



SSPX



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A Year of Blessings

As 2016 draws to a close and we prepare for the Nativity of our Lord, Catholics would do well to take stock of the many blessings God has bestowed upon us over the past 12 months while preparing for the year to come.

For the Society of St. Pius X, the most visible blessing was the opening of the new St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary in Virginia. Additionally, throughout the District of the USA, many other blessings occurred, including the renewal of St. Joseph's church and academy in Michigan (see page 3) and the 10-year anniversary of Third Order Carmel Discalced (page 7). It is important, however, to remember that these visible blessings pale in comparison to the innumerable spiritual blessings God bestowed

every day, both at the foot of the altar and inside the confessional.

As we look to 2017 and the centenary of Our Lady's apparitions at Fatima, let us use the blessings given during this past year as a means to prepare ourselves for not only this solemn anniversary, but the forthcoming Lenten season as well. To assist you in this endeavor, a review of two short books—on the family and confession, respectively—can be found on page 10.

May Christ our God, who was born of the Virgin and deigned to be laid in a manger for our Salvation, continue to pour forth His grace on the District of the USA and bless and keep you, dear readers, in the coming year.

Letter from the District Superior



Dear Faithful,

The world is welcoming a new year. The days are growing shorter and the thermometer is plummeting. Winter has come and will not let us enjoy pleasant walks outdoors for many months.

This is the season where one enjoys a cozy evening around the fire, whether it adorns an affluent home or the humblest cottage. Family members, who were perhaps oblivious of one another for most the year, now have a chance to catch up and enjoy their time together. We are compelled to fight against the elements, and this struggle to keep warm and fit is a healthy and invigorating battle which can only bring out the best in us. After all, the European Crusaders who established the Kingdom of Jerusalem soon realized that they were become soft and inept for fighting because they lived under warmer climates.

The inclement temperatures and harsh precipitations lead to a forced retrenchment. We tend to hibernate while keeping up with only the most vital activities. There is in a way a sense of intimacy and detachment, commanded by the season, which is healthy and induces us to focus on the essentials. It is easier to attain to what Solzhenitsyn called "the first human right," which is "the right not to be encumbered with futilities"!

To some, I should say to most of us, this season seems painfully long and boring. If it can bring the best of the best souls, it is likely to make the weaker among us more sheltered, more distant, and even selfish. The longevity of the night and the cold dims our spirits. We need to open up our mind and souls to the sun, but it is on the far horizon, and more often than not, it hides behind persistent clouds.

We need to be men "for all seasons," for the good and the bad times, in the days of plenty and the days of want. God designed us to go through the seasons and there is a special grace attached to each one. I think the seasonal grace of winter is perseverance. Wherever we are, whatever our state in life, especially after the "high" of Christmas, we need to plough through thick and thin and not get discouraged. For whoever falls prey to discouragement or, worse, despair "is not worthy of Me," said Our Blessed Lord. A sacred writer gave the recipe for sainthood. "It is quite simple. You need a sprinkle of faith, a teaspoon of knowledge, a barrel of charity, and an ocean of patience!"

"Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof." We have seen better days and we might be heading for greater difficulties. But, blessed shall we be if, unruffled by the "future unknown troubles," we simply keep press ahead. God blesses those who distrust themselves and the world, and set their whole trust in Him alone. Let us all seek God's blessings through patient perseverance in these troubled times.

Wishing you all a happy new year in the New Born Christ.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Jürgen Wegner". The script is cursive and fluid.

Fr. Jürgen Wegner



Tradition on the Move



It is quite an honor for St. Joseph's in Armada, MI to be known as the birthplace of the Society's apostolate in this country. Yet, after over 40 years of service, the buildings that housed that work have finally been retired. This December 8th marks exactly one year since the first Mass was celebrated in the newly purchased brick buildings which now house St. Joseph's Church and Academy in nearby Ray Township. It has been a year filled with "firsts," as well as hard work and challenges to renovate a formerly protestant building and to prepare for the opening of the Academy in new classrooms this fall.

The adventure began in August of 2015 with the purchase of 7.5 acres and two beautiful brick buildings located almost 15 miles southwest of the previous Armada location. While still situated in the rural area North of Detroit, St. Joseph's is now much closer to populous suburban areas—leading to a large influx of new parishioners, academy students, and visitors nearly every Sunday.

After the property purchase was finalized, hopes were high for an immediate move for the church and the relocation of the academy by the end of the first academic quarter. Unfortunately, building inspectors and fire marshals had a different agenda. The buildings, which were built in 2003-2006 as a protestant church and Sunday school, did not have the necessary egress windows and other features required for a full time school building. The parishioners and

Continued on next page

academy families, who had worked for many long Saturdays to pack up the church, sacristy, classrooms, and offices, had to change plans with only hours of notice. An interim plan was devised to move the academy temporarily into the old church basement to decrease utility costs and prepare for a move in the (hopefully) near future.

Meanwhile, contractors were employed to install 8 new windows in windowless classrooms, relocate hallways, install ramps for the handicapped, and build new classroom walls. During the winter of 2015-16 the academy students studied away in make-shift basement classrooms and assisted at Masses in the partially dismantled old church upstairs. On Sundays, the parish travelled to the new location and rejoiced to see the large, bare church building look more and more like a true Catholic church with each passing week.

Renovations continued steadily, combined with many Saturday parish work days, as the deadline drew near. The school blessing ceremony had been scheduled for the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker on



May 1, 2016 and with only days to spare, the work was completed. It was a festive occasion attended by past principal, Fr. Steven McDonald; Fr. Kenneth Dean, an Armada, MI native; as well as Fr. Michael McMahon, Headmaster of La Salette Boys' Academy and former St. Joseph's Assistant. Many alumni seminarians and religious were also in attendance for the Solemn High Mass, School Blessing Ceremony, and celebratory banquet.

It was not until this fall, however, that the students of St. Joseph's Academy had the joy of occupying their spacious, well-lit classrooms for the first time. Now 58 students in grades K-8 are enjoying ample space for both study and play. At the center of the new academy building is a large open room known as St. Philomena Hall, named after the patroness of the Capital Campaign that helped make this miracle happen. Her image stands prominently next to the large crucifix hung during the blessing ceremony as a reminder of the great virtue and spirit of sacrifice that has made this long-awaited move a reality for St. Joseph's church and academy.





On September 28, after the Brothers' Retreat, two young men took the habit of the Society Brothers and started their time of novitiate.



On the feast of their patron, St. Michael, all the brothers who were in vows renewed those vows; two of the brothers made their perpetual vows.

Fr. Kimball took the upcoming freshmen boys from St. Thomas More School (San Jose, CA) to Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery, where they experienced monastic life for a few days.





St. Mary's Assumption parish in St. Louis once again hosted Catholics from around the country for their annual soccer and volleyball tournament.



Playing their 6th game of the day, in 90 degree heat, the men's team from Kansas City took the championship in overtime.

Sister Mary Bernard visited with the first grade students at St. Robert Bellarmine Academy in St. Cloud, MN. She told the students the story of St. Francis and also a little about St. Anthony.



The Franciscan sisters from Christ the King Convent in Kansas City travelled to several schools recently. The sisters are pictured above at an open house at St. John Vianney Academy in Long Prairie, MN.



Third Order of Carmel Discalced celebrates 10 years at St. Anthony's, North Caldwell NJ.

Unlike a sodality, a Third Order is a vocation, a calling from Our Lord or Blessed Virgin Mary for personal sanctification and assistance to our holy Mother the Church, with vows of chastity and obedience, and promise to adhere to the Rule for the rest of life. Modeled on St. Teresa of Avila's discalced order of Carmelites, we aspire after holiness and find it in prayer, penance, and contemplation. Our practice of the presence of God spills over into the entire day as we perform the duties of our state in life.



Calling all Carmelites!

If you are a Third Order Carmelite, whether professed or novice, please register with the chaplain. We are compiling a register of all Carmelite tertiaries within the U.S. District of the SSPX so that we may assist Carmelites more readily. Additionally, if you are interested in becoming a tertiary, the chaplain will be happy to assist you with more information about Carmel. Please send your contact information to:

Chaplain: Rev. Fr. Christopher Danel
Email: sspx.carmel@gmail.com
Mail: P. O. Box 1691, Roswell, GA 30077



Recently professed Third Order Carmelite members at St. Anthony's



Some of the young saints from Our Lady of Fatima in Sanger, TX celebrated the Feast Day on November 1.



The school year at St. Robert Bellarmine Academy in St. Cloud started off right with a day of recollection.



To begin the school year at St. Joseph's Academy, Fr. Richard Boyle addresses students in the new St. Philomena Hall.



Students at St. Joseph's Academy in Ray Township, MI line up for the first day of school in their new academy buildings.



The faithful of Immaculate Conception Church in Post Falls pay tribute to our Eucharistic King on the Feast of Christ the King.



St. Jude's Christ the King Procession, which took place through the streets of Eddystone, PA.

A procession in honor of the Feast of Christ the King passes in front of the new church and academy buildings at St. Joseph's in Ray Township, MI.



Advice to Successful Families

By Fr. Alain Delagneau

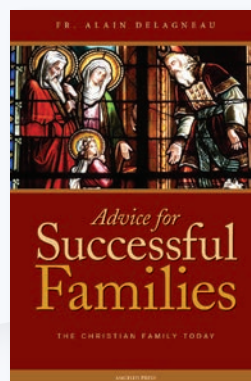
This short manual of family life for parents has been compiled by a French priest of the Society of St. Pius X who, interestingly enough, spent all of his priestly life in the same house with the apostolate of preaching retreats. Thousands of parents have passed through his care and have profited by his spiritual direction. He, in turn, has gathered much experience from their confidences and the results of his advice. As such, he deemed this little summary all the more needed that the times are worsening.

"The family, since 1968, has lost its traditions, its Christian focal point, in married life as well as in the upbringing and education of children. This is why divorce or separations are rampant, and children are steeped in the liberal and sensual spirit in which they are plunged." (Preface)

Needless to say, this compact guidebook on family life does not have all the answers to your queries, but it does a remarkable job clarifying the true purpose of family life. Besides short sections on the practical aspects of the home, the book contains lengthier chapters dedicated to family virtues (with an emphasis on

the works of mercy), as well as the spiritual lives of both spouses. Finally, the book does not shun addressing the sad spectrum of sin and division, and here again, the advice will prove useful to struggling souls.

In short, *Advice to Successful Families* provides a healthy recipe for authentic Christian family life. It provides worthy meditation and discussion material for both husband and wife.



108 pages – STK# 8601 – \$9.95 – Ebook \$6.95

Confession

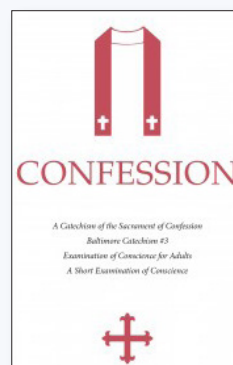
By Angelus Press

With the penitential Lenten season fast approaching, this brief offering from Angelus Press is a sure guide to help sinners return to God. This booklet is ideal for those wishing to make a general examination of life. It explains in depth the five steps for a proper confession: examination, contrition, confession, firm purpose, and satisfaction.

One important feature of *Confession* is called the "Examination of Conscience for Adults." It is a reprint from the Redemptorist method of monthly examination. For each of the twelve months of the calendar year there is assigned a particular virtue, succinctly explained in the context of Christian perfection. After this opening there comes the examination of conscience proper divided into two parts: the mortal and the venial sins opposed to the particular virtue. The exposition is completed by some helps and counsels which offer guidelines for decisions and resolutions. While all of the theological virtues are covered, certain months

are also dedicated to the love of neighbor, justice, chastity, temperance, obedience, meekness, and, finally, humility.

This step by step monthly study of one's conscience seems can serve as a "ladder of perfection" for a soul desirous of drawing closer to God.



96 pages – STK# 8559 – \$5.95

Rosary Crusade

At the priestly ordinations in Zaitzkofen (Germany) on July 2, 2016, Bishop Bernard Fellay, Superior General of the Society of St. Pius X announced another Rosary Crusade as a spiritual preparation for the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima (May to October 1917).

This crusade will be held from August 15, 2016 to August 22, 2017. All the faithful are invited:

- to recite the rosary daily, alone or as a family;
- to accomplish the devotion of the reparatory communion on five first Saturdays, and to multiply their daily sacrifices in a spirit of reparation for the outrages against Mary;
- to wear the miraculous medal themselves and to diffuse it around them;
- to consecrate their homes to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The goal set by Bishop Bernard Fellay is a bouquet of 12 million rosaries and 50 million sacrifices for Our Lady of Fatima. Tally sheets can be found online at www.sspX.org.

For more information:
816-733-2500 | www.sspX.org

Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrim Statue Itinerary



December

- 16** Child Jesus Chapel, Pittston PA
- 23** St. Michael the Archangel, Farmingville NY

January

- 6** St. Jude's Church, Philadelphia PA
- 13** North American Martyrs, Glens Falls NY

February

- 10** Mission Santa Maria, Prescott AZ
- 17** Our Lady of Sorrows, Phoenix AZ

March

- 3** Our Lady of Victory, Las Vegas NV



Follow Our Lady's Journey

Visit www.sspX.org/fatima. Select *Our Lady's Journey* to find out which chapels are being visited and what special things are planned.

Select *Testimonies* to read what people are saying about the visits and *Recent Pictures* to see photos of all the various events.

SSPX Fatima: 816-733-2574 | fatima@sspX.org

Upcoming Retreats

Men:

Jan 23-28	Ignatian	Phoenix, AZ
Feb 13-18	Ignatian	St. Cesaire, Quebec
Feb 13-18	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Mar 6-11	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Apr 24-29	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
May 8-13	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
May 15-20	Ignatian	Phoenix, AZ
July 10-15	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
July 10-15	Ignatian	Sanford, FL
July 17-22	Marian	St. Louis, MO
Aug 29-Sep 2	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT

Women:

Nov 28-Dec 3	Virtues	Phoenix, AZ
Dec 15-18	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Jan 2-7	Ignatian	Phoenix, AZ
Jan 9-14	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Feb 6-11	Ignatian	St. Cesaire, Quebec
Feb 6-11	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Feb 15-18	Marian	Phoenix, AZ
Mar 27-Apr 1	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Apr 3-8	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
May 29-Jun 3	Ignatian	Los Gatos, CA
Jun 26-July 1	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Jun 26-July 1	Ignatian	Sanford, FL
July 10-15	Marian	St. Louis, MO
July 24-29	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT
Aug 7-12	Ignatian	Ridgefield, CT

Mixed:

Mar 20-25	SSPX Third Order	Phoenix, AZ
Jun 14-17	Marian	Los Gatos, CA
Aug 21-25	Teacher's Retreat	Phoenix, AZ
Oct 11-14	Matrimony	Los Gatos, CA

Dates subject to change. For more information please contact:
816-733-2500 | www.sspX.org

International Pilgrimages

Lent Pilgrimage to the Holy Land **March 2-10, 2017**

Meditate and pray at the sites where Our Lord lived, taught, and suffered. Take advantage of this 9-day semi-retreat to increase your knowledge and love for Our Lord with excellent speaker and chaplain, Fr. Steven McDonald, Second Assistant to the US District Superior.

Youth Pilgrimage **May 26-June 6, 2017**

The annual Youth Pilgrimage will visit Fatima to commemorate the 100th anniversary, then cross into Spain to visit Salamanca, Avila, Burgos, and Loyola before arriving in Lourdes, France. Afterwards, join thousands of pilgrims and walk from Chartres to Paris. For youth between 18 and 35 years of age. Accompanied by Fr. Nicholas Gardner.

100th Anniversary Pilgrimages to Fatima **August 2017**

These special commemorative pilgrimages will join in the official SSPX festivities in Fatima to celebrate 100 years since the apparitions of Our Lady. Choose between an 8-day journey through Portugal, a 12-day trip from Lourdes to Fatima by the Way of St. James Compostela, or a 12-day trip from Fatima to Lourdes. Accompanied by an SSPX priest.

For more information please contact: Regina Pilgrimages
866-369-8149 | 785-437-2883 | info@reginapilgrimages.com
P.O. Box 67, St. Mary's KS 66536 | www.reginapilgrimages.com

100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima 1917-2017

May 23 - June 1, 2017

In honor of Our Lady 100th Anniversary we are organizing a pilgrimage to Fatima in May with the highlight visiting Our Lady of Montserrat, Our Lady of Lourdes, Burgos, Avila, Fatima and more. Land price, only \$2,355.

For more information and reservations please contact:
Saint Pius X Pilgrimage | Christine di Cecco: 203-378-2763
email: dicecchocrisline@gmail.com | www.stpiusxpilgrimage.com

La Salette Academy



2017-18 Admissions Applications

Admissions for eighth and ninth grades are now open. Please contact the Academy office to receive an application for your son with further instructions.

DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2017

5065 Olivet Road | Georgetown IL 61846
office@lasalette.net | 217-662-2127

Eucharistic Crusade

Monthly Intentions

December:

For the souls in Purgatory

Prayer for the Poor Souls

O Lord God Almighty, I pray Thee, by the Precious Blood which Thy Divine Son shed upon the wood of the cross, especially from His most sacred Hands and Feet, deliver the souls in purgatory, and in particular that soul for which I am most bound to pray; that no neglect of mine may hinder it from praising Thee in Thy glory and blessing Thee forever. Amen.

January:

For those who have lost everything because of war

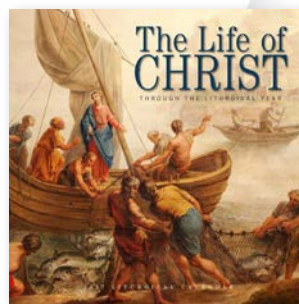
Prayer for Victims of War

O Lord God, Thine own Son was delivered into the hands of the wicked, yet He prayed for His persecutors. Relieve the sufferings of the innocent victims of war; grant them peace of mind, healing of body, and a renewed faith in Thy protection and care. Through Jesus Christ, Thy Son Our Lord, who livest and reignest, world without end. Amen.

E-mail: eucharistic-crusade@sspx.org



2017 Liturgical Calendar



STK CAL2017 — \$12.95

The Life, Death, Resurrection, and Heavenly Glory of Our Lord Jesus Christ is the central focus of every liturgical year. And so it is fitting that the 2017 Liturgical Calendar should assist the faithful in following the yearly liturgical cycle through some of Christendom's most splendid depictions of Christ's earthly ministry and heavenly reign. These images are captioned by appropriate Scriptural quotations which can serve as sources of meditation throughout each month. Further elucidation of each month's pictorial theme can be found in the provided texts which have been drawn from the Universal Church's rich spiritual, liturgical, and theological patrimony.

www.angeluspress.org—1-800-966-7337

Regina Coeli Report

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