



"To gather priests to Christ and to one another to proclaim..."

THE VISITATION

A monthly publication of the Fraternity of Priests, Inc.

January 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Rev. 1 John Helmuller Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 2 Joseph Vogel Sioux Falls, SD	3 For the souls of our deceased FOP members	4 For prayer requests received	5 For our Holy Father, Pope Francis
Rev. 6 Richard Baumberger Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 7 Charles Duman Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 8 Rodney Farke Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 9 Edward Pierce Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 10 John Rasmussen Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 11 Joseph Short Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 12 Gregory Frankman Sioux Falls, SD
Rev. 13 Roger Geditz Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 14 Randy Phillips Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 15 Jerome Ranek Sioux Falls, SD	Rev. 16 Peter Kirchner St. Cloud, MN	Rev. 17 Gerald Mischke St. Cloud, MN	Rev. 18 Gregory Paffel St. Cloud, MN	Rev. 19 Todd Schneider St. Cloud, MN
Rev. 20 Mark Stang St. Cloud, MN	Rev. 21 James Statz St. Cloud, MN	Rev. 22 Albert Danter St. Louis, MO	Rev. 23 James Dyer St. Louis, MO	Rev. Msgr. 24 Edmund Griesedieck St. Louis, MO	Rev. 25 Martin Mannion St. Louis, MO	Rev. 26 Aaron Nord St. Louis, MO
Rev. 27 David Novak St. Louis, MO	Rev. 28 Charles Tichacek St. Louis, MO	Rev. 29 James Brown Toledo, OH	Rev. 30 Norbert Howe Toledo, OH	Rev. 31 Gerald Knueven Toledo, OH		

A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name of priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own disposition and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul, take over his entire personality and life. Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always.

O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of priests, pray and intercede for (.....). Amen.

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Dear Father Bob Franco, This donation is to help the Fraternity of Priests in continuing their work of ministering to priests. _____ \$ \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

The Fraternity of Priests pledge of financial accountability: We take very seriously the trust you put in us when you send a gift. We stand accountable before God and you to honor that trust. We pledge: To use your gift care-fully and wisely, and not to ask for money that is not needed.

Full of the Holy Spirit

By Fr. Francis Dabre

Vinod was a staunch Hindu, his background and the cultural bias of the people around him meant that Vinod was raised with many misconceptions and negative ideas about Christianity and against the church. Though he resented the Christian people, yet as a logical person there were certain ethics of the faith that appealed to him. His studies led him to discover how many great people, both Christian and non-Christian alike had been inspired by the simple yet divine message of the Bible. He slowly yet secretly started developing a great desire to read and understand certain principles of Bible and the teaching of the Church. He was like Nicodemus from the Bible who came privately to learn from Jesus.

In the course of time a friend invited him for a Christian prayer service. Vinod was eager but hesitant to go but later decided to join his friend on the condition that the whole affair be a secret. Vinod attended the meeting not with the intention to be a disciple but with the intention of being an observer. An informant of some kind, looking out for some points of allegation. Meeting after meeting he came believing he was going to expose the bitter truth about Christianity being a false religion, a sham, a

money making racket, but somehow the more he heard the words of the gospel, the deeper he began to adore Christ and more his craving for the knowledge of Jesus increased. The word of God declares in Isaiah 55:11 (RSV) "so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it." The word of God did exactly that for Vinod, the Lord touched him through His word and his heart converted just as Saul became Paul. He started attending the prayer meeting and retreats regularly, he was then baptised by the local bishop. He received the new life in the Holy Spirit and began leading a life **full of Holy Spirit. During every moment of his life he felt the Holy Spirit constantly by his side.**

There are many such testimonies of people like Vinod, who have come to the LORD and are doing the work of the Lord. They constantly express that they feel FULL OF HOLY SPIRIT.

What is the experience of being "Full Of the Holy Spirit"?

St Stephen was full of Holy Spirit. When he was martyred, before he gave up his spirit, he in fact rose spiritually above all those so called religious people

who were persecuting him. He felt sorry for them because they did not know what they were doing. Stephen however was fully aware of what was happening, therefore he said "Father forgive them as they do not know what they are doing," Doing so he became one with the Lord, even uttering the same words of Our LORD.

Being full of the Holy Spirit means that the person is fully in the Lord and the Lord is fully in him, he is overflowing with the indwelling presence of the Spirit of the Lord. The Lord is living in him; he experiences the Super POWER of the Spirit working in and through him. And now he is no longer himself but as the scripture declares in 2 Corinthians 3:18 the Spirit transforms us from one degree of glory to another till we become like Christ. Just like St. Francis of Assisi, who became grew so much in the image of Christ that he was known as "Altus Christi" or "Another Christ". We are in fact made in the image of God, (Gen. 1:27-28). We all know that St. Paul was full of the Holy Spirit, he too declared in Galatians 2:20 that it is not he who continues to live, but it is Christ who lives in him.

Who can be filled with Full of Holy Spirit?

Dear Fraternity Brothers and Friends of the Priesthood

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Editor's Box:

Please send articles, comments, and photos to the FOP Newsletter editor, Fr. Bob Carr, via e-mail to editor@fraternityofpriests.org

Newsletter material from all Fraternity members is gratefully accepted. Any submissions will help make each issue better!

In his book *The Power of TED*, David Emerald describes FISBE. It is an acronym that stands for Focus, Inner State and Behavior. What we focus on affects our inner state. From our inner state comes our behavior.

This time of year there are many things that vie for our focus. Most people are busy about Christmas preparations: greeting cards, shopping, menu planning, travel arrangements, et cetera. These sorts of things crowd in our normal family obligations and work/leisure activities. We also have the concerns of the world presented to us through the media day after day, as well as those of the Church as she goes through this season of purification. Our focus can seem all over the lot. This leads to an inner state that can be agitated, anxious or simply overwhelmed. The behavior that would follow may be less than charitable or peaceful.

As we approach the coming celebration of Christmas, our focus needs to be on Jesus. These words from the angel announcing the birth of Jesus to the shepherds can help us focus on Jesus: "For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord." (Luke 2:11)

In this short verse, the angel gives us three titles of Jesus: Savior, Lord and Messiah. If we are truly focused on Jesus as Savior, Lord and Messiah our perspective on life would be properly rooted in Him. Developing an inner state framed by Jesus as Savior, Lord and Messiah would issue forth in behavior that was filled with faith, hope and charity.

Are there problems in the world? Yes, but its true ruler and Lord is Jesus. Is there still stress to the Christmas holiday? Perhaps. However, we know that Jesus is the Messiah-the fulfilment of God's plan and every human heart. Are there still problems in the Church? For sure. However, Jesus is our Savior. He is about sanctifying the Church, his Bride,

"cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish."

(Ephesians 5:26-27)

When Jesus is our focus as Savior, Lord and Messiah our inner state is filled with his Holy Spirit and we behave accordingly-like the children of God we are!

By God's grace, may we resist the temptation to let the world set our agenda. When we focus on Jesus as Lord, Savior and Messiah, He sets the agenda. The hymn lyricist Robert Lowery put it this way: "No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that refuge clinging; Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?"

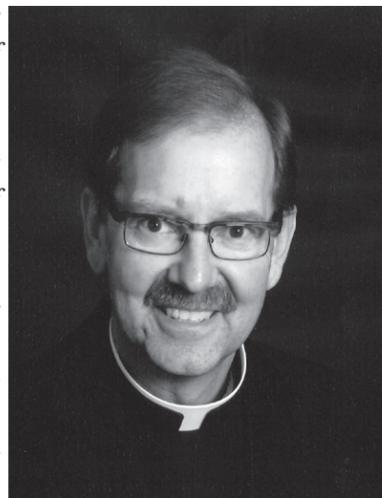
As 2018 draws to a close, I want to express my gratitude for your prayers and support. You have helped priests grow in holiness, fraternity and service to the Church. As we approach 2019, let us remember: *We do not know what the future holds, but we do know Who holds the future.*

In Christ,



Fr. Robert J. Franco

One of the objectives for the Fraternity of Priests is to inform our donors about the ongoing financial health and details of the organization. We thank those many faithful benefactors who help make our service possible. Thank you!



Fraternity Financial Report

Monthly Donation Budget: \$ 4,750.00
Actual Donations: \$ 3,693.10
Budget Deficit: \$ 1,056.90

Current as of October 31, 2018.

...continued from page 1

All are called to be full of Holy Spirit. It is an invitation by the Lord himself that we are called to be fully with Jesus. It is the universal call to Holiness; we are called to be Holy as our Lord God is Holy, (Lev. 19:23). Holiness is the greatest quality of God, being human we are also called to be Holy, the Mother Church offers such opportunities to be Holy by offering us the Holy Sacraments.

All the sacraments are given through the divine power and workings of the Spirit of God. It is he who works in us through the sacraments for our sanctification. For example, when we receive Holy Eucharist personally, that is Body and Blood of Christ; we are choosing to be full of Holy Spirit and are welcoming him to sanctify us within and without. In Baptism, we become children of God, we receive an indelible mark on our hearts through the same Holy Spirit who works through the waters of our baptism.

So as God enter our lives, we need to positively respond and be Holy in our daily lives, so we will be able to understand the working of the Holy Spirit in us and be able to heed to his guidance. He will always remain with us as the Spirit of Emmanuel. We are given many opportunities by the Church to be full of Holy Spirit.

What is the purpose of this experience?

When our lives are rooted in the Lord, he fills us with the fullness of His Holy Spirit. But many of us are unaware of what is the purpose of being full in the Spirit. The Lord gives us Spiritual POWER to

build the Mother Church and the Kingdom of God. All our Charisms are to build the Church, and to reach out to the lost by evangelization. We are called to preach not only in words but also by our life and our actions in the world. There are lots of services of the church that are known even to the secular world, our schools, hospitals and social apostolate. There are varieties of services but the same Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:5). All these activities are only fruitful if they are full of Holy Spirit.

Blocks that keep a person from experiencing the fullness of God's Spirit:

Our personal and societal sins are the biggest blocks to our Spiritual growth. We fall short of God's love due to our sins; it hinders our spiritual growth. Our sins take us away from our original Image of God. Sin is like a web that surrounds us and we are caught up in the web, no Power can free us from this web except POWER of Jesus Christ. This power is only drawn from Calvary, where Jesus paid a BIG price for our sins. Who can redeem us from SIN, it is only the POWER of Jesus that will set us free. As it is written in John 8:36 (RSV) "So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

Our lethargic attitude could be another reason, as we know, tomorrow never comes, today is the right and appropriate time to repent and turn back. As it is written, Isaiah 55:6 (RSV) "Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;" We should turn quickly to the Lord or we might burn ourselves by listening to the evil spirit. Most of us may have an

attitude of procrastination. We keep saying that we will do it next time and we know it well that our next time never comes. The power of evil exists and takes us away from God. But if we are full of Holy Spirit, nothing will happen to us.

Our Lack of Faith in God, could be another reason, faith can move the mountains but if we recheck whether it really works. Than our faith is not strong, it is never one time faith but it grows daily and we move toward God. My God can fill me with the POWER of Holy Spirit, he can choose me to be his disciples.

Saints and persons full of Holy Spirit.

All the apostles and later the disciples were all full of Holy Spirit, they were scared and hiding but once the Holy Spirit came upon them (Pentecost) the fear disappeared and they were ready suffer and even ready to die, so we have so many early church martyrs. St. Stephen being the first martyr, later all the apostles followed, they died for sake of Christ. Presently we have so many our people dying in Iraq, Syria and other places where lots of priests, nuns and lay faithful are being killed by ISIS. It takes courage to die for faith, but the strength is given by the same Lord.

In conclusion, it is an invitation by the Lord himself to be full of Holy Spirit. We are also given the sacraments for our sanctification and glorification, it is available but one need to open to the Spirit and to receive the same Spirit in our personal lives daily. One who responds positively will sure be an instrument.

Please send us your prayer intentions: _____

