

Come Fly With Me



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we enter September, we welcome a new season of beginnings. For many, this means returning to school, beginning new routines, and taking on new responsibilities. Every new start is an opportunity to grow in faith, wisdom, and trust in God.

Just as an eagle rises with strength, God calls us to move forward with courage and purpose. (Isaiah 40:30-31) The road may not always be easy, but we can trust that He goes before us and gives us the grace to face each challenge.

As we study, work, and care for one another, let us remember that true wisdom begins with the Lord. When we place our plans, our children, and our future in His hands, He leads us with love and faithfulness.

Let us pray for all students, families, and educators as this new school year begins. May God bless them with peace, protection, wisdom, and success.

~Fr. Samy, Spiritual Director~

Proverbs 16:3 - *"Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established".*

Founder's Message



The Sign of the Cross

The Sign of the Cross is one of the first prayers many Catholics learn, and one of the prayers we use most often. We make it when we enter church, before and after prayer, at Mass, before meals, and whenever we turn to God for strength. Because it is so familiar, we can sometimes make it quickly without thinking about what we are actually saying.

But the Sign of the Cross is much more than a habit. It is a profession of faith. When we say, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," we are proclaiming our belief in the Holy Trinity. Jesus Himself told His disciples to baptize "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). In that simple prayer, we remind ourselves that our lives belong to God.

The Cross also brings us directly to Jesus. It reminds us of His sacrifice and of the love He showed by giving His life for us. Scripture tells us, "He humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:8). What once represented suffering became, through

Fellowship Corner

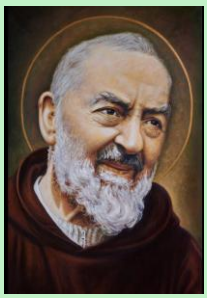
Celebrating Two Years of Faith and Fellowship

On August 31, ERCM came together to celebrate our 2nd Anniversary with thanksgiving, reflection, and joy. We gave thanks to God for two years of faith, fellowship and growing together as one in Christ.

It was a beautiful reminder of how far God has brought us and of the many lives touched along the way. As we begin another year, we look forward with grateful hearts, trusting God to continue guiding and strengthening our ministry.

To God be the glory for all He has done and all that is still to come.





St. Padre Pio Feast Day: September 23

St. Padre Pio (DOD: 09-23-1968) was born Francesco Forgione in Italy in 1887. From a young age, he felt called to dedicate his life to God. He later became a Capuchin Franciscan priest and was known for his deep prayer life, humility, devotion to the Eucharist, and love for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Throughout his life, Padre Pio experienced great physical suffering. He received the stigmata, the wounds of Christ, and carried them for many years. Even through pain, misunderstanding, and hardship, he remained faithful to God and continued serving others with compassion and patience.

Padre Pio spent countless hours hearing confessions and encouraging people to return to God. He reminded them that no sin is greater than God's mercy and that sincere repentance can lead to healing and peace. His ministry showed how powerful the Sacrament of Reconciliation can be in restoring a person's relationship with God.



He also had a deep love for prayer. Padre Pio often encouraged people not to become discouraged when life became difficult. He trusted that God was present even in suffering and taught others to place their worries into God's hands.

His life reminds us that carrying our crosses does not mean carrying them alone. Christ walks with us, strengthens us, and can use even our struggles to draw us closer to Him.

As we honor St. Padre Pio this month, may we grow in prayer, seek God's mercy through the sacraments, and remain faithful even when the road becomes difficult. May his example encourage us to trust God more deeply and to never lose hope.

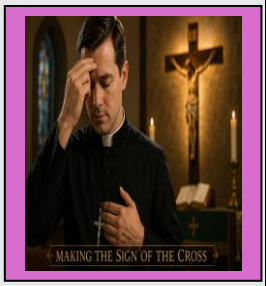
~Andrea, Chairperson~

"Pray, hope, and don't worry."
— St. Padre Pio

Founder's message continued.

Christ, a sign of salvation, hope, and victory. This is why Catholics honor the Cross. (Numbers 21:9) We do not worship the wood itself. We honor Jesus Christ and what He accomplished for us upon it. St. Paul wrote, "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Galatians 6:14).

The Sign of the Cross also reminds us of our Baptism and of who we are called to be. When we sign ourselves, we are saying that we belong to Christ and that we want our thoughts, words, and actions to reflect Him.



Jesus also tells us, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). We will all face struggles, disappointments, and sacrifices. Faith does not mean we will never have crosses to carry. It means we carry them with Christ and trust that He will give us the strength we need.

On September 14, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. It is a beautiful reminder that what looked like defeat on Calvary became the place of Christ's victory.

So the next time you make the Sign of the Cross, slow down for a moment. Remember the Father who created you, the Son who gave His life for you, and the Holy Spirit who continues to guide you. A simple gesture can become a powerful prayer when it is made with faith.

~Vic Joseph, Founder~

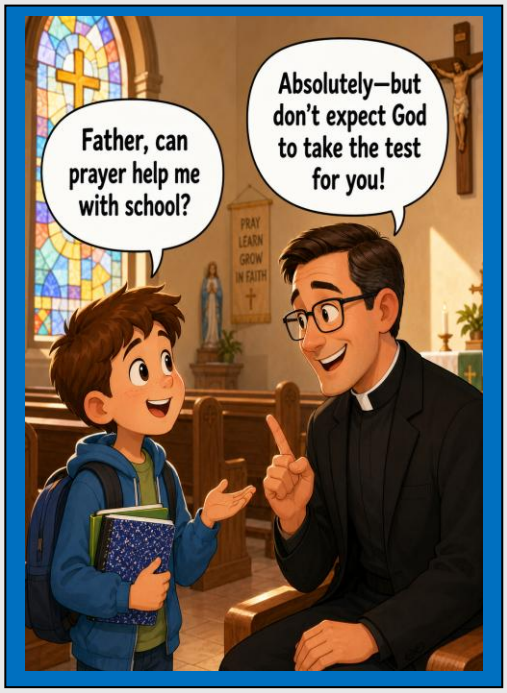
1 Corinthians 1:18 - *"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God".*

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In Focus

This month reminds us to stay close to Christ

Life can become busy, distracting, and overwhelming, but God continues to invite us back to Him. Even a few quiet moments of prayer can help us refocus our hearts and remember what truly matters.



OUR PRAYER

Lord, guide us to be of service to you and others. Inspire us to care for all your creation, especially the youth. Fill us with truth, hope and love in all that we do. Unite us to faithfully journey together with you, as we work to build Your Kingdom within our community.
~Serviam~

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