

the little servants of Christ The King prayer community

Sudbury, Ontario

.... proclaiming the power of the Holy Spirit and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ

May 2018



Our Mission Statement: *"If we live by the truth and in love, we shall grow in all ways into Christ, who is the head by whom the whole body is fitted and joined together, every joint adding its own strength, for each separate part to work according to its function. So the body grows until it has built itself up, in love."* - Ephesians 4:15-16



The God of Wonder is here, in our midst.

Dear Friends,

The God of wonders who created the universe deeply desires to live in us – so much so that He not only gave Himself in the crib and on the cross, but in the Eucharist (cf. Mark 14:22-26). Our extraordinary God is present in the disguise of an ordinary, round piece of bread – the host. In the Eucharist, He reveals the beautiful truth of who He is and who we are. Jesus Christ “is the infinite beauty which alone can fully satisfy the human heart” (*Vita Consecrata* 16). Each of our lives finds its fullness to the extent that we let this Beauty be beautiful in us.

The more time we spend in the presence of our Eucharistic Lord, the more we begin to hear His voice, experience His loving gaze, and see His face. As He speaks to us, heals us, and restores our hearts, we begin to become aware of the beautiful, wonderful, awe-inspiring reality that lies hidden underneath the veil of each day.

The Lord calls us to go deeper – to look again and discover the Divine Beauty in the people we meet and the circumstances we find ourselves. In all the seemingly ordinary, poor, broken, vulnerable, small experiences of our day, we begin to see our Eucharistic Lord – the One who was born in a poor family, helpless and vulnerable; the One who hung broken and disfigured on the cross; the One who stood a wonder to behold in His Resurrection. He is here with us. And as we consume Him and allow Him to fill us, He only asks that we carry Him with us throughout our day, calling on Him, and resting in Him – He, the Beautiful One, who rests in the deepest recesses of our hearts. Let us all live in His resurrected life.

In Christ, Our Life,

Mother Agnes Mary, SV
Mother Agnes Mary, SV

The God of Wonder and Beauty

THIS is the Eucharistic Christ here.

This is the Christ of Mary's womb.

This is the Christ of Calvary.

This is the Christ of the Garden of the Resurrection.

This is Christ, the Son of God.

This is Christ, the King of Kings.

This is Christ enthroned in this magnificent monstrance fit for a king.

But no one asked Him if He wanted to be enthroned in that monstrance.

He emptied Himself. He made Himself completely vulnerable. He placed Himself entirely in our hands...

All He asks is that we empty ourselves, to let Him fill us with His Being, with His Living Body, with Him.

-John Cardinal O'Connor
Founder of the Sisters of Life

Mary and the Holy Spirit

Woman of Mystery, Woman of Divine Love, Mother of Wisdom, Mother of God, Icon of Obedience, Lady of Equity, Queen of Heaven, Mother of Jesus, Mother of God, Queen of Angels and Saints, Immaculate Conception, Media-trix, Intercessor, Woman of Light, Our Lady of Grace, Queen of Peace, Mother of Pentecost, Mary – Ever Virgin, Woman of the Spirit. There are so many ways to view Mary, chosen by God to conceive the Son of God, Jesus, in her womb by the power of the Holy Spirit. Filled with the Holy Spirit, moved by the Holy Spirit, she was and is “full of Grace”. The Father’s delight rested on her and she became the new Ark of the Covenant to house the living God within her womb, by her unqualified “yes” bringing God to mankind, and leading mankind to God.

The scriptures say much and at the same time so little about this Woman of God, Who was God’s chosen vessel to bring life to all creation. Total submission to God, absolute obedience, willing to conceive the inconceivable, a woman who pondered, treasured, reflected, took initiative, understood the design, the plan of God, the woman who responded and gave totally, entering in no matter the personal cost or danger to her life. She trusted God implicitly, walking in faith, in trust, willing to serve and be used by God for his purposes; such is Mary, our Mother, our Queen.

Such is the love for the gift of God bringing together in Mary the instincts embedded in the human heart; affection for the beautiful, admiration for purity, reverence for a queen and love of a mother. Countless apparitions and appearances of Mary to bring about conversion down through the centuries, at Guadalupe, Lourdes, Fatima, to name only a few, and too many in our modern day to count she is prophet, evangelist, apostle, teacher, turning hearts to Jesus, bringing people to repentance, conversion, a deep life of prayer, confession, fasting, a full Christian life in the Spirit.

Mary, spoken of in the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation, from beginning to end, is the Mother of Pentecost. She was together with the disciples in the Upper Room in prayer and expectancy that the Holy Spirit who so filled her life would be “poured out on all flesh”.

Pentecost saw this outpouring begin and it has not ended. It still continues down through the centuries and today we live in the midst of the outpouring, as people one after the other, individually or in groups, receive the love and power of the Spirit to change and transform their lives. They are becoming true instruments or agents of God’s love to unify all people. It has been reported of the apparitions at Medjugorje (not yet approved by the Church) that Mary has said, “When you have the Holy Spirit you have everything”.

Mary, from the moment of her conception, was filled with the Spirit, the outpouring of God’s grace in the fullest possible measure for a human being to receive. Her conception of the child Jesus was the Spirit’s great work within her to bring about the Father’s plan for the salvation of all humankind. As Mary, we too are to become pregnant with Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit so that our lives may wed the human and the divine. We are to be Arks of the Covenant that carry the very presence of the living God in our hearts and lives that God may reach out and touch any person we meet, drawing them through his divine presence within us. Mary, the First of Christians, shows us the way. She models for us how we are to live as people of the Spirit, the children of God, who know God, love him and serve him in every moment of every day with heart and mind and soul and strength. If you don’t know Mary but you know Jesus, ask him to introduce you to Mary.

If you know Mary, but not Jesus, ask Mary to introduce you to Jesus. They stand as one, in total union. Let us enter that same union of their hearts and that our lives in the Spirit may be complete.

By: Fr. Peter Coughlin.

May/June 1998 - With permission from
the Bread of Life Magazine



May Birthdays



- 1 - Lorraine McCoshen
- 5 - Pamela Beauvais
Carmen Pelland
- 6 - Magda Arsenault
- 7 - Suzanne Rancourt
- 8 - Keith Gauthier
- 9 - Daniel Faucon
Marie Vautour
- 11 - Léo Fortin
Lillian Hrytsak
Viviane Kone
- 12 - Ron Botts
Kevin Lalonde
Ken Naples
Marinella Pegoraro
- 13 - Hector Lemieux
Lois Muncaster
- 15 - Fernande Richard
- 17 - Marie Rose Charron
Diana Frappier
- 19 - Larry Joseph Arsenault
Kate Bailey
- 22 - Donat Charron
Bruna Souliere
- 24 - Marie-Anna D'Amour
Marg Plausini
Kim Woodbury
- 25 - Lydia Stopar
Terry Woodbury
- 27 - Paulette Bean
- 28 - Sally Power
- 30 - Marie Proulx

*Happy Birthday
and
God's Blessings*



- Sister Dorothy Brown – May 1, 1991
- Marie Lafreniere – May 9, 1993
- Laurier Bonin – May 5, 1995
- Leslie John Stinson – May 2, 1996
- Ben Moroney – May 9, 1999
- Lorraine Brunet – May 12, 2008
- Patricia Anne McArthur – May 14, 2008
- Louis Anzil – May 17, 2009
- Mary Donnelly – May 22, 2009
- Annette Trehan – May 1, 2013
- Don Davidson – May 9, 2014
- Mariette Sobchuk – May 4, 2015
- Antonio (Tony) Pasquale – May 9, 2015
- Raymonde Fex – May 9, 2016
- Inez Campbell – May 29, 2017

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen.*



The Knights of Columbus Father Brian McKee Council 1387 is involved in Our Lady of Hope Church and annually supports financially the little servants of Christ The King. If you are not currently a member of the Knights of Columbus and you wish to be, contact Tony Sottile at 705-673-2854 or see him at our Thursday evening prayer meeting.



HOLY SPIRIT, WHO ARE YOU?

In the beginning, when the earth was still formless and empty, “a wind from God swept over the face of the waters” (Genesis 1:2). At the very beginning of the new creation, the Holy Spirit came upon Mary and overshadowed her (Luke 1:35). At the birth of the Church, on the day of Pentecost, the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages (Acts 2:4). Could the Holy Spirit be the God of new beginnings?

From the dust of the ground, God formed man “and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and, the man became a living being” (Genesis 2:7). The breath of life was felt around the world: “When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground” (Psalm 104:30). Jesus crucified at Golgotha was laid in a tomb, was raised from the dead by God through the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 1:4) and was forever triumphant over death. Could the Holy Spirit be the Lord of life?

The secret of the mystery of God is love. Saint John, who was very close to Jesus, expressed it clearly: “God is love” (1 John 4:8,16). Love, therefore, is God’s name and God’s reality. God does not hold back in giving us a gift; he does not give us something unlike himself, like health or success. On the contrary, he gives himself, in the very depths of our hearts, by communicating his love, the Holy Spirit: “God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us” (Romans 5:5). Could the Holy Spirit be love in person?

Holy Spirit, who are you? To get to know the Holy Spirit, we are asked to refer to the Bible, read and interpreted by the Church to whom God has entrusted its care. Indeed, only God knows the right words to speak about God. That is why we must take the time to listen to the Word.

Living with Christ – The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit spoke the Scriptures; he has also spoken concerning himself as much as he pleased, or as much as we could receive. Let us therefore speak those things which he has said; for whatsoever he has not said, we dare not say.

*Saint Cyril of Jerusalem (315-386),
Catechetical Lectures, 16, 2*



Come, Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator blest,
And in our hearts take up your rest;

Come with your grace and heav'nly aid,
To fill the hearts which you have made!

O Comforter, to you we cry,
The heav'nly gift of God most high;

The fount of life and fire of love,
And sweet anointing from above.

To ev'ry sense your light impart,
And shed your love in ev'ry heart.

To our weak flesh your strength supply:
Unfailing courage from on high.

O grant that we through you may come
To know the Father and the Son,

And hold with firm, unchanging faith
That you are Spirit of them both.

**Translation of Veni Creator Spiritus, a famous
hymn to the Holy Spirit**

Prayer Group Community Notes & News

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**Dear members of
the little servants
of Christ The King
prayer community:**

- ☺ Thank you for all your work and effort with the 2018 Lenten Mission. I enjoyed the talks, sermons and the music. It was spiritually uplifting and it makes one reflect. Thank you! – **Velma**
- ☺ Thank you so much for your lovely card and inspiring verse. We pray you have a happy and holy Easter. God bless all of you. – **Marie, Rose, & Donat Charron**
- ☺ God bless your prayers with faith, your dreams with hope, and all your days with His love. Easter is a beautiful reminder that all things are possible with God. Have a happy and holy Easter season. Love and prayers, – **Reg & Sylvia Folz, Elliot Lake, Ont.**
- ☺ Alleluia! Christ is risen! May His resurrection fill the heart of each sister and brother of the prayer community with love. God bless you always, – **Viviane, Montreal, Quebec**
- ☺ Thank you so much for remembering me and my mother, June, and for keeping us in your prayers. God continue to bless all of you. – **Luke Hurst**
- ☺ Thank you so much for the newsletter. I am so delighted to be part of this prayer community! I would like to sincerely express my appreciation to everyone for the support I have received each time I visited. Your support and prayers are very helpful to me and my parish community. I am deeply grateful! – **Fr. Isaiah Patrick Okpe**
- ☺ Thank you so much for sharing and sending me your recent newsletter. Easter Blessings to all. – **Carole Norris**
- ☺ Alleluia! Sing the Good News! Christ is Risen! Wishing everyone a joyous Easter and a blessed Divine Mercy Sunday! – **Remo Floreani, Tecumseh, Ontario**
- ☺ My dear brothers and sisters in Christ: It is with deep appreciation we gratefully thank you for all the prayers and masses offered for my son Robert on his recent death. Thank you so much. God bless all of you. – **Jackie Eyre**
- ☺ Dear members of the little servants of Christ The King prayer community:
On behalf of the Rainville family, we offer our most sincere thanks for all the love and support shown to us during this difficult time. Many thanks for the cards, kind words and many prayers. Your kindness will never be forgotten. – **Jeanette Rainville and family**

Prayer Group Community Notes & News

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Dear members of the little servants of Christ The King prayer community:

Prayer Requests:

- ✠ Please remember Msgr. Norm Clement in your prayers. He was in hospital after suffering a stroke. Thank you for your continued prayers.
- ✠ Prayers are requested for Nicla Donnelly. She will be having knee surgery on May 10th.
- ✠ Prayers are requested for Cecile who fell on a covered patch of ice. Her left arm is broken in two parts and she also had a concussion from the fall. She is now at home recovering. Please keep her in your prayers.

Deepest sympathy is extended to Estelle Scappatura on the sudden death of her brother, James Marmino on April 4th, 2018. James was a retired secondary school teacher in North Bay and will be greatly missed by his former students and colleagues. He was a prolific volunteer who supported numerous community initiatives and was a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for Volunteerism, serving on the Nipissing University and Catholic Schools Foundation Family Enrichment programs, etc. Our sympathy is extended to his family and all who knew and loved him. His funeral was held in North Bay at Holy Name of Jesus Church, on Monday, April 9th, 2018.

Did You Know....the charismatic renewal is a movement of spiritual awakening which began in the United States in 1966, first in Protestant then in Catholic circles. It has its roots in the Pentecostal movement born in 1906 in Los Angeles.

In the charismatic movement, encouraged by Pope Paul VI in 1975, people undergo a deep personal experience of the presence and action of the Holy Spirit at prayer meetings where gifts, charisms (prophecy, speaking in tongues) and signs (healings, freeing from evil spirits) are often manifested.

The charismatic renewal, or revival in the Spirit, contributed to the rediscovery of the Spirit and of his action in the Church today. It also awakened an interest in prayer, especially in spontaneous prayer, in the Word of God and in spiritual activities. This movement spawned many new communities, some of which received the canonical status of Public Association of the Faithful.

♥♥ Taken from: Living with Christ – The Holy Spirit ♥♥

If you know of anyone who is interested in developing a deeper relationship with the Lord or who is struggling with the ongoing challenges life presents, please invite them to join us! What a wonderful & most peaceful place we have to retreat to every Thursday night! This is where the Lord is profoundly present and we have the privilege of being totally immersed in the Holy Spirit!

◆◆ Submitted by: Faye Gartley - Member of the prayer community ◆◆

Prayer Group Community Notes & News

(Page 3 of 3)

**Dear members of
the little servants of Christ The King prayer community:**

The Lord is my Shepherd

I have been touched by the reflections of this unknown author who commented on the twenty-third psalm. This is a person who had definitely been comforted by the Lord as he /she meditated on this wonderful psalm. Every verse of the psalm identifies some attributes of God, and His goodness for His children as they journeyed to find rest in God alone. This psalm should encourage us every day as we face challenges. Remember, do not rely on our own understanding or abilities, but rely on our Divine Shepherd. He is the solution and key to our problems as long as we stop looking at our circumstances and start fixing our eyes on Him. HE is always present. He guides, He provides, He assures, He blesses us all the way.

Read Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want;
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters;
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I fear no evil;
For You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil,
My cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
Forever.

That's relationship
That's supply
That's rest
That's refreshment
That's healing
That's guidance
That's purpose
That's challenge
That's assurance
That's faithfulness
That's shelter
That's hope
That's consecration
That's abundance
That's blessing
That's security
That's eternity

Submitted by: Lorraine Sahadat – Member of the prayer community

THE POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS FOR 2018 MAY

Evangelization: The Mission of the Laity

That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission,
by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

Editor's note: As you read, pray about, and reflect on the words spoken to us through the Prophetic Ministry, what is the Lord saying to you personally? Space for your response follows each prophecy.

April 19, 2018

Oh my little ones, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him. Praise my Son; He's here among you. His heart is filled with love, with compassion and mercy for you. Praise Him with all your heart. Praise Him from the depth of your stomach. Let nothing else come from your mouth tonight but praise. Praise and worship Him, for He is the almighty, He's the omega. the alpha, the beginning. He's here, my children. Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him. Let His love and His mercy flow.

My children, you also have to surrender, surrender everything that you are carrying here tonight. He knows your heart, He knows everything. He loves you so so so so much. Oh my little ones, if you only knew what one little praise does to His heart, you wouldn't hesitate. You would sing, you would sing and sing and sing with joy and praise Him, praise my Son, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, the almighty one, oh Jesus, Jesus, Jesus. Praise Him my children, praise Him. He's here with you and He longs to hear your praises. He doesn't need them, He just loves them, and He loves you so much my little children, so very, very very much. Come my little ones, gather round, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him, with everything that you have. Praise Him with your heart, praise Him with your mind, praise Him with your hands, praise Him with your tongue, praise Him, praise Him, praise Him for He is worthy of all praises. Oh my little ones, oh my little ones, oh my little ones, if you only knew. Praise Him, praise Him, praise Him.

April 26, 2018

Interpretation of word given in tongues:

My beloved ones, are you still celebrating Easter? Are you still celebrating My resurrection? Do you believe My word when I say I love you, I love you with an everlasting love? Do you believe that, or do you think it means everybody else except you because you are such a sinful person. Well come to Me, ask My forgiveness and I will show you just how much I can love you. My love is everlasting, My love is eternal. I do not love you because you're wonderful and do all the things you are supposed to do, more than I love the sinner. I love you all equally because I am God and I am faithful. Trust Me that I love you just as you are, and I will give you the graces if you ask me in order to grow in holiness. Come now beloved, we're still in the Easter season so celebrate the alleluia. Alleluia, I have risen. I am among you. I'm your Saviour, your Lord and your King. Come, come to Me with all your burdens and I will help you. I love you with an everlasting love. I will love you for all eternity. I'm your God and I am faithful.

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Now that the Lord has told us so much that He loves us, no matter who we are and what we have done, He's asking us to say back to Him from our heart that we love Him. He's asking for our response. Are you free to give the response to Him? Do you feel honestly within your heart that you can say to Him, "I also love you, Lord." Take a moment and try it.

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We gave glory and praise to the Lord tonight in a very special way. All of us opened our heart and gave glory to Him, and the Lord always responds, for the greater the praise the greater His response is to us. And what greater way could He give us than telling us of His profound love He has for us. It all works hand in hand, the greater the praise the greater the love, the greater the worship the greater of the presence of the Lord with us.

And so I just had the sense before the word was given that the Lord is just saying 'thank you'. He's saying 'thank you so much for giving glory and praise to Me this night. Thank you so much for opening your heart to Me and surrendering to Me. Thank you so much for all that you do for I love you so much, and profoundly nothing can overtake the love that I have.' We should be completely at peace. We should be completely in awe of the presence of the Lord who is here with us this very night.

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Oh my little ones, praise Him, praise Him with all your heart for He is here. He is here amongst you. Let the fire of His love flow within you. Let the joy that He has for you explode in you. Oh my little ones, rejoice, rejoice for the Lamb is here. He loves you so much little ones. His heart is pounding with love. Let Him fill you, let the Holy Spirit fill you. Oh my children, rejoice, rejoice, rejoice!

FORMATION OF THE WILL

By: Father Jeffrey Shannon

In the summer of 2001, I was graced with the privilege of attending a four week course near Milan, Italy, at the "Center for Seminary Educators". Eighty priests and two bishops from over 30 different countries entered the conference hall each day to participate in various talks, seminars, and group discussions. Being the only North American priest, I found I was able to absorb and integrate much of the Church's wisdom as we probed into the finer details of what it takes to make a man into a priest...better known as "seminary formation". One important teaching and personal reflection on a topic, which influenced me profoundly on the course, was the formation of the will.

Our will is what allows us to carry out or complete what our conscience is calling us to do. A person's will is either strong or it is weak. Knowing what needs to get done, a strong will follows through and completes the job. A weak will fails in this regard.

Upon returning from our summer break in the community, I asked a number of the seminarians how they fared in fulfilling their responsibilities when the structure of community life was not present. Were you able to pray one hour of personal prayer each day? Did you pray the rosary every day? Did you exercise three times a week? Etc. It was clear that the answers were as I expected...all over the chart with few passing grades. Becoming a priest does not make things any easier. In fact, maintaining these disciplines becomes even more difficult upon ordination and thus, a strongly formed will is an essential prerequisite. It seems that even though we have many good intentions to do the things we know that we should do, our fallen human nature prevents us from fulfilling these goals. St. Paul was fully aware of this human reality when he agonized, "For I do not do the good I want, but I do the evil I do not want" (Rm.7:19).

This is the battle we face and our will determinates the direction that we take. Many of us, it appears, struggle because our senses and our appetites are not in proper order. We are blown around and negatively affected by our feelings and sentiments, like a balloon in the wind. There is no control and there is little discipline. Some temporary surface feeling blows us off course and keeps us from doing what we know we should and need to do. And so, our will remains weak, and we fail in our attempts at a

proper disciplined life because we lack the sheer "will power". How do we strengthen our will, we may ask? "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple" (Lk. 14:27). Each and every time we choose to make a sacrifice for a grater good, we strengthen our will. When we get up out of bed at the time we predetermined the night before so that we could spend some time with the Lord in prayer...when we offer up the pain and inconvenience of turning on the light in the early morning and swinging our feet out of bed...that sacrificial experience, offered to the Lord, strengthens our will. When it is done repeatedly, it not only becomes easier each time, but it becomes a holy habit...a virtue. A person living a virtuous life is a person with a strong will. A strong-willed person is someone who has embraced the cross and when he misses his prayer time on just on occasion, for example, he quickly corrects his ways because his strong will has been developed and strengthened like a well-trained athlete.

To form your will always implies renunciation. This self-renunciation helps us to forge and educate our ability to will. It is not a negative means; rather it is to choose to opt for a greater good. This consciously chosen, sacrificial act of the will can be applied to all areas of our life, completing our daily responsibilities and duties; finishing what we start; working with determination, organization, punctuality, dedication to work, study, prayer and never procrastinating. In fact, every human activity is an occasion to strengthen our will. Likewise, when we are lazy and careless, our will grows weak. A strong will also gives us strength to overcome our feelings and emotions during times of desolation and discouragement. We choose to persevere in praising God in the midst of our suffering and pain and not let ourselves get swept away by the weight of the situation facing us – something a weak-willed person is more apt to do.

Living in a society and culture, which thrives on being led by our feelings, choosing the option, which strengthens our will, is all the more difficult. As well, as Canadians we are a very passive culture by nature. We accept and tolerate the most horrendous injustices in our society without the least bit of resistance and active involvement on our part. This passivity, which has ingrained itself into our nature, does not help in fostering a strong, disciplined will. We are just too "laid back"

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FORMATION OF THE WILL

By: Father Jeffrey Shannon

about too many things and this has serious ramifications in our spiritual life and our human formation. How can the Lord be confident in entrusting His plans and His divine will into our lives if he knows that we are incapable of carrying it out due to a weak and undeveloped will?

Further difficulty in forming a strong will in our lives can happen with some of us who have experienced the grace of the Lord through the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Although this new life with the Holy Spirit is an indispensable gift in our Catholic Christian life, many of us believe that the Lord will work His grace in our life each time in a similar manner – in a powerful way and with very little action or cooperation on our part, (so it seemed on the first occasion when the Spirit caught our attention in a serious way). However, this initial powerful experience of the Lord that we received is meant to “entice our will” so that we will now make the choice to embrace the necessary sacrifices that come with following Christ, to pick up our cross and follow him. Some of us in the Renewal, who have not developed and formed our will as we should, are tempted at times to avoid these crosses and return to places and environments to re-experience the initial graces we received over and over again. As beautiful as the first time was, and however necessary it is at regular times to be prayed with and to be “filled up” again with the Holy Spirit because “we leak”, more often than not, the Lord may also be calling us to make the hard, sacrificial decision facing us so that we can strengthen and form our will. That is the understanding of cooperation with grace. At times, we may also avoid the hard disciplined sacrifices because we say to ourselves, “Oh will, the Lord still loves me as I am”. That is always true; however, it cannot become an excuse to avoid a little hard work and formation of our will.

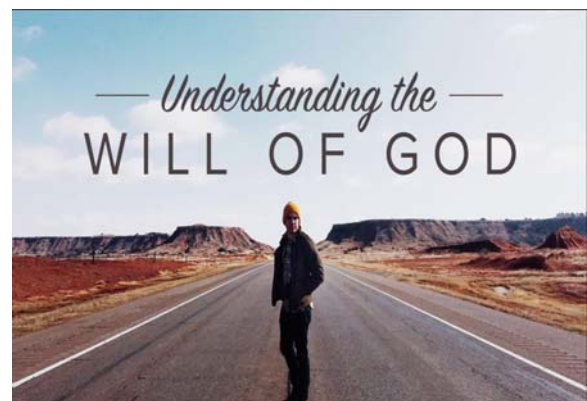
The necessity of repeating the sacrificial action until it becomes a habit became real to me during my experience while praying at the Scala Santa in Rome (the blood stained steps that were brought to Rome that Jesus climbed before being condemned by Pontius Pilate). While praying on my knees as I climbed the 30 steps to the top, I came to understand, in a deeper way, the necessity of the formation of the will and a vision of the spiritual life. I began with much vigour and enthusiasm to reach the top while praying my rosary. However, as I reached the middle portion, the tenth or eleventh step, I began to experience

much physical pain on my knees. I wanted to give up. I was tempted to go back down; however, there was no real opportunity as people were behind me and in front of me praying. I decided, at that point, to simply push through and offer up the pain. After 10 or 12 more steps of sheer perseverance, I noticed that the pain had almost completely disappeared, (and I noticed it in the body language from the people around me as well) yet I was still climbing on my knees at the same pace. When I reached the top, I reflected on my experience. Isn't the spiritual life summed up in this one prayer experience? At the beginning of a new and deeper relationship with the Lord (the first 10 steps), things seem easy and consolations with God abound. However, when the initial graces wear off, (the middle steps) we are called to suffer with the Lord and embrace the cross and exercise and discipline our will to choose the greater good. After repeated perseverance, a new grace appears (the top section of the steps) and we rejoice in a deeper intimacy with God. Therefore, the necessity of responding positively and forming our will during the difficult moments in life is the ingredients for becoming holy.

“Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough” (Lk. 13:24).

Let us put on our jogging suits and build up our strength by forming our will so that we may be worthy to share in the promises of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Mary and the Holy Spirit

Mary, who conceived the Incarnate Word by the power of the Holy Spirit and then in the whole of her life allowed herself to be guided by his interior activity, will be contemplated and imitated during this year above all as the woman who was docile to the voice of the Spirit, a woman of silence and attentiveness, a woman of hope who, like Abraham, accepted God's will, **"hoping against hope"** (Romans 4:18). Mary gave full expression to the longing of the poor of Yahweh and is a radiant model for those who entrust themselves with all their hearts to the promises of God.

John Paul II, Tertio Millennio Adveniente, & 48

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**the little servants of Christ The King prayer community
now has a website!!**

Please visit us at www.lsckpg.wordpress.com to find information
about our prayer group, our meeting times and our upcoming events.



Using an Internet Browser,
Type the following in the Search line:

You Tube the little servants of Christ the King Prayer Group

(You will see approximately 18 videos of Father Patrick's Homilies)

<<< STAY CONNECTED WITH US. WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. >>>