay, Alison, Lauren and Alexander.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Pope Francis	2 Rev. Fr. Antony Sumich	3 Very Rev. John Berg, Sup. Gen.	4 †Rev. Fr. James Buckley	5 Fr. William Lawrence, Provincial Superior	6 Rev. Fr. Jonathan Heinricy	7 Deceased FSSP Members
8 Rev. Fr. Joseph Valentine	9 Rev. Fr. Eric Krager	10 Very Rev. Josef Bisig, Rector	11 †Rev. Fr. José Salgado	12 Rev. Fr. John Rickert	13 Rev. Fr. Matthew Kane	14 Rev. Fr. Caleb Insko
15 Rev. Fr. Anthony Dorsa	16 Rev. Fr. Brian Austin	17 Rev. Fr. Matthew McNeely	18 Rev. Fr. Joshua Passo	19 Rev. Fr. Michael Cunningham	20 Rev. Fr. Gerard Saguto	21 Rev. Fr. Charles Van Vliet
22 Rev. Fr. Kevin O'Neill	23 Rev. Fr. Adrian Debow	24 Rev. Fr. Jesus Valenzuela	25 Rev. Fr. Charles Ryan	26 Rev. Fr. William Define	27 Rev. Fr. George Gabet	28 Rev. Fr. Matthew Viemo
29 Rev. Fr. Robert Dow	30 Rev. Fr. Daniel Powers					

The Culmination of Seminary:

2025 Ordinandi Bios

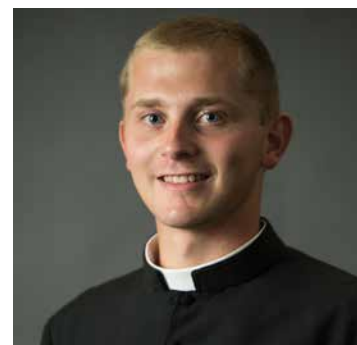


On May 28th, 2025 our current deacon class at Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary is scheduled to be ordained to the Sacred Priesthood. These five deacons completed the standard 7-year course of study: one year of candidacy, two years of philosophy, and four years of theology. The final year is partly a pastoral year where they spent every other weekend in an apostolate. The class was ordained to the subdiaconate on February 24th, 2024 and subsequently to the transitional diaconate on March 16th, 2024, at which time they became permanently incorporated members of the FSSP. This ordination is the culmination of both years of discernment and seven years of study—much like many graduation ceremonies one sees this time of year. However, by faith we know that a priestly ordination is much more than a mere graduation, as a sacramental character is impressed upon the soul. Thus, please continue to keep these men in your prayers. ✠



Matthew Jagas was born in 1993 and was raised in Kitchener, Ontario, where he and his family attended St. Anne's Parish before discovering the Traditional Latin Mass in 2014. An avid wrestler in high school and at Brock University, he earned a Bachelor's degree in History. He discerned a call to the priesthood and to the FSSP while attending St. Aloysius Parish in Thorold, Ontario, and was accepted at OLG Seminary for the 2018 Fall Semester. In seminary, Matthew served as both Minor and Major Domo and played for the OLGs soccer team. He also enjoys running, skiing, and fishing, as well as reading Canadian history and general literature.

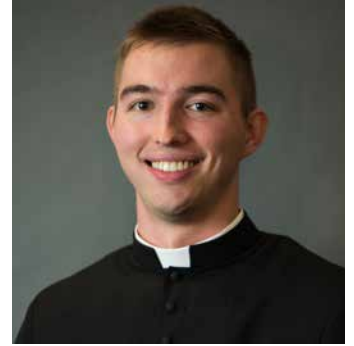
Ronald McCann was born in 1996 and was raised in Arkansas. His family was introduced to the Latin Mass by a family friend who belonged to the same homeschool co-op in which Ronald was educated. Rev. Mr. McCann had considered a vocation to the priesthood with the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter before college, but did not begin seriously investigating his vocation until his latter years of college, where he volunteered as an Altar Boy for the daily Latin Masses and as one of the MCs for the Sunday High Mass. During his time in seminary, he served as Head Cellarer and helped organize fireworks for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe in mid-December. He especially enjoys hiking, canoeing, caving, target practice, billiards, and board games.





Michael Caughey was born in 1996 and grew up in Muskegon, MI. In high school he was Valedictorian and captain of the football team and also began to discern a priestly vocation. At Benedictine College he was introduced to the Latin Mass, and was so taken by it that he left after his sophomore year to pursue the priesthood, entering OLGS in 2018. There he served as a Master of Ceremonies for the past five years, currently heading the department and helping to lead OLGS to five basketball championships. He has also helped run Camp St. Isaac Jogues and assisted with Camp St. Joseph. Michael has spent apostolate time in Allentown, PA and Tacoma, WA and completed the San Junipero Serra Spanish Immersion Program in Guadalajara, Mexico. He enjoys spending time with family and long-distance running, and his favorite studies at the seminary have been *On Grace and Predestination*, *Sacramental Theology*, *Sacred Scripture*, and *Biblical Greek*.

Steven Kalinowski was born in 1997 in St. Charles, Missouri and was homeschooled through high school. Inspired by the example of parish priests he knew while growing up, he briefly attended Saint Charles Community College to then enter formation at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary for the Archdiocese of St. Louis, where he studied for three years and earned a B.A. in Philosophy. Attending his first Traditional Latin Mass began a devotion to the traditional Roman liturgy, and after visiting Denton and consulting with his superiors, he was accepted into OLGS for 2018. There, he served as a barber and a master of ceremonies, and he enjoyed playing on the basketball team and running the Lincoln Marathon. In his spare time, Steven enjoys outdoor activities, sports, reading, cooking, and travelling.



John-Francis Diego Sulzen was born in 1998 and grew up in a traditional Catholic family around Fayetteville, Arkansas. He acquired his GED at the age of sixteen and enrolled in the University of Arkansas, but his plans to become a police officer were changed by a serious car accident. Realizing that he needed to pursue God's Will for his life more earnestly, he visited and then enrolled in OLGS. During his time at the seminary, he has been a part of the schola and polyphonic choir, the mechanics department, and has been allowed to operate some of the seminary machinery. In his spare time, he enjoys bowling, "fixin' things", hiking, a good beer, and riding bicycles, horses, motorcycles, and roller coasters. He has also dabbled in the piano and plays the bagpipes.



Prayer for Priests

to be said by members of the
Confraternity of St. Peter

Following a decade of the rosary:

V. Remember, O Lord, Thy congregation.

R. Which Thou hast possessed from the beginning.

Let us pray.

Ⓐ Lord Jesus, born to give testimony to the Truth, Thou who lovest unto the end those whom Thou hast chosen, kindly hear our prayers for our pastors. Thou who knowest all things, knowest that they love Thee and can do all things in Thee who strengthenest them. Sanctify them in Truth. Pour into them, we beseech Thee, the Spirit whom Thou didst give to Thy apostles, who would make them, in all things, like unto Thee. Receive the homage of love which they offer up to Thee, who hast graciously received the threefold confession of Peter.

And so that a pure oblation may everywhere be offered without ceasing unto the Most Holy Trinity, graciously enrich their number and keep them in Thy love, who art one with the Father and the Holy Ghost, to whom be glory and honour forever. Amen.



Obligations of the Members of the Confraternity

Members commit themselves to:

- daily* 1) pray one decade of the holy rosary for the sanctification of our priests and for our priestly vocations
- 2) recite the Prayer of the Confraternity
- yearly* 3) have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered once for these intentions.

To Enroll Now:

