



SSS Grapevine

An Internal Publication of the Province of Saint Ann
Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament

July 21, 2024 – 2024.13

Welcome Father Jaime, SSS!



While many airlines suffered on Friday, July 19, 2025, from a software glitch that shut down the system, our SSS men had the guardian angels watching over them with no problems traveling. While many from our Highland Heights house went on mission appeals, Father Jaime Ario Rodriguez Reyes SSS, from Colombia and the SSS province there, sailed through the skies with the greatest of ease.

Father Jaime (James in English) served in Puerto Rico for nine years with our SSS Community there. Unfortunately, with two SSS men dying of COVID-19, this mission closed, and Father Jaime is coming to our province for four years with a ‘convention of transfers’ between the two provinces. He will serve as a parochial vicar at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Houston, Texas, with a particular emphasis on the Spanish-speaking community, a void we are happy to fulfill. Additionally,

Father Jaime will be learning English.

Born June 26, 1977, in a rural region 10 hours north of Bogota, Columbia, he grew up in a family of four other siblings. He joined the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament and did his formation with the collaborative efforts of both provinces of South America, learning formation and studies in Spanish and Portuguese. He was ordained on December 14, 2013, under the patronage of one of his favorite saints, John of the Cross. Some feel he looks like Saint Martin de Pores, another of his favorite saints.

We welcome Father Jaime to the province of Saint Ann for four years; he is at the provincialate for a few weeks to complete the usual paperwork necessary to be part of our province systems. Luckily, Father holds a green card for serving in the United States in Puerto Rico for an extended period. After the province *Rule of Life* retreat, Matthew Vlastelica, postulant, Father Jaime, and John Thomas Lane SSS, will set off for Houston, Texas. Father Jaime begins his service at Corpus Christi Parish on August 15, 2024.

Farewell (for now?) Brother Joseph Hoang Tuan Vu SSS

Sadly, on Monday, July 22, 2025, Brother Joseph Tuanj Vu SSS returns to the SSS Vietnam province to participate in a retreat to renew his vows (August 1, 2025) and continue his seminary studies with his classmates there in Saigon. Unfortunately, Brother Joe did not receive a sufficient grade to pass the English theological competency test required for USA seminaries, especially our Catholic Theological Union. He will continue to study English in Vietnam, learn how to drive, and hopefully return to us someday to serve as an ordained priest in our Province of Saint Ann. We wish him well and are grateful for his service and care in the SSS Highland Heights Community. If you would like to send him a message, contact him at: giusehoangtuansss@gmail.com



Recovery of Father Michael Arkins SSS



We are grateful for your prayers! In time for a family reunion and birthday celebration, Father Michael Arkins SSS, returned to Regina Health Center after a bout with pneumonia and retention of fluids. His sister, brother-in-law, and brother visited with him to take him back from the hospital to assisted living in Regina and celebrate his 79th birthday! Many happy, healthy days ahead, Father Mike!! He would appreciate a card or email for a birthday greeting. His email is mjasss@blessedsacrament.com. His address at Regina Health Center is 5232 Broadview Road, Richfield, Ohio 44286-9608.

This is the same address for our other four men at Regina Health Center – who always appreciate your cards and notes:

- Father Paul Bernier SSS
- Deacon Joseph Bourgeois SSS
- Father Ernest Falardeau SSS
- Brother Michael Perez SSS