

# The Bell Ringer

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS + APRIL 2021



*The meaning and fulfilment of human history lies in the Paschal Mystery.*

*April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit. Learn more about the Trinity's third person on page 3.*



*Faith Fostering is about St. Louis de Montfort's True Devotion to Mary. See his bio on page 4*



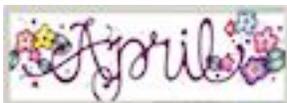
*How Do You Behave in Christ's Presence?*

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**Words of WISDOM**

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Holy Week begins on the high note of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when he was met with cries of Hosannah and people paved the way for the donkey he rode with palms as if greeting a king. But Jesus knew what awaited him.

"Holy Week, which for us Christians is the most important week of the year, offers us the opportunity to be immersed in the central events of Redemption, to relive the Paschal Mystery, the great mystery of the faith," Pope Benedict XVI said in a catechesis.

"Beginning [Holy Thursday] afternoon, with the [Chrism] Mass *In Coena Domini*, the solemn liturgical rites will help us to meditate in a more lively manner on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord in the days of the Holy Paschal Triduum, fulcrum of the entire liturgical year," the Pope continued.

"As prelude to the Paschal Triduum . . . is the solemn Chrism Mass, which the bishop celebrates in the morning with his presbytery, and in the course of which at the same time the priestly promises are renewed, made on the day of ordination." The Pope noted: "It is a gesture of great value, an occasion all the more propitious in which the priests confirm their fidelity to Christ who chose them as his ministers."

Pope Benedict noted: "May divine grace open our hearts to comprehend the inestimable gift that salvation is, obtained for us by Christ's sacrifice. We find this immense gift wonderfully narrated in a famous hymn contained in the Letter to the Philippians (cf. 2:6-11) . . . The Apostle reviews, both in an essential and effective manner, the whole mystery of the history of salvation referring to Adam's pride who, not being God, wanted to be like God. And he contrasts this pride of the first man, which all of us feel a bit in our being, with the humility of the true Son of God who, becoming man, did not hesitate to take upon himself all the (Continued on page 2)

## Holy Week . . . Continued from Page 1

weaknesses of the human being, except sin, and pushed himself to the profundity of death. This descent to the last profundity of the Passion and Death is then followed by his exaltation, the true glory, the glory of the love that went all the way to the end.”

“The meaning and fulfillment of human history lies in the Paschal Mystery,” according to Pope John Paul II. “‘Therefore’, the Catechism of the Catholic Church emphasizes, ‘Easter is not simply one feast among others, but the *Feast of Feasts*, the *Solemnity of Solemnities*, just as the Eucharist is the *Sacrament of Sacraments* (the great Sacrament).’” The Pope continued: “St Athanasius calls Easter *the Great Sunday* and the Eastern Churches call Holy Week *the Great Week*. The mystery of the Resurrection, in which Christ crushed death, permeates with its powerful energy our old time until all is subjected to him.” the Pope explained.

But before Christ’s triumph over death, there was the suffering, the torture, the humiliation, and his death on the cross.

### Holy Thursday

Then Pope John Paul II explained on Holy Thursday we “contemplate Christ who in the Upper Room, on the eve of his Passion, made a gift of himself to the Church, instituted the ministerial



priesthood and left to his disciples the new commandment, the commandment of love. Thus he wished to remain with us in the sacrament of the Eucharist, making himself the food of our salvation. After the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we keep a vigil of adoration with the Lord, obeying the desire that he expressed to the Apostles in the Garden of Olives,” the Pope quoted: “Remain here and keep watch with me.”

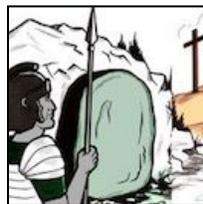
### Good Friday

The Pope said that on Good Friday, we “revisit the tragic chain of events of the Passion of our Redeemer leading to his crucifixion on Golgotha. The Adoration of the Cross will enable us to understand more acutely the infinite mercy of God. By willingly experiencing that immense sorrow, the Only-Begotten Son of God became the definitive proclamation of salvation for humanity.

“The way of the Cross is difficult indeed! Yet it is only there that we receive the mystery of the Death that gives life,” he explained.

### Holy Saturday

“Then the prayerful, silent atmosphere of Holy Saturday will offer us the opportunity to await the glorious event of the



Resurrection, in prayer with Mary, already beginning to savor its deep joy,” the Pope continued.

“During the Easter Vigil, singing the “Gloria” the splendor of our destiny will be revealed: to forge a new humanity, redeemed by Christ who died and rose for us.”



### Easter Sunday

“When on Easter Day, in the Churches in every corner of the earth rings out the *Dux vitae mortuus regnat vivus*, the Lord of life was dead, now alive he triumphs (Sequence), we will be able to understand and love the Cross of Christ forever; on it Christ overcame sin and death forever!”

The Pope concluded: “At the supreme hour of the sacrifice of the Son of God, let us confidently lay at the foot of the Cross the longing that dwells in every heart: the desire for peace!”

“The Blessed Virgin Mary, who faithfully followed her Son all the way to the cross, will lead us after we have contemplated together with her the suffering face of Christ, to enjoy the light and joy that radiate from the splendor of the face of the Risen Christ. This is my hope: may it be a really holy Triduum, full of the joys and consolations of Easter!” +

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, so says the Catechism of the Catholic Church. During the Easter vigil, the faithful renew their baptismal vows, saying in part: "I believe in the Holy Spirit."

This month is dedicated to the Holy Spirit and most of us immediately think of a dove, as one appeared at the baptism of Christ by John the Baptist, and as fire upon the Apostles at Pentecost, both times bringing the word of God to his children.

St. Paul revealed, "No one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God." The Catechism expounds on this: "Now God's Spirit, who reveals God, makes known to us Christ, his Word, his living Utterance, but the Spirit does not speak of himself. The Spirit who 'has spoken through the prophets' makes us hear the Father's Word, but we do not hear the Spirit himself.

"We know him only in the movement by which he reveals the Word to us and disposes us to welcome him in faith. The Spirit of truth who 'unveils' Christ to us 'will not speak on his own.' Such properly divine self-effacement explains why 'the world cannot receive [him], because it neither sees him nor knows him, while those who believe in Christ know the Spirit because he dwells with them," John's gospel explains.

#### **Where Do We Know the Holy Spirit?**

"The Church is the place where we know and learn to understand the Holy Spirit. This includes in the Scriptures he inspired; in the Tradition, to which the Church Fathers are always timely witnesses; in the Church's Magisterium, which he assists; in the sacramental liturgy, through its words and symbols, in which the Holy Spirit puts us into communion with Christ; in prayer, wherein he intercedes for us; in the charisms and ministries by which the Church is built up; in the signs of apostolic and missionary life; and in the witness of saints through whom he manifests his holiness and continues the work of salvation.



### ***Receive the Holy Spirit***

#### **Jesus and the Holy Spirit's Joint Mission**

"The One whom the Father has sent into our hearts, the Spirit of his Son, is truly God.," so writes St. Paul. The Catechism states: "Consubstantial with the Father and the Son, the Spirit is inseparable from them, in both the inner life of the Trinity and

his gift of love for the world. In adoring the Holy Trinity, life-giving, consubstantial, and indivisible, the Church's faith also professes the distinction of persons. When the Father sends his Word, he always sends his Breath. In their joint mission, the Son and the Holy Spirit are distinct but inseparable. To be sure, it is Christ who is seen, the visible image of the invisible God, but it is the Spirit who reveals him.

"Jesus is Christ, *anointed*, because the Spirit is his anointing, and everything that occurs from the Incarnation on derives from this fullness. When Christ is finally glorified, he can in turn send the Spirit from his place with the Father to those who believe in him: he communicates to them his glory, that is, the Holy Spirit who glorifies him. From that time on, this joint mission will be manifested in the children adopted by the Father in the Body of his Son: the mission of the Spirit of adoption is to unite them to Christ and make them live in him."

St. Gregory of Nyssa wrote: "The notion of anointing suggests . . . that there is no distance between the Son and the Spirit. Indeed, just as between the surface of the body and the anointing with oil neither reason nor sensation recognizes any intermediary, so the contact of the Son with the Spirit is immediate, so that anyone who would make contact with the Son by faith must first encounter the oil by contact. In fact there is no part that is not covered by the Holy Spirit. That is why the confession of the Son's Lordship is made in the Holy Spirit by those who receive him, the Spirit coming from all sides to those who approach the Son in faith." +

# *St. Louis de Montfort, Mary's Loyal and Loved Apostle*

*"It was through the Blessed Virgin Mary that Jesus came into the world, and it is also through her that he must reign in the world."*

— *St. Louis de Montfort*

With Father Michael's ongoing study of *True Devotion to Mary* on Monday Morning: Fostering Faith, this short biography is offered for those who asked for it.

Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort was born on January 31, 1673, in Montfort-la-Cane, a small town in Brittany, France. He studied in Paris at Saint Sulpice Seminary, and was ordained in 1700. While a seminarian, he delighted in researching the writings of Church Fathers, Doctors and Saints relating to the Blessed Virgin Mary, to whom he was devoted.

Under Mary's inspiration, he founded the Congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom (1703), a religious institute of women devoted to the care of the destitute, and the Company of Mary (1705), a missionary congregation of men popularly known as Montfort Fathers. He also inspired the congregation of the Brothers of Saint Gabriel, committed to the education of the youth.

In his apostolate, Montfort focused his zeal on calling people to conversion by renewing their baptismal promises, the Rosary and the diffusion of an authentic Marian devotion. He preached so

effectively against the errors of Jansenism that he was expelled from several dioceses in France.

In Rome, Pope Clement XI conferred on him the title and authority of Apostolic Missionary (1706), which enabled him to continue his apostolate after returning to France. He preached Mary everywhere and to everyone. He was one of the greatest apostles of the Rosary in his day, and by means of his inspiring books, *The Secret of the Rosary*, *The Secret of Mary*, and *True Devotion to Mary*, he is still so today.

His greatest contribution to the Church and the world is "*Total Consecration to the Blessed Virgin*", which, according to him, is the perfect manner of renewing one's baptismal promises. His spirituality has inspired many religious institutes and Marian associations, and has been espoused by millions of people. Pope John Paul II chose for his papal motto "*Totus Tuus*", the first two words of the Montfortian total consecration to Jesus through Mary.

In *True Devotion to Mary*, St. Louis de Montfort prophesied that the army of souls consecrated to Mary will be Her instrument in defeating the Devil and his Antichrist.

St. Louis died on April 28, 1716, now his feast day, at 43, was beatified in 1888 by Pope Leo XIII, he was canonized on July 20, 1947 by Pope Pius XII. Patron of preachers, the cause for his declaration as a Doctor of the Church is now being pursued. +



*St. Louis's statue  
in St. Peter's*

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## *Some Editor's Notes . . .*

**The Words of Wisdom** section of the newsletter is designed as a place to find subject matter for meditation during the month. The quotes are from saints, religious authors and lay people. The suggestion is to take one of the quotes and read it over, contemplating what it means to you and to your life. It is also helpful to google the authors. You will find some *new* to you saints and religious authors that can enrich your spiritual life. +

**The last page of the newsletter** is a copy of the monthly "themes" posted in the lobbies of the church. The inclusion in the newsletter gives

you a copy of the liturgical theme for the month that echoes the liturgical emphasis — this month is dedicated to the Holy Spirit — offering parishioners an insight into the role played by the third person of the Holy Trinity.

The monthly prayer intention is from the Vatican and unites us to the universal Church in prayer for a special intention selected by the Pope as a focus for the Church Militant.

The monthly virtue is a parish initiative chosen to give parishioners a guide to living a virtuous life. It has been said that educating in virtue is a response to the call for a New Evangelization, firmly conveying the reality that happiness is found in living a virtuous life.+

# *How Do You Behave in Christ's Presence?*

By Father David J. Dohogne

If any of us go to a public place or attend any civic event, there are normally standards of propriety requested of people. There are certain social graces or codes of conduct in almost any situation, whether you are attending a concert or symphony, watching a movie or live theater performance, having dinner in a restaurant, attending a sporting event, or even shopping.

There are also expectations regarding properness and decorum when it comes to our participation in the celebration of Mass and the other Sacraments. Sadly, however, it seems that the manners and respect we normally show in public are often left behind when we walk through the doors of our parish churches.

This is a temptation we all face because, oftentimes, our parish churches feel like "home" to us, which is good we feel that way, but all of us behave more casually in our homes than we would in any public setting. That being said, the Catholic Faithful are called to maintain and reflect a spirit of reverence and prayer when we enter the church.

It is interesting to observe the behavior of some when they attend a celebration in a Catholic church. Oftentimes, their demeanor is no different in church than it is on the street or in the aisle in the grocery store. We might find their conduct and apparent "disrespect" in the church a bit disconcerting. Yet do we not at times fall into the same behavior, forgetting that we are in the Real Presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament?

When we attend Mass and other liturgical celebrations, do our actions help or hinder

others from truly praying and worshiping God? Here are just a few thoughts/suggestions/observations for us to think about:

1) Before entering the church, turn off or silence your cell phone and electronic devices and don't use them during Mass (this includes texting). Many people utilize their electronic devices to follow the Scripture readings and other prayers, which is certainly acceptable (as

long as one is not tempted to use it for other activities).

2) Avoid any unnecessary talking and conversation, especially during the homily, the Consecration, the reception of Holy Communion, and the designated times for silent prayer/reflection that are present during Mass.

3) Avoid unnecessary trips out of the church, especially after a liturgical celebration begins. Get Kleenex, other needed items, and make necessary bathroom visits BEFORE Mass begins so that when you enter the church, you can settle in for the celebration and not become a constant distraction to others by multiple trips in and out of the church.

4) Please be reminded that there are more "appropriate" times to leave the church if necessary, in particular when other movements and actions are taking place (e.g. the ushers taking up the collection). If at all possible, do not leave during the Consecration. The Consecration is one of the most sacred moments in the Liturgy. How would you feel if a large number of guests got up and left the church just as you were exchanging your wedding vows? If it were not a true emergency, you would probably consider their *(Continued on page 7)*



## ***How Do You Behave . . .***

*Continued from page 6*

actions rude and disrespectful as the attention would probably be focused on the guests who were leaving rather than you and your spouse. During the Consecration, we should reverently focus our attention on the altar not on others.

5) Don't chew gum during Mass, especially if you are going to receive Holy Communion! Also, dress appropriately and respectfully for Mass. Again, there are times that what we wear (or don't wear!) can become a distraction to others, especially during the summer months. Don't take attention away from the Lord by what you wear to Mass. And consider whether your attire is appropriate for greeting Him in the Liturgy.

6) Plan accordingly to arrive at Mass on time and don't leave Mass early (in particular, immediately after you have received Holy Communion). The Mass concludes with the Final Blessing, not the reception of the Eucharist.

7) When coming forward to receive the Lord in Holy Communion, remember what you are doing at that moment. Coming forward in the Communion procession is not a time to visit with others in line or those in the pew as you pass. Make this a sacred moment for yourself and others.

8) There is a respectful and courteous way to cough, sneeze, blow your nose, yawn, and clear your throat when necessary, so strive to do these things in a way which is respectful to Christ, to the priest, and to others around you. Do

your best to avoid actions and behaviors that disrupt fellow worshippers.

9) Make sure you see yourself as a participant in the Mass by joining in the prayers, singing, and responses. To enhance a sense of unity in our worship, we should offer our responses in unison with others and our singing volume should not be dominant and overbearing to others.

10) Avoid taking photographs during celebrations, especially weddings, baptisms, and First Communion. Usually someone is appointed for this job. If you haven't been asked to take photos, then your "job" is to pray and worship God in the liturgical celebration.

It is my hope that these suggestions will truly enhance our worship of God and make our liturgical celebrations more meaningful and spiritually fruitful for everyone. While we do acknowledge that we are God's Holy People when we gather for worship, prayer, and the celebration of the Sacraments, our focus and attention should always be on Christ, not on ourselves or our neighbor. [Editor's Note: Remember that Christ doesn't leave the church when the priest does.]

Let us truly help one another to offer fitting worship of God by our actions and behaviors when we come together as the Body of Christ! +

*Father Dohogne's regular column "Living the Liturgy" appears on the Missouri Diocese of Springfield - Cape Girardeau's website. This article first appeared in February 2014.*

### **The Pope's Prayer Intention for April** **Fundamental Rights**

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

#### **Prayer for the Holy Father**

Almighty and everlasting God, have mercy upon Thy servant, Pope Francis, our Supreme Pontiff, and direct him, according to Thy loving kindness, in the way of eternal salvation; that, of Thy gift, he may ever desire that which is pleasing unto Thee and may accomplish it with all his might. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

*Our Father. Hail Mary. Glory Be to the Father.*



## The Bulletin Board . . .

### **Opus Sanctorum Angelorum Focus of Parish Mission Slated for April 19 - 21,**

Father Wolfgang Seitz of the Order of Canons Regular of the Holy Cross will preach the three-day parish mission, beginning April 19 - 21 at the St. Francis Xavier Church, 347 South St., Hyannis. The parish mission will begin each night at 5:45 p.m.

On Monday and Tuesday, April 19 and 20, Father Seitz will celebrate Mass at 5:45 p.m. followed by a conference beginning at 6:30 p.m.

On Monday, Father Seitz's topic will be the Devotion and Consecration to Mary. On Tuesday, Father Seitz will preach on St. Michael Defend Us in Battle.

On the final day of the mission, the conference will begin the evening at 5:45 p.m. and the topic will be the Mission of St. Michael. The conference will be followed by Holy Mass with the reception of Consecration to the Guardian Angel of those who have already completed the year of formation.

Attendees will have the opportunity to apply for the one-year formation towards the Consecration to the Guardian Angel.

During the mission, items from Opus Angelorum will be available.

For more information on Opus Angelorum, please visit: [www.opusangelorum.org](http://www.opusangelorum.org). +

### **Fostering Faith's True Devotion to Our Lady Continues after Monday Mass**

Father Michael will continue the Fostering Faith journey through St. Louis de Montfort's *True Devotion to Mary*. While space is limited in the lower church hall due to Covid-19 restrictions, the series is live streamed at 10 a.m. each Monday morning.

For those who didn't begin the series when it started on November 30, 2020, you do have the opportunity to begin by accessing the videos at <http://stfrancishyannis.homestead.com/Pastor.html>. It's well worth it!

Father suggests we use the Tan Classics edition of *True Devotion to Mary*, which is available at most book stores, or online from Amazon or directly from the publisher. +

### **The Year of the Family Began March 19, the Feast of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary**

On the Feast of St. Joseph, and during the Year of St. Joseph, Pope Francis announced the "Amoris Laetitia Family" Year.

"Five years ago, the Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris laetitia* on the beauty and joy of conjugal and family love was promulgated," the Pope writes. "On this anniversary I have invited you to spend a year re-reading the document and reflecting on the theme, until the celebration of the Tenth World Day of Families which, God willing, will take place in Rome on June 26, 2022.

"In these five years, *Amoris laetitia* has outlined the beginning of a journey, endeavouring to encourage a new pastoral approach to the family situation," the Pope continued. "The main intention of the document was to communicate, in a time and in a profoundly changed culture, that today there is a need for a new outlook on the family on the part of the Church: it is not enough to reiterate the value and importance of doctrine, if we do not become protectors of the beauty of the family and if we do not take compassionate care of its frailties and its wounds."

As he concluded his message on the Feast of St. Joseph, the patron of the family, Pope Francis' message encouraged: "So let us support the family! Let us defend it from that which compromises its beauty. Let us approach this mystery of love with wonder, discretion and tenderness. And let us commit ourselves to safeguarding its precious and delicate bonds: children, parents, grandparents. We need these bonds to live and to live well, to make humanity more fraternal." +



# Words <sup>OF</sup> WISDOM

"We do not come to church to attend the service as a spectator, but in order, along with the priest, to serve God. Everything we do — our entering, being present, our kneeling and sitting and standing, our reception of the sacred nourishment — should be divine service. This is so only when all we do overflows from the awareness of a collected heart and the mind's attentiveness."

— Fr. Romano Guardini

"When you are before the altar where Christ reposes, you ought no longer to think that you are amongst men; but believe that there are troops of angels and archangels standing by you, and trembling with respect before the sovereign Master of Heaven and earth. Therefore, when you are in church, be there in silence, fear, and veneration."

— St. John Chrysostom

"It almost always happens that interior sentiments of pride precede the commission of grievous sins. Peter was not aware of his own weakness. He preferred himself before others; he trusted in himself as though he were incapable of sinning, boasting that no temptation would separate him from Jesus. He would not even believe the assurance of his Divine Master, that he would deny him thrice. Deceived by this vain confidence in his own strength, he neglects to pray, and to have recourse to God; and God, in His justice,

permits him to fall, in punishment of his pride. There is nothing more dangerous than to confide in our own strength, and trust to feelings of fervor. We are full of malice, and capable of committing the most enormous crimes, unless God supports us."

— Fr. Ignatius of the Side of Jesus

"We ought to speak, shout out against injustices, with confidence and without fear. We proclaim the principles of the Church, the reign of love, without forgetting that it is also a reign of justice."

— Blessed Miguel Pro

"We've been taught that God did not make the world for no reason, but for the sake of the human race. As I said before, he takes pleasure in those who imitate his attributes, and is displeased with those who embrace what is worthless, whether in word or deed."

— St. Justin Martyr

"We have close to us as much as Joseph had at Nazareth; we have our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, but our poor eyes fail to see Him. Let us once become interior souls and we shall immediately see. In no better way can we enter into the Heart of our Lord than through Saint Joseph. Jesus and Mary are eager to pay the debts which they owe him for his devoted care of them, and their greatest pleasure is to fulfill his least desire. Let him, then, lead you by hand into the interior sanctuary of Jesus Eucharistic."

— St. Peter Julian Eymard

"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks Like." — St. Augustine



Words<sup>of</sup>  
WISDOM

"Like an hourglass with a certain number of grains of sand within it, God has appointed your life to last only a certain number of days, and you have absolutely no idea how many there are . . . In God's presence, consider: I have no idea when my life will end. All I know is that death will come for me eventually. Am I doing anything to prepare for the real possibility that God may call me, sooner rather than later? If he called me into eternity today, would I be ready?"

— Patrick Madrid

"Our true worth does not consist in what human beings think of us. What we really are consists in what God knows us to be."

— St. John Berchmans

"Prayer purifies us, reading instructs us. Both are good when both are possible. Otherwise, prayer is better than reading."

— St. Isidore of Seville

"Realize it, my brethren; — every one who breathes, high and low, educated and ignorant, young and old, man and woman, has a mission, has a work. We are not sent into this world for nothing; we are not born at random; . . . God sees every one of us; He creates every soul, He lodges it in the body, one by one, for a purpose. He needs, He deigns to need, every one of us. He has an end for each of us; we

are all equal in His sight, and we are placed in our different ranks and stations, not to get what we can out of them for ourselves, but to labor in them for Him. As Christ has His work, we too have ours; as He rejoiced to do His work, we must rejoice in ours also."

— St. John Henry Newman

"It is not that I want merely to be called a Christian, but to actually be one. Yes, if I prove to be one, then I can have the name."

— St. Ignatius of Antioch

"He does not come down from Heaven each day to stay in the gold ciborium. He comes down to find another Heaven He cherishes infinitely more than the first, the Heaven of our souls, made in His image, living temples of the Most Blessed Trinity!"

— St. Therese of Lisieux

"[Jesus] sees in children traits and attitudes that are essential in anyone if he is to gain heaven, and, even in this life, if he is to enter the kingdom of faith. A child is devoid of even the slightest feeling of self-sufficiency. It is in constant need of its parents, and knows it. A child is fundamentally a being in need, and this is what a Christian should be before his Father God, a being in total need. A child lives fully in the present and nothing more. The adult's less admirable predisposition is to look restlessly to the future, ignoring the here and now, the present moment, which ought to be lived to the full."

—Fr. Francis Fernández Carvajal

"Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset."

— St. Francis de Sales

# The Month of April 2021

## Monthly Focus: The Holy Spirit



Thus year, the first three days of April include the Triduum, leading to Easter Sunday. The remainder of April falls during the Easter season, represented by the liturgical color white symbolizing light, joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored). During the Easter season, we gratefully remember Jesus Christ's gift of the Holy Eucharistic plus the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, which would come after Jesus's Resurrection from the dead.

## Prayer Intention: Fundamental Rights

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

## The Virtue: Reverence

Practicing Reverence, our words and actions reflect the respect for anything that has to do with God - His Holy Name, the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, the Holy Eucharist, and the church and all the holy objects found there or that have been given a special blessing.