



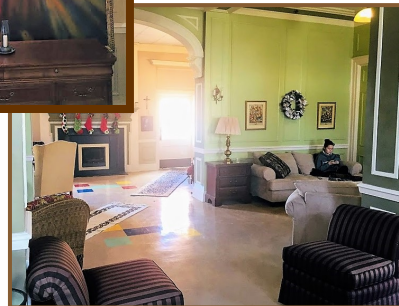
# IMMACULATA

*For it is in giving that we receive...*

Newsletter of Immaculata Fraternity, Fredericksburg, Virginia



**Edition 4. March 2019**



## **March Feast Days and Holy Days for Secular Franciscans**

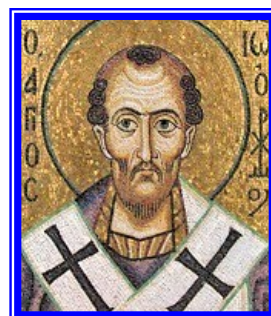
- 12. Bl. Louis Orione, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1940
- 14. St. Catherine de Genes, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1510
- 16. Bl. Torello de Poppi, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1282
- 19. Feast of Saint Joseph, spouse of the Mother of God
- 20. Bl. Hippolyte Galentini, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1620
- 21. Bl. Amedee IX de Savoie, Confessor, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1472
- 23. Bl. Jeremie Lambertenghi, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1513
- 25. Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 27. Bl. Joseph-Sebastien Pelczar, Bishop, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1924
- 29. Bl. Jeanne-Marie de Maille, Virgin, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1414
- 31. St. Leonard Murialdo, Priest, Franciscan Third Order Secular, d. 1900

## **Immaculata day-trip to the Paul Stefan home.**

Back in December, Immaculata members Barbara McCoy, Irene Theriault and inquirer Tony Gibert visited the Paul Stefan Foundation in Locust Grove, VA. The Foundation provides pro-life living facilities for women facing crisis pregnancies. The home in Locust Grove is Immaculata Fraternity's main apostolate. Barb, Irene and Tony toured the place, and were lucky to be on hand to greet Santa! Thanks to Tony for the pictures.

## **St. John Chrysostom: Lent**

"The fast of Lent has no advantage to us unless it brings about our spiritual renewal. It is necessary while fasting to change our whole life and practice virtue. Turning away from all wickedness means keeping our tongue in check, restraining our anger, avoiding all gossip, lying and swearing. To abstain from these things— herein lies the true value of the fast."



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Totally love Him,  
Who gave Himself  
totally for your love.  
— St. Clare of Assisi



## Milestones

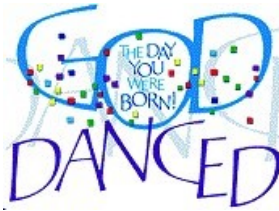
Fraternity Birthdays

Mary Anne Buccigrossi

March 11

Donna Evans

March 26



## Minister Message

A few weeks ago I did a prayer hour for a women's Cursillo event that was happening in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Cursillos are 3-day weekend retreats that introduce attendees to ways of enriching their lives in Christ. Cursillo weekends are guided by a priest, deacon or religious, Mass is celebrated each day, and the Blessed Sacrament resides in tabernacle for all to visit at any time. The events can be very moving, exciting and emotional for all involved. Supporters outside of the Cursillo volunteer an hour of prayer for all those attending the retreat.

For my assigned hour, I prayed the Angelus and then I did a Contemplative Rosary using the method of praying suggested by Pope St. John Paul II and St. Teresa of Avila. That hour of prayer was on a Friday and so I was praying the Sorrowful Mysteries. I found it interesting to contemplate the sorrowful moments of Jesus' Passion while praying for such a joy-filled time like the 3 days of a Cursillo weekend. The contemplation, though, was rich in guidance.

The Sorrowful Mysteries vividly remind us how Christ on the Cross suffered. In His anguish, he became sin (2 Corinthians 5:21). Because He transcends time, Christ knew everything we have done wrong, every way we have been betrayed, and everything we have suffered. All these fell on Him. In these things, though He knew no sin, we resemble Him. And so remembering Christ's Passion suffered for us, we need to reform and live for Him, enduring betrayal and suffering that will surely come in our lives. Lent is the perfect time to start again.

— Skip Wallace, OFS

We are called to be holy. We are not called to look holy. We are not called to act holy. We are called to be holy. That is what God wants from us. We need to get rid of everything that will defile us, everything that strips us of holiness, and that is what comes from the heart. That is why we need to be willing to open our hearts in prayer.

-- Fr. Robert Altier

