



SSS Grapevine

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Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament

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Good Saint Ann, Pray for Us



Blessed Sacrament Father Marcus Codipilly from Sri Lanka assists during the veneration of the relic of Saint Ann

Each year, our two shrines of Saint Ann celebrate the annual festival of this patron saint of the United States province. For over 140 years, Eglise Saint Jean Baptiste in New York City has celebrated the novena with Good Saint Ann from July 17-26. This year, Father John Thomas Lane SSS led the retreat time, focusing on his grandparents, the Sacred Scriptures, and the Holy Family, with Good Saint Ann and her attributes through the legends and litanies that describe her. He was joined by the pastor, Father John Kamas, SSS, who guided him gently through the 10 days, and Father James Hayes, also of the New York SSS Community.

Father Bernard Camiré was in the hospital and prayed for the pilgrims from his bed as he patiently waited for surgeries and other rehab therapy. We were also blessed to have Father Marcus Codipilly, SSS, here this summer preaching mission appeals for the SSS Sri Lanka Province and two members of the Provincial Council (*for a few days*), Father William Fickel, SSS (*Holiday community – Provincial Vicar*), and Father Thomas Smithson, SSS (*Houston community – Provincial Consultor*). Also, for a few days, while on vacation, Father Joseph Kiet (JK) Nguyen, SSS (*Highland*



Heights Community – hospital chaplain/priest student), also assisted with the anointing of the sick and veneration of the relic of Saint Ann.

Meanwhile, at Saint Paschal Baylon, Highland Heights, Ohio, our other shrine to Good Saint Ann is located on the campus, and the annual three-day triduum gloried in record heat and outstanding participation, too. Father William Fickel, leaving the council meeting in New York, flew to northeast Ohio to preach at the three-day event and enjoy his hometown crowd, who were so happy to see the 4th pastor of the parish. Here, as well, faithful joined together to celebrate the healing power of God's love, manifested in the Eucharist and the saints, especially our Good Saint Ann, growing in faith and devotion, knowing that God is with us.



Father William Fickel blesses families with the relic of Saint Ann

Month-long English Institute Wraps up at the Provinciate



For thirty days, the local SSS Highland Heights Community and parishioners of Saint Paschal Baylon welcomed 9 participants (*7 born in Brazil, one from Colombia, one from Vietnam, four of them SSS priests, five women associates*) into an immersion experience of community, culture, worship, and language

study. The gifts of the *Rule of Life* and *Project of Life*, collaboration, hospitality, and sharing in growth together as the Eymardian Family. At the request of the SSS Americas Conference at the International Eucharistic Congress of Quito, Ecuador (*September 2024*), a goal was to increase participation together as a conference, through mutual study, language



sharing, and development of English-speaking, Eucharistic evangelization. With her educational background, Mona Grigsby-Suarez, director of the USA SSS Center for Eucharistic Evangelization, organized the Eymardian English Institute. With classes during the day, excursions, and prayer/worship events around the study time, participants quickly became adopted by the SSS community and parishioners to learn and grow in their language experience. The participants are so grateful to the Province of Saint Ann for hosting, but especially the local community and its excellent staff for providing such a fantastic

Gratitude and Farewell Father Choy



This weekend at Saint Paschal Baylon Church, Highland Heights, Ohio, the parish gives thanks and praise to God for the gift of Father Juancho (*Choy*) Ramos SSS for the service and dedication blessed the parish family with for 7 ½ years. His kind and loving ways have touched us, and of course, a joke or two each week! Father Lane mentioned in his remarks before his “Blessing on Mission,”

I am personally going to miss Father Choy for his presence and care of the parish and me during his time with me as parochial vicar, and then for three years as the local community leader. When he got here, he said to me, “What can I do to make your life easier? You have a lot on your plate, I see.” That made me feel so blessed. We had known each other when we were both assigned as Vocation ministers

for the order in the mid-1990’s. We met at the Congress for Young SSS Religious in January 1996, and a special bond of friendship began there and has continued since. One of the blessings of our SSS life, as you [parishioners] have seen, is that we SSS never leave – we return to be with one another in mission, friendship, and gatherings to improve our religious life. I know that this will continue for all of us with Father Choy. It’s not “goodbye,” but “farewell, and see you soon!” Thank you, dear Father Choy! We will miss you, but know you are only a joke email or text away!

Choy will be serving back in the Philippine Province as they do an experimental ministry in the Diocese of Metuchen, New Jersey. He will be a parochial vicar at a non-SSS parish in Somerset, New Jersey. Many blessings and prayers for your new work, Father Choy, as you return to your home province, and for your service within the USA!

Local Community Chooses New Leadership

With Father Choy returning to his home province, the local SSS Communities of Northeast Ohio (*Highland Heights, Richfield, and University Heights*) needed a local leader of the Northeast Ohio men. After consultation with the local community, the Provincial announces that Father Joseph Kiet (JK) Nguyen, SSS (*from Vietnam*), is appointed local superior and Father Rosario Pushparaj, SSS (*from India*), is appointed local assistant superior as of Wednesday, August 6, 2025. The community will have Night Prayer and an installation during the provincial assembly. We are grateful to these two men for serving (*In the photo, Father Rosario is front and center, Father JK is to the right.*)



Please Pray for our Province Assembly



Members of the Province of Saint Ann and the Eymardian Family (*Associates, Brothers, Deacon, and Fathers*) will join August 4 – 8 to assemble at the provincialate in Highland Heights and assess the province's goals from their August 2022 Chapter and begin preparations for the 2026 Chapter. Members will come from across the ministries of the province, with the Associates joining us from Houston and northeast Ohio. The local parish and SSS community will also celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Blessed Sacrament Community in the United States with Bishop Edward C. Malesic, Diocese of Cleveland. Please pray for this event and for the future outcomes that will help us in our mission in the USA.

General Superior Visitation



In tandem with the Province of Saint Ann Assembly and the 125th anniversary of the SSS in the USA, Very Reverend Father Philip Benzy Romician, SSS (*born in India, serving from our headquarters in Rome*), will visit the United States during August. We welcome him for his second visit to our country, the first as General Treasurer in 2017, and look forward to hosting him across the SSS and Eymardian family communities from Albuquerque, New Mexico, Hawai'i, New York, and Orlando! He will get everywhere! We pray for his health, well-being, and safe travels and are so grateful for his presence with us, as a Eucharistic pilgrim of hope in this special jubilee year!