

November 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Rev. Isaac Fynn Tucson, AZ 1	Rev. John Gonzales Tucson, AZ 2	For the souls of our deceased FOP members 3	For prayer requests received 4	For our Holy Father, Pope Francis 5
Rev. James Hobert Tucson, AZ 6	Rev. Bill Kohler Tucson, AZ 7	Rev. Liam Leahy Tucson, AZ 8	Rev. Rudolf Ofori Tucson, AZ 9	Rev. Msgr. Domenico Pinti Tucson, AZ 10	Rev. Thomas Quirk Tucson, AZ 11	Rev. Ray Ratzenberger Tucson, AZ 12
Most Rev. Vitalij Skomarovski Ukraine 13	Most Rev. Richard Baawobr Wa, West Africa 14	Rev. Bennette Tang Becheyie Wa, West Africa 15	Rev. Stephen Dassah Wa, West Africa 16	Rev. John Bosco Eledi Wa, West Africa 17	Rev. Paul Gaa Wa, West Africa 18	Rev. Victor Ganaa Wa, West Africa 19
Rev. Stephen Kantubog Wa, West Africa 20	Rev. Aloysius Kpiebaya Wa, West Africa 21	Rev. Cletus Kulah Wa, West Africa 22	Rev. Chrisantus Kulbile Wa, West Africa 23	Rev. Vincent Kuubatge Wa, West Africa 24	Rev. Godfrey Naagyie Wa, West Africa 25	Rev. Sylvester Nankpi Wa, West Africa 26
Rev. James Nasaalbeteryeb Wa, West Africa 27	Rev. Nicodemus Nongnenuor Wa, West Africa 28	Rev. Aloysius Nuolabong Wa, West Africa 29	Rev. Aloysius Sunnoba Wa, West Africa 30			

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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Do you know anyone who would like to receive our Newsletter? (Please print legibly)

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Street _____

City, State and Zip _____

Please cut and return this form with your donation.

Dear Fr. Von DeKosia,
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.

VOLUME XXXI ISSUE 11 OCTOBER 2022



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

THE VISITATION

A monthly publication of the Fraternity of Priests, Inc.

Acting on the Empowering Holy Spirit

By Fr. Tom Galvin, Pittsburgh Fraternity

Found throughout the Bible are many individuals who are once-named and then never seen or heard from again. The person most people would associate with this reality would be Joseph, the foster father of Jesus and husband of Mary. Following the nativity scenes and Jesus' being found in the temple --- reason for child endangerment in today's times -- Joseph is a lost man, never to be heard of again (except when Jesus is identified as "the Son of Joseph" by that mob scene outside the synagogue in Nazareth). Thankfully we have more than enough reasons to keep a remembrance alive and maintain a worthwhile devotion to this lowly yet powerful saint.

With that same thought, we hear of Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. After the child's birth, she is a forgotten person, never again mentioned in Scripture. And what of her husband, Zechariah of the priestly class who served in the temple in Jerusalem? The only thing he got out of an encounter with Gabriel the Archangel was silent tongue for his doubting the messenger of God. But was this fair? Didn't Mary question that same angel? Didn't Joseph question the messenger of his dreams? They were lifted up. Poor Zechariah got silenced, until after he and Elizabeth named their newborn son John. Afterwards, they were erased from memory. Their role in salvation history was fulfilled -- except for one little canticle uttered by the aging father concerning his son:

"You my child shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare His way, to give His people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins..."

I make note of this fact Zechariah to remind all of us that it is not so much how much we do or how often we are noted for what we say or do, but rather that we act and speak in accordance with God's plan.

Called as Prophet of the Prophet

Long, long ago in seminary training I was taught that Scripture never loses its power or purpose; that it remains as relevant today as it did when spoken and/or written. This is why Zechariah's words spoken to his newborn son carry weight for me today. Every time I pray these words it causes me to pause and reflect on what I may be called to live, what the Lord may ask me to accept in my life at the beginning of that particular day. *"You my child shall be called Prophet of the Most High."* I know that, like Zechariah, I have been skeptical of God's message coming to me in prayer. In the past I have been as good at bantering with God as was Jeremiah. But my growing acceptance of the Holy Spirit speaking to me through Scripture has caused a pause in my rebuttals to God's plans. I have silenced myself as did Job before the Lord.

Most of us have probably acted in the same way as did Zechariah, and maybe continue to do so even today in some circumstances. We probably all have learned that eventually God will have His

way -- with or without our involvement. Thankfully, He never takes away the grace we've been given for us to amend our thinking and acting. And that's needed if we are going to become as Zechariah did, *"the Prophet of the Prophet."* Imagine him holding his infant son, knowing the fate of prophets before him, and yet announcing *"You my child shall be called Prophet of the Most High..."* The giving over of a father's plans for a son, an only child, is a giant leap of faith for a man whose remembrance was given up when his son was named. So, I must ask: are we not called as well to become *"the Prophet of the Most High"?*

Disciplines for Empowered Brotherhood

That could be enough for us to reflect on for a period of time. However, we can also consider the Disciplines of Empowered Brotherhood, especially those disciplines which call us to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and with our brother priests. The same is true in the encouragement of brother priests in the acceptance of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the education of the Spirit's workings in the Church. Accepting these disciplines deepens our awareness, and the awareness of others of the visitation message and our own involvement in it. For this, we have been anointed. As priests, our first responsibility is always to the Lord which includes our own acceptance and ongoing development of the gifts we have been called to live and share. These are ways in which we witness the power of the Holy Spirit moving us at all times as the Father

Dear Fraternity Brothers and Friends of the Priesthood

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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 Budget:

\$4,750.00

Actual Donations:

\$1,067.00

Budget Deficit:

\$3,683.00

Current as of
August 31, 2022.

This past August, we consecrated the Fraternity of Priests to Jesus through the Heart of Mary. We encouraged each local Fraternity to do the consecration as well. This was in response to a word from the Lord that we received in March at our Fraternity Board Meeting. If you read my articles from April to July, you'll remember all of this.

Now, we enter the month of October – the month dedicated to the Holy Rosary. I so want to encourage you to pray the Rosary every day. Since we have consecrated our Fraternity to Our Lady, we should seek to get closer to her every day. Not only are there so many promises associated with it, it is a beautiful way to enter into the mysteries of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is also a way to show love to Mary, as we crown her with the roses of our devotion and love: fifty times praying the Angelic Salutation (which changed her life and the entire universe), the benediction of Elizabeth empowered by the Holy Spirit, and then crying out to our Mama for help. And at the heart of each Hail Mary, prayed over and over throughout the Rosary, we call on the Holy Name of Jesus – crying out “Lord, save!”

I remember getting Rosaries as a child, and holding them in special regard, but once I got to a certain age, I did not pray the rosary very often. It was when my parents began praying the rosary together when I was in high school that I joined them and began to pray regularly. It was from this prayer time with my parents that the stirrings of my vocation to the priesthood, felt in my early childhood, but covered over by the busyness of worldly affairs, began to make its way

to the surface again. I know, looking back, that Our Lady was taking me by the hand, as I held the Rosary in my hand, and leading me to Jesus, and to become the person He made me to be.

Even with this newfound love for the Rosary, it wasn't until I was ordained a priest and I started watching my pastor pray the Rosary every day that I decided that I needed to make it a part of my daily prayer. Since that time, I have grown deeper and deeper in love with Mary, and she has taught me to love Jesus more and more. I have had times when I have been able to enter deeply into the Mysteries of the Rosary, as Our Lady has shown me new insights to the Mystery of God's love for us. And there have been times when prayer has been dry, feeling empty. The truth in these times, though, is that I have chosen to give my Mama a gift – the gift of my rosary – even if I feel nothing. I continue to tell Mama Mary “I love you,” fifty times over, even when love feels empty. This discipline has kept me returning to Jesus and Mary no matter how far I have strayed in my struggles and sin.

I pray that as a Fraternity, we can continue to grow closer to Mary – the Spouse of the Holy Spirit – for she will always, *always*, ALWAYS bring us to Jesus.

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Von DeRosia
Fr. Von DeRosia



Editor's Note: Please send articles, comments, and photos to the our editor, Fr. Bob Carr, via e-mail to editor@fraternityofpriests.org. Newsletter material from all Fraternity members is gratefully accepted.

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would desire. This witness must be to our brothers as well all men and women placed in our lives. They are not there by accident.

The visitation message which we live states that God is at work visiting His people. How does this occur without unbelief changing to belief and prophecy taking shape as it did in Zechariah who became *the Prophet of the Prophet*? For us who have been baptized into the life and ministry of Jesus Christ as priest, prophet and king, this message must be witnessed to all people – God is at work visiting His people today. That said, as priests it is ours to announce and give credence to a New Pentecost being poured out on all believers. And finally, the visitation message demands a response from each of us – an announcement to every person, revealing God touching life here and now.

Empowering People with the Holy Spirit

For many years the priests of the Pittsburgh-Greensburg Fraternity have celebrated a monthly Mass of Healing in one of our parishes, particularly being called to awaken the gifts of healing, discernment and prophecy through words of knowledge. A few years ago, the brothers came from prayer, feeling God calling us to expand our outreach, to go where we hadn't previously gone before, and to touch people who haven't experienced the powerful gifts and awakening of the Holy Spirit in their lives and in their faith. Going into a parish where a fraternity priest is not assigned is not easy as they have little knowledge of what is expected and what will happen. It involves a whole gambit of education and proper PR announcements for the local pastor and the people. Trust in the Holy Spirit brings the desired result as many more people now share these opportunities with family and friends, no matter the location of Mass.

As a group we also heard the Lord

speak of how we branded these Masses, as many people were beginning to come to ask for prayers, not so much for healing, but for discernment and direction in their own life or in the lives of family members and friends. So many of these came from younger people not needing physical healing but seeking inner peace and oneness with our Lord. So, we rebranded and tagged these as Masses for Discernment and Healing. The result has been amazing. God's power grid enlightened so many in a new way.

Ours is to listen to the Holy Spirit and to trust in His movements. We are called to be Zechariah and become prophets of the Most High, prophets for other prophets (our brothers), and prophets to the people. Our brother priests may not join us for fraternity, not join us in prayer and adoration or for sharing a dinner. That's okay. They may show their faces periodically but are not ready for a weekly commitment (as is done in Pittsburgh). In those circumstances we must be like our Father who constantly invites and then patiently awaits a response. If we love them we'll do this again and again. However, if we fail to invite, if we fail to allow them to see our concern for them, if we leave them out on a limb alone in their struggles, what have we done? Fraternity does not exist in those circumstances. All the tithing and fasting in the world is not going to move them to a new beginning or an awakening.

“You, my child, shall be called the Prophet of the Most High.” They were Zechariah's words to John and the same to us. They are also God's words to each of us ordained into the priesthood and ministry of Jesus Christ. I see our living this belief is an essential response to the visitation message as it affirms all we have received as baptized members of the Body of Christ and as priests at the altar of our God here people come looking to be renewed and refashioned. It is by our living this message

that we find ourselves empowered to pronounce a new evangelization, a new awakening with the heart and minds of God's people, our people. What we preach is to be the visitation message of the Gospel – God loves us so much that He is constantly at work on our behalf. How we preach this message needs to be done while filled with the Holy Spirit – and directed by the Holy Spirit so it is received as fire touch hearts. Our preaching the visitation message is in direct response to the needs of our people as shown to us by the Spirit – those with whom we share our everyday environments.

I make one final note concerning the workings of the Fraternity of Priests. That newly ordained priest and that seminarian probably has no clue as to who we are or what we're about as a Fraternity. Unfortunately, they probably never will unless we make ourselves known to them as soon as possible, offering them something fresh and alive, something to strengthen their priesthood or future priesthood. Fraternal charity must be our foundation just as it was with Jesus and His Apostles and Disciples. There was a reason for them to be sent out in pairs. The same is true in the Acts of the Apostle. All priests need priestly support for spiritual growth and sanity. I spent time trying it on my own. I lacked so much.

Brothers, our lives may be like so many found in the Scriptures – one-and-done. But as I mentioned in the beginning, it is not so much that we are mentioned beyond our days, as it is the fact of why we will be remembered in the future. Hopefully, it is because we have been seen as “prophet of the Most High,” if by no one else than the prophets with whom we share ministry – our brothers.

Let us pray that for each other to accept this prophecy as a personal call for the future.

Please send us your prayer intentions: _____
