

# The MESSENGER

MISSIONARIES OF THE HOLY FAMILY



Enjoy Time with Your Family

SUMMER 2011

# The MESSENGER

MISSIONARIES OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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## The MESSENGER

MISSIONARIES OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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### **Missionaries of the Holy Family (MSF)**

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# Provincial Perspective

Dear Friends,

In July, everyone is in summertime and vacation mood. During this time, we must not forget that we still have to meet our Christian obligation to share the Gospel message with others and to help build the Kingdom of God. This means we have to stay close to the Risen Christ that He may add joy and grace to our lives in all the celebrations and festivities this summer.

When Jesus ascended to Heaven, He promised to be with us always through the Holy Spirit. With the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, we know of the change that took place in the lives of Jesus' disciples. I hope that you have opened yourself to the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sadly, many people ignore the presence of the Holy Spirit dwelling in them, and boredom and self-satisfaction take over their lives. Let us open ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit and allow a transformation to happen in our lives as we labor each day with joy to renew the face of the earth.

While you are busy this summer, may we keep you and your family in prayer?

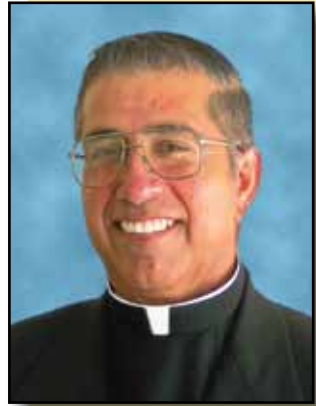
Please send your prayer intentions to us. You will find a return envelope located in the middle of this issue of *The Messenger*.

Have a restful, relaxing, and happy summer!

Sincerely in the Holy Family, I am

*Fr. Phil Sosa, M.S.F.*

Very Reverend Philip Sosa, M.S.F.  
Provincial Superior



*Very Rev. Philip Sosa, M.S.F.*

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## HOLY FAMILY LIFE

# Words of Wisdom *The Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World*

by Father Simon Brzozowski, M.S.F.

Coming up this fall, we will have the 30th anniversary of the brilliant Apostolic Exhortation by Blessed Pope John Paul II, given to the world on 22 November 1981, “*Familiaris Consortio*,” or *The Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World*.

The following is a summary, in my words, of this inspiring document, but let’s begin with a statement that cuts to the very heart of the matter:

*“The future of the World and of the Church passes through the Family.”*

*Blessed Pope John Paul II (FC,75)*

The communion of love between God and His people finds its meaning in the marriage covenant between a man and a woman. Virginity or celibacy for the sake of the Kingdom of God does not contradict the dignity of marriage, but presupposes and confirms it. When marriage is not esteemed, consecrated virginity cannot exist. When human sexuality is not regarded as



a great value given by the Creator, the renunciation of it for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven loses its meaning.

The gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Marriage is a commandment of life for Christian spouses. They are called to progress towards an ever richer and indissoluble union with each other at all levels, revealing to the Church and the world the new communion of love given by the grace of Jesus Christ. They are called to holiness. Such a sacred communion is radically contradicted by homosexual unions and all other strange manipulations of marriage.

In creating the human race as male and female, God gives men and women an equal personal dignity. God manifests the dignity of women in the highest form possible by assuming human flesh, as Jesus Christ, from the Virgin Mary, whom the Church honors as the Mother of God, calling her the New Eve, and

presenting her as the model of all redeemed women.

Unfortunately, the Christian message about the dignity of women is contradicted by a persistent secular mentality that considers the human being not as a person, but as a thing. This produces very bitter and degrading fruits, especially made evident in pornography, slavery, and prostitution.

Authentic conjugal love presupposes and requires that a man has a profound respect for the equal dignity of his wife. Loving his wife as the mother of his children, and loving his children themselves, a man finds the natural way of understanding and fulfilling his own fatherhood, which is the very fatherhood of God. Concern for children, from the very first moment of conception, is the primary and fundamental test of the relationship of one civilized human being to another. As life progresses, the elderly help to clarify a scale of human values, showing the continuity of generations and marvelously demonstrating the interdependence of God's people. As already described by the Early Church, the family is the "domestic church." It is the first school of virtues and Faith needed by society.

The Church stands for life, and, fortunately for the world, it does! It is gravely unjust and immoral, in international relations, for example, where economic help for the advancement of people is made

conditional on the acceptance of programs of promiscuous sex education, artificial contraception, sterilization, and abortion.

The family must be protected because it is the building block of society, the very foundation of society. If the family does not have moral integrity, the world will not have moral integrity. Families should be the first to take steps to see that the laws and institutions of the state do not offend, but support and positively defend the rights and duties of the family.


Christian families offer a special contribution to the missionary cause of the Church by fostering vocations among their sons and daughters. By leading holy lives in every place, and in every circumstance, families help to consecrate the world itself to God. To this end, the Eucharist – the very Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ – is the source and summit of Christian life.

For more information, please visit the Vatican website at [www.vatican.va/phome\\_en.htm](http://www.vatican.va/phome_en.htm) and type *Familiaris Consortio* in the Search Box.

Now, let's conclude with a warm embrace of the Holy Family, the perfect model for all families:

*"I entrust each family to Him (Jesus), to Mary, and to Joseph."*

*Blessed Pope John Paul II (FC,86)*

Blessed Pope John Paul II, pray for us! 



## WORTHY OF BELIEF

# The First Approved U.S. Marian Apparition is at...

by Maurice “Maury” Prater, Advancement Director

- A.) The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.
- B.) The Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, Wisconsin.
- C.) The National Sanctuary of Our Sorrowful Mother in Portland, Oregon.

***The answer is... B!***

In 2009, Most Reverend David L. Ricken, Bishop of Green Bay, opened a formal Church investigation into the Marian



apparitions that occurred in 1859 on the site of the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, Wisconsin. The task of the commission was to rigorously test the historical apparitions in light of the Church's teaching on Public Revelation.

On 8 December 2010, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Bishop Ricken issued a for-

mal decree:

“I declare with moral certainty, and in accord with the norms of the Church, that the events, apparitions, and locutions given to Adele


Brise in October of 1859 do exhibit the substance of supernatural character, and I do hereby approve these apparitions as worthy of belief (although not obligatory) by the Christian faithful.”<sup>1</sup>

Our Blessed Mother appeared to 28-year-old Adele Joseph Brise in 1859 and told her:

*“I am the Queen of Heaven [...] Gather the children in this wild*

country and teach them what they should know for salvation [...] Teach them their catechism, how to sign themselves with the Sign of the Cross, and how to approach the sacraments; that is what I wish you to do. Go and fear nothing. I will help you."<sup>2</sup>

By 1864, Adele had gathered a group of women who lived together in communal life, and they founded St. Mary's Boarding Academy. Until her death in 1896, Adele devoted herself to fulfilling the mission given to her by Our Blessed Mother. Although she was called "Sister," Adele was actually a member of a secular third order following the Franciscan way of life.<sup>3</sup>

To plan a pilgrimage with your family, or for more information, please call (920) 866-2571 or visit [www.shrineofourladyofgoodhelp.com](http://www.shrineofourladyofgoodhelp.com). 

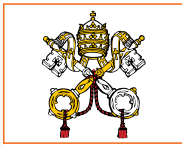
### Footnotes:

- 1 Website of the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin: [www.gbdioc.org](http://www.gbdioc.org).
- 2 *"The Chapel" of Our Lady of Good Help: A Shrine of Mary on the Green Bay Peninsula* by Sr. M. Dominica, O.S.F.
- 3 *The Compass: The Official Newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin*, 17 February 2011.



### Pieta Votive Candles

This beautiful Pieta statue is in St. Wenceslaus Church in St. Louis, Missouri, and in the rectory are the offices of the North American Province of the Missionaries of the Holy Family. If you would like for us to light a seven-day votive candle, and have our Provincial Superior pray for your family and your intentions, please use the return envelope stapled in the middle of this magazine. The suggested donation is \$7.00. May God bless you.



## FROM THE HOLY SEE

# Pope Benedict XVI's Prayer Intentions

### July 2011

**General Intention:** That Christians may contribute to alleviating the material and spiritual suffering of AIDS patients, especially in the poorest countries.

**Missionary Intention:** For the religious who work in mission territories, that they may be witnesses of the joy of the Gospel and living signs of the love of Christ.

### August 2011

**General Intention:** That the World Youth Day taking place in Madrid may encourage all the young people of the world to root and found their lives in Christ.

**Missionary Intention:** That Christians of the West, docile to the action of the Holy Spirit, may re-encounter the freshness and enthusiasm of their faith.

### September 2011

**General Intention:** For all teachers, that they may convey love in truth and educate in authentic moral and spiritual values.

**Missionary Intention:** That the Christian communities spread throughout the Asian continent may proclaim the Gospel with fervor, bearing witness to beauty with the joy of the faith.





*“Dear parents... teach your children to pray, and pray with them... the hour of the family has arrived... rejoice in fatherhood and motherhood! Openness to life is a sign of openness to the future...”*

- Sunday Homily, 5 June 2011

## **October 2011**

**General Intention:** For the terminally ill, that in their sufferings they may be sustained by faith in God and by the love of others.

**Missionary Intention:** That the celebration of World Mission Sunday may increase in the People of God the passion for evangelization and the support of missionary activity through prayer and economic aid for the poorest Churches.

## **November 2011**

**General Intention:** For the eastern Churches, that their venerable tradition may be known and appreciated as a spiritual treasure for the entire Church.

**Missionary Intention:** That the African continent may find in Christ the strength to fulfill the path of reconciliation and justice, indicated in the second Synod of Bishops for Africa.

## **December 2011**

**General Intention:** That the nations of the earth, through knowledge and mutual respect, may grow in harmony and peace.

**Missionary Intention:** That children and young people may be messengers of the Gospel and that their dignity may always be respected and preserved from all violence and exploitation.



## A PROFILE OF SERVICE

# Well Done, Good and Faithful Servant

Father Eugene Ronan, M.S.F.  
13 January 1941 – 28 March 2011

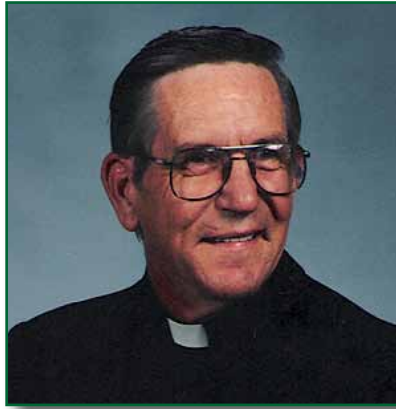
Fortified with the Sacraments of Holy Mother Church, Father Gene Ronan, M.S.F. died on 28 March 2011.

Dearest son of the late Joseph A. and Margaret (Bonner) Ronan, Father Gene had

two brothers, Joe and Bill, who preceded him in death. He is survived by his sisters, Rosemary and Patricia, five nieces and two nephews, and by his dear confreres of the Priests and Brothers of the Missionaries of the Holy Family.

Father Gene, 70, was a native of Altoona, Pennsylvania. He was a vowed member of the Missionaries of the Holy Family for 21 years and ordained a priest for 17 years.

He attended school in Altoona, and, after graduating, he worked at several different occupations. Eventually, he answered his call to the religious life and entered the



Missionaries of the Holy Family. His first vows were taken on 15 August 1989, and he was ordained a priest in Altoona on 18 September 1993.

Father Gene served as Parochial Vicar (PV) of Holy Family Church in New Braunfels, Texas; PV at St. Wenceslaus Church in St. Louis, Missouri; Chaplain at the Little Sisters of the Poor in St. Louis; PV at Holy Family Church in Edinburg, Texas; Pastor of St. James Church in Beeville, Texas; and, most recently, as Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in New Braunfels.

Father Gene was active in the Knights of Columbus in New Braunfels, and he was their strong Pro-Life voice in the community. He was the leader in developing

a monthly Knights of Columbus Pro-Life Mass.

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

**Memorials:** Using the return envelope found in the middle of this magazine, please send contributions in Memoriam of Fr. Eugene Ronan, M.S.F., or make an online gift at [www.MSF-America.org](http://www.MSF-America.org).

Thank you and God bless you.

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## Men of God

Three of our priests of the Missionaries of the Holy Family recently celebrated their 40th Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood: Father Ernesto Perez, M.S.F. on 12 June 2011, Father Jim Wuerth, M.S.F. on 13 June 2011, and Father Joe Lawless, M.S.F. on 19 June 2011.

Father Ernesto is retired and living in Corpus Christi, Texas. Father Jim is the pastor of St. Wenceslaus Parish in Saint Louis, Missouri. Father Joe is the parochial vicar of St. Joseph Church in Corpus Christi.

Without the Priesthood of Jesus Christ, there would be no Eucharist. Can you imagine our world without the Eucharist?!

Because of men like Father Ernesto, Father Jim, and Father Joe, men open to the mysterious call to stand in the place of Jesus Christ, we have the Eucharist, and we are forever indebted to them.

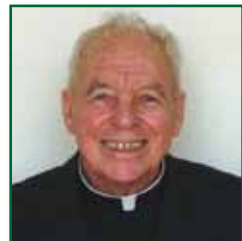
God bless you and thank you, Father Ernesto, Father Jim, and Father Joe.



**Fr. Ernesto  
Perez, M.S.F.**



**Fr. Jim Wuerth,  
M.S.F.**



**Fr. Joe Lawless,  
M.S.F.**

**Tributes:** If you would like to make a tribute gift in honor of one of these Men of God, please use the envelope found in the middle of this issue of *The Messenger*, or make your gift online at [www.MSF-America.org](http://www.MSF-America.org).



## THE POETRY CORNER



### *Sunrise, Sunset*

© **Father James Wasser, M.S.F., Formation Director**

Early in the morning, at the first break of light,  
I peer through my window and behold such a sight.  
It glimmers so radiant and dances with ease,  
As it slowly but surely ascends all the trees.  
There for eyes such beauty to behold,  
Rises the sun, for a new day to unfold.  
Now as the day has all but past,  
That beautiful sun such a picture it casts.  
Again from my window as I peer to the West,  
The sun says goodbye with beauty at its best.  
With reds and oranges and yellows aglow,  
I sense from within, a peace man yearns to know.  
Yes, know from within the beauty of nature,  
And comprehend with God's help the human creature.  
Let's rest now for awhile, and know from our hearts,  
That God is with us till tomorrow does start.  
Sleep on now, my child, and rest in peace.  
For tomorrow will bring the sun from the East.

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without written permission, is strictly prohibited.*

# True Happiness

© Mr. Carlos De La Cruz: Husband, Father & Grandfather  
Parishioner at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Seguin, TX



True Happiness is when you comprehend  
He is in control of everything.

Everything belongs to Him.

Our Families,

Our Selves,

Our Possessions,

Our Wealth,

Our Health.

Jesus Christ is our True Source of Life.

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## MSF MISSION STATEMENT

**W**e, the Missionaries of the Holy Family of the North American Province, are united in religious community according to the purpose of our Founder, Father Jean Berthier, who dedicated our future and ministry to the ideals of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we respond to the missionary task of the Church and contribute to the evangelization of all for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Our Mission to evangelize encompasses far away places, different cultures, and wherever the Good News needs to be proclaimed. According to the gifts and talents of our members, we are moved to:

- Draw Others to the Gospel
- Promote Vocations
- Stress the Pastoral Care of Families

Jesus, Mary & Joseph: enlighten us, help us, and save us.

*Amen.*



## YOUTHFUL OUTLOOK

### LUKE 18

by Katie

The Luke 18 experience is something I will never forget. I believe it changed my faith life for the better. Luke 18 is a weekend retreat for teens preparing for Confirmation.

We got dropped off Friday night and picked up Sunday after Mass. At first, I didn't want to go because I thought it was going to be a boring retreat where we just sat and prayed the whole weekend. I was wrong.

When we arrived Friday night, there were people dancing to live music that was being played on stage. Some of it was current songs from the radio and some of the songs were about God. The music helped us to get excited about the weekend. After the music, we played games that were fun and helped everyone loosen up. After the games, we were assigned to the groups we would stay with for the rest of the weekend. I knew some

of the people in my group, but there were also others I had never met. The leaders of our group were super nice. I may be biased, but I think we had the best group.



Katie with her little sister Jessica


After the evening activity ended, we were taken to our "sleep house" which was the home of parishioners who had volunteered to let us come spend the night on their floor. The people at the house where we stayed were really sweet and treated us like their own children. They also gave us gifts and

told us that they would be praying for us all weekend.

Throughout the day on Saturday, we played games, listened to speakers talk about different parts of our Faith, met in our small groups to talk, and wrote extensively in our journals. The topic that impacted me the most was giving everything to God. I now know to give Him all

of my worries, sorrows, and even my happiness. After that talk, we wrote letters to anyone we wanted to, and we nailed them to a cross. Everyone was very emotional and loving and forgiving during that time. When we were all finished, each person took someone else's letter from the cross, and, without reading it, burned the letter. We finished the day with Eucharistic Adoration, and we read letters sent to us from our family and friends. It was an exhausting but excellent day.

After another night at the "sleep house," we went back for one final

talk and a morning scavenger hunt. Then we went to church where all of our families were waiting. We got to sing the songs we learned and share our experiences with our parents. We all left the retreat feeling closer to each other and to God. I would highly recommend this retreat to any teen. I really didn't think I would like it, but, it was fun, and I learned a lot about myself, my Faith, and my relationship with God. Sometimes He comes to us unexpectedly, and He came to me in a very big way through Luke 18. 



*Family  
Forever  
Society*

Missionaries of the Holy Family



*Where there is a Will... there is a Way to make a Difference.*

Having a will is important. It provides the opportunity to have your decisions today help care for your loved ones in the future. It also provides the opportunity for you to support the Missionaries of the Holy Family with a bequest to secure our mission into the future. Legacy gifts are so special that we have the **Family Forever Society**. To receive a booklet on preparing your will and to learn more about the **Family Forever Society**, please write us at: Missionaries of the Holy Family, 3014 Oregon Avenue, Saint Louis, MO 63118 or call us at 1-888-484-9945.

*If you are remembering the Missionaries of the Holy Family in your estate plans, please remember us as: **Congregation of the Missionaries of the Holy Family – North American Province.***

# AROUND THE PROVINCE



▲ The young women of St. Joseph Church carry a Pro-Life Banner through the streets of Donna, Texas during the Annual Eucharistic Procession on the Feast Day of St. Joseph on March 19.

Also on the Feast Day of St. Joseph, Father ▶ Alberto Trevino, MSF takes Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, surrounded by the Knights of Columbus of St. Joseph Church, to the streets of Donna, Texas.



▲ Father Eka Yuntoro, MSF and Father Mario Galindo, MSF gave a vocation presentation to high school students attending Barat Academy in St. Louis, Missouri.



# AROUND THE PROVINCE



▲ First Communion at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Seguin, Texas.

“You’re never too young to light ▶ a votive candle!” Candles were lit in honor of the First Communicants of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish.



▲ Bishop Oscar Cantu and Father Mario Galindo, MSF celebrate Mass together for all the young adults who attended the National Catholic Singles Conference in San Antonio, Texas.



## PARENTS TIME OUT

# Discipline has Taken a Spanking

Contributed by Dr. Ray Guarendi

**D**iscipline – A word that once had a pretty good reputation. Parents instinctively knew that discipline was something kids needed. It was good for them. It taught them the basics of living – character, morals, responsibility, respect. But in the last generation or two, discipline has taken a spanking. Experts proclaim that really savvy parents shouldn't have to discipline much. They can talk and reason children into cooperating. The media bombard parents with all the latest theories on psychological correctness. And the culture relentlessly echoes the attitude that words like authority, limits, and control are old-fashioned concepts we need to throw off.

No matter what trendy notions permeate parenting today, reality always wins. Discipline still is critical to character. It still is a loving, durable gift that lasts a lifetime. And, it still is something parents

instinctively know is good for their children.

Nevertheless, even the best of parents are confused. Indeed, no area of child rearing causes more day-to-day uncertainty, guilt, and frustration than discipline. Are my expectations too high? Am I too strict? Too lax? When should I discipline? Where? How much? What if I'm wrong? How can I get my kids to listen? Is their behavior normal?


Why am I so sure that discipline is a top concern among parents today? The sheer numbers. The great majority of people who attend my seminars are seeking discipline guidance. Most of my clients come to me out of frustration. They are not enjoying their kids as they had hoped because the kids' behavior is so unruly. Indeed, 90 percent of what parents ask of me concerns disci-





are straightforward and easy for you to use. Similar techniques can work for a wide range of problems.

- And, most important, parenthood is God-designed to be enjoyed.

We're all in this together. We share the same worries and frustrations. Let's lighten up, laugh more, and love our children enough to do what's best for them, and for us, too. 

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pline. They want direction, peace, and a better relationship with their children.

You'll probably notice some common themes running through all my answers:

- One, you know what's best for your child.
- Two, authority is not a bad word.
- Three, discipline, by and large, is not complicated. Good ideas



**Dr. Ray Guarendi**

The father of 10, a psychologist, a popular Catholic radio personality and guest speaker offering parenting advice in concert with Catholic values. More information about Dr. Ray's books and tapes can be found on the internet at [www.DrRay.com](http://www.DrRay.com).

## Umbert the Unborn

by Gary Cangemi





## VOCATIONS

# 3rd Annual Altar Server Jamboree

by Sister Gabriel Hession, SHSp



*Some of the Jamboree participants gather around Bishop Oscar Cantu who is in the middle near the back (look for the white collar!).*

Approximately 50 altar servers assembled at the Knights of Columbus Hall in New Braunfels, Texas, on Saturday, 7 May 2011, at 9:00 a.m. for the 3rd Annual Altar Servers Jamboree. The event is sponsored annually by Holy Family Church in New Braunfels, and, this year, three other parishes joined in the celebration: St. Dominic in San Antonio, St. Ann in La Vernia, and St. Joseph's Mission in Redwood.

Two Sisters of the Holy Spirit & Mary Immaculate, Sisters Gabriel Hession and Eugenius Gallaher, also attended and presented a view of the life of a religious sister. Missionaries of the Holy Family priests, Fr. Mario Galindo, M.S.F. and Fr. Ignatius "Freddy" Himawan, M.S.F., spoke to the young men about vocations.

The guest speaker was Bishop Oscar Cantu, Auxiliary Bishop of San Antonio. He spoke of the awesomeness of the Mass – the most wonderful event that ever takes place – where we witness Jesus Christ becoming present on the altar. He stressed to the altar servers that they have the opportunity to assist in this wonderful event when they serve at Mass. He explained that Jesus gave us the formula for becoming great and Blessed Pope John Paul II also taught that formula, which is TO SERVE, and then he challenged these young teenagers TO SERVE.

Bishop Cantu went on to explain the difference between "our plan for the future" and "God's plan." As soon as we are born, God has a plan for us. In order to discover


God's plan, we need to spend time in prayer, communicating with and listening to Him in our hearts, so that we can follow His plan rather than our own.

We should also listen to the people of wisdom in our lives – our parents, teachers, priests, and religious sisters – with whom we come into contact. Many times these people see in us what we do not see in ourselves; we should listen to people who love us because they are the ones who really care about us.

Bishop Cantu explained the difference between pleasure and happiness. Pleasure is a temporary experience we derive from something we desire, for example, a pizza. Happiness comes from following

God's plan. He used the analogy of a mother getting up during the night to attend to her baby. While this may not give her pleasure, it is an expression of her happiness in caring for her child.

Bishop Cantu explained that God gives us happiness because God is love. Love inspires us to make sacrifices. Relating his ambition as a youth to becoming a musician, he borrowed a guitar and played a song while leading the audience in the singing of "Yo te amo mucho."

Fr. Mario Galindo, M.S.F. and Dora Huerta, Holy Family Church's Altar Server Coordinator, then presented Bishop Cantu with a beautiful Crystal Cross as an expression of gratitude. 



Missionaries of the  
**Holy Family**  
Family • Vocations • Missions

**Come & See Weekend 2011**

***If God is calling you, take the call...***

1(888) 4-THY-WILL [www.MSF-America.org](http://www.MSF-America.org)

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a priest or religious brother? Now you can experience it firsthand at our next Come & See Weekend in San Antonio, TX, October 7 - 9. Just complete your contact information below and mail it to us in the return envelope found in the middle of this magazine, or call us at 1-888-484-9945.

*Please print:*

First and Last Name

Street Address, City, State & Zip Code

Phone Number

E-Mail Address



## WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

# Friends of the Holy Family Prayer Association

by **Father Jim Beegan, M.S.F., Spiritual Director**

The Congregation of the Missionaries of the Holy Family (MSF) was founded in 1895 by Fr. John Berthier, a French priest of the La Salette Order. From the very beginning, the Holy Family missionaries felt called to minister to families in a special way. This great work continues to the present day.

The Missionaries of the Holy Family also work with lay people who support the missionaries with their prayers and good works. These lay people are called the "Friends of the Holy Family."

In many respects, these "Friends" are like Third Orders associated with the Franciscans, Carmelites, and Dominicans. The Friends of the Holy Family pray regularly for the needs of our Congregation, such as the need for new vocations, adequate financial resources, and effectiveness in preaching the Gospel.

There is a poem called *A Legend* by Adelaide Proctor. It is about a



preacher whose sermons attracted large crowds from near and far. During all of these sermons, there was an old man in the background quietly praying his Rosary. One day, the preacher was thanking God for his gift of preaching that drew so many people

and seemed to change their lives. Imagine his surprise when a voice from within told him that it was not his sermons, but the prayers of the old man praying the Rosary, which touched and changed people's hearts.

The Friends are also encouraged to perform good works on behalf of the Congregation, such as visiting the sick, or volunteering in a soup kitchen or food pantry. The Friends, like the Missionaries themselves, are concerned with the pastoral care of families, especially in parishes served by the Holy Family priests and brothers.

There is no doubt that the American family today is in crisis. Everywhere

we look there are grievous problems: widespread divorce, declining birth rates, children with no religious training, couples living together, drug addiction, family discord, etc.

Many worldly solutions to the family crisis have been tried, but none of them had any more than a ripple effect. There is, however, one thing that can truly work miracles in our families, and that one thing is the power of prayer.

The British poet Tennyson wrote, "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

The late Jean Vanier once said, "Some of the greatest movements for good in the history of the world have been brought about by the quiet prayers of totally unknown people."

And St. Paul tells us, "Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6-7)

## What is the commitment of a member of the Friends of the Holy Family Prayer Association?

It is quite simple! In the Holy Family Prayer Book, which is free to members, the Friends


pray three prayers every day: *The Holy Family Prayer*, *Prayer for Our Missionaries*, and *Prayer for Vocations*.

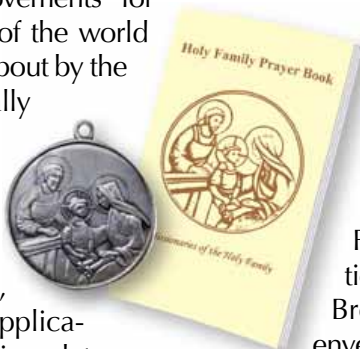
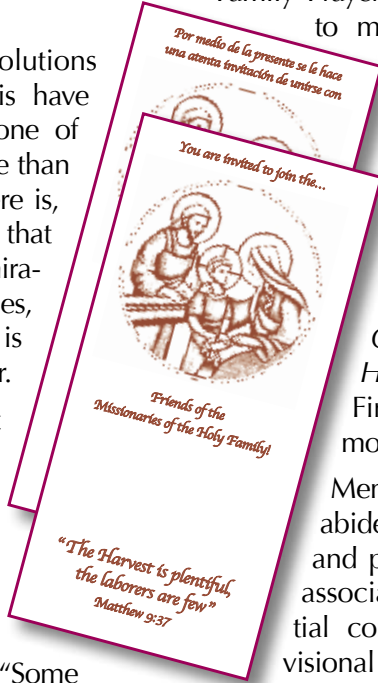
The Friends also recite another prayer, *Consecration to the Holy Family*, on the First Friday of every month. That's it!

Members are asked to abide by the philosophy and purpose of the prayer association, and the initial commitment is a provisional term for two years.

At the end of this period, Friends can renew their provisional membership for another two years or become a permanent member.

For more information, request a Friends Brochure using the envelope in the middle of this issue, or visit us online at [www.msf-america.org/friends-of-the-holy-family.html](http://www.msf-america.org/friends-of-the-holy-family.html).

Welcome to our family! 





# THANK YOU

*Thank You & God Bless You, to everyone in these listings who made a financial gift in the 2010 calendar year.*

*We, the priests and brothers of the Missionaries of the Holy Family, extend our deep gratitude to all our supporters. You are remembered in our prayers.*



## *Family Forever Society*

***Where there is a Will...there is a Way to Make a Difference.***

Members of the **Family Forever Society** have remembered the Missionaries of the Holy Family with a Legacy Gift, typically a Bequest or Trust. A Legacy Gift is a way Benefactors make a difference that reaches into the future beyond their years. Benefactors sometimes share in advance about their estate plans through a letter (*Living Members*). In other situations, a Legacy Gift first becomes known after one's passing (*Eternal Members*).

### Living Members:

*Donor Names Removed on this web version of The Messenger*



## Holy Family Circle

Holy Family Circle Members are persons, families, and organizations who strongly believe in the Apostolates of the Holy Family priests and brothers. Holy Family Circle members graciously share in advance the joyful level of gifts they intend for the coming year. This steady and recurring financial support both sustains and helps expand the Holy Family Apostolates.

*Intended gifts over 12 months*

<b>Patriarch/Matriarch</b> .....	<b>\$10,000+</b>	<b>Companion</b> .....	<b>\$1,200+</b>
<b>Apostle</b> .....	<b>\$7,200+</b>	<b>Samaritan</b> .....	<b>\$600+</b>
<b>Disciple</b> .....	<b>\$3,600+</b>	<b>Associate</b> .....	<b>up to \$599</b>



### Holy Family Circle Patriarch & Matriarch

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### Holy Family Circle Disciples

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### **Holy Family Circle Companions**

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### **Holy Family Circle Samaritans**

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### **Holy Family Circle Associates**

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## **Holy Family Circle Associates - *continued***

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## **Benefactors**

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*The preceding listings of donors made a financial gift to the  
Missionaries of the Holy Family in the 2010 calendar year.*



## **Yes, that was *Us* on EWTN!**

If you have the cable television station, the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN), then you may have seen our informational video that periodically runs as a filler between programs.

If you don't get EWTN, or if you would like to see our video anytime at your convenience, please click the EWTN link on our home page at [www.MSF-America.org](http://www.MSF-America.org).





Missionaries of the  
**Holy Family**  
Family • Vocations • Missions



## Perpetual Mass Association Enrollment

Since 1933, we have been providing Family and Friends all over the world with daily spiritual support!  
Enrollment in the **Perpetual Mass Association** is a beautiful gift at special times in life and at the time of death.

- |                  |              |                      |                    |
|------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| ◆ Wedding        | ◆ Birthday   | ◆ Graduation         | ◆ Serious Illness  |
| ◆ Birth of Child | ◆ Ordination | ◆ Get Well           | ◆ Sympathy         |
| ◆ Anniversary    | ◆ Employment | ◆ Patron Saint's Day | ◆ Repose of a Soul |

Please complete and return this form for enrollment.

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Please Enroll: \_\_\_\_\_  Living  Deceased  
*(Please print - Person or Family Name)*

On the occasion of \_\_\_\_\_

**Enrolled By:**

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Gift:**

- \$10  
 \$25 *Suggested for family enrollment*  
 \$50  
 \$100  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **Missionaries of the Holy Family**  
Mail this enrollment to: **3014 Oregon Ave., Saint Louis, Missouri 63118**

**Perpetual Mass Card Destination:**

- Send the completed card to my address as shown above.  
 I already sent the card - please send a replacement card to me for future use.  
 Send the card to the name and address shown below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Your gift to the Missionaries of the Holy Family is tax deductible.*

Perpetual Mass Enrollments are available immediately at our website, [www.MSF-America.org](http://www.MSF-America.org) - click on "Prayer and the Holy Family" - look for Perpetual Mass. You can also call our office at 1-888-484-9945.



***Children too are a gift from the LORD,  
the fruit of the womb, a reward.***

***Psalms 127:3***



Missionaries of the  
**Holy Family**

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