



Fraternity of Fatherhood

A Spiritual Fraternity for All Men

Volume 12

Issue 1

Mar. 10, 2023

Easter Message

Fr. Santan Pinto SOLT

Dear Disciples of Jesus & Mary, Missionaries of Mercy and friends:
My special prayers and blessings to you all and your families. Please know that you and your intentions are in my personal prayers, especially during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass!

The world has placed a heavy burden in our hearts, seeking to confuse us and ultimately discourage us. The root of this attack lies in the understanding of "image and likeness". We often look at the pictures or photographs that were taken early. These images never grow old but we do. And the world is trying desperately to fight the signs of age. Our generation is known for its makeovers and often extreme makeovers. There are thousands of anti -aging creams available. In the part of the world where people are light colored, there are all kinds of tanning aids. Many spend long hours getting a tan. In the colored world, there are various creams to protect people from sun burn. People use umbrellas and many will use whitening cream.

In the novel, "The Picture of Dorian Gray" by Oscar Wilde; you see how young Dorian desires that he remains young while his picture gets older. And this is exactly what happens. Jesus looked at the young man and loved him and said to him, "Go sell all you have and give it to the poor and then come and follow me." And the young man went away sad because he had many possessions.

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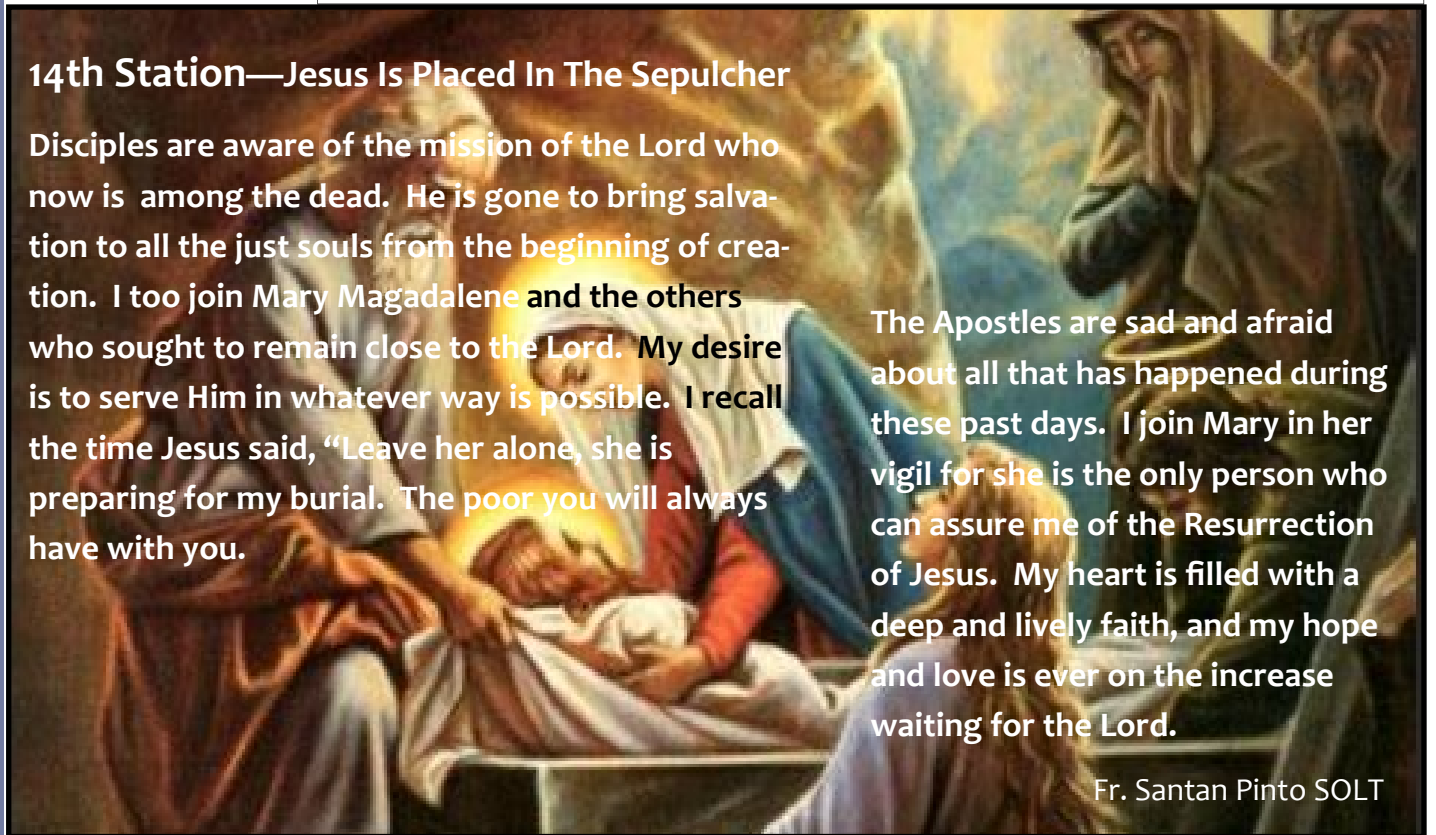
HE IS RISEN

14th Station—Jesus Is Placed In The Sepulcher

Disciples are aware of the mission of the Lord who now is among the dead. He is gone to bring salvation to all the just souls from the beginning of creation. I too join Mary Magdalene and the others who sought to remain close to the Lord. My desire is to serve Him in whatever way is possible. I recall the time Jesus said, "Leave her alone, she is preparing for my burial. The poor you will always have with you."

The Apostles are sad and afraid about all that has happened during these past days. I join Mary in her vigil for she is the only person who can assure me of the Resurrection of Jesus. My heart is filled with a deep and lively faith, and my hope and love is ever on the increase waiting for the Lord.

Fr. Santan Pinto SOLT



Continued... Easter Message

Easter is a time when the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ reminds us of who we are. Unlike the thinking of the world, we have to continuously grow into the "image and likeness of God". We never age for our Father; because what we see now will pass away and we will put on immortality. Nonetheless this process is a constant process and it must be achieved by dying to oneself, contrary to what the world tells us. When you see through the eyes of love, then everything looks new. If beauty is in the eye of beholder, then if we abide in the Lord and put on his mind, we too will see all things through His eyes.

God our Father sees all things outside time and beyond the limitations of space. He sees us in the way He created us and so it is only through His eyes that we can see our true nature. With Him, this Easter, we can wonder at the beauty of His creation. If we can see His goodness and love manifested in us, we shall then easily see the same in others.

Jesus our Master and friend came into the world to show us the way home. When I saw the movie ET, I could hear the words home, home, repeated often. I remember the day when I left Bombay for on Canada in 1987. I knew that this time away from home would be long. And all of a sudden a deep loneliness crept into my being. My heart was torn into million pieces and there was such a wrenching pain that gripped the depths of my being. I wanted to cry but the tears were not forthcoming. I was so distraught.

It was then that I made the greatest decision of my life. I begged the Lord that would allow me only one favor. His loving response was, "What can I do for you my son?" I prayed, "Lord allow me to make your Sacred Heart my home always!" He answered affirmatively. From that day onwards I never felt the separation from leaving home. The reason why we are afraid of getting old and losing the beauty of our youth, is the fear that we will be rejected and left alone. Yes, that is what the world does.



However with the Lord it is different. The older we get, we know it is getting time for us to return to our eternal home. It is time for us to discard this mortal nature and put on immortality. We see the beauty of our human nature in the mystery of the Transfiguration. Jesus shows us what we will all become because of His love for us.

As His disciples we kneel before the cross of our Lord together with Mary Magdalene. There we allow the blood of Our Savior to wash our pride, selfishness, hatred, anger, resentment, fear, worries, lust, and countless other sins and weaknesses. As the world strips us of its passing glory, we then put on the eternal robe of glory won for us by our Lord and Master.

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Easter is a time when the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ reminds us of who we are. Unlike the thinking of the world, we have to continuously grow into the "image and likeness of God." Fr. Santan Pinto SOLT

Faith, Hope, & Charity

Dcn. Tom Gryzbek

The three theological virtues that helps us respond to the troubles of the world. Practicing and living these virtues can not only spoil the plans of the enemy, but draw others to Christ.

This reflection was written by - Deacon Tom Gryzbek From Holy Martyrs parish in Merrillville, Indiana.

When we pray the Rosary, it is common for the person presiding to state at the beginning of the rosary right after reciting the Apostles Creed (and before praying the first three Holy Marys), "for faith, hope and charity".

I thought it might be helpful to reflect on what these three theological virtues mean and why they are important to understand.

Our Catholic Catechism teaches the theological virtues are the foundation of Christian moral activity ... they are infused by God into the souls of the faithful to make them capable of acting as His children and of meriting eternal life (Catechism 1813).

FAITH is the theological virtue by which we believe in God and believe all he has revealed to us (Catechism 1814) ...the disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it (Catechism 1816).

HOPE is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit (Catechism 1817)...it keeps man from discouragement; it sustains him during times of abandonment...buoyed up by hope, he is preserved from selfishness and led to happiness that flows from charity (Catechism 1818).

CHARITY is the theological virtue by which we love God above all things, and our neighbor as ourselves for love of God (Catechism 1822)...charity is superior to all the virtues (Catechism 1826)...the practice of all three virtues is animated by charity, which binds everything together in perfect harmony...charity upholds and purifies our human ability to love (Catechism 1827)...the practice of the moral life animated by charity gives the Christian the spiritual freedom of the children of God. He no longer stands before God as a slave, in service of fear...but as a son responding to the love of Him who "first loved us" (Catechism 1828).

Remembering these three theological virtues when reciting the first three Hail Marys in a rosary gives profound testimony to our faith in and love of God.



Stations of Hope

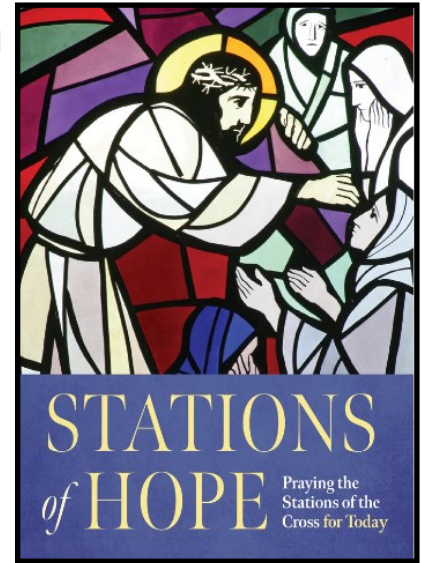
Fr. David Knight

I came across these Stations of the Cross online and thought the Fatherhood Fraternity men may have interest especially since our newsletter focus is on Faith, Hope and Charity (love). You can find the "Stations of Hope" recorded on YouTube or purchase a pamphlet. Maybe listen to one each day before you start your day at work.

In this fresh approach to the Stations of the Cross, best-selling author and spiritual leader, Fr. David Knight reminds us that hope can be found in the darkest of places and the true power of the crucifixion is the opportunity to transform unimaginable pain and suffering into faith, hope and love.

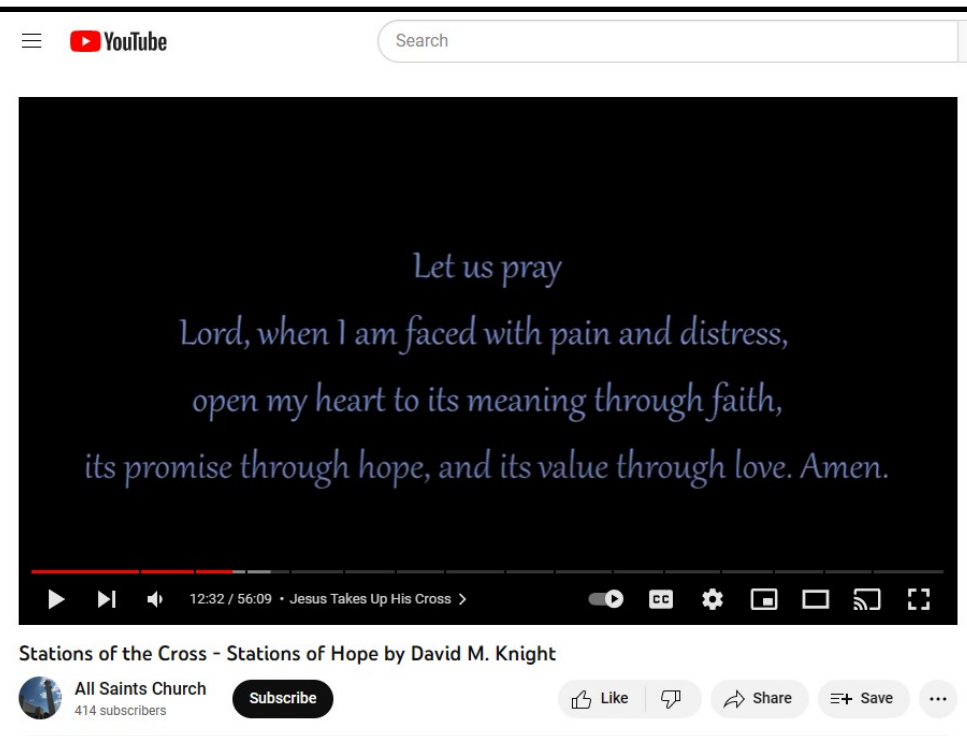
Dangers and abuses are pandemic in every age, but it is healthy to be aware of the particular challenges of our current time. This way we will know what kind of lifeline to look for. And Christianity is unique in offering hope and a positive response to every evil there is, including sin and death. The cross is our answer to fear. And to every loss. By turning curses into crosses we enter into the Christian victory over sin, death, and all their causes and consequences.

Christians are not different in what we suffer, only in the way we suffer. We have a different focus. Christians see everything as an opportunity to grow in union with God through faith, hope, and love, which we recognize as the goal and fulfillment of life itself. For us, crucifixion is inseparable from resurrection, temporary pain from eternal ecstasy. That is the specific and unique key to the way Christians respond to suffering. As a practical suggestion, when making the Stations of the Cross, we should "see how the divinity hides



itself" (Saint Ignatius). God does not treat His sons and daughters on earth like privileged children. Instead, God keeps us in solidarity with the human race, as Jesus chose to be. That is the key to the incarnation of Jesus and to its continuance in us.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself....taking the form of a slave And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Phil 2:5-8



As we contemplate the fourteen moments of Christ's Way of the Cross, we will see how the principles above offer hope and a positive response to the particular challenges of our time.

Continued...Easter Message

The Holy Spirit gives us a better understanding of how to be truly happy. Often people are sad because they are lonely. We know that Jesus rose from the dead and that He is with us always, because of His promise, "I will be with you always, till the end of time." During this Easter season, we should all ask the Holy Spirit to give us the strength and the wisdom to forgive, let go thoughts of revenge and anger, to respond with trust when faced with trials, to abide in lasting joy and peace as we journey the way of truth, fidelity and love.

I have watched how a face can change because of anger and resentment. There is always a glow on the face of the person who looks upon the Lord and seeks interiorly to walk in the ways of the Lord. The Holy Spirit is the giver of life and it is He who can bring laughter in our lives.

In a world that is struggling with hope, filled with doubt and fear because of terrorism and violence, and hardened because of communal hatred, prejudice, and enmity: the Holy Spirit reminds us of the promises of Christ. We know that the Lord lives in us and we are aware that God truly loves us. We open our hearts to the Most Holy Trinity and allow them to fashion within us their own loving image. May their love bring us to live our Plan of Life; so that in all things we may glorify their Name in time and eternity!

Mary our Mother speaks to us about how we can during this joyful season of Easter conform ourselves to the image and likeness of God. With her we learn to ponder the great things the Lord does for us. We believe what the Lord has promised us; so that we receive in gratitude what love has planned and willed for us. We leave all our cares and burdens aside.

As we live our Consecration and its promises, we wipe away from our faces and more so from our hearts, the lines of worry, anxiety, fear, and death. Sheltered by the mantle of her love, we carry the Eucharistic Lord in our hearts; and it is in this mysterious union that grows to become into the fullness of that image and likeness that we see in the person of Jesus our Master.

In your humility ask all the angels and saints and all the holy souls in heaven to intercede for you. Seek their assistance to be an instrument of joy and peace to your family, friends and all those that you meet. May the love of the Lord flow through you to all so that they may come to recognize that each one is created in the "image and likeness" of their Father. Through His resurrection Jesus has taken away death and restored us to the joy of celebrating an eternal Easter with Him. In the Eucharist we can celebrate this every day of our lives. As we abide in love, we see the beauty in each one, as we see ourselves through the eyes of our Lord, Our friend, and our Father.

I pray that Easter season that we all experience the joy and peace that Jesus offers us and may we be true witnesses to His love and mercy to all! I impart on you my priestly blessings, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Easter 2006)

Your servant,
Fr. Santan Pinto SOLT

In your humility ask all the angels and saints and all the holy souls in heaven to intercede for you. Seek their assistance to be an instrument of joy and peace to your family, friends and all those that you meet.

Fr. Santan Pinto SOLT

Faith, Hope & Charity (love)

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." Hebrews 11:1



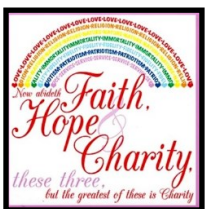
"But Christ is faithful as the Son over God's house. And we are his house, if indeed we hold firmly to our confidence and the hope in which we glory." Hebrews 3:6

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." 1 Cor 13:13



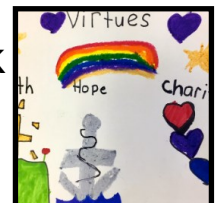
"Through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God." Romans 5:2

"But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet." 1 Thes 5:8



"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful." Hebrews 10:23

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35



Divine Mercy—Novena Begins Good Friday, April 7th

On September 13, 1935, Sister Faustina had a terrible vision of a destroying Angel ("the agent of divine wrath") about to strike some place on the planet. She began praying, begging him to put off the punishment until the world did penance. At first, her pleas seemed in vain, but presently she saw the Holy Trinity and felt the power of Christ's grace in her soul. Again she began to plead for the world in words that welled up out of the silence of her soul: *"Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, for our sins and those of the whole world; for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us"* (475).

Her prayer was answered and the angel was prevented from carrying out the chastisement. The following morning, Sister Faustina heard these interior words: *"Every time you enter the chapel, start reciting the prayer which I taught you yesterday"* (476).

Later, she was instructed in the recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy: *"This prayer will serve to appease My wrath. You will recite it for nine days, on the beads of the Rosary, in the following manner: first of all, you will say one Our Father and Hail Mary and the I Believe in God. Then, on the Our Father beads, you will say the following words: 'Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, for our sins and those of the whole world.' On the Hail Mary beads you will say the following words: 'For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.' In conclusion, three times you will recite these words: 'Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world' "* (476).

Jesus Himself tells us why it is so important to recite this prayer: *"Recite the chaplet unceasingly that I have taught you. Whoever recites it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even in the case of the most hardened sinner, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire that the whole world know My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls that trust in My mercy"* (687).

"Oh, what great graces I will grant to souls that say this chaplet; the very depths of My tender mercy are stirred for the sake of those who say the chaplet" (848). *"At the hour of their death, I defend as My own glory every soul that will say this chaplet; or when others say it for a dying person, the indulgence is the same"* (811). *"Through the chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask is compatible with My will"* (1731).



Jesus I Trust In You

**FOR THE SAKE OF HIS
SORROWFUL PASSION.
HAVE MERCY ON US AND ON
THE WHOLE WORLD.**

Fraternity of Fatherhood—Group locations & Area Coordinators

Fr. Pinto has encouraged us to grow and expand the Fraternity of Fatherhood all over the world. He has granted us his permission, his blessing and he guides us spiritually. It is with this confidence that we now move forward with humility, obedience and docile hearts. If you are interested in joining a Fraternity of Fatherhood group or if you would like to start a group in your city contact Dcn. Ray Emnace, Mike Allison, Stacey Hill or Brendan McVicker.

Arkansas

Steve Osborn (501) 664-5379 (501) 529-5615 SteveO@oca-actuaries.com Little Rock

California

Dcn. Ray Emnace (661) 513-4216 (213) 531-1999 raceman502@aol.com Los Angeles
 Mike Allison (916) 834-6226 meallison5@gmail.com Citrus Heights

Mississippi

Don Brewer (662) 253-5146 (901) 299-1989 don@memphis2u.com Olive Branch

Nevada

Stacey Hill (775) 787-6275 (775) 762-5217 djmstacey@sbcglobal.net Reno

Oregon

Brendan McVicker (503) 657-0484 (503) 358-4963 mcvickerfamily@comcast.net Portland

Arizona

Dcn. Bill Booth (623) 398-8950 Bbooth512@centurylink.net Phoenix

Texas

Jack Towle (903) 227-7053 johnftowle@yahoo.com Texas

Grant, O Great St. Joseph, that the Almighty God may turn a benevolent glance toward me. As the ancient Joseph did not reject his guilty and cruel brothers, but rather accepted them with love and protected and saved them from hunger and death, I beseech thee, O Glorious Patriarch, through thine intercession, grant that the Lord may never abandon me in this exiled valley of sorrows. Grant that He may always number me as one of thy devoted servants who dost live serenely under the patronage of thy Holy Cloak. Grant that I may live always within the protection of this patronage, every day of my life and particularly at that moment when I draw my dying breath. Amen.



MARCH 19
THE FEAST
DAY OF
ST. JOSEPH

LET US MAKE ST. JOSEPH
OUR LENTEN SAINT
ON THE WAY TO EASTER.
MAY WE HAVE A SEMBLANCE
OF HIS HUMILITY, GREAT
FAITH & TRUST IN GOD.

ST. JOSEPH, PRAY FOR US!



Pray for us
St. Joseph



Feast Day
March 19th

POSTAGE

Fraternity of Fatherhood

**We entrust the Fatherhood Fraternity to the patronage
of St. Joseph.**



**St. Joseph ...Pray For Us.
Feast Day March 19th**



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To submit feedback and/or suggestions for future article topics, please email the editors,

Brendan McVicker	mcvickerfamily@comcast.net
Mike Allison	meallison5@gmail.com
Dcn. Ray Emnace	Raceman502@aol.com
Stacey Hill	djmstacey@sbcglobal.net