



June, July, and August 2019

Dear Friends in the Lord and Apostles of Prayer!

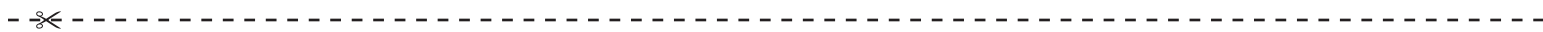
May the Lord bless and keep you always. You will immediately notice a change in the mailing you are receiving, I will explain all this below. Firstly, allow me to assure you of our commitment to sharing the Holy Father's monthly intentions far and wide, using every media we can, including internet, radio, in person appearances, and the postal service. We continue also to share devotion to the Heart of Jesus, His Sacred Heart, using the "Way of the Heart" as our foundation. May the Lord continue to bless us in all these things. This June we are celebrating our 175th anniversary with the Holy Father in Rome.

Our ministry has continued to grow by leaps and bounds in through social media and the internet. We regularly email over 17,000 subscribers with the message of the Holy Father. We use platforms such as Facebook and Twitter for those who prefer to communicate in this way. Our website regularly has over 10,000 visitors a month. Over 255,000 smartphone users have downloaded our "Click to Pray" app in English, while the monthly "Pope Video" continues to reach millions worldwide. Our Canada, US office in Milwaukee provides all the English language content for these last two undertakings. God has indeed smiled upon us.

Similar to print newspapers, magazines, and other enterprises, our print ministry of leaflets and pamphlets has been increasingly expensive while donations have dropped off significantly. This is a trend we have been seeing since 2008. Our ministry has lost over 2.5 million dollars and efforts such as mail campaigns, the newsletter, and appeals have not made up the difference. We remain committed to getting the Holy Father's intentions into the hands of those who do not use smart phones or computers, the homebound, and those incarcerated and without web-access. This "three month" flyer is our solution at present.

You will notice that there is no "saint of the month," "prayer of the month," nor the list of daily readings. This flyer focuses specifically on our mission of sharing the Holy Father's intentions. Daily readings, readings about saints, and collections of common prayers are readily available through other ministries and we suggest you seek those elsewhere if they are helpful to you. We recognize that change can be difficult. Allow me to assure that if we could maintain our previous

over →



Name/Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Birthdate (mm/dd/yyyy) _____

We/I would like to make a gift of: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other amount: _____

Please select ONE of the following: Payment enclosed (Make checks payable to: **Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network**)

If you send a gift of \$250 or more, we will mail you a thank-you letter, unless you check one of the boxes below.

Charge to my credit card: # _____

Expiration (mm/yy) _____ Signature _____

Make this gift a monthly recurring gift

Send me an email thank-you and save postage.

Thanks, but no thank-you letter is necessary

Prayer requests, subscription changes, or other comments: _____

business model we would. Still we are a ministry, an apostolate, and will continue the mission entrusted to us. At the same time we must be as good stewards, and "follow the fruit." In our case that means cutting the costs of printing, mailing and shipping to pursue communications strategies that are adapted to the modern age. Thanks for your patience and support.

If you usually share monthly leaflets with others, please feel free to print as many copies of this one as you like, and to share them widely. We are grateful for your participation in our work.

We ask for your continued financial support of this work. Please consider a gift of \$5.00, \$10.00, \$25.00, or even larger if you wish to see future generations participating in the Apostleship of Prayer, the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. Please help us to help Pope Francis get the word out.

Please be assured of my prayers for you. I remember all our members daily at Mass, along with your intentions. Please pray for me. Congratulations on 175 wonderful years!

In the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Fr. William Blazek, SJ". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Fr. William Blazek, SJ
Regional Director
Canada and the United States

REFLECTIONS ON THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

June, July, and August 2019

Daily Offering Prayer

God, our Father, I offer You my day. I offer You my prayers, thoughts, words, actions, joys, and sufferings in union with the Heart of Jesus, who continues to offer Himself in the Eucharist for the salvation of the world. May the Holy Spirit, who guided Jesus, be my guide and my strength today so that I may witness to Your love. With Mary, the mother of our Lord and of the Church, I pray for all Apostles of Prayer and for this month's intentions proposed by the Holy Father. Amen.

Traditional Offering Prayer

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart: the salvation of souls, reparation for sin, and the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our bishops and of all Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month.

June

Evangelization

That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are most poor.

Reflection by Fr. Andrij M. Hlabse, SJ

Jesus institutes the Sacrament of Priesthood at the Last Supper, when He gave His Body and Blood to His Apostles. Every Catholic priest looks on this moment as the foundation of that ministry in which he has a share. Jesus very consciously chose to make clear this institution's inner meaning by performing an extraordinary act of humility and love at that same meal. Jesus washed the Apostles' feet.

Peter's reaction shows the radical humility of Jesus' choice. "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus' action contradicted Peter's expectations of the relationship between a teacher and disciple. He perceived how much Jesus was putting off His glory, as it were, and demonstrating clearly that He "came not to be served, but to serve." Jesus' self-effacing posture is directly linked to the meaning of the Eucharist – to His Body, which is given up for us. Jesus' gift did not stop at washing the Apostles' feet; no, He would walk willingly to the Cross for all of them, for all of us – poor, abandoned, and unattractive in the world's eyes.

Every priest is called to make his own Jesus' words, "This is my Body which is given for you," not only during the Eucharist, but in every aspect of life. Jesus' every act was coherent with what He preached, and His giving Himself in the Eucharist totally harmonious with His own self-emptying for all. Jesus puts aside His glory, becomes a servant to the Apostles, and – in doing so – in an astonishing way reveals who He is. For a priest, as for all Christians, the gifts of modesty, humility, and poverty come through the Paschal Mystery, in which Christ became a servant and called us to do the same.



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network
UNITED STATES | CANADA
APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER



CLICKTOPRAY
TOGETHER, WE MAKE EACH DAY DIFFERENT



THE POPE VIDEO
Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network



eym
EUCHARISTIC
YOUTH
MOVEMENT

July

The integrity of justice

That those who administer justice may work with integrity, and that the injustice present in the world may not have the last word.

Reflection by Fr. Joseph Koterski, SJ

No society can live peacefully without the rule of law. In the attempt to restrain the abuses that have often prevailed in human history, we have developed forms of governance in which there is a division of powers. In such constitutional arrangements the separation of the executive branch, the legislative branch, and the judicial branch have proven truly helpful. Yet the temptation for those who hold authority even in these systems to usurp additional powers is ever with us. Without the rule of law there is inevitably violence against the weak. But there can be no rule of law without a recognition that there is an objective and transcendent standard of justice. And there can be no such transcendent standard of justice apart from God as the transcendent creator and sustainer of morality.

As Pope Benedict XVI eloquently stated, "When morality and law do not originate in a God-ward perspective, they degrade the human person... Where human affairs are so ordered that there is no recognition of God, there is a belittling of the creature made in God's image."

True worship of the one true God begins with reverence in prayer and leads us to order our lives according to his will in all things. There is an integrity that is demanded in each person, and especially in authorities who are entrusted with various powers intended to be used for the common good. It is not enough to use high-sounding words. We must steadily pray that God give his wisdom to those in authority, and we must ourselves act prudently to restrain those who undermine the rule of law and claim for themselves power without moral restraint.

August

Human growth

That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly "schools of true human growth."

Reflection by Fr. Joseph Koterski, SJ

While the Holy Family may seem like an unreachable ideal for some, the circumstances faced by the Holy Family are more than relatable: Joseph had to leave his home country with his young family in order to avoid persecution; their only child was lost for three days during a family trip, and talked back at them upon being found. While many things can be distilled from these events, let us focus on one: Listening.

Listening needs to be understood in two ways: Listening to God through our prayers, and listening to the voice of God in others. Listening is truly an art, as we can have ears but not hear the voice of God (Mark 8:18). Even when we hear, we may not listen. In this day and age, we are easily distracted by many things, notably technology. You may have already been distracted by updates from your smartphone as you read this very reflection. In order to live a life of prayer and love within the context of the family through listening to the voice of God, we need to be very intentional about our use of technology, lest it become a hindrance rather than a help.

The pivotal role of the family is especially highlighted in Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation in 2016, *Amoris Laetitia*. Pope Francis cautions against the mentality that the formation of children can somehow be outsourced to places such as the church parish or the school. The lived, credible example of Christian love - especially that of family members - exerts the most influence on children. As such, families are truly the schools where the formation of the human person takes place.