



Passionist Anniversaries



10 Years—Brooklyn Reconnect—by Fr. Jim O’Shea, C.P.

20 Years – St Luke Foundation of Haiti —by Fr. Rick Frechette, C.P.’

50 Years – The Sunday Mass –by Fr. Paul Fagan, C.P.

300 Years – Founding of the Passionists —by Fr. Joachim Rego, C.P.

Date	November Birthday
2	FAGAN, Paul
2	KEATING, Earl
4	MCKENNA, Robert
10	CASTELLANO, Rogie
15	BURKE, Richard
	SCANLON, Terrence
18	SALVAGNA, Michael
	SUMAMPONG, Jed
19	FINNIGAN, Francis
26	MARTINEZ, Cristian

Thanksgiving for Passionist Lives

Father Neil Davin, C.P. Died Oct 4, 2020

Father John Connor, C.P. Died Oct 5, 2020

Father Theodore Walsh, C.P. Died Oct 6, 2020

Provincial Updates

St. Paul of the Cross Province

October 19, 2020



Feast Day Prayers and Province Movements

Dear Brothers, Associates and Friends,

A most hearty prayer that each of you receive blessings on this feast day of our founder, **Paul of the Cross**! The challenges of this past year have been significant and the ones that will come are without doubt daunting. We rely on Paul's prayers, inspiration and courage for our Passionist family to move well through these times. Paul of the Cross, Pray for Us!

Around the Province....

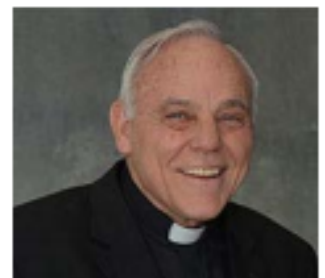
Jerome Bracken finished an extraordinary academic career at Seton Hall University. We recognize the countless young people, especially seminarians, who were formed by Jerry's scholarship and mentorship. Often, I have heard students comment about Jerry and frequently they reflect on what a good human being he is – down to earth- and approachable. Blessings to you, Jerry and thank you for your witness of a committed and generous life of service.

Edward Beck has returned from sabbatical and media work in California and will be in residence at St. Therese of Lisieux Parish, Montauk, NY beginning November 1st. Edward will be joining **Robert Joerger** in community and he will continue with his work on Province media projects, CNN, writing and retreats. Welcome back East, Edward!

Robin Ryan published his latest book, *Gazing on His Face* (Paulist Press) which reflects on dimensions of Christ Crucified and Risen. Robin dedicated the book to his Passionist brothers. Thank you, Robin for this work which is the fruit of your prayer, scholarship and ministry!

Luis Daniel Guivas reports that he is doing well in Haiti... **Jonathan Ramos**, **Daniel Cadet**, **Saverno Borsa** and **Adenald Fleury** are embracing their year of Novitiate in Mexico and **Cristian Martinez** has successfully begun his tenure at CTU. We are awaiting the arrival of **Samuel Joseph**, pending immigration, in New York. Special Blessings to our young Passionists.

We are planning a virtual Province Assembly for February 2021. More information to follow. As we look out the next two and a half years, we anticipate a virtual Pre-Chapter in Winter 2022 and an **in-person** Provincial Chapter in June 2022.





In the last two weeks, we marked the transitions of three of our bothers to eternal life – **Jack Connor**, **Ted Walsh** and **Neil Davin**. Each was a wonderful and unique Passionist and each was distinctly remembered and celebrated at their funerals. We are grateful to the local communities who cared for them. **John Gonzalez**, who is in Jamaica for a few months to begin exploring his vocation, was present at the two funerals in Jamaica. He was very moved by the experience and noted how all the Passionists in the house struggled to wear their Habits as a sign of respect to their brother who had died. He remarked that even though neither of the two men had ‘natural’ family present, they were surrounded by their religious brothers. He was most impressed by these expressions of fraternity and community life.

Paul of the Cross made a promise to gather companions who would support one another in the remembrance of the Passion. We are grateful for our community of companions – each one of us is distinct and blessed – each one wounded and ‘a work in progress’ – each one a gift from God! As we celebrate Paul’s feast day, we are mindful that we have shared this companionship – one for which we ought to be mightily grateful!

Finally, as we celebrate this feast and prepare for the 300th anniversary, **Father Joachim**, our General, has called us to a period of renewal and recommitment as we celebrate 300 years and enter the next century of Passionist Life and Ministry. May we ask Paul’s continued blessing and wisdom as we enter this moment of grace.

In JXP,

Fr. Jim O’Shea, CP
Provincial

10 Years—Brooklyn Reconnect—by Fr. Jim O’Shea, C.P.

<https://reconnectnyc.org/>



Reconnect Brooklyn was founded to address a neighborhood need: too many good young men were having too many bad life outcomes. Too much violence...too much under-education...too little opportunity to imagine a different future.

Bedford Stuyvesant and surrounding neighborhoods continue to have some of the highest numbers of disconnected youth in New York City – young people not in school and not working – with most struggling from the consequences of intergenerational poverty and historic community neglect. Street corners became centers for disconnected youth.

Reconnect Brooklyn was born with one simple idea – if young men aren’t prepared to leave ‘the corner’, then we transform ‘the corner’ – and what better way to transform it than through local, formative employment and a healthy community of mentors and peers.

Reconnect Brooklyn does the hard work to do some pretty simple things:

- Co-create **Employment** that teaches our youth how to work
- Co-create **Community** that teaches our youth to gain confidence
- Co-create **Possibilities** that teaches our youth that there are options for the future

Since 2011, **Reconnect Brooklyn** has employed over 175 young men, 17-24. For most of these men, it was their first job.

Over 90% of our Youth Partners successfully completed their initial employment at one of **Reconnect Brooklyn** social enterprises.

Over 80% of these young men continue to be employed in New York City and beyond.

In the next 5 years, **Reconnect Brooklyn** will:

- Engage another 200 young men through employment and education
- Establish a facility with expanded social enterprise and educational space
- Increase connections to higher education and training in advanced manufacturing
- Widen community, educational and industry partnerships

20 Years St Luke Foundation of Haiti—by Fr. Rick Frechette, C.P.

Dear friends, dear family (after all the years together, the dividing line fades!)

As we begin the last quarter of 2020, a year that has pushed the whole world to the brink and will likely establish a new world vision (a new and brighter north star), I am reflecting on our own tumultuous situation in Haiti, and the value of my own 33 years here.

I am privileged to be a priest of the [Passionist Community](#), and I am grateful to my community for the generous permissions granted to for me the works I describe below. I arrived in Haiti when I was 34 years old, and without knowing a single person, set out to work. I ponder the years now from the vantage point of being 67. To make this a very short story, from my arrival in 1987 until the millennial year 2000, myself and some pretty amazing people were charged with creating, on behalf of Fr William Wasson and [Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos](#) (NPH), dynamic programs for orphan and vulnerable children, and also a children's hospital. Both of these life-giving branches of the huge family tree that is NPH, still make enormous contributions to many children and young people, whom we first came to know because of the serious distress that marked their lives.

St Damien hospital began by confronting the twin disasters of severe malnutrition and HIV/AIDS, and has amazingly evolved to a specialty pediatric hospital that can adopt very fast to urgent needs, even to threats such as COVID 19. I could absolutely regale you with stories of the heroic people who made Fr Wasson's programs real, very often in the face of anguishing problems and hair-raising adventures.

Many of you have shared these with us. I continued in a major leadership role in NPH Haiti from 1987 until 2017, and from that time my dedication remains at 200%, but my role has been supportive and advisory.

Because my modus operandi has always been to develop native leaders, the more we advanced toward this goal, the more freedom I had to get involved in the very poor margins of Port-au-Prince, especially as a priest and physician.

Those who joined me in this new work, and in fact were the catalysts for what it would become, were young graduates of NPH Haiti. There were many of them: a handful of great leaders and fistfuls of others who were incredible members of well led teams. We started this work in the millennial year 2000.

I could also regale you with stories of how heroic were these, *our own young people*, in creating clinics, schools and community centers, again in the face of impossible problems and many dangerous circumstances. We called this work The St Luke Foundation for Haiti.

If you like, take a few minutes to [look at this video, and meet some of these great people](#).



Richard Frechette

HAITI
The God of Tough Places,
the Lord of Burnt Men

As the years passed, I penned a few reflections every year, looking with the eyes of faith on many of the tough experiences we lived through, and have shared these with family, friends and supporters. I am collecting most of these reflections now, and will soon publish them, so you can read our own history as a faith journey, and be inspired by the hard work of so many dedicated and amazing people, who have become treasured friends. [I am grouping them by years- and soon you will be able to share some of our adventures \(from 2014 to 2020\).](#)

When we started the work in such difficult circumstances, I asked for the intercession and blessing of St Luke, physician and Gospel whisperer. We made him our patron, and took on his name.

We wanted to ground our work with the sick in the healing ministry of Jesus, and we wanted our work in schools to be as much about values and dignity as about math and music. Like the four great Evangelists, we wanted everything to point, above all, to our great God in the highest heavens.

Because of the urgency of the tasks we faced, which were often critical, we took as our call to action these paraphrased words of an ancient Jewish philosopher, Hillel the Elder: “If it is not me to act, who is it? And if it is not now, when?”

Though these words span 21 centuries, and are still very much alive in our hearts.

Now 20 years have passed. We are in our 20th anniversary. I think we have been put through every conceivable test over these years. So many challenges and heart aches, joys and deep bonds of friendship.

We have faced some of the most forceful kinds of natural disasters, and unbelievable political and social upheavals, while always in the background was grinding poverty, and the crime and chaos it produces. We have faced the scourges of illness: HIV/Aids, TB, malaria, malnutrition, the scourge of cholera, and recently a pandemic that we face together with the whole human family.

While Haiti was largely spared of Covid -19, St Luke Hospital was significantly challenged by it, with 1400 some patients coming to us for help.

I would have never thought, after all we have been through, that our 20th year would be threatened by the serious weakening of the US dollar in Haiti, and by the decreased fundraising results for us and many others, as challenges mount in countries that once were secure and prosperous and now face economic uncertainties on many fronts, not the least of which is Coronavirus.

As we bring the last quarter of this infamous year to a close, I hope you will consider helping to strengthen us for our next 20 years. (I fully intend to still be working and hopefully helpful at 87!).

We know it is not a great time to ask for financial help. Around the world, there is so much uncertainty and confusion, so much financial hardship loss of employment.

Given this fact, it is truly amazing, *and I thank many of your most sincerely*, for the support that came in just from my alerting you to the situation in Haiti two weeks ago.

We have already recuperated the damage done to our financial stability in September! And we have also recuperated our optimism!

But we do have an idea for a direct appeal to strengthen us more, as our anniversary year comes to an end.

We hope to combine the generosity of Giving Tuesday with an increase in virtual Christmas or Holiday Parties, whereby friends get together to celebrate, and raise some funds for us. Maybe you can help us by letting your friends and families know about our work, and ask them to remember us in one of these two ways. If you think you can help with this venture, [click here](#) or visit <https://www.mightycause.com/story/8zr6cg>.

Our 2019 annual report might be useful to present our work, which can be found here: [Annual Report](#). People who are in a position to be able to help can choose to focus on our hospital and clinics (which help 60,000 people every year), or on our 34 schools (which are forming 16,000 students daily).

We are still determined and dedicated, we would rather be doing more than less, funding permitting. We certainly don't want to lose the valuable ground we have gained in three decades and then some. We are ready for another decade! Please consider helping us to begin again. [If you are not too tired, hear me to you directly](#).

Thanks to those whose recent donations have righted us. Thanks for your support in this trying anniversary year!

Let's watch together for a new light from heaven to guide us, and follow it in faith.

Be assured of our deepest gratitude and promise of prayer.

Fr Richard Frechette CP DO

October 14, 2020

THE MISSION OF ST LUKE FOUNDATION OF HAITI

We provide healthcare, education, and dignified humanitarian outreach to the least served populations of Haiti, with programs that employ more than 1,000 Haitian staff members.



LIFE-SAVING HEALTH CARE

Caring for more than 60,000 patients each year.

200,000 patients have received care across our facilities
50,000 patients Treated for Cholera
4,000 Women screened for Cervical cancer
2,500 mothers and children for pre and post natal care each year
1,400—Covid-19 patients



OPENING DOORS FOR STUDENTS

Educating the next generation of Haitian leaders

36 Schools,
16,000 Students,
96% pass rate for seniors taking Haiti National Exam



PROMOTING ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

Supporting communities through job creation and entrepreneurship.

Bread – 1 Million loaves baked each year
Tilapia – 8000 harvested each month
Houses – 150 houses constructed
Solar Panels – 150 KW of panels installed



SUPPORTING GRASS-ROOTS SOLUTIONS

Fighting for the dignity of every Haitian family.

Water – 19,500 gallons of clean water delivered each day
Burials – 250+ burials and celebrations each month
EMT Service—24 hour service

2019 Annual Report for St Luke Foundation

St. Luke Foundation for Haiti: Celebrating 20 Years



FATHER RICK FRECHETTE

While every St Luke program is led by a Haitian professional, Father Rick continues to guide, advise and lead by example in Haiti.

FOUNDATION ST LUKE STAFF`

Each program we support is led by a Haitian professional.



Fr Rick at recent meeting with the staff. See the meeting [here](#)

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Healthcare and educational institutions from around the world provide expertise to strengthen programs.

VOLUNTEERS

Our Advisory Board, Ambassadors Program, and Medical Volunteer Brigades work to support the Haitian team.

The Shrinking US Dollar threatens the Operation of St Luke Foundation of Haiti

What can you could do to help keep this operation going?



Some of you may be over 70 and a half and have money in accounts that have not been taxed. Did you know that you can contribute directly from this account to St Luke Foundation—without paying the tax on it? This is called qualified charitable distribution (QCD) as stated in [this IRS FAQ](#)

You would then have this withdrawal check made out to **St Luke Foundation of Haiti** and mailed to you. Then you would send the check to **St. Luke Foundation for Haiti 8980 SW 56th St Miami FL 33165**

Maybe you can help St Luke Foundation by letting your friends and families know about our work, and ask them to remember us in one of these two ways. If you think you can help with this venture, [click here](#) or visit <https://www.mightycause.com/story/8zr6cg>

50 Years – The Sunday Mass -by Fr. Paul Fagan, C.P.

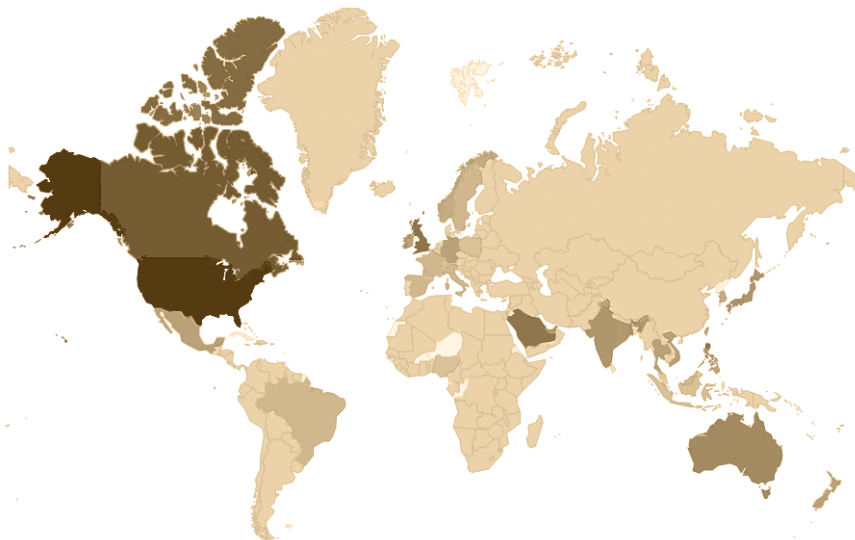


The Passionists' mission is to keep alive in the world the love of Jesus Crucified as seen in His Sacred Passion. This mission is rooted in prayerful community life and is expressed in collaborative ministry to the people of God in all walks of life, especially the poor and suffering. In creating a TV parish for the home bound and infirm, the Passionists of St. Paul of the Cross Province work to fulfill this mission with The Sunday Mass.

The Sunday Mass began its broadcast on Christmas Day, 1970 in the New York Tri-State area. Addressing the need of the aged and the infirm to be sustained in their Catholic faith, this outreach afforded them the opportunity to join in worship, if only electronically. For those whose circumstances often lead to a sense of isolation, The Sunday Mass provided a television parish where one could not only participate in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, but could also feel a sense of belonging and community. The familiar faces of our presiders, choir and lectors reinforced the feeling of being part of a parish. The Sunday Mass is now broadcast each week on tv as well as on many local stations.

Who we reach

Our parishioners span all across the globe from the United States to the United Kingdom to Hong Kong and Brazil



300 Years – Founding of the Passionists –by Fr. Joachim Rego, C.P.
To find out this Jubilee click [here](#).



FEAST OF ST PAUL OF THE CROSS

MESSAGE OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL, FR. JOACHIM REGO, C.P.

Rome, October 19, 2020

*“The world lives unmindful
of the sufferings of Jesus which are
the miracle of miracles of the love of God.
We must arouse the world from its slumber.”*

Paolo Della Croce

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends in the Passionist Family,

Firstly, I thank God and I thank you all for your kind prayers for me during my recent Thyroidectomy (surgical removal of the thyroid) which proved successful. However, soon after being discharged from hospital, I suffered some unforeseen post-surgery complications (related to medications) which prolonged my rehabilitation and full recovery until now. During this time, I felt very much supported by and depended upon your prayers, and I assure you that your intentions and ‘crosses’ were also very much assumed by me in my thoughts and prayers for you. THANK YOU!



I take the opportunity of this feast of our Holy Founder: St. Paul of the Cross, to send you my greetings and message as we rejoice and give glory to God within the Passionist Family in the church.

Today we celebrate the 245th year since the birth of St. Paul of the Cross into Eternal Life and we are looking ahead only 33 days before we commemorate the 300th anniversary of the actual foundation by St. Paul of the Cross of the Passionist Congregation (22 November 1720 - 2020) for which he worked with so much determination and perseverance.

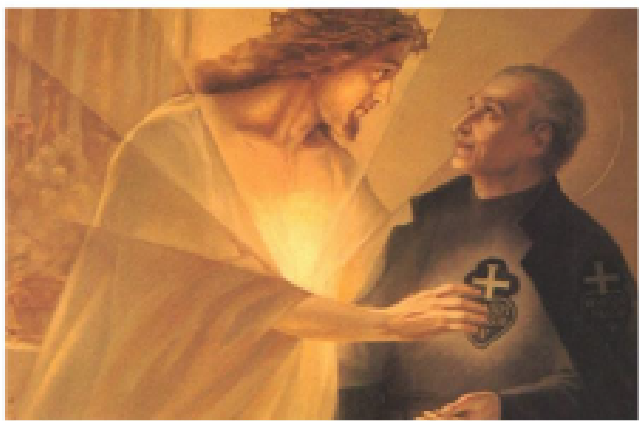
We know that St. Paul of the Cross lived to see his dream come true - not only in founding, but also in receiving the full approval from the Church for both the male Congregation of the Passion and, some years later, the foundation of the female cloistered Contemplative Nuns.



As we celebrate the feast this year and stand on the cusp of history eager to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the Congregation's foundation (proclaimed as a Jubilee Year by Pope Francis), perhaps we can delve into the mind of St. Paul of the Cross to further understand why he spent so much of his life to so doggedly pursue his dream to found and fully establish these two formally approved and canonically recognized Congregations in the Church. What drove him and why did he feel such a need for this?

When we look at the life story and faith experiences of St. Paul of the Cross, we can see clearly that, firstly, this desire was inspired by God. It is evident

that after his 'conversion', Paul became passionately overtaken by his deep contemplation of the Crucified Jesus; like St. Paul the Apostle he wanted to *know nothing except Jesus Christ and him crucified (1Cor. 2:1-2)*. It was in the mystery of the Passion of Jesus that Paul of the Cross discovered the transforming effects and graces for his own life, and also saw the fruits of conversion borne in the lives of those who opened themselves



humbly to be embraced by the love and compassion of God as they meditated on the Passion of Jesus.

This drive to found a Congregation was further nourished and encouraged by the 'inner lights' he received from Jesus' Sorrowful Mother "to found a Congregation whose members" would keep alive the memory of the Passion of Jesus as apostolic companions.

It seems to me that Paul of the Cross' determination in founding a Congregation consisted in assuring that *"the pearl of great price"* – *the memoria passionis* – he found in the Passion of Jesus was not to be hidden, buried or kept for himself, but rather it was a gem worthy of gathering companions who would generously spend their lives to cherish, savour and share its fount and wisdom with others in time and in history.

In meditating on the Passion of Jesus, Paul knew and felt God's love for him – a transforming love which brought about renewal and real change in his life. It was this experience and message that he wanted also to transmit to others. He believed that this was the greatest free gift from God to the universe. Therefore, he ardently desired to establish a structured and committed community that would keep alive and promote through its mission this sacred memory.

"CHRIST CRUCIFIED is a work of love.

The miracle of miracles of love.

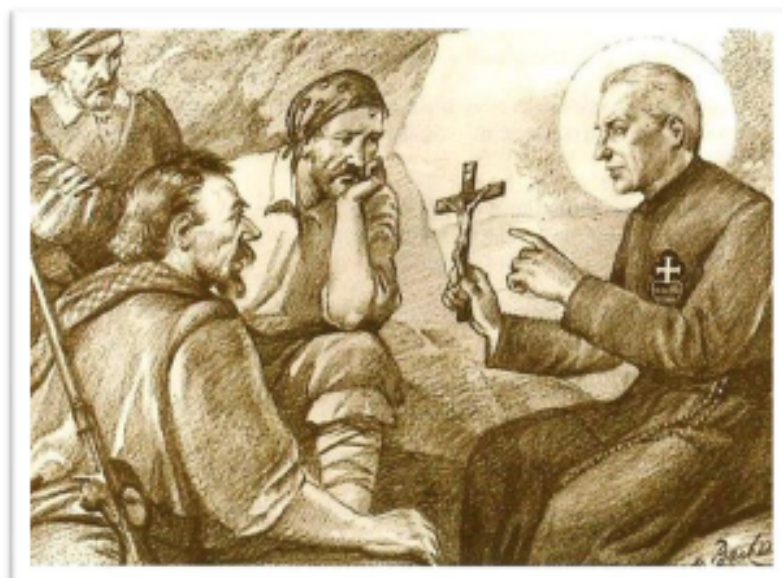
The most stupendous work of the love of God.

***The bottomless sea of the love of God,
where virtues are found,***

where one can lose oneself in love and sorrow.

A sea and a fire or a sea of fire.

***The most beneficial means of abandoning sin
and growing in virtue, and so in holiness."***



On this feast day, we believe that St. Paul of the Cross rejoices in God's presence as he continues to see his founding vision being blessed by God despite 300 years of epoch changes, reinterpretations, suppressions, and re-envisioning in our attempts and struggles to speak the language and meet the needs of the changing times.

As we prepare imminently to mark the 'Jubilee' of foundation, we have decided to live this journey together in listening to the Holy Spirit's call to *Renew Our Mission* in light of the signs of our times and in the awareness that any 'renewal' must begin with 'my personal renewal (conversion)' in Christ...and Him crucified.

Our Jubilee is an opportunity for us to pray for and open to the gift of personal and communal conversion in the process of renewal. It is a 'faith event' celebrated not with bands, balloons and fireworks, but with grateful remembrance, prayerful reflection, and hopeful listening (discernment): *gratitude, prophecy, hope.*



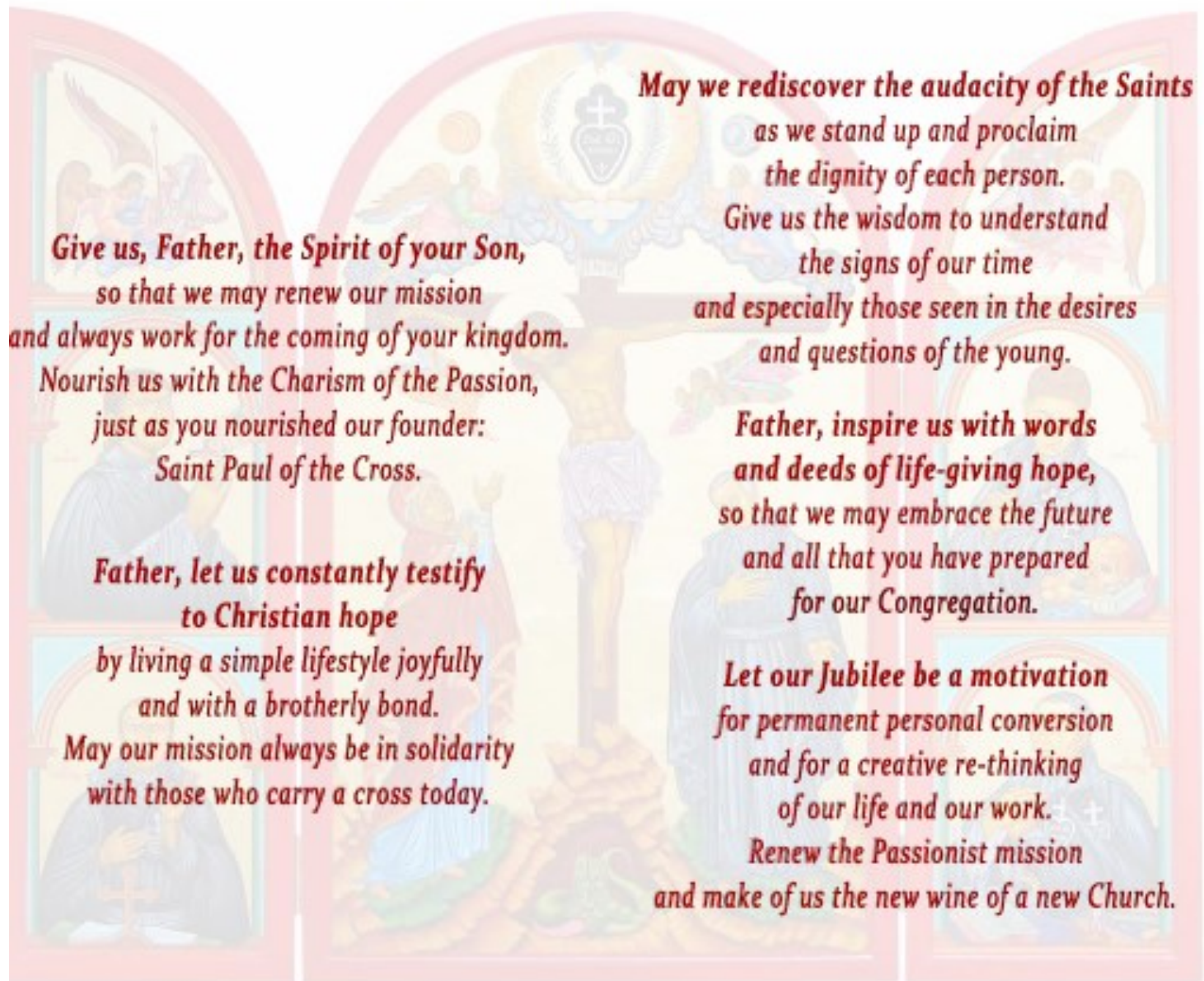
As I thank you for all you have been preparing and doing in celebration of our Jubilee, I take this opportunity on your behalf to also sincerely thank the members of the Jubilee Commission for their enormous steady hard work with their creative proposals, formation material, resources, and organization of the journey of the Jubilee Icon around the parts of the Congregation.



I wish you every blessing as you commemorate and celebrate in your local place the 300th anniversary of the foundation of the Passionist Congregation on 22nd November 2020. May it be a source of healing and new life for each one of you and for all those who will participate in entering humbly through the Holy Door of the Passion of Jesus: *“the way to Paradise”*.|

Here in Rome, the official opening of the Holy Door, followed by the inaugural celebration of the Jubilee Year Eucharist, will take place at the Basilica of Saints John and Paul and will be presided by Cardinal Pietro Parolin (Vatican Secretary of State). *[Information of the live-stream of this event will be communicated to the Passionist Family later.]*

I encourage us all to sincerely accompany our commemoration and celebrations with the Jubilee Prayer:



Give us, Father, the Spirit of your Son,
so that we may renew our mission
and always work for the coming of your kingdom.
Nourish us with the Charism of the Passion,
just as you nourished our founder:
Saint Paul of the Cross.

**Father, let us constantly testify
to Christian hope**
by living a simple lifestyle joyfully
and with a brotherly bond.
May our mission always be in solidarity
with those who carry a cross today.

May we rediscover the audacity of the Saints
as we stand up and proclaim
the dignity of each person.
Give us the wisdom to understand
the signs of our time
and especially those seen in the desires
and questions of the young.

**Father, inspire us with words
and deeds of life-giving hope,**
so that we may embrace the future
and all that you have prepared
for our Congregation.

**Let our Jubilee be a motivation
for permanent personal conversion
and for a creative re-thinking
of our life and our work.**
Renew the Passionist mission
and make of us the new wine of a new Church.

Blessings and best wishes for a happy feast day!

~ Fr. Joachim Rego, C.P.
Superior General



Father Theodore Walsh, C.P.

Born: March 1, 1932 – Brooklyn, NY

First Profession: July 16, 1952 – Pittsburgh, PA

Final Profession: July 16, 1955 – Jamaica, NY

Ordination: June 19, 1959 – Union City, NJ

Died October 6, 2020.

Homily for Theodore Walsh, C.P. by Fr. Victor Hoagland, C.P.

I sat next to Theodore Walsh for meals and prayers for 8 years in student life. For 8 years when a baked potato came around for a meal, I took the skins from him and he took the insides from me. For 8 years we played basketball together on half days. He was a wonderful athlete, great to have on your side, but watch out when he played against you. He had a quickness you wouldn't suspect. One minute you had the ball, the next you didn't. I learned never to underestimate him. He was a quiet, humble man, and he could be underestimated.

After ordination Theodore volunteered to go to the Philippines as a missionary. A big move for someone just ordained. Not only that, but Theodore became the first novice master for our community in the Philippines. It wasn't easy setting up that novitiate. The housing arrangements were extremely poor. Two young Filipinos finally applied, but when the Provincial from the States came over on visitation he didn't like the situation, not professional enough, he said, and he told Theodore to send the boys home and close the place.

Father Theodore Foley, the Passionist general came through a short time later and told Theodore to get those boys back and open the place again. The young men became the first Filipino Passionists, Fr. Gabriel and Fr. Nonito.

Theodore really believed in our community and the Passionist vocation. We saw his love for vocations in these last few years here in Jamaica when he would hobble out on his walker at the 10 AM Mass and after Communion ask a family in the congregation to take home a vocational crucifix and pray for vocations the next week. Vocations were important for him.

Preaching was important too. He was a very good preacher. For many years, after returning from the Philippines, he and Fr. Kenan preached missions and retreats together in this area in the spring and fall and Florida in the winter, where they would go from parish to parish.

I went with him on a number of parish missions. I thought he was a great preacher; his preaching was simple, homey, deliberate, sincere, no notes, excellent material. He was an excellent missionary.

As his health declined he loved being able to preach at the 11 o'clock Mass in the public chapel in Jamaica and to stay on to talk to people and give them his blessing. He heard confessions here every week.

He began writing homilies for the Province website, and gradually, when he couldn't preach at Mass, he read the scriptures during Mass in that deliberate way of his that made every word count.

Theodore was a contemplative, someone who could spend hours in his own room reflecting and praying. The perfect vacation for him during the summer was to go to Shelter Island and sit on the shore looking out on the water, then take a swim.

It wasn't that he neglected people, though. He loved his family, his sister Maureen, and his deceased brother John's children and grandchildren. He was on the phone with them all the time. He visited with them as often as he could. Unfortunately, as for so many others, the Covid 19 epidemic prevented them from visiting him in his last illness and attending his funeral.

He loved the Passionist community, the people in it, the things it did.

Usually, the first thing he said to me when we met was "What's going on?" He wanted to know what was happening, how people were doing. "Is there anything new on the bulletin board?" he would ask as he got weaker. He wanted the community to flourish here and in the world.

I guess I could say about Father Theodore what our wise classmate, Fr. Paul Cusack said about him awhile ago: "He was the holiest of us all."

Now we won't see Theodore here in the chapel, at meals, in his room on the 2nd floor any more. Death is a time of closure. Some say death is a complete closure. He's gone, all that's left are memories of him, and they will die soon enough.

But that's not true. For Christians, death is not the end. Life is changed, not ended. We don't see it with our eyes or hear it with our ears. But there's life ahead. We believe what Jesus says in the gospel. There are dwelling places prepared for us and he'll lead us to them. There's a dwelling place for Theodore Walsh, and Jesus is leading him there.

Life is changed, not ended. Let's not forget that that changed life is still connected to this one. The dwelling places Jesus promises are not gated communities separating us from the world where we were born.

There's a communion of saints. Saints who care for us. Saints who cared for our world when they were here and care for it now, saints who were zealous for spreading the gospel in their lifetime and still are zealous for spreading the gospel now. Saints who lived with us, and still do.

There's a communion of saints. Those who leave us don't turn away from us. They don't leave us orphans. They keep us in mind. Theodore Walsh will still be asking "What's going on.?"

I think this is important to remember today when so many in our world think we are all alone, on a lonely planet, with dwindling hopes.

But we know, our our scriptures today remind us, that from the mountains, those who see directly, before their eyes, the Lord restoring Zion, bring us comfort. From the places prepared for them, those who go before us guide us still.

We are not alone. There's a communion of saints. Great saints whom we never knew, but also saints who were our companions in life are our companions still. Saints of God, pray for us.

Father Victor Hoagland, CP



Father Neil Davin, C.P.

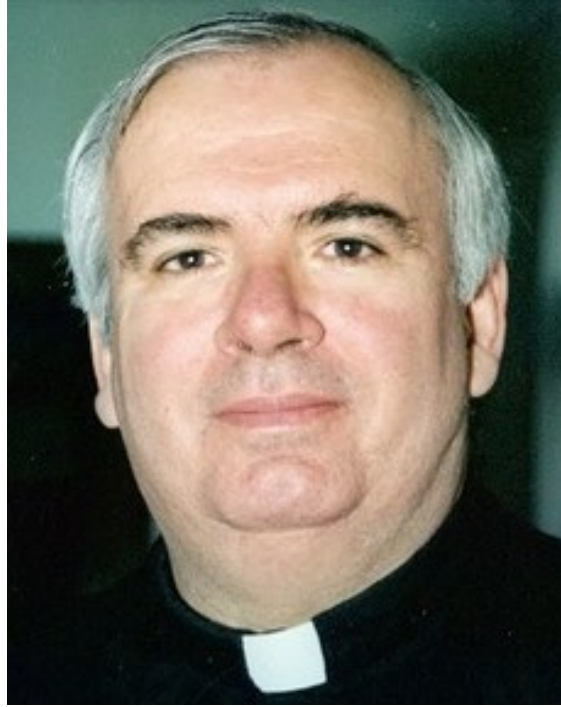
Born: January 9, 1926 – Pittsburgh, PA

First Profession: August 15, 1946 – Pittsburgh, PA

Final Profession: August 15, 1949 – Scranton, PA

Ordination: February 28, 1952 – Union City, NJ

Died October 4, 2020.—



Father John Connor, C.P.

Born: July 26, 1949 – Scranton, PA

First Profession: August 30, 1980 – West Hartford, CT

Final Profession: September 2, 1983 – Baltimore, MD

Ordination: June 6, 1984 – Jamaica, NY

Died: October 3, 2020.