

The Eagle's Nest

ERCIM, Vol 19

January 2026

Come Fly With Me



Dear Friends in Christ,

As we begin a new year, we are given a sacred opportunity, a fresh beginning rooted in God's grace.

January invites us not to look back with regret, but to look forward with hope, trusting that God continues to guide our steps. The start of a new year often brings questions, plans, and resolutions. Scripture reminds us that our strength does not come from our own efforts alone, but from placing our trust in the Lord. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

This month, I encourage you to begin the year by drawing closer to God in prayer, seeking His will in both the quiet moments and the challenges ahead. Let us ask for hearts that listen, spirits that remain open, and courage to follow where He leads.

May this new year be filled with God's peace, wisdom, and abiding presence. As we journey through 2026 together, may we continue to carry Christ's light into our homes, our communities, and the world.

~Fr. Samy, Spiritual Director~

Founder's Message



God is calling us — not only forward, but deeper into His plan of redemption. The city of Jerusalem during Jesus' time was a walled city that was not only a

biblical centerpiece but also an immensely functional community. Within its confines—with the Pool of Siloam to the high priest Caiaphas; Herod's palace to the west; and the Temple to the northeast, which was connected to Gethsemane (the Mount of Olives) in the east by the Eastern (Beautiful) Gate across the Kidron Valley—the Romans, Sadducees, Pharisees, Jews, and Gentiles thrived in an economy largely centered around the basic necessities of the common folk: wheat, fish, spices, cattle, wine, textiles, and minerals.

It is within this similar setting that we reflect on the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:8), which King Solomon himself drew parallels to the city of Jerusalem. When God banished Adam from Eden, He drove him out of paradise to the east (Genesis 3:24). We can presume that there may have been a great deal of groveling from Adam as he "made his case" and pleaded with God to take his predicament away.

In Focus

Starting the Year Together

January marks a fresh start for our ERCIM. As we step into a new year, we look ahead with hope and purpose, committed to growing together in faith, service, and fellowship. This is a time to reconnect, refocus, and renew our commitment to living out the Gospel in our everyday lives.

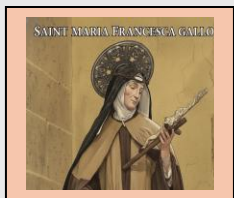
In the months ahead, ERCIM will continue to create spaces for prayer, learning, and meaningful connection. Whether through gatherings, outreach, or simple acts of kindness, each moment is an opportunity to strengthen our faith and support one another as one family in Christ.

As we begin this year, we encourage you to stay engaged, invite others to join us, and remain open to where God is leading our community. Together, we move forward with faith, unity, and a shared desire to rise higher in love and service.



Eagle Rising Catholic Ministry

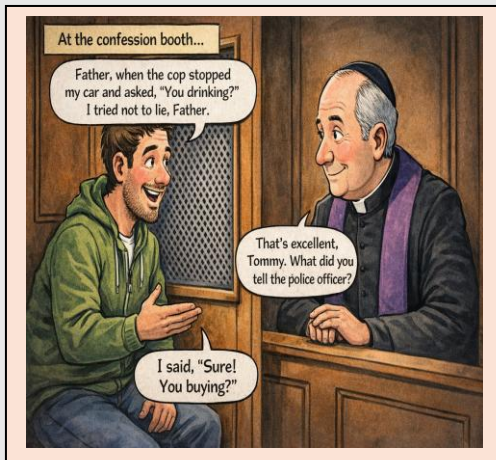
Saint of the Month – St. Maria Francesca Gallo



Saint Maria Francesca Gallo was born in Italy in the 19th century and lived a life rooted in humility, prayer, and service to others.

From an early age, she showed a deep love for God and a strong desire to dedicate her life to Him. Rather than seeking recognition, she chose a simple and hidden life, serving the poor, the sick, and those most in need. She became known for her intense prayer life and extraordinary mystical gifts. While praying the Stations of the Cross on Fridays, she experienced Christ's suffering so deeply that she felt His pains and received the stigmata. On three occasions during Mass, witnesses reported that the Sacred Host miraculously flew into her mouth from the priest's hands or the altar, events that strengthened the faith of those present. Her holiness was shaped through suffering. Persecuted by her father and family for her piety, she offered her pain and voluntary penances for the poor souls who appeared to her in visions and sought her prayers. Through perseverance and trust in God's will, her life reminds us that true holiness is often lived quietly through faith, sacrifice, and love. As we begin this new year, St. Maria Francesca Gallo reminds us to remain faithful in prayer and trust that God uses the smallest acts for His purpose.

~Andrea, Chairperson~



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Founder's message continued.

Drawing the parallel to Jesus—the New Adam, in whom the New Covenant rests—Jesus Himself “went east” after the Last Supper to the Mount of Olives (Matthew 26:36; Mark 14:32; Luke 22:39). There, He prayed earnestly. He meditated sorrowfully. He pleaded with God to remove the chalice from Him, as “His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down upon the ground” (Luke 22:42-44). Jesus grieved with blood the tragedy of Eden's ancient paradise lost, fully knowing that the Lamb of God's sacrificial destiny was indeed to restore our own paradisiacal garden—the Kingdom of Heaven. May this new year be a time of renewed faith, deeper trust, and hope rooted in the knowledge that God is always leading us back toward Him.

Jerusalem in the time of Jesus — from the Temple, across the Kidron Valley, to the Garden of Gethsemane.



~Vic Joseph, Founder~

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life.”

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Fellowship Corner

Staying Connected as a Community
Community is not only built when we gather in a room — it is also nurtured through connection, prayer, and shared purpose. As we move forward into the year, ERCM remains committed to strengthening the bonds that unite us as one family in Christ. Even in quieter seasons, our community continues to grow through encouragement, support, and faith



shared in everyday moments. Fellowship is found in checking in on one another,

lifting each other in prayer, and remaining connected to the mission we share.

As we look ahead, we are excited to continue creating spaces where relationships are deepened and faith is lived together. We look forward to gathering again

soon and welcoming familiar and new faces into fellowship rooted in love, unity, and Christ-centered community.



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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