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FR. CK'S CORNER



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By Fr. Christopher Klusman

Welcome to our Autumn Hand in Hand Newsletter. With the realization that the season of Autumn is

here, it is a beautiful time filled with many popular saint days: St. Padre Pio (Sept. 23), St. Vincent de Paul (Sept. 27), Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael (Sept. 29), St. Therese of Lisieux (Oct. 1), Holy Guardian Angels (Oct. 2), St. Francis of Assisi (Oct. 4), St. Faustina (Oct. 5), Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct. 7), St. Teresa of Avila (Oct. 16), St. Rene Goupil, our Deaf saint (Oct. 19), St. John Paul II (Oct. 22), All Saints Day (Nov. 1), and All Souls Day (Nov. 2). It seems like a series of the Greatest Hits. All these saints, pray for us!

With the Autumn season already here, it means that we are nearing the end of the Year of St. Joseph which ends Dec. 8, 2021, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. I am so thankful to God for the opportunity to experience the Year of St. Joseph with you. With St. Joseph as an amazing saint who is the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the father of Our Lord Jesus Christ on earth, he is a model of



sanctity, humility, and purity. Unbeknownst to us all, he is often the one overlooked, passed over, and forgotten. With this Year of St. Joseph, it is beautiful to see many books,

devotionals, and films expand about him.

My question for you is this: Are you accompanying St. Joseph during the Year of St. Joseph? What things are you doing that are including him in your life nowadays? I will give you an example: other than to ask for his intercession in daily prayer, I have discovered a new devotional, a new Sacramental called the Chaplet of St. Joseph. I purchased one, learned about it, and began praying

it. That is a gift that I was able to offer back to St. Joseph during this year as to grow closer to him, and many graces have been given as a result of that.

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 2.



MISSION STATEMENT - DEAF APOSTOLATE

The Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee exists to enable all Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to participate fully in the liturgical, educational, pastoral, spiritual, and human concerns ministries in the Church.

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued from Page 1.

But, the one important lesson for us all is that when the Year of St. Joseph ends on Dec. 8th, it doesn't mean I put away everything I am doing with St. Joseph. I will not stop including him in my daily prayer. I will not stop praying the Chaplet of St. Joseph. I will not stop learning more about this amazing saint. The Year of St. Joseph is the beginning of my accompanying him in my life.

Again, I hope you have been including him in your daily life. I hope you have found new prayers, novenas, and/or devotionals/sacramentals of St. Joseph. I hope you bought a picture, statue, or something for your home of St. Joseph. I hope that you made the Consecration to St. Joseph. If you haven't, it is not too late to start ... today!

I close here with hope that you will enjoy this Autumn Newsletter as it is filled with many things to accompany you throughout the season. You

can perhaps read one article or section and the next one tomorrow and again and again until the first day of Winter. Or are you the type of person who can read everything in one sitting? Whichever you prefer, I hope

you find it worthwhile. If you know of anyone who would appreciate this newsletter, please don't hesitate to share it with them. My biggest hope from anyone reading this newsletter is that it brings you closer to the Holy Family: God, Our Lady, and St. Joseph. The Immaculate Conception, patroness of our country, pray for us! St. Joseph, pray for us. St. John the Baptist, pray for us! St. John the Evangelist, patron of our archdiocese, pray for us! St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of the Deaf, pray for us! St. René Goupil, our Deaf saint, pray for us! Blessed Bartolo Longo, pray for us!

A blessed Autumn to you!



News
of
St.
John's



The first week of school was very rainy and cloudy. First grader Henry Hanek, not having seen the sun for five days, complained to Sister Henriella, "The sun died."

November 1954

In St. John's School for the Deaf's publications of the "Our Young People," there is a section that has their current news. I hope you will enjoy these various news clippings:

Congratulations to Sister Lucy who celebrated her diamond jubilee this year. She spent all of these sixty years right here at St. John's. Sister taught sewing to the girls for a number of years. She acted as group mother for the boys for many years. Only God knows how many pieces of clothing she mended, how many thousands of times she helped her boys make the beds properly and showed them how to keep their clothes in order. Now, at the age of 83, Sister Lucy is still an active member of the Community. She can recall many an interesting incident about the early days of the School. Her memory of former pupils is remarkable. We are sure Sister will be richly rewarded in eternity for her years of dedication to hundreds of deaf children.

October 1954

We were all very proud and happy when a young man who grew up on St. John's grounds was ordained last May. Father Joseph Frederick is the son of Joe Frederick, faithful custodian here for many years. Father gave his First Mass blessing individually to all at St. John's. He is now stationed at Holy Angels Parish in Milwaukee.

October 1956

The Halloween party was greatly enjoyed by all. Clever masks and costumes added to the fun of traditional Halloween games. A movie and refreshments ended the day. We wish to thank our friends who helped to make this possible.

December 1955



St. Andrew Parish

DEAF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER: OUR LIVES ARE HIDDEN WITH CHRIST IN GOD



**By Jennifer Paul, Coordinator
Deaf Religious Education & Deaf Ministry
St. Andrew Parish, Delavan**

During the height of the pandemic and throughout the school year of 2020-2021, students had to stay home and learn remotely. Some students loved it. Some students hated

it. But there were some students who did not have a chance to even participate remotely because of – for example – poor Internet bandwidth or limited physical space (I know countless families, including my own, making use of their kitchen table!). Worst of all, they missed out on the beneficial nature of being in the classroom with their expert teachers, and lost opportunities for incidental learning made possible by being around their peers. Now, as schools are reopening, there are still issues. In some areas where COVID-19 community transmission is very high or critically high, schools have sent students home to learn remotely again.



Despite these challenges, some students are expected to take standardized tests. Some school districts have decided to forego the whole standardized testing but there are school districts who still require that their standardized tests be administered. What are we to do as parents?

The idea of standardized testing during the pandemic has exposed vulnerabilities and inequitable issues. As mentioned, what about students living in areas with poor Internet bandwidth and in environments that are not conducive to learning? I personally would like to believe that, because the pandemic is a global phenomenon with many repercussions – and many more yet to

be seen down the road, there is great kindness and compassion in making concessions and adjustments to allow for the vulnerabilities and inequities on every level of society, starting with the people in our schools all the way up to policy makers. Rather than saying that the devil is in the details, I like to say that God is in the details!

As parents and our children's role models, we need to remind ourselves and encourage others to keep faith with our chin up and our eyes above. Keeping faith means trusting that it all will work out at the end for every student. We can tell ourselves and our children that the uncertainty in test performances – as in life – helps us to develop perseverance, character and to lean on Him as the constant in our lives:

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access [by faith] to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.

Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance

and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Romans 5:1-5

If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.

For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:1-3

Wherever we are in life on earth as students, parents or teachers, our lives are hidden with Christ in God. Rest easy, for “the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy spirit that has been given to us!”

BLESSED BARTOLO LONGO, MODEL SAINT FOR THE AUTUMN SEASON

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

During the month of October, many people decorate for Halloween. The real reason of having Halloween is because of All Hallows' Day, which is on November 1. All Hallows' Day is an Old English phrase which, now translated, means "All Saints Day." October 31, in the Old English language, was phrased as "All Hallows' Eve," that when pronounced fast, can sound like "Halloween." But, knowing Satan and his demons, he wouldn't want us to focus on the saints, so it has shifted more towards the demonic: gore, horror, and the list goes on ...

For this Autumn season, we will do what God wants us to do – keeping the focus on the saints! For this newsletter, I'd like to share with you someone in the "Communion of Saints" who used to be a satanic priest. Yep! His name is Blessed Bartolo Longo. His conversion experience is a moving example of hope that it is possible for anyone, even someone who dealt with satanic things, can be converted through one's openness to grace and the Sacraments – especially the healing Sacrament of Confession.



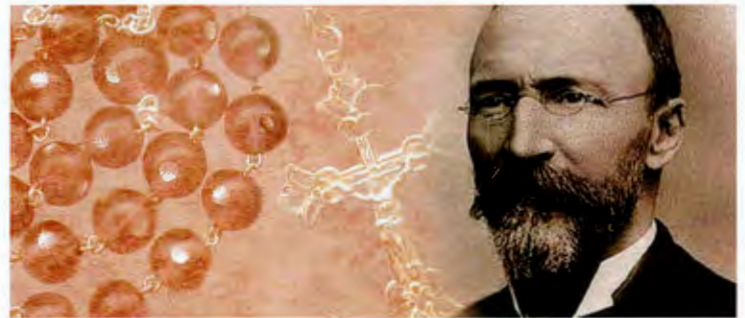
Bartolo Longo in his satanic phase.

I'd like to share his quote with you before we go further. He said, "My God, you did not look at my past, you did not stop before my weakness; in one hand you placed the rosary, in the other a pen, and you said to me, 'Write, they will listen to you, for it is I who will place in your heart the word of life.'" Let's learn from his story and always remember what Scripture reminds us, that "nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37). Even Blessed Bartolo Longo, of all people, became known as the "Apostle to the Rosary!" This is why Blessed Bartolo Longo is the perfect saint for our Autumn Newsletter: (1) he was a former satanic priest, which fits into the Halloween season; (2) he became known as the "Apostle to the Rosary," since October is also the Month of the Rosary; and (3) his Memorial day is October 5.

There was an article on the internet (<https://dominicanfriars.org/former-satanist-priest-became-saint/>) that gave a beautiful summary on his life. Enjoy reading:

A former Satanist priest who became a Saint

Bartolo was born to a devout Catholic family near Brindisi, in southern Italy [on February 10, 1841]. He was a brilliant,



though mischievous kid, who began to lose his way at the age of ten after his mother died. His adolescence was a time of great upheaval in his country, when Garibaldi was seeking to eliminate the papal city states and unite Italy. By the time Bartolo entered the University of Naples law school, many of his professors were ex-priests preaching nationalist venom against the Church. He was quickly caught up in their fervor. "I, too, grew to hate monks, priests and the Pope," he would later write, "and in particular [I detested] the Dominicans, the most formidable, furious opponents of those great modern professors, proclaimed by the university the sons of progress, the defenders of science, the champions of every sort of freedom."

In his confusion and emptiness, without God to turn to, he began to visit some of Naples' infamous mediums. That was his introduction into the occult. Soon, his thirst for the supernatural led him into outright Satanism, where after a period of intense study and such rigorous fasting that he was reduced to skin and bones, he was consecrated a satanic priest and promised his soul to a demon. For the next year, he began to preside over satanic services and to preach more boldly and blasphemously against God and the Church — treating them, in a diabolical reversal, as the real evils.

His family back home tried to talk him about of the path he had chosen, to no avail. The began to pray and to ask for help from whoever might lend a hand. Professor Vincenzo Pepe, a solidly Catholic professor at the university, responded. He began to meet with Bartolo, accosting him, "Do you want to die in an insane asylum and be damned forever?" Bartolo couldn't ignore the psychological and physiological state he was in. Professor Pepe eventually convinced him to see a Dominican priest, who after three weeks of lengthy conversations, on the feast of the Sacred Heart in 1865, was able to welcome him back into the Church and give him absolution.

► BLESSED BARTOLO LONGO - Continued on Page 5.

► **BLESSED BARTOLO LONGO** - Continued from Page 4.

To keep an eye on him, Professor Pepe allowed Bartolo to move in with him and started to surround him with faithful and dedicated Catholics. Each day for two years, as a voluntarily-imposed penance, Bartolo worked in the Neapolitan Hospital for Incurables. He prayed. He became a third-order Dominican. He made a promise of celibacy to serve God with an undivided heart. He sought to do reparation for his scandal by returning to his Satanist hangouts, holding up the Rosary and publicly renouncing his former ways.



An aged Blessed Bartolo Longo with his rosary.

But he still despaired. He couldn't forgive himself or see how God could ever forgive him. One day, while fulfilling some legal business in Pompeii for his client Countess Mariana di Fusco, and seeing how great was the people's poverty, ignorance, moral corruption and dependence on witchcraft, God helped him to see both how he could be saved and how he could spend his life saving others.

"One day in the fields around Pompeii," he wrote, "I recalled my former condition as a priest of Satan... I thought that perhaps as the priesthood of Christ is for eternity, so also the priesthood of Satan is for eternity. So, despite my repentance, I thought: I am still consecrated to Satan, and I am still his slave and property as he awaits me in Hell. As I pondered over my condition, I experienced a deep sense of despair and almost committed suicide. Then I heard an echo in my ear of the voice of Friar Alberto repeating the words of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 'One who propagates my Rosary shall be saved.' Falling to my knees, I exclaimed: 'If your words are true that he who propagates your Rosary will be saved, I shall reach salvation because I shall not leave this earth without propagating your Rosary.'"

He spent the whole rest of his life, beginning in Pompeii, propagating the Rosary and imitating the mysteries it contained. With the financial support of the Countess, he built Pompeii's famous Basilica of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, founded elementary schools and orphanages, inaugurated a print shop and technical school to give the children of convicted criminals the chance of a better life. He wrote books on the Rosary, composed novenas and prayer manuals. The former Satanist eventually became a friend of Pope Leo XIII, who had a great devotion to the

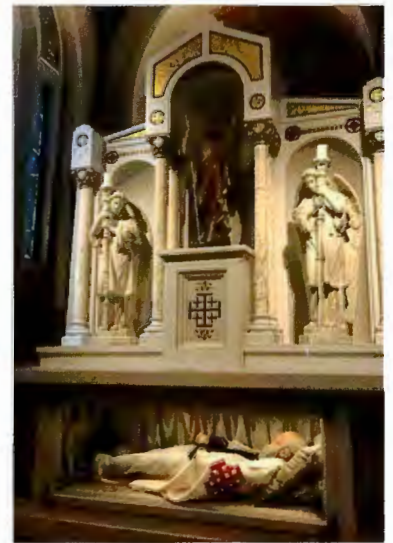
Rosary. From Pompeii he also began the popular movement that led to the solemn dogmatic proclamation of the Assumption in 1950.

Perhaps his most lasting contribution of all will prove to be the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary. It was from Blessed Bartolo's writings that Pope John Paul II found not only the idea of mysteries covering the time of Jesus' public ministry, but also what the individual mysteries should be and what all five as a whole should be called. When he proposed the new Mysteries of Light in his 2002 encyclical "The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary," Pope John Paul II didn't hesitate to show his admiration for this holy man whose conversion and subsequent holy life demonstrate that no matter how far away from the faith one is, there's always hope. After referring to Blessed Bartolo's insights throughout his Rosary encyclical, Pope John Paul II concluded by quoting the prayer of the man he beatified in 1980.

This prayer is a fitting way for us to conclude the month of the Rosary and to pray for those who, like Blessed Bartolo once was, are still caught under the bondage of Satanism and the occult:

"O Blessed Rosary of Mary, sweet chain that unites us to God, bond of love that unites us to the angels, tower of salvation against the assaults of Hell, safe port in our universal shipwreck, we will never abandon you. You will be our comfort in the hour of death: yours our final kiss as life ebbs away. And the last word from our lips will be your sweet name, O Queen of the Rosary of Pompei, O dearest Mother, O Refuge of Sinners, O Sovereign Consoler of the Afflicted. May you be everywhere blessed, today and always, on earth and in heaven."

One incredible thing was that he passed away on October 25, 1926, which is on the eve of the Feast of the Holy Rosary. May his example be an inspiration to you all, especially of hope that no matter how bad and/or far away a person is from God and the Catholic Church, s/he can be restored and brought back as a faithful follower.



Tomb of Blessed Bartolo Longo.

► **BLESSED BARTOLO LONGO** - Continued on Page 6.

► **BLESSED BARTOLO LONGO**
Continued from Page 5.

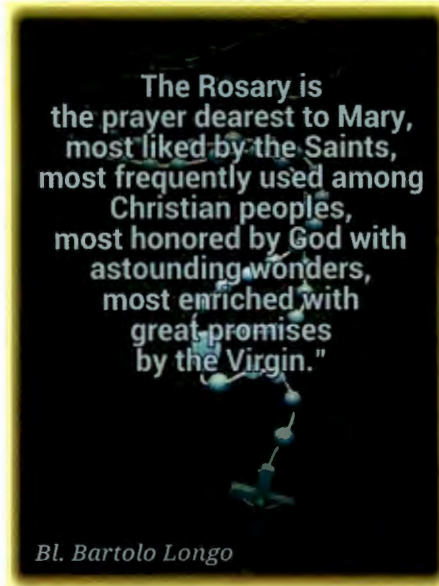
Blessed Bartolo Longo, pray for us!

Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Bartolo Longo

God, Father of mercy, we praise you for having sent into the history of mankind, the Blessed Bartolo Longo, ardent apostle of the Rosary and shining example of a layman deeply involved in the evangelical witnessing of faith and of charity.

We thank you for his extraordinary spiritual journey, his prophetic intuitions, his tireless endeavors on behalf of the poorest and the neglected, the devotion with which he served your Church and built the new city of love at Pompeii.

We beseech you, grant that Blessed Bartolo Longo soon be numbered among the Saints of the universal Church, so that everyone may follow him as a model of life and benefit by his intercession. Amen.



Ever glorious God, Father of Mercy, you never weary rescuing your children from the snares of the world, the flesh and the devil. We praise your Holy Name for the saving graces you gave to your servant Blessed Bartolo Longo. Though he had left the Faith of his youth and given his life over to darkness, you reached into his despair and longing and let the light of Christ dispel every shadow of evil that blinded him. Through his powerful intercession may you protect all of us, particularly the young, as we try to live for Christ in a world that is still so unwelcoming to him. Our Lady of the Rosary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother too, pray for us. Amen. *-Pedro de la Cruz*

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HELP!! MISSING HAND IN HAND NEWSLETTERS

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

From our Commemorative *Hand in Hand Newsletter* in the Summer of 2019, I learned that our first newsletter began in September 1991. It appeared to me that while the Deaf Apostolate Office currently publishes 4 seasonal *Hand in Hand Newsletters*, some years in the past had more or less yearly publications, such as monthly or bimonthly newsletters.



The Deaf Apostolate needs your help for we are missing many, many *Hand in Hand Newsletters* before the Summer 2012 newsletter. It is important for us to have every newsletter so as to ensure a copy is saved for historical purposes at the risk of losing them. The longer we wait, the greater the risk that an older newsletter will disappear forever.

If you have any older *Hand in Hand Newsletters* from before the Summer of 2012, you can help our office tremendously by doing any or all the following:

- Give or mail your hard copy to Fr. Christopher



September 1991 newsletter



The July/Aug 1992 newsletter

Klusman (the address is provided at the last page of this Newsletter)

- Email, scan, or save a copy/copies in a USB device, and/or
- Send us a paper copy/copies of your older newsletters (this will be most helpful for the Deaf Apostolate Office)

If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Christopher Klusman at: klusmanc@archmil.org. This will help so many lost newsletters be found! Thank you so much!

ST. JOSEPH, PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

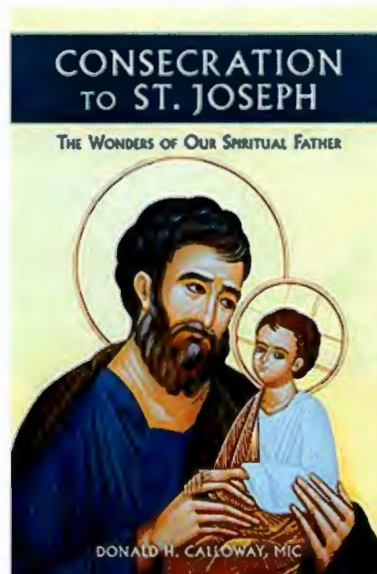
While we are still in the Year of St. Joseph, this article provides us with yet another opportunity to learn more about the wonderful St. Joseph. In the previous Hand in Hand newsletters, we included an article about St. Joseph on his role as a Husband to Mary (Lent), an article of him being a Patron saint of a Happy Death (Easter), and as a "Terror of Demons" (Summer). Again, if you missed any of these articles, I encourage you to go back to these newsletters to read them.

For this newsletter, we will learn more about a very important title of St. Joseph: the Patron of the Universal Church.

Wow, what a prestigious title and responsibility!! I had mentioned before that while St. Joseph was on earth, talk about being the adopted father for the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus Christ!? And not only that, but to be the Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary?! And you would think that when St. Joseph passed away in a happy death, that he was freed from his responsibilities? Nope ... he still intercedes for us, still alive in heaven for the Universal Church!

Before we go further, let's look at the meaning of the word "catholic," which means "universal," "everywhere" and "all." This connects to an important verse in the Bible with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane before His arrest. Jesus groaned and said in His prayer, "I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me" (John 17:20-21, emphasis mine). And another quote the beautiful Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) which says on why the Church that Jesus Christ founded is called "Catholic": "The Church is catholic: she proclaims the fullness of the faith. She bears in herself and administers the totality of the means of salvation. She is sent out to all peoples. She speaks to all men. She encompasses all times. She is 'missionary of her very nature'" (CCC 868). Notice the words, "fullness," "totality," "all peoples," "all times," and "missionary" to all the places in the world, to the ends of the earth.

Returning to Fr. Donald Calloway's wonderful book,



"Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father," he begins with a quote by St. Pope Paul VI: "The Church invokes St. Joseph as her Patron and Protector through her unshakable trust that he to whom Christ willed to confide the care and protection of his own frail human childhood, will continue from heaven to perform his protective task in order to guide and defend the Mystical Body of Christ himself, which is always weak, always under attack, always in a state of peril."

Like I said in the previous newsletter in "Fr. CK's Corner:" "There are a lot of disturbing things that happening in our world today, such as that more things (like gender fluidity, etc.) are becoming conflictive with God and His Teachings."

We need St. Joseph more than ever ... the Church needs St. Joseph more than ever ... it hurts to see the Church be assaulted, criticized, ridiculed, tossed away, and blasphemed.

As Fr. Calloway said, "It is not easy to remain faithful, zealous, and hopeful. Yet, we have reason for hope. God will never abandon us. St. Joseph will never abandon us either. He knows what is going on in the Church, and he wants to correct it... All is in the hands of Divine Providence. Trust." (76). But that doesn't mean that we just sit back and do nothing. We have to DO our part. Going to every weekend Mass, going to every Solemnity that is required of us, praying, fasting, and following what God teaches us – that will help

St. Joseph very much. That will help Our Lady very much. That will help Our Lord Jesus Christ very much. And it will help the Church and the world very much, too.

St. Joseph was declared as "Patron of the Universal Church" on December 8, 1870 by Blessed Pope Pius IX. Here is an official decree proclaiming it, which says:

As almighty God appointed Joseph, son of the patriarch Jacob, over all the land of Egypt to save grain for the people, so when the fullness of time had come and he was about to send to earth his only-begotten Son, the Savior of the world, he chose another

► ST. JOSEPH - Continued on Page 8.

► **ST. JOSEPH - Continued from Page 7.**

Joseph, of whom the first had been the type, and He made him the lord and chief of his household and possessions, the guardian of his choicest treasures.

Indeed, he had as his spouse the Immaculate Virgin Mary, of whom was born by the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ our Lord, who deigned to be reputed in the sight of men as the son of Joseph, and was subject to him.

Him whom countless kings and prophets had desired to see, Joseph not only saw but conversed with, and embraced in paternal affection, and kissed. He most diligently reared Him whom the faithful were to receive as the bread that came down from heaven whereby they might obtain eternal life.

Because of this sublime dignity which God conferred on his most faithful servant, the Church has always most highly honored and praised blessed Joseph next to his spouse, the Virgin Mother of God, and has besought his intercession in times of trouble.

And now therefore, when in these most troublesome times the Church is beset by enemies on every side, and is weighed down by calamities so heavy that ungodly men assert that the gates of hell have at length prevailed against her, the venerable prelates of the whole Catholic world have presented to the Sovereign Pontiff their own petitions and those of the faithful committed to their charge, praying that he would deign to constitute St. Joseph Patron of the Church. And this time their prayer and desire was renewed by them even more earnestly at the Sacred Ecumenical Council of the Vatican.

Accordingly, it has now pleased our Most Holy Sovereign, Pope Pius IX, in order to entrust himself and all the faithful to the Patriarch St. Joseph's most powerful patronage, has chosen to comply with the prelates' desire and has solemnly declared [St. Joseph] Patron of the Catholic Church.

Ambitious Youth: The teacher asked his pupils to write an essay telling what they would do if they had a million dollars.

Every pupil except little Willie began writing immediately. Willie sat idle, twiddling his fingers and watching the flies on the ceiling. The teacher collected the papers, and Willie handed in a blank sheet.

"How is this, Willie?" asked the teacher. "Is this your essay? All the other pupils have written two sheets or more while you have done nothing!"

"Well," replied Willie, "that's what I'd do if I had a million dollars!"



He arranged, moreover, that a declaration to this effect be promulgated through the present decree of the Sacred Congregation of Rites on this day sacred to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God [December 8, 1870], the most chaste Joseph's Spouse.

Don't forget to keep St. Joseph close and call on him. Imitate him in all you say and do, for that will help the Church and the world!

St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, pray for us!

Prayer to Saint Joseph

PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

O Glorious Saint Joseph,
Patron of the Universal Church,
I implore thee to obtain
from the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
the preservation of our remnant
Catholic Community and all its members,
from all division, dissension and discord.

Do thou, faithful Guardian of the Holy Family,
grant that our spiritual family, all the members
of our remnant Catholic Community,
shall ever be united in the Bonds of Faith and Charity,
and shall remain always of One Heart, Mind and Soul
in the Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Saint Joseph, special Protector of our Community,
do thou guide, bless and protect us against the attacks,
of all our enemies and detractors.

Through Our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with the Father
and the Holy Ghost, One God,
forever, unto ages of ages. Amen

<Also prayed on Sundays>

DID YOU KNOW THAT ST. JOSEPH BUILT A STAIRCASE IN NEW MEXICO?

In the midst of the Year of St. Joseph, are you aware of this incredible story that actually happened in our country? This is borrowed from "The Catholic Company's Get Fed: Bite-Sized Faith." Enjoy!



The sisters at Loretto chapel needed a miracle. St. Joseph used his carpentry skills to help them!

In 1873, construction on the Chapel of Our Lady of Light in New Mexico hit a roadblock. The beautiful gothic style chapel had no staircase to get from the main level to the choir loft. The original architect had died, and his plans for a staircase were unknown.

The Sisters of Loretto, who had commissioned the chapel, were distraught. They consulted with several architects and carpenters, but the answer was always the same: it couldn't be done. There just wasn't enough space to build a staircase to the choir loft. They were going to have to accept that they couldn't access the choir loft.

Not quite ready to give up, the sisters said a novena to St. Joseph, the master carpenter, asking him to help them find a builder with a solution. As soon as the sisters finished the novena, a man arrived at their doorstep saying that could build them a staircase — his only request was to work in complete privacy. The sisters agreed, and the man locked himself in the chapel to work. Some say it only took him one night, while others say it took months. However long it took to build, the staircase the man crafted for the sisters was nothing short of incredible.

The man departed just as mysteriously as he had arrived, leaving behind one of the most marvelous pieces of woodworking ever seen. The staircase has two 360-degree spirals in it and was built with no central support, resting only on its base. It was built without nails — just wood pegs. Carpenters and scientists have said that the construction is nearly impossible and shouldn't be able to support anyone walking on it. Yet, the staircase stands solid to this day.

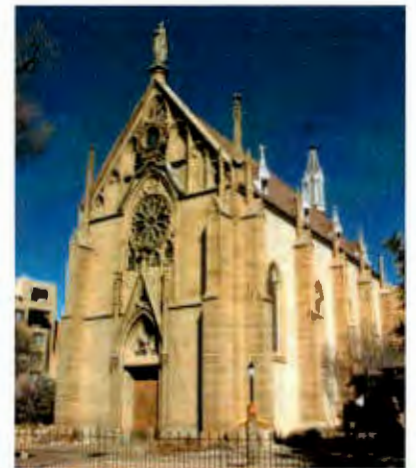
The chapel has become a private museum now, but it is a must-see if you're ever in New Mexico.

And who was the mysterious builder? Well, the Sisters of Loretto were confident that their mystery man was none other than St. Joseph himself.

Taken from: <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/did-you-know-that-st-joseph-built-a-staircase-in-new-mexico/>



The staircase today.



Chapel of Our Lady of Light.

A dear old lady was taking her first train ride in many years, and when night approached, the porter came around with the pillows.

"How much are they?" the woman asked.

"Twenty-five cents, ma'am," the porter replied.

"I'll take six," she said as she dug in her purse.

"Six, ma'am?" asked the amazed porter.

"Certainly," came the reply, "I could never get them that cheap in a department store."



Person: I want to do "X."

Catholic Church: You are free to do it.

Person: But you think "X" is wrong.

Catholic Church: Yes.

Person: Because you want to control me?

Catholic Church: No. You are free to do what you want.

Person: But you think "X" is wrong.

Catholic Church: Yes. But only because I want your ultimate good.

Person: But I want to do "X."

Catholic Church: You are free to do it.

Person: But I want you to say that "X" is good.

Catholic Church: I cannot say that.

Person: Why do you hate me?"

NEW MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH STATUE AT THE PASTORAL CENTER

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

We have a beautiful, new and exciting addition at the Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center! Archbishop ListECKI, in his August 24 Love One Another communication, wrote beautifully of this gift to all of us:

...[On] Tuesday, August 17, at the Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, we dedicated a nine-foot bronze statue of "Mary Mother of the Church." We did this for a multitude of reasons, but mostly, to affirm our dedication to profess God's presence in our world, and our willingness to be instruments of His plan. What better figure of the willingness to be an instrument of God's plan than the Blessed Virgin Mary, who when Gabriel announced that she would be the mother of God's Son amidst uncertainty and bewilderment stated, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, be it done to me according to thy will."

The statue is a creation of a priest-artist, Reverend Anthony Brankin, and depicts Mary holding in her one arm the child Jesus, and in the other the tower of our Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. The beautiful face of Mary has a pondering look, and she seems to be extending these two gifts to us: her son Jesus, who through the Father's plan brings salvation to the world through the incarnation, and the Church, instituted by Jesus Christ to continue His presence in the world — the sign of mankind's salvation. The question in my meditation seems that Mary offers these gifts to us and in wonderment ponders what we will do with them. She herself is an example of what it means to be totally and completely dedicated to God, especially during times of difficulty and challenge. We pray that she will intercede for us before her Son, to assist us in fulfilling our responsibility as witnesses of Christ to the world.

Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is dedicated to the memory of St. Pope Paul VI who at the close of the Second Vatican Council dedicated the work of the Council, and the entire Church, to the care and protection of Mary Mother of the Church.

The statue has a beautiful plaza, which offers us the ability to meditate and bring concerns to Our Lady, as well as offering an oasis of peace, declaring our confidence in God and our trust in His word, "Be it done to me according to thy will."

Are you wondering who Reverend Anthony Brankin is? In the August 26, 2021 Catholic Herald article, we learned that Reverend Brankin is Archbishop ListECKI's friend and seminary classmate. They have known each other since they



Archbishop ListECKI and Fr. Brankin



Blessing of the Mary Mother of the Church Statue

were 14 years old! Archbishop ListECKI asked Reverend Brankin if he could create something, and he said that he would be honored to do so. It took more than a year to complete. As said in the Catholic Herald, "The process included building scaffolding to frame the statue, making clay models, building a skeleton with rebar and then bronzing the statue."



The Front of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in downtown Milwaukee.

► MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH - Continued on Page 11.

► MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH - Continued from Page 10.

Also, “Archbishop ListECKI thanked CG Schmidt, who oversaw construction of the plaza and the installation of the statue, and Zignego Ready Mix, which donated the cement for the plaza.”

“Additional projects for the property that will be completed in coming months include lightning, new sign boards and a concrete pad at the entrance for seasonal displays.”

Last, but not least, Archbishop ListECKI reminds us that Our Lady, the Blessed Mother, “points us to where our destiny is, to heaven.” What a blessing that statue is for our archdiocese. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us!



NCOD 50

A Living Hope

Join us for an in-person celebration of 50 years of deaf ministry

January 6-10

PASTORAL WEEK 2022 **SAVANNAH, GA**

NATIONAL CATHOLIC OFFICE FOR THE DEAF (NCOD) 2022 CONFERENCE

The National Catholic Office for the Deaf (NCOD) Conference will take place January 6-10, 2022, in Savannah, Georgia. Please keep NCOD in your prayers for successful preparation and conference.

INTERNATIONAL PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

It was a huge blessing for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee to welcome the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima during the month of September.

As mentioned in our Catholic Herald by Karen Mahoney, posted on Sept. 5, 2021:

The world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima has been traveling since 1947, bringing the message of Fatima to a world in need. The statue [visited] schools and parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Milwaukee from Sept. 8-29...

Sculpted by artist Jose Thedim, the image reflects the precise instructions of Sr. Lucia, the surviving seer at Fatima. She desired that the pilgrim image represent Our Lady's position when she revealed herself as the Immaculate Heart to the Shepherd children in 1917.

The Bishop of Fatima blessed the statue of Our Lady of Fatima on Oct. 13, 1947, which was the second "twin" statue commissioned as the Pilgrim Virgin that would carry the blessings of Fatima to the West; the first statue, commissioned on May 13, 1947, would travel to the East. The Virgin Statue tours bring the graces of Fatima and Our Lady's message of hope, peace and salvation to the millions who may not have the opportunity to make a pilgrimage to Fatima.

The Bishop of Fatima entrusted the image to John Haffert, co-founder of the Blue Army, and prayed that Mary herself accompany the statue wherever it goes. It has traveled around the globe many times. In 2014, the statue was placed under the auspice of the World Apostolate of Fatima, USA, and continues its pilgrim journeys today.

Accompanying the Fatima statue tour are an interrupted flow of graces and favors wherever the statue traveled, including physical cures (which can only be officially pronounced by the Church) and numerous conversions...

"The world is sick. I can't imagine it's going through everything without Mary's presence," he said. "It should be noted that this statue cried from 1972 to 1973. I had come across a lady who lived in Racine in 1973; she said that the statue cried there, too, and she had a piece of cotton soaked in the tears of Our Lady. When she cried in June 1972, a priest took samples and had them analyzed. With the technology they had back then, the lab corroborated that the liquid was in fact real human tears from a woman."



On Friday, Sept. 17, the Deaf community felt blessed to join Holy Apostles Parish in New Berlin for a day with Our Mother through a presentation by the statue's custodian, Patrick Sabat, Mass, group rosaries, prayers including the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, private veneration, and Marian consecration. We can't thank everyone involved enough for their kind hospitality in making us feel so welcome on this unforgettable experience with Our Lady.

Last, but not least, an amazing gift was given to us when three of our Deaf men were given a huge honor to escort Our Lady out of the Holy Apostles Parish to her next visit. Words can't describe what that meant to the Deaf community that wrapped beautifully a day full of graces! May Our Lady bless all those who welcomed and involved us in this amazing experience!



TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE: FEBRUARY 1965 REMOVAL OF THE OLD BARN STIRS MEMORIES WAS FAVORITE HAUNT FOR GENERATIONS AT ST. JOHN'S

In the past several years, we have reprinted some older Hand in Hand Newsletter articles. For this issue, a very interesting article was shared with me from the St. John's [School for the Deaf] Newsletter.

Storks nesting on the chimneys of homes in Switzerland, Holland or Germany are an omen of good luck and blessings. Though we would never attribute our many blessings to it, a stork has been perched on the barn at St. John's since 1913.

In the spring of that year the foundation was laid for a new barn which was styled by Monsignor Matthias Gerend on architecture seen during his travels in Austria. Joseph Frederick and the Deaf boys proved their knowledge of masonry and carpentry by completing the barn that fall.

Materials used were old railroad ties purchased for a penny apiece and discarded stones from city streets. These stones were hauled to St. John's and used in the construction of the barn.

The stork was made by a Milwaukee sculptor, Mr. Spalthoff on the spot – as Joe carried the cement up to the chimney of the barn. There it stood silent witness to the frequent trips little Deaf children made to see the newborn calf, or to collect eggs with Sister and even to hitch the donkeys to the cart for a Sunday jaunt through St. John's own park.

The donkeys became famous – one having taken part in an election eve rally at the Major Seminary. The event went to its mulish head and when the festivities were over it took much prodding on the part of Joe to return it to its ordinary life at St. John's.

In recent years livestock was replaced with sleds, picnic tables, booths, and tractors. But occasionally squirrels played havoc in the eaves and a mother raccoon sheltered her family in the hay loft until the boys discovered her while hauling park benches and provided one merry evening of recreation.

Though the raccoons left early never to be seen again one small boy recalled that night as workmen prepared to demolish the barn on January 11. "Did we know," he wondered aloud whether the raccoons were gone. Reassured, he returned to the task at hand – supervising the careful removal of the stork. The 52-year-old bird did not withstand the journey and its flight resulted in crumbled mortar.

The barn was the first of three historical buildings to be removed from the premises to make way for the new St. John's. Second of these was the old laundry building of the Minor Seminary department. Adjacent to St. John's, it once housed Deaf boys



A beautiful picture of the Old Barn.

on the second floor after the fire of 1907. Throughout the years its garages and corners served as hiding places for daring boys and girls who didn't mind the wrath of a provoked playground supervisor who might scold them for leaving the school grounds. When the rooms were occupied by Seminary professors or Sisters working in the laundry many a disciplinary action on the playground was halted in midair by the recollection of silent, frowning observers in the windows.



Notice the famous stork atop the Old Barn.



An old St. John's landmark falls to progress!

The last building is by far the oldest and filled with the most poignant memories. The cherished dream of Father Salzmann, first rector of St. Francis Seminary, was a Catholic high school in Wisconsin. He worked for funds here and in Europe and on June 12, 1870 the cornerstone of Administration hall was laid. This institution became known as the Catholic Normal School and Pio Nono College. In 1922 it became Pio Nono High School and in 1941 Archbishop Moses E. Kiley selected Pio Nono for the new minor department of the seminary. Though corporate titles of the school were changed through the years its halls always reverberated with moving boys and the voices of students and professors.

ST. JOSEPH'S HENS

In honor of the Year of St. Joseph, we hope you enjoy this article from Our Young People: The Friend of the Deaf, Oct. 1957 issue featuring St. Joseph himself!

The Good Mother of one of our Homes of the Little Sisters of the Poor was sorely puzzled. Whom could she find to put in temporary charge of the hens?

Now there was a young Sister who had a certain amount of time over after being out on the begging rounds, and she came to her Superior and offered her services.

However, the Sister knew nothing about hens. But old John who had for so long looked after the hen-house would be sure to help her with his great experience. John was only too pleased to initiate the Sister into the mysteries of his craft. "It isn't very difficult," he told her, "and you will do very well."

Alas for his encouragement and his carefully followed counsels! The hens went off their food and began to look [odd]. The Sister was alarmed. Small wonder, when she saw her laying-hens dying off! Attempts were made to reassure her at first, but there was no hiding the evidence: this was a veritable epidemic. Our good-hearted Sister was not altogether prepared to acquit St. Joseph of his share in the failure of the venture: "I counted on you, St. Joseph, to help me make myself useful. Do please help me now!"

Old John shared in the little Sister's grief. After all, he was seriously involved. A disaster such as this was apt to reflect unfavorably, to say the least, on his expert knowledge of hen breeding. He, too, asked St. Joseph to save the desperate situation, i.e., the few surviving hens must live. (Just think of the things poor St. Joseph is called upon to do!!!)

Anyhow, the epidemic lost its sting, death came now no more, and the Sister went on with the good work – what was left of it. And such a thing is hope that she expected St. Joseph to fill the depleted ranks in the henhouse. The empty perches were a reproach.

About this time a neighboring parish priest came to see the Good Mother. He wanted for her to visit one of his sick, and clean the indescribably dirty place where he lived all alone, so that he could bring the Blessed Sacrament to him. The Good Mother and another Sister went to the hovel. They invited the old man to come to the home, telling him the while of the attention he would get and the good bed that



awaited him and so on. But it was no use... It was nobody's business and he would die where he was.

When the parish priest was told of the failure, he decided he ought to try his luck with the old man; for in truth, he felt he could not possibly leave his parishioner in such a state of physical and moral misery. He went but his visit was as fruitless as the other, for the old man would not leave his hovel.

The priest tried another expedient; he came to an understanding with the local policeman. The latter went and called on the old man as if there was nothing in the wind:

"We are going to take you along to the Little Sisters," he said as nicely as he could.

"You are not – I want to die in my own house!"

"But it is impossible to leave you here. If you don't come to the Little Sisters, I'll have to take you elsewhere, that's all." The old man got angry and protested.

"But why do you want to remain on here?" Asked the policeman who was finding it hard to be patient. "Have you any money?"

"No, I haven't!"

"Then what on earth is there to keep you?"

"I have some hens and I am very fond of them! They give me eggs, and, well, I don't want to be separated from them ..."

"Oh, if that's all, we'll bring them right along with you to the Sisters." And so it was agreed. The old man was brought in an ambulance, followed by a handcart with boxes containing the hens. The policeman was well enough acquainted with the Sisters to know they would make no bones about giving hospitality to fine laying-hens. Little did he guess how opportune this effort of civic duty was!

This small but interesting procession had hardly entered the courtyard than the noisy crackling of the hens brought

► **ST. JOSEPH'S HENS** - Continued from Page 14.

the old people from every corner to see what it was all about. Old John was the first and read the event in his own way, for he cried out: "Here's St. Joseph's hens!"

The officer told the Good Mother that the parish priest's protégé came on the condition that she took his fortune as well – 50 hens!

"They are fine hens and in good condition, and they lay well," pleaded the old man, still trembling at the thought of separation.

He ceased to worry when he had it for certain they would be as well cared for as himself, and that he could go and see them whenever he wished. He was satisfied and let himself be taken to the infirmary; while the Sister in charge of the hens at once set out to prepare for her new "guests," whose number far exceeded her expectations.

But could one really rejoice completely? Would the owner of the hens stay? Would he leave and take his friends with



him? The answer is that he seemed quite happy and in no way regretted coming. From time to time he was given an egg in brandy. But he was only destined to spend a week in the home before he received the Last Sacrament and passed peacefully away. This time the hens could not go with him. Thus did the harassed St. Joseph, at one stroke, fulfill the priest's wish and the hope of the Little Sister.

Joe: Why are you jumping up and down?

Dick: I just took my medicine and I forgot to shake the bottle first.



CATHOLIC QUIZ

1. In honor of St. Ignatius of Loyola's 500th anniversary of his conversion, what religious order did he found?

- (a) Trappists
(b) Carthusians
(c) Salesians (d) Jesuits



2. In the Book of Revelation, the rider on which color horse spreads famine and plagues?

- (a) red (b) white (c) black (d) pale

3. What month of the year is dedicated to St. Joseph?

- (a) January (b) March (c) June (d) September

4. What is St. Joseph's father's name in the Gospel of St. Matthew?

- (a) Adam (b) David (c) Moses (d) Jacob

5. Who said: "Naked I came out of my mother's womb and naked I shall return there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord"?

- (a) Abraham (b) Job (c) John the Baptist (d) Jeremiah

(Answers on page 18.)

IN THE CHURCH

Don't get into the habit of being late for Mass. A moment of preparation before Mass may be the means of opening your soul to many graces.

Don't go to Mass without either a prayer-book or rosary beads, unless you wish distraction and not devotion to occupy your mind.

Don't talk in church without necessity. Talk with God, whom you may not have visited, in His temple, since last Sunday; you will have plenty of time to visit your neighbor.

Don't criticize the sermon, nor the manner of preaching. It is a message from God bearing some truth to you. Heed the instruction and profit by it; it has something for you to learn.

Don't leave the church until the priest has left the sanctuary. Take a moment in which to thank God for the graces of the Holy Mass.

Don't talk in the aisles going out. Remember you are in the presence of God in His holy Sacrament. Your gossip will keep until you reach the street.

Don't forget to bend the knee as you enter and leave your seat. This is an act of adoration paid to the Real Presence. Do it with faith and reverence.

Don't fail to see the holy water font and the poor box at the church door. Take a few drops from the one with which to bless yourself; drop a coin in the other that you may help to bless the deserving poor.

THE STORY OF ST. RENE GOUPIL

Due to this year also including the 500th Anniversary of St. Ignatius of Loyola's Conversion, St. Ignatius founded the Jesuit Order. On October 19, we celebrate the Memorial of the North American Martyrs (St. John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, and Companions), which includes our Deaf saint, St. Rene Goupil. I hope you will enjoy this wonderful article introducing us to St. Rene Goupil by June M. Fisher.

In writing this booklet compiled from different sources, she wrote, "This little booklet is dedicated to the Deaf children I have had the privilege of teaching in religion classes at St. Lawrence Church in Milwaukee and St. Andrew Church in Delavan. May the children who read this be inspired by their saint as I have been inspired by the Deaf children I have taught... [St. Rene Goupil's] Sign Name is the 'r' handshape hitting the forehead. The Sign Name for Isaac Jogues is the 'I' handshape hitting the forehead." Like she said, I hope you all are inspired by our Deaf saint, St. Rene Goupil. Pray for us!

Rene Goupil was born in France in 1608. As a boy, he was short but strong. He had curly brown hair. Later, he grew a neat brown beard.

When Rene was a young man, he wanted to know, love, and serve God more than anything else in the world. He wanted to become a Jesuit. Jesuits are men who try to follow Jesus by praying and working together. Some Jesuits become "brothers" and some become priests, but all Jesuits spend their lives praying and working for God's Kingdom on earth. They all make promises to God. They promise that they will not own anything, they will live pure lives, obey their leaders and follows their Rules. A new Jesuit is called a "novice."

Rene became a Jesuit novice. But after several months, he became sick and lost some of his hearing. He had to leave the Jesuits. But he still loved God and wanted



to help people. So, when he was well again, he became a doctor. He was a good doctor.

Rene wanted to do more for God. He wanted to work with the Jesuits. One day he met some Jesuits who were going to a new land called "New France," to teach the Indians about God. Rene asked, "Can I go with you as a helper?"

They said, "Yes, you will be called a 'donne.'" Rene said he would not marry, and would live like them following their rules. Rene was very

excited and prayed that God would let him go with the Jesuits on the next boat.

Today, we call that new land Canada. We don't have donnes today, but we do have Jesuit Volunteers and Associates who work with Jesuits. Like Rene, you can tell God that you want to know, love and serve him. And perhaps, when you grow up, you can become a Jesuit, a Jesuit volunteer, or a Jesuit Associate.

In 1640 Rene Goupil sailed to New France to do whatever the Jesuits asked him to do. He helped with the cleaning and took care of the sick and wounded. Rene saw Jesus in each sick person.

Another Jesuit, Father Isaac Jogues, was working with the Huron Indians. He asked Rene to help him. Rene knew that it would be dangerous because other Indians did not like the French, but Rene was very happy to do God's will.

Father Isaac and Rene traveled up the St. Lawrence River with their Huron Indian friends. Father Jogues and Rene were captured by some Mohawk Indians. They were a fierce Indian tribe. These Iroquois Indians tortured their prisoners in very



► **ST. RENE GOUPIL- Continued from Page 16.**

terrible ways. They crushed their fingers. They tied them to trees and beat them. They tied them to the ground and threw hot coals on their chests.

Maybe you wonder how Father Isaac and Rene could be so brave. It's hard to love and pray for people who are hurting you. But Father Isaac and Rene had prepared for suffering.

The man who started the Jesuits was named Ignatius Loyola. He had learned how to prepare for suffering by exercising his body.

Maybe you exercise when you train for basketball or swimming. Ignatius taught his followers how to exercise their souls. He called that "Spiritual Exercise." All Jesuits make these exercises. Jesuits help other people make them too.

When Rene was a Jesuit novice, before he became sick, he had made these exercises. The Exercises taught Rene how much God loves us and how much Jesus suffered for us. Rene had told Jesus he wanted to suffer with Jesus to save souls. God had taught Rene how to be happy even when his body felt terrible pain.

Father Isaac carved the name "Jesus" and made a cross on many trees. You can still find the names and the crosses on the trees today.

One day, after they had been captured, Rene told Father Isaac that he had always wanted to be a Jesuit. He asked, "Can I make the promises of a Jesuit brother?" Father Isaac was very happy and said "yes." Rene promised, "I will be poor, pure, and obedient. I will obey the Rules." Rene became a Jesuit brother. He had become poor when he left France. His life was pure and he was willing to suffer any pain for the Glory of God. He had obeyed the Jesuit Superiors in working for them and in going with Father Isaac. Now, he even obeyed the Indians who captured him.

Sometimes Brother Rene could have tried to escape, but he didn't because he did not see God telling him to leave Father Isaac. Father Isaac and Brother Rene were taken to a place called Ossernenon. Today it is called Auriesville. It is near Albany, New York. If you go there, you will be able to visit the Shrine to the North American Martyrs. You can walk where Father Isaac and



Brother Rene Goupil walked and learn many interesting things about them and other people who worked and died so that the Indians would know Jesus.

A Mohawk Indian family "adopted" Father Isaac and Brother Rene. These Indians make Father Isaac and Brother Rene work very hard but they also protected them. Sometimes Father Isaac and Brother Rene were able to go up a hill behind the camp to pray. They thought about Jesus on the cross. They said the Rosary. (The Rosary is a string of beads that we use when we think about the lives of Jesus and Mary.)

The Iroquois Indians were afraid of the things that Christians do. They thought that the mass was magic and that Christians tried to put a magic spell on people. Christians had to be careful around the Indians. They did not kneel or make the Sign of the Cross around the Indians. But Brother Rene did not always hear what the Indians were saying. He was not careful. Sometimes he prayed in front of them.

Brother Rene loved the Indian children. They children liked to be with him too. One day the Iroquois chief's grandson was playing with Brother Rene. Brother Rene put his hat on the child. When he had taught the Huron children, Brother Rene had taken their right hands and made the sign of the cross with them.

He did the same with this boy. One of the older Indians saw Brother Rene bless the boy and he reported it to the Indian Council. They were angry and wanted to kill Brother Rene.

A few days later, Father Isaac and Brother Rene went up the hill to pray. They prayed, "Lord, accept our lives and our blood. Unite us to the life and blood of Jesus for the salvation of these poor people." Walking down, they prayed the rosary.

Suddenly, an Iroquois hit Brother Rene on the forehead with a hatchet. Brother Rene fell down. Father Isaac, who was walking

in front, turned around. He knelt down, expecting to be hit also.

But the Iroquois didn't move. Father Isaac ran to Brother Rene, blessed him, told him that Jesus had forgiven his sins, and said the prayers for the dying. Brother Rene said, "Jesus,



► **ST. RENE GOUPIL- Continued on Page 18**

► **ST. RENE GOUPIL**- Continued from Page 17.

Jesus." The Iroquois hit Brother Rene two more times to make sure he died. It was the Feast of St. Michael, September 29, 1642.

Brother Rene's Name Sign is the "r" handshape hitting his forehead. It reminds us of how he was killed.

Later, Father Isaac rescued the body of Brother Rene. He hid it in some shallow water in the mountain stream. But some Indian boys stole it. Later, he found just his head and some bones. Brother Rene's flesh and blood had been eaten by animals and mixed with the water and soil. When we walk on that ground today, we are walking on holy ground!

Brother Rene was the first of eight Jesuits to be martyred in North America. "Martyred" means killed because he was a Christian. Brother Rene had been killed because he prayed in front of other people and because he made the Sign of the Cross over a child. He was killed because he loved Jesus and children. He was killed because some people hated him because he was a Christian.

All Christians use the Sign of the Cross because they learned a long time ago that we don't need voices to pray. God understands and loves the signs that we make with our hands.

Deaf and hearing Christians all over the world are united by the Sign of the Cross.

On June 29, 1930, the Church "canonized" the eight Jesuit martyrs. Canonized means that the church studied their lives and called them saints. Every year, churches all over the world celebrate the Feast of the Eight North American Martyrs. We pray to all these saints, but Deaf people pray especially to St. Rene Goupil and ask him to pray for them. You can tell St. Rene that you want to be brave and loving too, like him. St. Rene will ask God to bless you and help you become a saint too!

Prayer to St. Rene

I want to follow your example!

Deafness, sickness, even torture

could not keep you

from becoming a Jesuit,

a martyr,

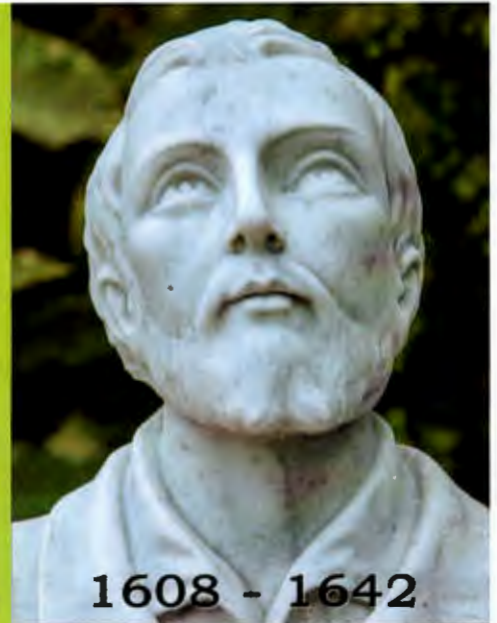
and a saint!

I want to know, love, and serve Jesus.

Pray for me!

*"This angel in
innocence and
martyr of Jesus
Christ, Rene
Goupil, gave
his life for
Christ who has
offered His life
on the cross for
him."*

*-St. Issac Jogues
writes of
St. Rene' Goupil*



1608 - 1642

**St. René
Goupil**



Suddenly, Father Schober was not sure whether he really should have bought the new crucifix at Ikea.

Quiz Answers: 1d; 2c (Rev 6:8); 3b; 4d; 5b

WOMEN OF CHRIST REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR DEAF WOMEN

As borrowed from their website, it says:

“...the 14th Women of Christ Conference [will take place] on Sat., November 6th at the Washington County Fair Park and experience the magnitude of God’s love and delight. He’ll meet you in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, ready to shower you with mercy and grace, He’ll be present in the Mass through the Eucharist, and He’ll converse with you in the silence of Adoration.

...[Various special] speakers [include] Fr. Nick Baumgardner, Fr. John Burns, Fr. Leo Patalinghug, Patty Schneier and the Sisters of Life. Their stories of conversion and deep faith will affirm the Catholic Church as your home. You will draw closer to Our Blessed Mother, whose tender love will lead you to Her Son.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”

The Deaf Apostolate is grateful for their hospitality in welcoming the Catholic Deaf Women over the past many years, including this year. We are proud that sign language interpreters are provided for this amazing opportunity. One Deaf woman said, “This event showers so much grace upon me that lasts me for a whole year. Then when November comes, I have to come back again to be showered upon again with more graces!” Beautifully said!

Please invite your other female Deaf friends and/or relatives to this event! When you go online (www.womenofchrist.net), you will see on the top margin to the right titled, “Registration.” Click on that and you will see a column of which tickets you can order, including ones for “Deaf Women.”

For those who are not able to attend, please pray (why not a rosary?!) for the success of this year’s conference. Blessed Mary, pray for us!



THE BLESSED VIRGIN IS MODEL FOR WOMEN

It seems impossible to exaggerate either the influence of the Christian woman upon her husband, her brothers, and her sons, or the influence of Mary upon the Christian woman.

The mother is the first educator of her children, and Mary is the educator of the Catholic mother. Among us Mary is held up as the model of all woman-kind in all the phases of womanly life. Her career is put before her sex as the young girl in the Temple, as the spouse of Joseph, the Mother of Jesus, the Dolorous Mother, the Queen of angels and of men.

Our women reverence her as maiden, mother, martyr, queen, and protectress.

REFLECTION QUESTION:

Try to start a conversation with your family and/or friends about this question.

When you make the Sign of the Cross, what do you think about?



A man suffering from nerves went to see the doctor.

“The best thing for you to do is to stop thinking of yourself, and bury yourself in your work,” said the doctor.

“I can’t,” said the man.

“Why not?”

“I am a concrete mixer.”



DEAF APOSTOLATE INTERVIEWS CAITLYN BUCHMAN

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

1. Hello! Can you tell me your name and where are you from? And are you Deaf? *Hello! My name is Caitlyn Buchman. I'm from Elkhorn, Wisconsin. I am Deaf.*

2. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee felt so proud that you represented the Young Adults in the filming of the ASL YOUCAT series. Please share with us what you did! *I received a group of questions from the YOUCAT (Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church) team and signed/interpreted them in American Sign Language in two different parishes, along with the help of Fr. Christopher Klusman and my mom, Shiloh.*

3. What was your favorite part of the experience? *My favorite part of the experience are the bloopers! I think the "flubs" show that not everything is perfect on the first try. Making a few mistakes is okay and we learn from it. That is why I love that moment, because it is funny and a wonderful experience.*

4. Is the ASL YOUCAT important? Why or why not? *The ASL YOUCAT is very important, especially to those Deaf Catholics out there. I believe that it is very beneficial to Deaf Catholics who don't have access to Deaf Masses or anything like*



that. YOUCAT helps educate youth and older Catholics in the Deaf community. We need the Catechism in ASL because ASL is a part of who we are as Deaf people; it is very important for communication. More important is God. God is the reason we are who we are each day. He helps us have faith and hope for a positive outcome in our lives.

Interested in watching the ASL YOUCAT weekly videos? Just go online at www.youtube.com and type in the Search Box: ASL YOUCAT. Enjoy these amazing videos!

Thank you again for doing the interview with the Office of the Deaf Apostolate. Please know how grateful we are for your time and service. We know you will be back for more in the future. Please keep Caitlyn in your prayers.



INTERPRETED & ASL *Masses* THROUGHOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE



- ASL WEEKEND MASS -

**St. Charles
Borromeo
Parish**
5571 S Marilyn
St., Milwaukee,
WI 53221



Time: Saturdays, 6 p.m.

Please email deafapostolate@archmil.org
for updates on Signed Masses, as we are
resuming normal schedules, etc.

- CLOSED CAPTIONED MASS -

St. Clare Parish
7616 Fritz St.,
Wind Lake, WI
53185



(None during the Summer 2021,
Will resume Sept. 2021)

E-Mail: bulletins@tds.net

Website: stclarewindlake.org

**Times Listed Are Subject to Change* as of
May 25, 2021*

- INTERPRETED SUNDAY MASS -

St. Andrew Parish
714 E. Walworth Ave,
Delavan, WI 53115



Time: 9 a.m.

E-Mail: [deafministry@
saspcatholics.org](mailto:deafministry@saspcatholics.org)

Website: standrews-delavan.org

**St. Mary's
Immaculate
Conception**



1610 Monroe St,
West Bend, WI 53090
2nd Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Email: rprim@wbparishes.org

Website: stmaryparishwb.org

St. Peter Parish
2224 30th Ave,
Kenosha, WI
53144



Time: 10:30 a.m.

Please request at least 3 days in advance to:
broadwayterp73@gmail.com.

Website: stpeterskenosha.com

St. Joseph Parish
1619 Washington
St, Grafton,
WI 53024



1st & 4th Saturdays at 4 p.m.
and 3rd Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

E-Mail: parish@stjosephgrafton.org

Website: stjosephgrafton.org

**St. Paul the
Apostle Parish**
6400 Spring St,
Racine, WI 53406



Time: 10 a.m.

(on certain Sundays)

Please check with office prior to attending

E-Mail: svrana@stpaulracine.org

Website: stpaulracine.org

**Shepherd of the
Hills Parish**
W1562 County
Road B, Eden,
WI 53019



Please email deafapostolate@archmil.org
for schedule

Website: sothparish.org



ARCHDIOCESE
of MILWAUKEE



CONTACT INFORMATION

*Office Hours: : Tuesdays to Fridays
(Fr. Christopher is off on Sunday early evenings & Mondays)*

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EMERGENCIES Only: Text Fr. Christopher at: (414) 793-1369

HAND IN HAND SUBSCRIPTION

Two ways to get the Hand in Hand newsletters:

- (1) **E-mail:** Cost is FREE and will be emailed to you. Please fill out this online form to get your Newsletter at: <https://www.archmil.org/deaf-apostolate/offnav/Subscription-Form.htm>
- (2) **By Mail:** Fill out and send registration form & check below:

MAILED (PAPER COPY) SUBSCRIPTION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, & Zip Code: _____

Cost: \$8.00 for 4 Newsletters from Jan. to Dec. 2022.

Make checks payable to: The Deaf Apostolate.

Mail to: **Deaf Apostolate, Archdiocese of Milwaukee**

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