

Bread Broken & Shared

A Publication of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament Province of Saint Ann for the Eymardian Family and Friends

Celebrating the 125th Jubilee at Saint Jean Baptiste

To celebrate the special 125th anniversary of the Congregation's presence in the United States, the parish of our first foundation, Église Saint Jean Baptiste, kicked off the yearlong celebration on January 6, 2025. The day chosen to begin the commemoration is also the very day Saint Peter Julian Eymard made the Congregation's first exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on January 6, 1857 in Paris, France. The pastor and our USA Province provincial treasurer, Father John Kamas SSS, framed the occasion as a chance for the Congregation of Notre Dame (CND) sisters and us to celebrate our 125-year-old collaboration in administering the parish of Saint Jean Baptiste. Having both religious institutes host the day allowed our staff, Associates of the Blessed Sacrament, and its lay partners to gather and celebrate the remarkable history of our Eucharistic mission in New York. From this "mother house," the province of Saint Ann, the many foundations in the USA, Australia, the Philippines, Great Britain and Ireland, Vietnam, and Uganda took root. With the Shrine of Saint Ann at this parish, the devotion and well-being of the province easily placed under her patronage helped our Congregation thrive!

Auxiliary Bishop Edmund Whalen (*Manhattan*) presided and preached at the Mass with hundreds gathered in the historic church. He reminded us in his homily, as we used the Epiphany readings, that we were the Magi: the three represented through the SSS, CND, and the parishioners attached to the religious congregations. We are all seekers, going to the Christ-child, experiencing the love of Christ, and needing to go into the world to keep Christ's mission alive. He praised and thanked the "magi" for continuing to adore Christ and live that adoration through faithful service.

CND Provincial Leader Sister Maryanne Foley CND gave remarks after communion on the significance of the SSS and CND's collaboration, especially with the school that was once a co-ed elementary and high school. Many of our vocations for both religious congregations came from



CND Province Leader, Sister Maryanne Foley with Bishop Edmund Whalen and Father John Thomas Lane SSS

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this parish, including the three current religious in NYC (*besides Father Kamas, Fathers Bernard Camiré SSS, and James Hayes SSS*), whose seeds of Eucharistic vocation sprung from Saint Jean's. Sister Maryanne said that the founder of the CND's, Marguerite Bourgeoys, named Sister of the Blessed Sacrament, and Saint Eymard were delighted in the heavens this evening for gathering to celebrate our mission collaboration. The CNDs came to the parish in 1886 and welcomed the SSS in 1900 with ice cream!

USA Provincial Father John Thomas Lane SSS, after expressing gratitude to Bishop Whalen, Father Kamas and the local community, Sister Foley, the CNDs, and the reception team, shared a brief history:

The Blessed Sacrament Community came to this country from Montreal, Canada with eight religious. On January 18, 1900, the third Archbishop of New York, Michael Augustine Corrigan (+1902), sent the invitation to welcome our religious society here to this French-Canadian parish on the Upper East Side of Manhattan amid the Gilded Age. (*Incidentally, it was Archbishop Corrigan, an advocate for immigrants, who welcomed Mother Cabrini and her Missionaries Sisters of the Sacred Heart to New York during his tenure like he welcomed us and other religious orders to minister to the immigrant church of New York.*)

Blessed Sacrament Father Louis Estèvenon SSS (+1912 in Italy as the 6th General Superior) and Brother Patrick Welsh SSS (+1913) came first to lay the groundwork on June 6, 1900. Archbishop Corrigan accepted the proposal to begin an Eymardian house in New York and, on September 22, 1900, entrusted this French—Canadian parish of Église Saint Jean Baptiste to the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament.

Father Lane gave some information from the SSS Montréal house diary, including one interesting item:

Miss Eliza Cummins, who started the People's Eucharistic League after the first USA Eucharistic Congress in Washington DC, October 2-3, 1895, welcomed the Fathers and Brothers of the Blessed Sacrament to New York and gave \$50,000 to the Congregation to begin the project. This would be equivalent to **\$13.2 million** today! We are so grateful for her gift to start our foundation. Because of this woman's Eucharistic vision for the country! And the generosity has continued for 125 years! We are so grateful for our ministry partners, supporters, sustainers, and generous benefactors who sustained us then and now and will sustain us into the future. We thank you for your generous support.



Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame (CND) and Members of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (SSS) together with Bishop Whalen (missing from the photo is Father Bernard Camiré SSS)

We began in this country as an "international" community—French and Canadians coming to America. Now, our province is growing in this direction again, with associates and sisters, deacons, brothers, and ordained priests coming from all over the earth to serve in the current American Province. Just as the church is developing internationality and our nation has always been about that, so is the face of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament in this 125th year and for the future.

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125th Jubilee...Continued from previous page

We start our jubilee celebrations here in NYC, where it all began with the torch of the Statue of Liberty nearby. We came to an immigrant neighborhood to share the Eymardian dream of placing the world on fire with the Eucharist. That flame still burns in our hearts, regardless of age or years of service.

May the Holy Spirit continue to ignite us, send us vocations both religious and lay, to join in the Eymardian family, and continue to burn brightly with a Eucharistic zeal that makes all of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist known to the world. May this year bear fruit now and for the next 125 years of service to the church of the United States of America. As Saint Peter Julian Eymard would say, *"May thy Eucharistic kingdom come."*

Our SSS Canadian representative, Father Ghislain Cossette SSS, did not make the journey to represent our ties to "our mother province" due to the cancellation of his flight. Besides this, the grand reception recalled many wonderful memories and hopes for the future. The overwhelming joy captured a wonderful evening of gratitude and hope for the future. May God's Eucharistic mission continue from this mother church of the Province of Saint Ann.

Saint Ann Diocesan Shrine

By Scott Gongos

2025 is certainly a special year for the Eymardian Family! We are celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament serving in the United States with seven celebrations across the country. Saint Ann Shrine has been designated a Diocesan Shrine, and we are one of the Diocese of Cleveland's specially designated places to visit during the Jubilee Year of Hope!

During this special Anniversary year, we thank those who have respectfully served as part of the Blessed Sacrament Community over these 125 years. Their commitment to God, their faith, and the communities in which they serve have impacted many people's faith lives and strengthened them along the way. Being of service to others through the Eucharistic life motivates them every day.

Please join me in supporting these faithful men's mission work and those who've retired by supporting the 125th Appeal or this newsletter. Your prayers and financial support help care for those who've cared for you throughout your life. Your generosity ignites their efforts and shows appreciation for a job well done. If you'd like to consider other alternatives to support the Blessed Sacrament and/or Saint Ann Shrine, you can include us in your estate plans or donate gifts of stock. It's a straightforward process, and I'd happily help you with either of these opportunities.

As we fondly remember the 125 years the Blessed Sacrament Congregation has served the United States, please share your story of how your relationship with the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament came to be by emailing me at sgongos@blessedsacrament.com or calling me at 440-449-2700. I'm so thankful when I receive your phone calls, as they always brighten my day!



The statue of Saint Ann with special bunting. During the Jubilee Year, the statue of Saint Ann will return to the Oratory

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Saint Ann Diocesan Shrine...Continued from previous page

Saint Ann Shrine will host additional opportunities to strengthen your faith during this jubilee year. Please join us for the following devotions after the 11:30 AM Mass:

Tuesdays: Veneration/Blessing with Saint Ann Relic

Wednesdays: Novena with Saint Joseph and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays: Divine Mercy and Rosary

Fridays: Stations of the Cross

During Shrine hours of 8 am-4 pm, please come and add a prayer to our sacred cross and with the Relic of Saint Ann, light a candle or spend some quiet time renewing your faith and living as a "pilgrim of hope" during this Jubilee Year 2025!

Thank you for your continued generosity and kindness in supporting the Blessed Sacrament Community and Saint Ann Shrine. Because of you, we are able to support the ministries we serve and care for the members in retirement. We are so grateful for your commitment!

We invite you to join us for our daily Eucharistic celebrations at the Shrine. Thanks to the generosity of a friend of Saint Ann Shrine, we were able to install automatic openers to our Shrine doors to make it even more accessible! Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting

Saint Ann Shrine and the Blessed Sacrament Community!

Our Annual Triduum for Saint Ann and Saint Joachim will be celebrated July 24-26th in Cleveland, and we hope you can join us! The three-day celebration is such an amazing and beautiful way to honor the grandparents of Jesus. If you're planning on visiting from out of town, I'd be happy to assist you with your trip planning. I can be reached at 440-449-2700 or sgongos@blessedsacrament.com. This year's celebrant is Father John Kamas, the Pastor of our parish of Saint Jean Baptiste in New York City. Father Lane will celebrate the 9-day Novena of Saint Ann in New York City daily at noon.

God Bless You!



From TOP clockwise: Staff of Saint Ann Shrine (L-R) – Josie Rice, Scott Gongos, and Diane Mungall;
 -This Oratory was at first the Blessed Sacrament Community seminary chapel dedicated on May 4, 1965, by Bishop Clarence Issenmann;
 -SSS Religious at the Shrine of Saint Ann (L-R): Father Roger Bourgeois SSS (shrine chaplain), Brother Thomas Mella SSS (sacristan), Father Louis Demba Ndione SSS (parochial vicar of Saint Paschal Baylon Parish), Father Juancho Ramos SSS (superior of the community), and Father Norman Pelletier SSS

Introducing Father Louis Demba Ndione SSS

Father Louis is a gift to us from Senegal in West Africa! He shares his background so that we can become more acquainted with him. He has been well accepted in Saint Paschal Baylon Parish and brings new energy to this ministry. The following text is in his own words.

Hello everyone!

I am glad to share these few lines with you as a short bio of my life journey. I am Louis Demba Ndione, born on December 3, 1988, in a village called Fandène, located in the Town of Thies in Senegal.

From a tender age, I wanted to become a priest, but I was only a small boy with a passion for football (*American soccer*) and music. I started playing football while doing my studies. I joined a football academy, played all over, and participated in some football tournaments. As I grew up, my ideas and desires shaped, and I joined a music band as a singer known as “Talibé Krista,” which means “Disciple of Christ.”

After all of these, I did well in my studies. After I got my bachelor’s degree and was about to go to university, I met with a very complex decision: I wanted to join the seminary, but the idea was rejected by my dad, who wanted me to join the army. I had to convince him of my desire to become a priest because it came up again and it preoccupied me. I could not stand it anymore because I felt the call of God ringing in my heart. It is then only after convincing my dad that I started this journey of priesthood in answer to my vocation. Note that I often went to a vocational camp, which helped me discern my vocation. And I had to leave all behind: football, songs, and the army to take the new journey.

I was then accepted to start my experience in the SSS family in Senegal, a religious community that played a significant role in shaping my vocation. Little by little, through formation, I was helped to mature my call in and through prayer, religious life, and work. I did my philosophical studies (2011-2014) in Senegal, and I went for my novitiate (2014-2016) in Senegal; after my first vows on September 8, 2016, I was sent to Sri Lanka for my theological studies (2017-2021).

On July 29, 2022, I pronounced my final vows, and the following day, July 30, 2022, I was ordained a deacon. I served in the Saint Peter Julian Eymard parish as a deacon, assisting in various aspects of parish life, including specific duties and responsibilities. On December 3, 2022, I was ordained a priest and assigned to the same parish as an assistant parish priest or parochial vicar, where I continued to minister.

Since arriving in the USA and at Saint Paschal Baylon Church on October 22, 2024, I have been filled with joy to serve as the parish’s parochial vicar. I have eagerly participated in many Masses, especially school and



funeral Masses. I visited the athletic events, youth group, and parish social events, trained the parish altar servers, and ministered to God’s people here. I also enjoy our community life with my brothers of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, playing music, creating videos (*you can see me on YouTube*), and playing the guitar in my free time.

This is only a summary of my life’s journey. I am grateful for my warm welcome in the USA and Saint Paschal Baylon. I eagerly look forward to meeting each of you as I serve the parish. Thank you all, and may God bless us! ✠



From the Provincial's Perspective

*Like a flame, my hope is burning; may my song arise to you;
Source of Life, my hope is burning, may my song arise to you:*

*Ev'ry nation, tongue, and people find a light within your Word.
Scattered fragile sons and daughters, find a home in your dear Son.¹*

We are in a Jubilee time! Last year, I mentioned in my column the great timing of the Province of Saint Ann's (USA) 125th anniversary when Pope Francis announced the Jubilee Year for the international Church—and that we would be pilgrims of hope. Our flame has been burning brightly with the light of hope and our Eucharistic zeal so far in 2025.

It's been a joy to have our celebrations so far in New York City, our first foundation. Eight men began their journey of hope to venture to the Big Apple and, as international pilgrims, come to a French-Canadian parish on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. For 125 years, we have faithfully served from there and, through this community, have grown across the globe. Yes, from there, we had many foundations in the USA. Then, we spread our wings to Australia, the Philippines, Great Britain and Ireland, Vietnam, and Uganda. All are their provinces now except for Uganda, a mission area for the Congregation still today. However, where we Americans once went to these other lands, now 12 international priests have come to serve and support us here. You have been faithful supporters of us Americans and now them. We appreciate how, with your Eucharistic faith, you partner with us and support our mission through the Shrine of Saint Ann and your other generous donations to our province's Education, Mission, and Retirement funds. You are so thoughtful in how you share your gifts - THANK You!!!

At Easter, we now think of the great Paschal Mystery in a special lens of hope. Christ's life, passion, death and resurrection, and the celebrations we enter into each year remind us of our own cycle of dying and rising, birth and growth, renewal and changing spirit. I hope and pray that this Easter will be a time of renewal for you. Having been taught by the good women religious and lay teachers in our Catholic school, I know that Lent is usually the time for us to do something, give up something, or renew our life through fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. However, my teachers also taught me then, through religious life and the seminary, that Easter and its Great 50 Days are a time of intense reflection on living the mystery of Christ's resurrection renewal in the Holy Spirit. The weekday and Sunday scripture readings retell the story to remind us that we live with renewed hearts of hope in the Holy Spirit. Our participation in the Eucharist helps us grow in that renewal.

We are grateful for your generous donations to us for our 125th anniversary, or for Lent, or Easter – or all three moments. The sacrifices you make for us and our mission, retirement, and education sustain us,



and we are so grateful. We keep you in our prayers daily! May this grand Paschal Season of Lent, the Sacred Triduum, and Easter help you live the third verse of the Jubilee Hymn:

*Raise your eyes; the wind is blowing,
for our God is born in time.
Son made flesh for you and many
who will find the way in Christ.²*

May the Holy Spirit and this 2025 Pentecost give you new life and a renewed mind and heart. I look forward to seeing you at the rest of our 2025 Jubilee celebrations across the country, where we will experience the grand communion of Christ in the Eucharist.

Gratefully in Christ our Eucharist

Very Reverend John Thomas J.
Lane, SSS
Provincial



¹ *Pilgrims of Hope – Jubilee Year 2025 Official Hymn*, Original text: Pierangelo Sequeri & English translation: Andrew Wadsworth, refrain and verse 1.

² Adapted with inclusive, theological language.

Dedicated to Saint Ann: Meet Josie Rice and Diane Mungall

My Involvement at Saint Ann Shrine

By Josie Rice

I began my journey at Saint Ann Shrine in March 2006, shortly after my husband’s passing in 2005. It wasn’t easy, and I knew I needed to reenter the workforce. I am grateful to my friend and neighbor, Cynthia Troha, the director of the Shrine at that time, who reached out to me during a Mass at Saint Anselm. She noticed the overwhelmed state of the office and offered me a job, which turned out to be a blessing.



Josie Rice

The people I speak with on the phone are incredibly devoted to Saint Ann, and it’s heartwarming to witness their deep trust in her as a guiding figure in their lives. As a grandmother, many of them feel that she understands their struggles. Over the years, I have connected with some of these compassionate individuals, listening to their life stories for 10 to 15 years. My role has involved routine office tasks and collecting donations for our appeals, which we enter into our database with gratitude.

Working at Saint Ann Shrine has given me a profound sense of belonging; it has been like finding a second family. The warmth and support from the Shrine community have helped me navigate through some of my

Josie Rice with the relic of Saint Ann



most challenging moments. I am forever thankful for the love, understanding, and kindness they have shown me.

Originally from the Netherlands, I came to the United States with my parents and sister when I was nine. My husband and I raised two sons and one daughter, and we are now blessed with eight

grandchildren. The love I share with my family is invaluable, and I treasure every moment spent with them. This family and the incredible Shrine community have supported me in need.

I sincerely hope that my contributions to Saint Ann Shrine and the generosity of our incredible donors have made a positive impact. Your kindness and support have made a difference in our work, and I am deeply grateful.

✘ ✘ ✘ ✘ ✘ ✘ ✘

My Life at Saint Ann Shrine

By Diane Mungall



Diane Mungall

My husband, Tom, and I have been married for 38 years, and throughout our journey, we’ve been active members of our parish community, volunteering in various capacities over the years. We have

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Dedicated to Saint Ann...Continued from previous page

three children. Ian lives in Austin, Texas; Erica, who is married, lives in New York City with our three granddaughters, Charlotte, Ruby, and Aubrey; and Evan lives locally with his wife. Our journey in the parish has been filled with countless memorable moments, from our children's First Communion to the joy of watching them grow into responsible, compassionate adults.

Our family's roots in the Saint Paschal Baylon parish run deep, dating back to 1993. All three of our children were educated at the parish school, Saint Paschal Baylon, under the care of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. Their time there was not just educational, but also deeply formative, instilling in them the values we hold dear.

In 2006, a friend working at Saint Ann Shrine (*the Office of Mission Advancement*) had to leave her position to care for her mother. She recommended me for the job, and I was fortunate to step into the position.

Among my responsibilities are offering prayers and support and answering phone inquiries from donors, maintaining organized records of donor contributions, handling the secure processing of credit card transactions for donations, ensuring gifts are properly recorded, and managing the fulfillment and shipping of all ordered items.

If you have received our order, I have personally handled its shipment. In addition, I manage all correspondence and oversee inventory and order fulfillment for Emmanuel Media, a ministry of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. I perform general office tasks as needed and requested by our director.

As we mark this significant milestone of 125 years, I want to reaffirm my unwavering commitment to the values and mission that have shaped our history at Saint Ann Shrine. These values are not just words to me, but a guiding principle that I strive to uphold in my daily life and work.

I am deeply grateful for the priests of the Congregation who lead us in Mass at the Shrine, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all. Their dedication is truly inspiring. I also want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the parish community. Your support and prayers have been a constant source of strength and comfort for me in my ministry at Saint Ann Shrine. ✠

Diane Mungall with the relic of Saint Ann



A Word of Thanks to our Partners in Ministry

Many of you returned the enclosed response card in with a generous donation to the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. We are most grateful to you for making it possible for our priests and brothers to continue their ministry. Your gift, whether large or small, helps you to actually share in the ministry of the Congregation in the USA. You are remembered daily in the prayer intentions of the priests and brothers of the Congregation.



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Contact information:

Phone: (440) 442-6311
 Fax: (440) 442-4752
 Editor: Office of Communications
 Design: Kay Vincent
 Email:



ssscommunications@blessedsacrament.com
 Website: www.blessedsacrament.com

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CONGREGATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
 5384 Wilson Mills Road
 Highland Heights (Cleveland), Ohio 44143

Since 1900, our Eymardian Family serves the United States and now in Connecticut, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Maine, New Mexico, New York, Ohio and Texas

Become an Apostle of the Eucharist: Brother, Sister, Deacon, Ordained Priest or Associate

My Sabbatical Experience

By Father Juancho C. Ramos SSS

I believed that getting some space away from ordinary activities and schedules would enable me to experience God's revelation of his presence in my life in a new way.

My journey with other priests from different Archdioceses and Dioceses in the United States, Australia, and New Zealand at the Pontifical North American College in Vatican City was a rediscovery of the person I used to be. It was a time when I cherished hope and dreams, found joy in the mundane of life, and appreciated the beauty of life and God's creation. The Institute for Continuing Theological Education conducted the sabbatical program I participated in, which was a profound experience of renewal and rediscovery.

"...The unique possibility for priests to spend time together in a strictly priestly environment to foster fraternity and the opportunity to explore personal and pastoral features of the priesthood in light of the renewal experience." (ICTE)

"Presenters for the Institute are top-notch Roman-based university professors, as well as from the USA and Europe, whose expertise has brought them to the "universal classroom" of Rome. The professors typically enjoy working with Institute priests because of the give-and-take with experienced pastors and those active in the various ministries of the Church." (ICTE)

My experience of the program helped me rediscover a new opportunity for growth in my life.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity the Congregation and the community, especially the Province of Saint Ann, gave me. But my gratitude extends beyond these institutions to the individuals who supported me in this program. To the parishioners of Saint Paschal Baylon, your prayers and resources were a lifeline. To the benefactors and supporters of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament of the Province of Saint Ann, your belief in me was a constant source of strength. I am truly grateful for each and every one of you.

This sabbatical program reminded me that the most profound journeys are often found within ourselves, waiting to be explored. Our existence as a person, when we are able to take care of ourselves outside of our daily



Father Juancho C. Ramos SSS in the piazza in front of Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome during his sabbatical experience

structure and responsibilities, allows us to bring new growth and creativity, appreciation, and commitment to the vocation that we've committed ourselves to.

As I prepare to re-immense myself in life's routine, I carry with me the joy and fulfillment, healing, and spiritual lift that comes with a genuine connection to a refreshed and renewed self. I hope this joy in routine will always be a source of optimism and hope in my life.



The (MCP) Mission Cooperative Plan 2025

By Susan Work, Mission Coordinator

The Mission Cooperative Plan (MCP), a significant initiative of the U.S. Catholic Church, was established in the late 1930s. This plan, often called MCP, is a pivotal way of uniting the efforts of missionary organizations worldwide, aiming to engage Catholics in the United States.

How the MCP works

Mission organizations, dioceses, and religious congregations apply to dioceses for mission appeals. The Diocese Mission Offices manage the applications and select participants. Once we are chosen, I will contact each parish to secure a mutual weekend for the appeal. The assigned participants speak at Masses to appeal for prayer and financial support parishioners donate to the MCP parish or diocese to support the MCP goals such as increasing missionary awareness, helping mission organizations continue their evangelization efforts, Maintaining congregations, seminaries, and convents.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' mission includes:

- Evangelization
- Promoting religious freedom
- Upholding the sanctity of human life
- Encouraging vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life
- Fostering cooperative relationships between dioceses
- Securing an equitable distribution of assistance to the missions
- Called to Global Solidarity International Challenges for U.S. parishes

Our SSS Missionaries for 2025

Get to know our 2024 and 2025 SSS Missionaries, individuals who have dedicated their lives to spreading the message of faith and hope. Each summer, the Province of Saint Ann warmly welcomes SSS religious from foreign countries and provinces to the USA. These dedicated individuals preach in various Archdioceses/Dioceses throughout the USA as part of the Missionary Cooperative Program, seeking support for our missionary efforts in their home countries and provinces.

Father Joseph Kiet Nguyen Huy SSS

Let me introduce myself. I am Father Joseph Kiet Nguyen Huy, born into a 'small' family of nine in South Vietnam. As the youngest son, I was blessed with an abundance of love from my parents and siblings.

My vocation, I believe, was sown in my



childhood when my mother brought me to Mass daily. I remember her teaching me to pray for peace in the family, my studies, and more. She instilled in me the belief that the best way to repay the family sacrifices was to devote myself to the consecrated life, where I could pray for them.

After graduating high school, I was immediately recommended to the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. I enrolled as an aspirant while studying at the university for four years. I can say that the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament is the first and the only 'love' for me, a testament to my unwavering commitment to my faith.

For the first period of my formation, everything happened very normally and peacefully. I spent one year in postulancy, two years in the Novitiate, making my first profession on August 2, 2011, and two years studying philosophy. I was ordained a priest and assigned as a Parochial Vicar at the SSS parish in Xuan Loe diocese in Dong Nai province.

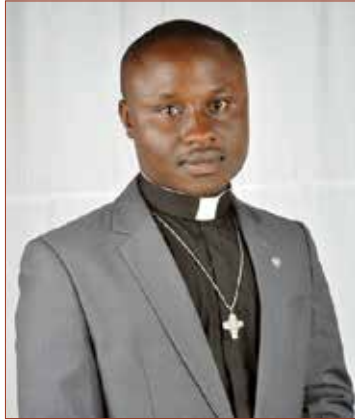
Then, one day, the provincial superior met me and told me there was an invitation to do mission appeals in the USA.; then asked if I could accept the invitation, and I agreed to go to the USA.

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Mission Cooperative Plan...Continued from previous page

In the Summer of 2024, I traveled to the USA to give Mission Appeals to parishes assigned to the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament for the 2024 Mission Cooperative Plan.

Father Simon Peter Zikusooka SSS



I am Father Simon Peter Zikusooka SSS a religious of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament in Uganda. I was assigned to the MCP program in 2024 and this coming summer's Mission Appeals. I was born on the 9th of February 1990 and currently am 35 years old. I went through ordinary studies in Uganda and joined the Blessed Sacrament Formation in 2009. From then, I studied Philosophy at the Uganda Martyrs University and theology at the Université Catholique du Congo. I also had a two-year novitiate formation in Senegal. I then made my perpetual vows in February 2019, followed by diaconate ordination. I was raised in the sacred order of presbyters in Masaka, Uganda, in August of the same year. After my ordination, I was asked to be vice-rector of our postulancy philosophy house in Jinja,

Uganda. The following year, I was asked to move to the archdiocese of Mbarara in the west of the Country to start a new Blessed Sacrament Parish as assistant Pastor. This also lasted one year. In 2021, I was elected Superior of our Ugandan Community. I then moved to our motherhouse in Masaka. I became pastor of the Blessed Sacrament parish in Masaka in 2022. I currently serve as vice chairperson of the African Conference and a member of the International Commission for Mission of the Congregation. In the diocese of Masaka, I serve as the Episcopal Vicar for religious.

Father Marcus Allen Codipilly SSS



Father Marcus Allen Codipilly SSS is from the Christ Bread of Life Province in Sri Lanka. He is the Provincial Treasurer. He was born on September 29, 1967, in Rattota, Sri Lanka, and ordained on July 23, 2002, at Saint Thomas Church in Kandy. He studied Theology and Philosophy at the National Seminary, Ampitiya Kandy, from 1995 to 2001. He will come to the Province of Saint Ann this summer to give Mission Appeals.



Who We Are

“Following in the footsteps of St. Peter Julian Eymard, our mission is to respond to the hungers of the human family with the riches of God’s love manifested in the Eucharist.” *Rule of Life 3*

Conscious of our call to bear prophetic witness to the Eucharist, we commit ourselves to the renewal of Church and society through this sacrament, especially by:

- ◆ gathering communities characterized by hospitality, reconciliation, and service;
- ◆ celebrating the Eucharist as the source and summit of the life of the Church;
- ◆ associating others with our prayer;
- ◆ giving personal witness to the presence of Christ in the Eucharist;
- ◆ sharing our Eucharistic mission with others in full collaboration.



Jubilee Year: Province 125th Celebrations

Throughout 2025, the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament will be celebrating 125 years of service in the United States.

We invite you to join us at any of our celebrations across the country. Please contact Scott Gongos at 440-449-2700 or sgongos@blessedsacrament.com for more details or if you'd like to meet with Scott while we celebrate!

Saturday, June 21, 2025 Corpus Christi
9900 Stella Link Road Houston, TX
5:00 PM Eucharist

Thursday, August 7, 2025 Saint Paschal Baylon
5384 Wilson Mills Road Highland Heights, OH
4:30 PM Eucharist

Friday, August 15, 2025 Saint Mary
212 Appleton Street Menasha, WI
12 Noon

Sunday, November 9, 2025 Holy Family Chapel
5232 Broadview Road Mount Saint Augustine Regina Health Center
11:00 am Eucharist Richfield, OH
Remembering those who have died in our province over the last 125 years.

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 Bethany Center: Retreat in the afternoon
5:00 PM Eucharist Lutz, FL

ANNIVERSARY PRAYER IN CELEBRATION OF 125 YEARS

God of hope and of love,
the journeys of Peter Julian Eymard
spread Eucharistic spirituality far and
wide
and continue to empower us to be
apostles of your Eucharistic service.

Inspired by the Holy Spirit,
our Canadian brothers journeyed to
the United States
bringing a unique eucharistic way of
religious life,
and tremendous zeal for the Blessed
Sacrament,
forged to build your mission to this
hallowed land.


As we look to the future,
with gratitude for 125 years of faithful
care,
awaken in our hearts the desire
to live the ideal of this Eucharistic
mystery
and make known the glory of the
Eucharistic Christ
to the entire world.¹

Through your Spirit,
may we be attentive to the needs of the
human family,
be communities of festive celebration,
provide oases of prayer
and leaven for unity in the Body of
Christ.²

May your Eucharistic Kingdom come!
Through Christ our LORD.³

¹ See Rule of Life 1
² See Rule of Life 5 and 42
³ Primary author John Thomas Lane, SSS, with contributions from William Fickel, SSS, Tom Wiese, SSS, Associates of the Blessed Sacrament Mona Grigsby-Suarez and Mary Muehle (Co-Directors of the Center for Eucharistic Evangelizing)





Nativity Pilgrimage
Where Faith Meets Adventure

November 10 - 21, 2025
Round-trip from Cleveland, OH

Very Reverend John Thomas J. Lane, SSS
Saint Paschal Baylon
Highland Heights, Ohio

For Info
888.21.406.7690
1.844.400.9539
info@nativitypilgrimage.com
www.nativitypilgrimage.com/na-rule

Pilgrims of Hope: the Pope's Jubilee Year 2025, began on December 24, 2024, and will end on January 6, 2026. It is a significant time, marked by prayer, reflection, and the opportunity for pilgrims to receive indulgences by visiting designated holy sites, particularly in Rome. Scan this QR code to download the brochure for Nativity Pilgrimage information.

