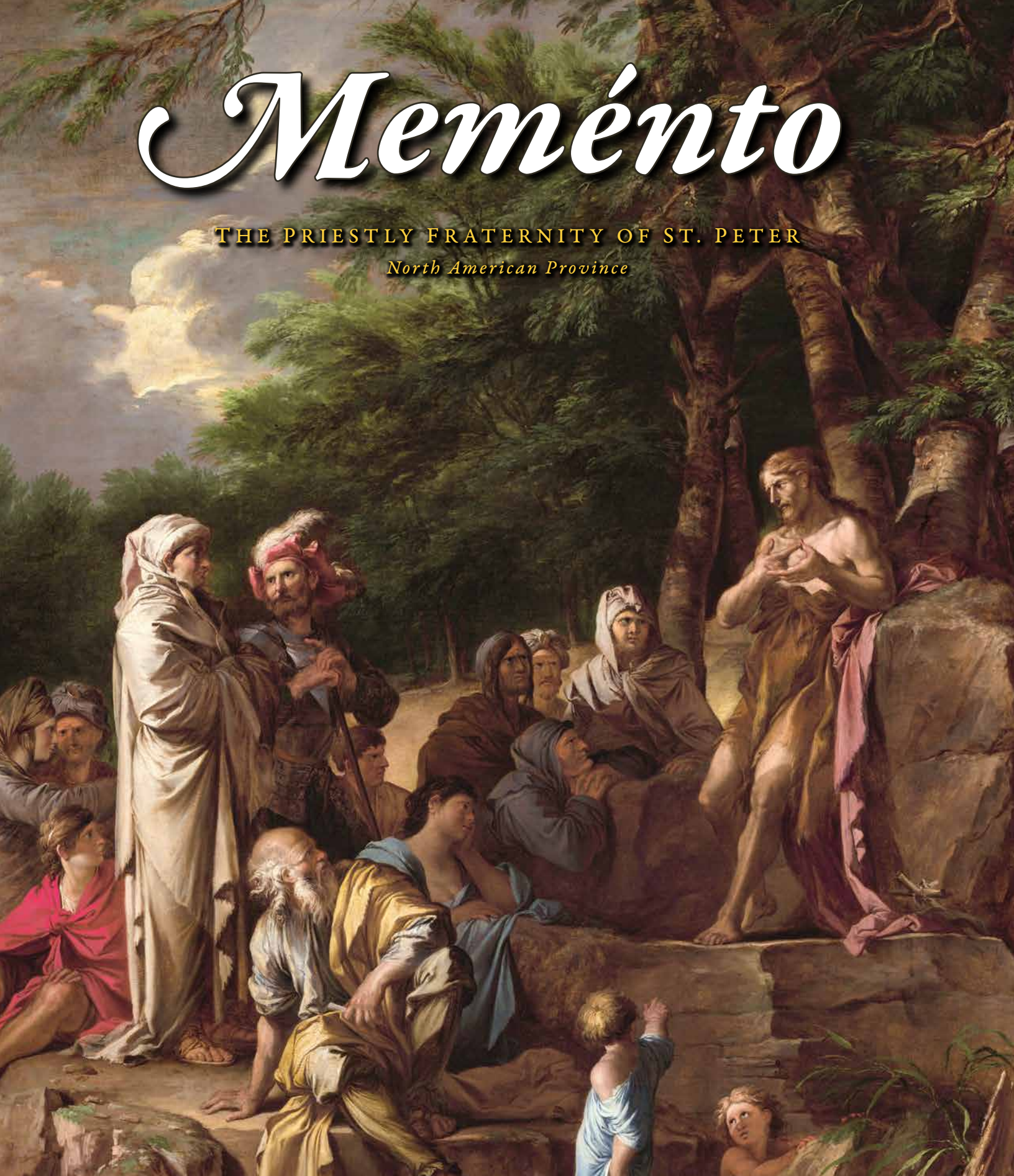


Meménto

THE PRIESTLY FRATERNITY OF ST. PETER

North American Province



Missions & Camps

MARCH 2023



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Cover image: St. John the Baptist Preaching in the Wilderness. Salvator Rosa, ca. 1660.

THE PRIESTLY FRATERNITY OF ST. PETER

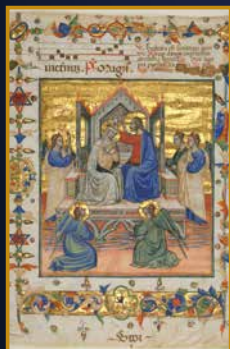
Enroll your loved ones in our Masses and Novenas



EASTER DAY MASS
2023 card

Each year we offer four special Masses in which you can enroll your loved ones: Easter Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Christmas Day. The Fraternity also offers two novenas of Masses: the All Souls Novena, from November 2nd to 10th, and the Christmas Novena, from December 17th to 25th.

Masses are offered at Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary chapel or at the North American Headquarters chapel, and our Easter Mass includes our Easter Cards, which automatically enroll the recipients in the novena. Visit fssp.com/novenas to see which Masses are currently accepting enrollment.



MOTHER'S DAY MASS
2023 holy card



FATHER'S DAY MASS
2023 holy card



CHRISTMAS DAY MASS
(2022 card shown)

THE PRIESTLY FRATERNITY OF SAINT PETER
450 Venard Road,
South Abington Township, PA 18411
Phone: (570) 842-4000 Fax: (570) 319-9770
Email: info@fssp.com
Website: fssp.com/novenas





Laudetur Jesus Christus!

During this Holy Season of Lent, we try to grow closer to Christ, especially by eradicating sin from our lives and strengthening ourselves against temptation. It can be helpful for us to consider how irrational it is to commit sin. Every sin darkens our intellect and weakens our will (fortunately this isn't only a one-way street since the practice of virtue does the opposite!). The fundamental reason for these effects of sin is that by sin we knowingly and willingly do something that is bad for us, contrary to the purpose of our existence and leading to our unhappiness. In more colloquial language, by every sin we do something stupid that panders to our weakness. Let us consider the first sin of Adam and Eve to highlight this.

The devil tempted Eve in the Garden of Eden, telling her that if she and Adam ate of the fruit of the tree that God had forbidden, they would be "as Gods" (Gen. 3:5). Well did Our Lord call the devil "the Father of Lies!" Every temptation that comes to us, whether

it be from the world, the flesh, or the devil, is a lie because it offers us happiness or satisfaction by committing the sin. But we are created for God and the only true happiness or lasting satisfaction that is possible for us is in following the purpose of our existence, God.

How was the temptation to eat the fruit and "be as Gods" such an outrageous lie? Well, God had given Adam and Eve certain preternatural gifts after He created them, namely special knowledge, freedom from concupiscence or interior conflict, and immortality or freedom from death. But of even greater importance, God had given Adam and Eve the supernatural gifts of sanctifying grace, the theological and moral virtues, and the Gifts of the Holy Ghost. The great gift of sanctifying grace meant that they were friends of God and participated in His Divine Life and Nature. In a very

real way, Adam and Eve were "as Gods" before their sin. But the sin would change all that by causing them to lose these gifts. After the sin, their intellects were darkened, their wills were weakened, they were subject to suffering and death, and, worst of all, they lost the virtues, Gifts, and even sanctifying grace. Furthermore, whereas before they had the great dignity of being a Son and Daughter of God and participating in His Divine life, they were now subject to creatures. They voluntarily cast away their dignity, serving the devil, following the suggestion of the temptation, and becoming subject to concupiscence. The trajectory of their lives changed from

the Beatific Vision to the pains of Hell. Indeed, there was never such an extreme lie as "you will be as Gods!"

Although we do not possess the preternatural gifts that Adam and Eve did, every soul in the state of grace possesses the supernatural gifts and, by mortal sin, these gifts are thrown away and the person goes from being a child and friend of God to a servant of some person,

pleasure, or object. And because we know what is God's will, and we know that we will be happiest and reach our fullest potential in doing His will, but choose the sin instead, we do something irrational and harmful for both our intellect and will.

Fortunately, God loves us and offers us forgiveness and redemption won for us by Our Lord on the Cross if we turn to Him by a good confession. May we truly understand the evil and irrationality of sin and turn more closely to Our Divine Savior this Lent. ✠

Fr. William Lawrence, FSSP

Fr. William Lawrence, FSSP
North American Provincial



The FSSP parish in Guadalajara, Our Lady of the Pillar, has seen incredible growth over the past few years. As Father Daniel Heenan, FSSP said, “With Covid and *Traditionis Custodes*, our parish more than doubled. Before, we were happy when we got 350 people for Sunday Mass. Now we are averaging 700-750, but we are sometimes getting close to 900.” The parish has not only grown in number of parishioners but has also begun more activities and apostolates. This past fall, the priests began offering more adult formation in two new projects entitled *Duc in Altum* and *In Vino Veritas*. *Duc in Altum* (“put out into the deep”) is a weekly tertulia in which the priests and other speakers give presentations on topics related to faith and culture, for example, “Leisure and What True Culture Is” and “A History of the Catholic Cinema.” In *Vino Veritas* (Theology on Tap) is a monthly talk given by the priests in a taquería. The audience enjoys tacos while listening to these conferences with more mature adult themes, including “A Catholic History of Wine” and “Pornography, the Most Lethal Drug.”



In past years, the parish only had one choir, *Exultet*, directed by José María López, the choir director of the state of Jalisco. However, this past Holy Week we were blessed to have two choirs singing for Holy Week. The *Exultet* choir sang all of the polyphonic pieces, while our young adult choir, *Cordis Jesu*, chanted all of the Gregorian parts. *Cordis Jesu* was founded in Advent of 2020 by then 17 year-old parishioner and organist, Juan Pablo López, and several other young adults from the parish. Last September, our choir was invited to perform a concert in one of Guadalajara’s oldest churches, Santa Teresa de Ávila, and later at the church of San Francisco de Asís in northern Mexico for their quadricentennial celebration. The choir’s repertoire spanned the entire liturgical year

and featured hymns composed by the Mexican Franciscan friar, Fray Octavio Michel Corona, and concluded with his exquisite polyphonic composition for “Tota Pulchra Es Maria.” *Cordis Jesu* later performed a polyphonic Mass titled ‘O Magnum Mysterium’ by Tomás Luis de Victoria for one of two Rorate Masses this past Advent.



Cor Tuum Mihi, the men’s group at Our Lady of the Pillar, is another group which is a true blessing for the parish. The group’s activities are divided into three parts: a weekly religious talk, projects at the parish or the priests’ house, and monthly night adoration. The religious talk is imparted by one of the priests and often includes reading and discussing a spiritual book. The projects range from painting and cleaning the church to fixing plumbing and electrical work. These work sessions usually end with a cookout. One member of *Cor Tuum Mihi* commented enthusiastically on the camaraderie and how motivating it is to see men in spiritual roles at church and in their own homes. “It’s amazing to see men actually helping out in the parish, and see our very own priests rely on them for help and advice. It’s certainly inspiring to learn from the men and their actual down-to-earth struggles in their marriages and encouraging to see that they strive for greatness, to be the very best men they can be, both for God and their own families. They persevere in the traditional life even if it’s initially misunderstood by their children, their own spouse, or the rest of their family, and they persevere because they know and feel it’s the right thing to do, even if the fruits of it won’t be reaped yet.”

The night adoration or “Adoración Nocturna,” takes place on the First Friday of every month. It begins with an evening Mass followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for the adoration of the honorary adorers, while the men have a

meeting to discuss the prayer intentions and logistics for that particular night. At ten o'clock, the night adoration officially begins. After the honorary adorers leave, the men process into the church while singing the *Vexilla Regis* and *Sacris Solemniis*, present their prayer intentions to the priest, and begin praying Matins for the Feast of Corpus Christi. All of the hours of the Divine Office are prayed in Latin over the course of the night, and the adorers take turns keeping watch before the Blessed Sacrament. Adorers have the option to continue in adoration or sleep in another part of the church after their watch is finished. Grand Silence begins at midnight and does not end until after the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and 6:00 AM Mass which close the night adoration. One member who has participated in night adoration since he was 8 years old explained, "The night adoration has been the anchor of my spiritual life and growth, and my favorite aspect is the silent prayer and meditation. Once my hour of keeping watch and praying the assigned prayers is over, I'm able to just be in front of the Blessed Sacrament and guard it. It's not time to talk to God, but rather to listen to Him. Everything else is incredibly beautiful, but the most important part is just being in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament."

Teaching catechism at a nearby girls' orphanage is another apostolate in which Father Heenan and some of our parishioners participate. The little girls at the orphanage come from extremely difficult family situations. Their mothers, nearly always single, live in very dangerous neighborhoods,



have no health insurance or car, and often have family members on drugs. Fr. Heenan visits the orphanage quite frequently, offers Mass there twice a month, and parish catechists prepare the girls for the reception of the sacraments of Holy Eucharist, Confirmation, and Baptism if necessary. The girls then receive the sacraments at Our Lady of the Pillar. One of our young catechists enthusiastically described her teaching experience at the orphanage: "I love the girls' innocence and nobleness. Every time that I go there, I learn something new. It's impressive to see how they have God in their hearts and, no matter how difficult their situation may be, they make it look so easy because they simply abandon themselves to God's Providence. It's incredible how contagious their joy is; you become a child again when you're with them, and they smother you with pure affection."

In past years, parishioners from Our Lady of the Pillar and from various parishes in the US participated in missionary work during Holy Week and the summer. However, due to the Covid restrictions of these past few years, evangelizing has been mostly limited to the monthly street evangelization known as Misión San Pedro, performed monthly in downtown Guadalajara. Fortunately, this summer we will have a mission week from June 3 to 12 in Guadalajara. Participants will help build homes for families who live in cardboard houses without water, electricity, or a drainage system. Missionaries will also visit orphanages and tour Guadalajara and nearby "Magic Towns" (towns famous for their beauty, historical importance, or natural wonders). A trip to Mexico City to visit the tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe will conclude the mission week.

For more information on ways to support our apostolate in Guadalajara, please visit our website at: <https://www.missiontradition.us/help-carry-the-cross>

Additional information on the June mission trip will be forthcoming at <https://sfxmission.com> ✝



During Lent the Church requires us to engage in penitential acts. While some of these acts are determined in a particular way by Church law (e.g., the Lenten requirements for fasting and abstaining from meat), many are left up to the determination of the individual penitent. And this is fitting, since some penitential acts may be more profitable or less profitable for different penitents. Despite the great variety of such acts that we Catholics engage in during Lent, they may all be reduced to three general kinds or species, namely, almsgiving, fasting, and prayer.

That these three species are exhaustive of all penitential acts stems, on the one hand, from the fact that such acts are supposed to deprive us of something good for the glory of God, and, on the other hand, from the reality that there are only three basic sorts of goods which belong to the human person as such. Commenting on these matters, St. Thomas Aquinas writes: “We only have three goods: namely, goods of the soul, goods of the body, and goods of fortune, namely exterior goods. Now we remove from ourselves something from the goods of fortune by almsgiving. And through fasting we take away from ourselves something of the goods of the body. But it is not necessary that we remove from ourselves something of the goods of the soul...because through these we are made to be pleasing to God. Rather, it is necessary that we submit these totally to God, and this is done through prayer.”

To better understand the three kinds of penitential acts, it can be helpful to consider some similarities which they bear to the three evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Perhaps most obviously, almsgiving has to do with goods of fortune or exterior goods, as does the counsel

of poverty. And just as fasting pertains to goods of the body and prayer to goods of the soul, so too with chastity and obedience, respectively.

Further and more importantly, there is a similarity between the very purpose behind both the three kinds of penitential acts and the three evangelical counsels. The person who vows to live according to poverty, chastity and obedience freely gives up many licit human goods so that he might exercise in the most perfect way here below the highest of all virtues, namely, the theological virtue of charity. As St. Paul puts it: “The unmarried man is anxious about the affairs of the Lord, how to please to Lord; but the married man is anxious about worldly affairs, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided. And the unmarried woman or girl is anxious about the affairs of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit; but the married woman is anxious about worldly affairs, how to please her husband” (1 Cor. 7:32-34). Likewise, our Lord says to the rich young man: “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me” (Matt. 19:21).

In a similar manner, all the different kinds of penitential acts are ultimately ordered to the end of charity itself, namely, our supernatural union with God both in this life and in Heaven. To be sure, these acts may be proximately ordered to good things other than the end of charity. For example, we sometimes give alms to make reparation for sins we have committed. Or we might fast or abstain from various foods to better subject our bodies to our souls and to develop in ourselves virtues such as temperance, abstemiousness, and sobriety. And we might pray to grow strong in the virtue of



religion which is a part of the virtue of justice. Still, all these goods things just mentioned can and ought to be ordered to our union with God through charity.

Indeed, just as God has given us the two commandments of charity (i.e., “You shall love the Lord your God with all your whole heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength” and “You shall love your neighbor as yourself”) and has ordered both the ten commandments and the evangelical counsels to these as to their end, so He has given us the theological virtue of charity itself and has ordered all the other virtues and good acts which we perform to the end of charity. As St. Thomas Aquinas puts it, “charity is called ‘the end of the other virtues’ because it orders all the other virtues to its own end.” And, again, the end of charity consists in our supernatural union with God both in this life and in Heaven.

Now in addition to being the highest of all the virtues, charity is a supernatural gift which makes those who possess it to be, quite literally, friends of the Triune God. For by giving someone charity, together with sanctifying grace and the other supernatural gifts essentially connected to it, God communicates to that person a real share in His own life and beatitude and, in so doing, wills that person’s very highest good. In return, the person who has received these gifts of God’s grace wills, through the very charity he has received, God’s good above all other things.

According to Cardinal Cajetan, the great Thomistic commentator, the one who has charity wills God’s good in a twofold way. First, he wills those goods which are in God (and which, indeed, are God), such as God’s goodness, wisdom, beatitude, power, and so forth by rejoicing in the fact that these goods belong to Him and that God is Who He is. Second, the friend of God wills various goods of God which are external to Him, such as His honor or glory and His reign, not only by rejoicing in these wherever they are found, but also by working to preserve and increase these goods of God.

Considering our Lenten penitential acts of almsgiving, fasting, and praying in terms of their ordination to charity, which is our very friendship with God, may motivate us to perform these acts with greater fervor. For rather than understanding these acts to be ones which primarily deprive us of various good things which we like, this way of considering them enables us to see that these acts are means for us to grow in the very highest friendship we are capable of enjoying either in this life or in the next, namely, our supernatural friendship with the Triune God. ✠



HELP CARRY THE CROSS WITH THE FSSP MISSIONS

Discover the many ways you can make a meaningful contribution to the FSSP’s work in Mexico, Colombia, and Nigeria during the Lenten season.



<https://www.missiontradition.us/help-carry-the-cross>

Donate your gift cards to support the FSSP missions!

Do you have unused or partially used gift cards lying around? Why not put that money to work for the less fortunate in Mexico, Colombia, and Nigeria?

FSSP Mission Tradition now uses CardFunder to accept your donations of new or partially-used gift cards. The process is easy, and we’ll gratefully accept any amount you can offer! Just download the CardFunder app or visit:

cardfunder.com/1hk1r-fssp-mission-tradition



Thank you for supporting FSSP Mission Tradition, and may God bless you throughout this Lenten season!

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Camp St. Peter's in the Black Hills. In 1998 Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary (OLGS) began to host a summer camp for boys in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Since then, many OLGS seminarians and FSSP priests have hosted over 1,000 campers from all over the country in two regional, 12-day boys camps focusing on faith formation and outdoor experiences. Camp St. Peter has continued in South Dakota, and a second camp, Camp St. Isaac Jogues, started in Pennsylvania and continues with great success. Boys learn many virtues and are able to consider their roles as future fathers—either of children or of souls.

The camps are rustic. Everyone sleeps in tents with very limited facilities and amenities. After morning prayers and Mass, hiking, sports, games and other adventures are planned for each day. Seminarians fill various roles to manage the camp operations, year-round—everything from travel planning, marketing, accounting, cooking and taking care of any emergencies that might arise. One parent wrote: "Seeing earnest young men in their cassocks kneeling at Holy Mass in a makeshift chapel in the rain, leading hikes, designing obstacle courses, and encouraging even the most obstinate campers are images that stick in the boys' minds long after camp has ended."

St. John Bosco Camps (SJBC) wants to keep this spirit and charism while helping to form even more Catholic boys into Catholic men. There has been growing demand for these unique camps. In 2022, SJBC received more than 206 applications—more than twice the 96 spots available between the two camps. Feedback from a recent survey shows overwhelmingly positive experiences for the campers and their families. The same is true of the seminarians who participate, regularly reporting that helping run the camps

provides them with invaluable experience for their future lives as priests in parishes. Another large benefit of the camps has been for those who have been positively influenced to discern the priesthood during their time with the seminarians. Several young men have applied and been accepted to the seminary over recent years.

This year SJBC is striving to meet the growing demand. There will be two sessions of Camp St. Peter in the Black Hills, the first from July 25th through August 5th and the second from August 8th through August 19th. This will double the number of campers going to the Black Hills in 2023! Additionally, SJBC is announcing *Sursum Corda*, a new guided backcountry camping trip in Wyoming for boys 15-17 years old from July 2nd through July 8th.

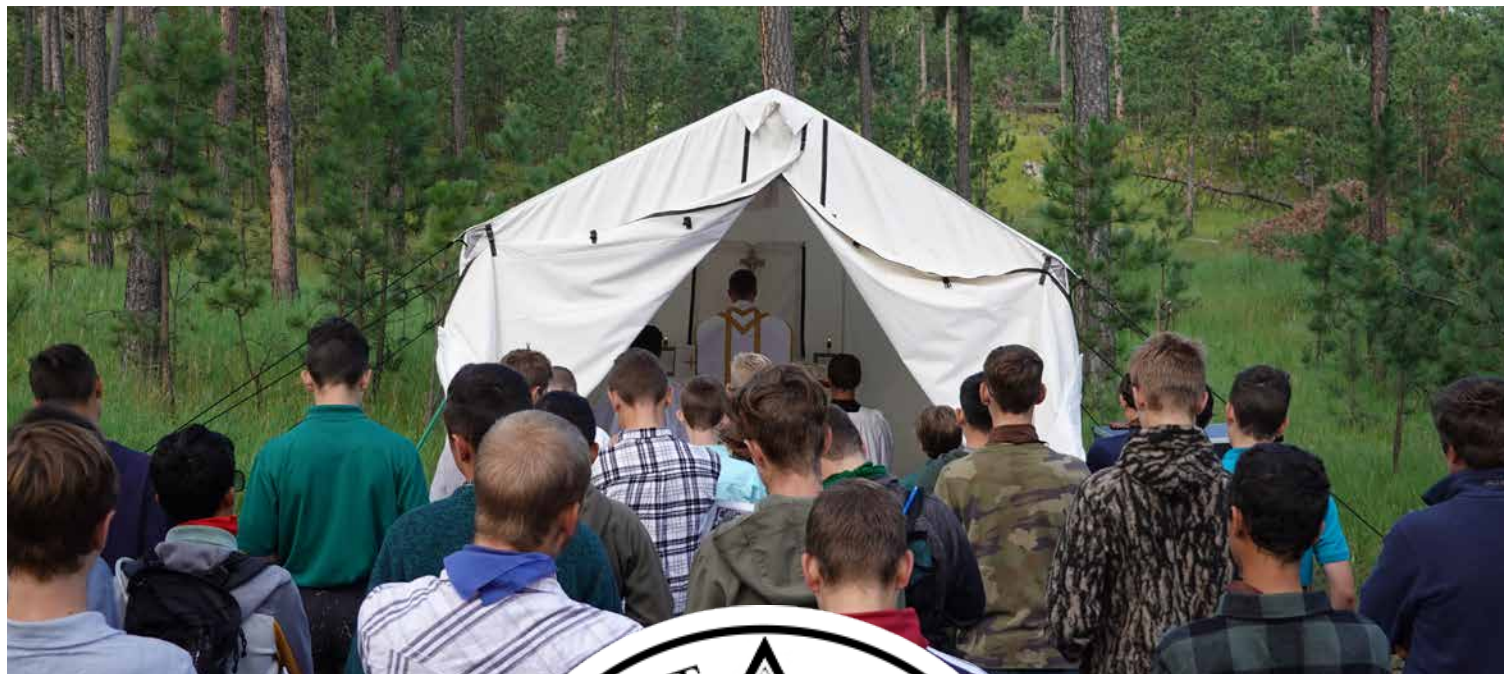
But there is more. SJBC has set in motion plans to secure the future of its charism and the camps. They are going to build a permanent home. Right now all of the camps are run on rented property. This makes operation of the camps inefficient and leaves little flexibility for growth—including additional types and a greater number of camps each year. To eliminate these obstacles SJBC has launched a capital campaign, Building on Rock. The campaign hopes to raise \$1.5M to purchase a permanent property and to set up a trust for future growth and development.

Applications for SJBC's 2023 camps opened on February 20th. To apply, or if you are interested in contributing to their Capital Campaign to ensure that they have even more room in the future for your boys, please visit their website:

<https://www.stjohnboscocamps.org/building-on-rock>

or scan the QR code at bottom right on the facing page.✦





"Although the camp itself is not the exact context of a parish, it gives the seminarian a real experience of what it means to be a spiritual father who must dedicate all his time and energy to the care of his flock."

—a seminarian



"My son left a boy, just having turned 14 but has returned as a changed young man. It is as though he has a better sense of how to be a man in this world today. He seems grounded, grounded in Christ. He has shared many stories and experiences from camp and they are all described with immense joy."

—an SJBC parent



Bishop McGrattan Visits Calgary

Bishop William McGrattan, 8th Bishop of the Diocese of Calgary, paid a visit to St. Anthony's Catholic Church on January 22nd and was present in choir for the FSSP's Mass there. This marks the first time a bishop of Calgary visited the community since its founding 30 years ago. The flock of St. Anthony welcomed their bishop's visit in the same spirit of unity and fidelity found in the writings of St. Ignatius of Antioch, and Bishop McGrattan graciously composed a special homily based on the readings of the traditional Mass.



FSSP Faithful at the March for Life

Representatives of our Northeastern FSSP apostolates from Rhode Island to Virginia made the trip to Washington D.C. for the annual March for Life on January 20th. This year's march was the first following the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* on June 24th, 2022, on the rare liturgical conjunction of the feasts of the Sacred Heart and St. John the Baptist. Much still needs to be done to end the culture of death at the state level, but we continue to pray for the conversion of more hearts, as we gratefully thank Almighty God for hearing the faithful's prayers. Thanks to all our FSSP family who marched and who offered up their Masses and penances on January 23rd.

Apostolate Visits by the Provincial

As we go to press, Fr. Lawrence is scheduled to visit the apostolates in Brookville, Fort Wayne, Dayton, and Lexington in early February. He attended a council meeting at the FSSP General House in Fribourg, Switzerland in early January.

PLANNED GIVING SPOTLIGHT

Beneficiary Designation

Most financial accounts (such as savings, checking, and IRA or other Retirement) allow you to name a Payable on Death (POD) Beneficiary. Naming the Priestly Fraternity as your POD Beneficiary is a great way to leave a legacy gift! There is no cost to you during your life and, after death, the full value of the assets pass directly to help the mission of the FSSP without having to go through probate.

*Caution: Make sure that your executor has a list of accounts and their beneficiaries!
Many banks and financial managers will not contact a beneficiary post-death to let them know, and the money can eventually become the property of the state.
If you choose, you may also let the charity know
(in greater or less detail) of your plans.*



*Are you interested in naming the FSSP as a
POD Beneficiary of a financial account?*

Contact **Joe Gardner**, Director of Planned Giving, to receive more information:
(570) 319-5271, jgardner@fssp.com, or via mail at Provincial Headquarters.

PRIESTLY FRATERNITY OF ST. PETER



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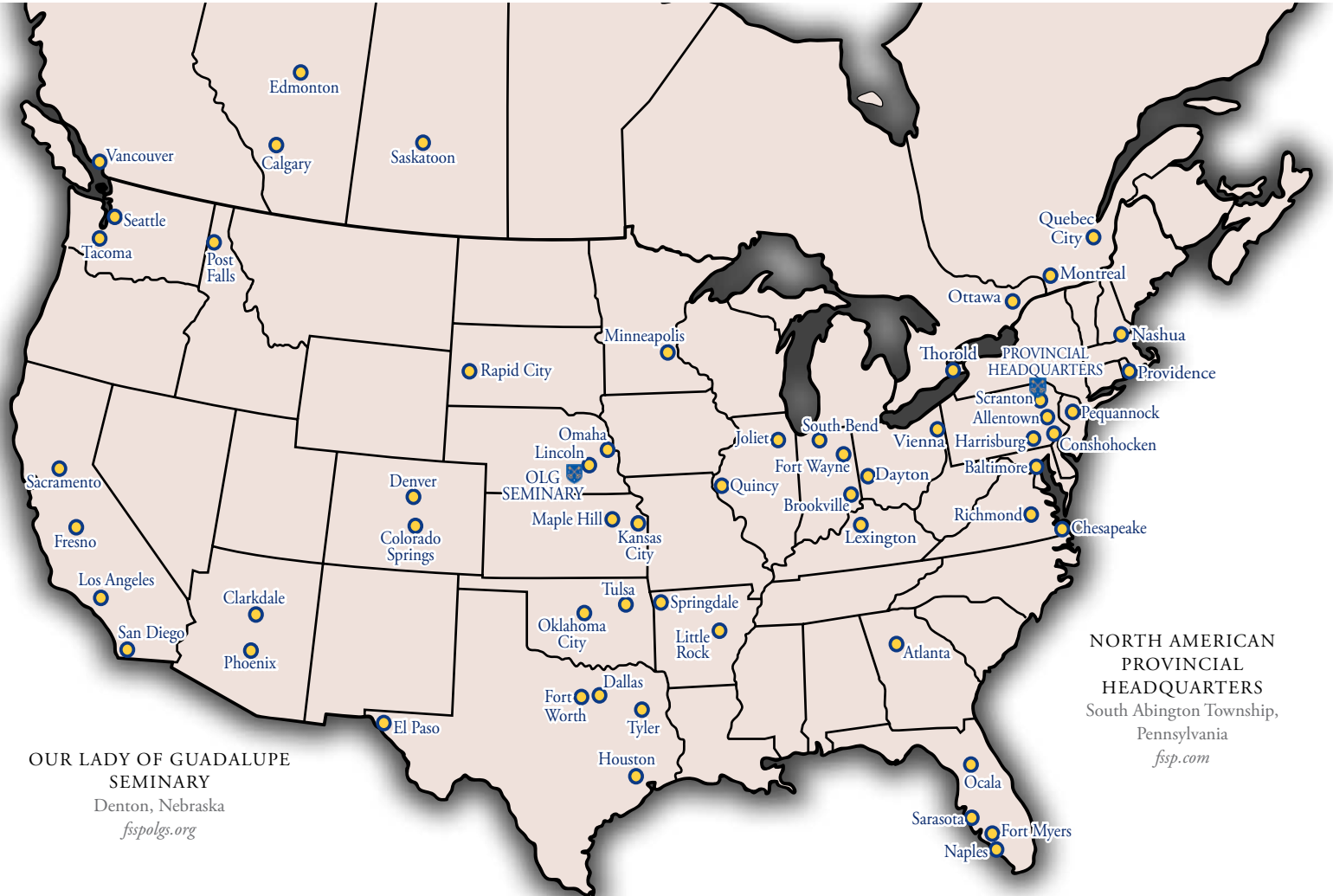
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As a Society of Apostolic Life of Pontifical Right established by Pope St. John Paul II, our mission is to use the ancient liturgy as a wellspring to form our priests in the traditions of the Church to serve at the altar and in the parish to bring the fullness of Christ into the emptiness of the world.

Over the past 30 years, The Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP) has ordained over 300 priests to bring the traditional Latin Mass and Sacraments to people around the world. In more than 50 cities across North America, we preach, teach, and sanctify faithful Catholics. And at Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary, we form over eighty seminarians to become the priests of tomorrow.

