A monthly publication of the Fraternity of Priests, Inc.

The Visitation

VOLUME XXXIV ISSUE 10 SEPTEMBER 2025

Miracles Happening in Newark NJ

By Fr. Joe Meagher, Newark Fraternity

Miracles are happening in Newark, NJ and Eucharistic Processions are and big reason why and how.

A little backround: Here at St Antoninus Church in Newark New Jersey, where I am privileged to be pastor, 2025 is a Triple Jubilee year: The Universal Church's Jubilee, our parish's 150th Anniversary (Pentecost Sunday 1875) and our 50th Anniversary of being "born-again in the Holy Spirit" and becoming a fully charismatic Catholic parish (on or about Pentecost Sunday, 1975). The parish died and was brought back to life through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the Charismatic Renewal, the faith and obedience of one of the 4 founders of the Fraternity of Priests – Fr Jim Ferry, and the initial support of the People of Hope, covenant community.

And there is one more cause for celebration in 2025: we are still in the 3 years Eucharistic Revival, and for those who are open to the graces, there is more to be received and not to missed. I acknowledge that it is sometimes difficult to know what we can do to stay in this season and grace of a 3 year Eucharistic Revival. I want to suggest that the simplicity of Eucharistic processions provide an unmatched opportunity for Eucharistic revival. I think that if we taste the miraculous fruit of Eucharistic Processions (and Marian processions), they will become "habit-forming." This is what happened with us…

Every year we have a number of outdoor processions. I love them because they are "free advertisement" and they get us out of the Church and into the streets in an outreach mode. They are work, but very worth it. Our latest one was on Corpus Christi Sunday of this year. Every year, we try to expand this procession a little. I always wanted to have a Eucharistic Procession to our Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart and this Triple Jubilee year gave me more courage to present it to our parish council.

The route was a 2.5-mile slow walk through the city, but it was far from a simple one-way journey. It also meant coordinating the return of everyone—along with the canopy, incense, vestments, server cassocks, etc—back to the church.

But with God's help, everything came together—and far exceeded our hopes. To my delight, two other parishes joined us along the way. Our route was intentional, leading through some of the roughest streets in the city, bringing Jesus to the very places where He wants to be. The procession concluded at the majestic Cathedral-Basilica, after a final stretch through the lovely Branch Brook Park.

There had to be a thousand people who saw Jesus passing by and heard the joyful singing in different languages and witnessed the children spreading flowers before Jesus, and the dancing before the Lord along the way. Yes, dancing! Our African brothers and sisters always dance when they celebrate, and how much more fitting to dance before the Lord, just as David did. Don't worry, no ladies in tights. Just long beautiful dresses and reverent Joy-filled hearts delighting in the Lord.

Since the recent influx of Latinos in the neighborhood, the level of devotion we witnessed along the way was more palpable than ever before. I was literally brought to tears a number of times by what I witnessed.

The icing on the cake for me was God's anawim, who joined us along the way for portions of the procession. Perhaps they were drawn by the joyful singing, but they ended up coming close to Jesus.

The cherry on top this year happened about a week later when a man in his 40's came by the parish looking for someone in the church to hear his story. He wanted to come

...continued on page 3

Dear Fraternity Brothers and Friends of the Priesthood

EPISCOPAL ADVISORS

Bishop Sam Jacobs
Houma-Thibodaux, LA

Bishop Mark O'Connell
Boston, MA

DIRECTORS

Fr. Bob Franco
Cleveland, OH
Chairman

Fr. Robert Carr
Boston. MA

Fr. Dwight Merrick
Trinidad

Fr. Joseph Meagher
Newark, NJ

Fr. Sylvester Nankpi
Wa, Ghana

Fr. Damjan Mlinaric
Slovenia

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:
$3,022.00
Budget Deficit:
$1,728.00

Current as of July 31, 2025.

Most Catholic feast days celebrate a person or event that is easily understood. For example, in September we celebrate the Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary (September 8, nine months after the Immaculate Conception) and the Feast of Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels (September 29).

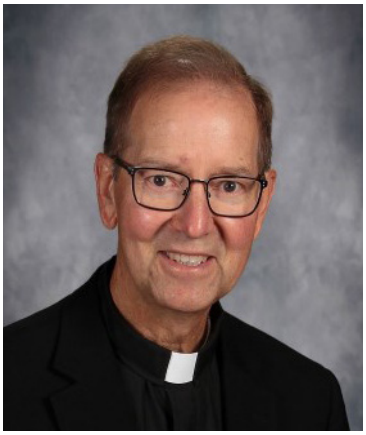
However, on September 14, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exultation of the Cross. The strangeness of this feast becomes clearer if we substitute a different form of execution for the word cross. It raises questions immediately: *The Exultation of the Electric Chair? The Exultation of the Guillotine?* Can a form of execution in any way be exulted or rejoiced in?

Obviously, the execution of a human being for a crime committed is a tragedy. We do not rejoice in that. In the case of Jesus Christ, we can exult in His Cross. Simply put, that Cross is our only hope. St. Thomas Aquinas summarizes much about Christ and his sufferings in this way:

Why did the Son of God have to suffer for us? There was a great need, and it can be considered in a twofold way: in the first place, as a remedy for sin, and secondly, as an example of how to act.

It is a remedy, for, in the face of all the evils which we incur on account of our sins, we have found relief through the passion of Christ. Yet, it is no less an example, for the passion of Christ completely suffices to fashion our lives. (Liturgy of the Hours, Volume 3, Memorial of St. Thomas Aquinas)

If St. Thomas tells us to consider the sufferings of Jesus in two ways, our response ought to be twofold.



That Jesus is a remedy for sin summons us to trust in Him. Jesus did not just die for the world. As St. Paul said, *I live by faith in the Son of God who loved **me** and gave himself up **for me**.* (Galatians 2:20b, emphasis added). We must not exempt ourselves from the mercy of God in Christ. I recently completed reading the Diary of St. Faustina. If there is anything that St. Faustina was convinced of, it was that we need to trust in the Lord's mercy, revealed by the Cross, for ourselves.

The second response to the Cross of Christ is to follow his example. We may not be falsely charged and led to execution like Jesus (though one never knows). However, we can imitate his willingness to die by our death to impatience. We will grow the virtue of forbearance and long suffering. We can willingly forgive those who hurt us or gossip about us. We can also keep our mouths closed when we are tempted to "vent" about someone who irritates us. We can willingly die to our appetites by embracing some form of fasting (food, drink, media, whatever).

Let us rejoice in the Cross of Christ. As strange as it may seem, this is God's chosen way to save us. By it we are freed of our sins. By it we are led to heaven.

In Christ,

Fr. Bob Franco

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.

...continued from page 1

back and give thanks. He told us that he had been standing on one of the streets we passed during the procession and since he enjoyed the singing, he decided to walk along with us. Initially he struggled to walk due to his disability which caused him to be greatly stooped over and in pain. However, as he walked along with us he experienced a profound healing of his back. He simply said "I had to come back and give thanks."

This was not the first time we witnessed a miraculous healing during one of our Eucharistic processions. Three years ago, a man with a noticeably twisted body, leaning on a shopping cart for support, followed the procession along the sidewalk, all the way to the end. At first, we thought he was intoxicated, and I even told one of the men to keep an eye on him (a reality you have to deal with in the inner city). But as it turned out, this man was not at all intoxicated, he was simply beside himself with joy as he joined up close to Jesus.

Toward the end of the procession a parishioner came to me and said "Father you have to hear this guy's story. He was healed!" I really didn't know what she was talking about and only thought it was just a distraction. Finally, after some prodding I finally went up to the man and he kept saying, "Look at my hands and my feet. They are healed" He showed me how they were all curled up just 20 minutes earlier. But now he was lifting his hands up wide open and dancing in praise to God. Then I understood his overwhelming joy. All we did was bring Jesus out into the streets - where He wants to be, among the poor and the lowly, or the rich and the lost. And sing his praise as best we can. And He does the rest.

Last month the 96 year old, renowned exorcist from the Vatican, Cardinal Ernest Simoni, a survivor of 26 years in prison under communism in Albania (1946-1970's), came here to St Antoninus. He came with a mission to pray exorcism prayers over the city of Newark. To prepare for this, we built a platform on the back of a pickup truck, complete with a seat for him and a stand to hold the monstrance, all covered by a canopy. We traveled through the neighborhood of the parish as Cardinal Simoni was atop the truck, blessing the people with the Eucharist and quietly praying exorcism prayers. At the end of the procession, he celebrated Mass for the parish. Another gift from heaven.

I would say that Eucharistic processions are particularly great in the city. I'd say they are made for the inner city.

We are in the final stretch of 3 years of Eucharistic Revival. That means there is more grace that the Lord has in store for us - grace available to all who open their hearts and avail themselves to one of the many opportunities before us and we sure can't afford to miss this grace. So, whether we make time for daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, plan or attend a procession or participate in a 40 hours devotion, may we not only receive this grace personally for ourselves, but may we always look for ways to share with others. We need to ask for an increase of faith and then begin to exercise that faith right away.

As Fr Jim Ferry, a mentor to many of us a used to say: "With the Lord there is always more."

This month, Fr. Joe Meagher of the Newark Fraternity talks about the healing power of God's love expressed in Eucharistic processions and Fr. Bob Franco writes about Christ's mercy.

I read both with interest. I began hospital ministry July 1. The priest mentor I now have, who is also a member of the Charismatic Renewal and has been for decades explained that power of the Sacrament of the Sick.

In my parish ministry, when I received a call to anoint someone, I usually acted more clinical than pastoral. Of course, who can be pastoral at 3:00 a.m.? However, Fr. Visbisky explained to me that we must be pastoral as the medical staff are clinical. He explained that over his thirty years of hospital ministry, he has seen many miracles. Some whom doctors said did not have a chance at healing experienced total healing after an anointing.

He explained it is all in the power of the Sacrament and showed me how he prays over those who are receiving the sacrament by putting his hands on their heads at the end of the rite. I began the same practice and also became much less clinical.

I am amazed how many people are so appreciative after I said some prayers for them whether in the sacrament or as part of a simple time of prayer. As we learn from Fr. Joe, Fr. Bob God is doing great things. Let us be channels of His loving mercy.
—ed.

Please send us your prayer intentions:_____

_____

_____

_____

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY!

October 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Rev. 1 Martin Mannion *St. Louis*	2 **For the souls of our deceased FOP members**	3 **For prayer requests received**	4 **For our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV**
Rev. 5 David Novak *St. Louis*	Rev. 6 Gerald Zienaa *Tamale, Ghana*	Rev. 7 James Brown *Toledo*	Rev. 8 Kishore Kottana *Toledo*	Rev. 9 Nicholas Weibl *Toledo*	Rev. 10 Dale Branson *Tucson*	Rev. 11 Isaac Fynn *Tucson*
Rev. 12 John Gonzales *Tucson*	Rev. 13 James Hobert *Tucson*	Rev. 14 Bill Kohler *Tucson*	Rev. 15 Liam Leahy *Tucson*	Rev. Msgr. 16 Domenico Pinti *Tucson*	Rev. 17 Thomas Quirk *Tucson*	Rev. 18 Ray Ratzenberger *Tucson*
Most Rev. 19 Vitalij Skomarovski *Ukraine*	Rev. 20 Francis Dabre *Vasai India*	Rev. 21 Bennette Tang Becheyie *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 22 Stephen Dassah *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 23 John Bosco Eledi *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 24 Paul Gaa *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 25 Victor Ganaa *Wa, West Africa*
Rev. 26 Stephen Kantubog *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 27 Aloysius Kpiebaya *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 28 Cletus Kulah *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 29 Chrisantus Kulbile *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 30 Vincent Kuubatge *Wa, West Africa*	Rev. 31 Godfrey Naagyie *Wa, West Africa*	

Fraternity of Priests, Inc.
PO Box 442
Steubenville, OH 43952-5442

Email: contact@fraternityofpriests.org
http://www.fraternityofpriests.org

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.

Please cut and return this form with your donation.

Dear Fr. John Kiley,
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 carefully and wisely, and not to ask for money that is not needed.

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

Name _____

Street _____

City, State and Zip _____