



## Institute of the Holy Spirit

Summer 2014

# A Reflection on the Priesthood

We live in an era of immense trauma, an age of disillusionment or despair if you will. Every day we in the mystical body suffer the effects of the brutal statistics in this narcissistic culture. The pandemic of addiction of every type reigns, family life in most quarters has been decimated, antidepressants are prescribed in the millions and the horrific scandals in the Church continue. There is absolutely no way to hide from the realities we face each day, thus we are confronted with only a sober, truthful, and faithful step; a step of heroic proportions. Maybe we should call it a spacewalk of trust, a step into the oblivion of the unknown, but in a paradoxical way. This unknown if surrendered into infinite love becomes absolute mystery. This mystery is the Divine Mercy of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In an era of chaos there is no person more persecuted than Christ himself, we have seen these truths in Communist Russia, where the holy people and its symbols were literally massacred, and yet Christ triumphs in the midst of these realities Resurrected. Take for example the great Cathedral of the Holy Savior, it has arisen truly from the ashes and has been rebuilt with even greater splendor than before. Thus this eternal truth of resurrection is the reality of the priesthood of our

era, there is no distinction in eras, Christ is always the same, always victorious. Christ seeks to redeem even in an age which is seemingly lost, and thus he will always provide. He is the Eternal giver and life spring spoken of in the book of Isaiah. Christ acts in the mystery of the priesthood. He is the eternal life spring thus He will serve even in the midst of scandal. Did our Lord Jesus Christ not tell us, "You will see even greater things than these." Speaking of himself was a prophetic utterance in His Spirit to console all generations, to remind them His mercy endures forever. So beginning with priests in today's world we must seek the mercy of God with all our hearts in the midst of our pressures and torments and do what we preach. Simply, go to confession as often as Christ leads us. If the priesthood lives this reality the Church will experience a renewal and strength that will capture lost souls from horizon to horizon. When a priest, broken as he may be, experiences the mercy of God in the sacrament of confession, he can with conviction bring souls to the same mercy font he has himself experienced. When this takes place, like the ripple in a pond, God's mercy spreads across the sea. Souls begin to desire to live mercy and this has a corporate effect to become a holy contagion bringing hope to a desperate culture. The Divine Mercy of Jesus Christ is in itself a miracle, for he can break even the most hardened of hearts and bring forth the greatest of repentant tears. The answer then is so simple for a tormented age, let priests experience the miracle of God's forgiveness and then let the floodgates of love overwhelm the masses of despair. On a personal note I have witnessed this flood because I am a penitent and continually in my brokenness seek my brother priests for God's life giving mercy.

Rev. Christopher Crotty - 2014



## BISHOP PAPROCKI – Holy Spirit Hero Authentic Man of God



Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield IL; Attorney, Author, Runner and Hockey Player. He is speaking out the truths of our faith with humble courage and compassion. Bishop Paprocki lives fully alive in the unique graces that God has bestowed upon him. He brings us HOPE by example. He defends traditional marriage in

the context of faith, our legal system, and natural law – peacefully – without raising his voice. Recognizing the spiritual component of defending marriage today, he responds to Illinois' passage of same-sex marriage with a special Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament to lead and participate in Prayers of Supplication and Exorcism in Reparation for the sin of same-sex marriage in the State of Illinois. Speaking around the country he brings the light of Christ through words and example. Log on and listen to his talk at The Athenaeum of Ohio/Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Cincinnati OH at [www.thesaintjamesproject.org](http://www.thesaintjamesproject.org). Click on left side of page - Our History - February 2014.

Bishop Paprocki is truly a modern day disciple doing Christ's work at this challenging moment in history. Support his work while bolstering him and ALL our holy priests and bishops with prayers and kind words for protection and peace along the journey we share.

To read more about Bishop Paprocki and to read his Homily for Prayers of Supplication and Exorcism in Reparation for the Sin of Same-Sex Marriage – Nov. 20, 2013 go to [www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org).



## Eucharistic Adoration Clears The Darkness



This moment in history makes clear the imminent need for a catalyst to clear the present darkness. Miraculously at Harvard University on May 12, 2014, a Satanic Black Mass was cancelled just hours before the scheduled time. Hundreds of Boston area Catholics joined in a Eucharistic Procession across the city of Cambridge that was organized in response to the blasphemous ritual. The participants made up largely of young people, arrived at St. Pauls and joined in Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Eucharistic processions draw the faithful together in unity of purpose to rally under the banner of Jesus Christ. To let His mercy in grace and truth flow out to penetrate the darkness. As our Lord Jesus brought His salvation and healing as he walked on earth; He brings the same as He goes through our towns and cities in Eucharistic Procession. May Our Jesus Christ bring His salvation, healing and light to our towns, cities and country. Let us pray for an increase in faith and a greater devotion to our Eucharistic Lord.

## On the *mission trail*



### A Grandmother Speaks

Who am I and why am I here? This question has been in the hearts and minds of men and women for centuries. The only way this question will be answered is through the Holy Spirit's intervention through Jesus in obedience to the Father. Why should this question be asked so often by all of us? "Our hearts will be restless until they rest in the Lord" per St. Augustine. What does he mean by this restlessness? Peace of heart and mind is something we all desire. Only through the Holy Spirit being invited into our lives will there be peace. Every area of our lives must be inhabited by the Holy Spirit, body, mind and spirit. Many times we are like St. Paul, the members of our body do wrong and are disobedient to the Father, Rom. 7:18-25. So what do we do? Jesus can teach us how to love, have mercy and compassion through the Holy Spirit. Our will must be molded and shaped to reflect the image of Jesus Christ, but how can this be done. This is a long process that willing hearts and minds can accomplish through prayer, by going to Mass and receiving the Eucharist, going to confession often, praying the scripture, Liturgy of the Hours, the Holy Rosary, praising and praying in tongues, novenas and good Catholic reading. The Lord has given us many different ways to pray and communicate with Him.

Shaping the conscience to be receptive to the teaching of Jesus starts early in life. From early on, through prayer, the child will grow in the Holy Spirit, loving Jesus and being obedient to the Father. We are only the vessels our good Lord uses to accomplish His work. When we yield to the nudging of the Holy Spirit, wonderful things can happen. When children are very young, play, sing and pray with them. As they grow, pray with them, pray over them by laying hands on them and pray for them. With, Over, and For - WOF. The prayer of parents, going heaven bound are powerful. We have been given our children and grandchildre on loan to be the best evangelizers we can be for the Glory of God. Do not let a day go by without praying, telling, and proclaiming to each child the gifts God has given them and reminding them that they are children of God, made in His likeness and image. In time they will proclaim and Glorify God in their own way, because they have heard it within their family. We must tell our children "You are the light of the world, you are the salt of the earth" Matt. 5:13-16. If we do not lift up, encourage, love, and proclaim Jesus to our children, the world, devil and the flesh will have its way with them. It will be very easy for them to follow the world if they do not see Jesus in their own home. It is never too late to start drawing closer to Jesus in all our ways. Jesus can repair, restore, and renew what the locust has tried to destroy, Joel 2:25. Never be discouraged if we have started late at loving Him. His arms are always open to those who desire to know, love and serve Him. The wonder, love and mercy of our precious Jesus is never ending. So we in turn must yield to all the love and mercy He pours out. What a fool we would be if we would not respond to His love and mercy. We all desire to enter the kingdom of heaven one day. The plan is quite simple, and gives us peace of mind and heart - stay close to Jesus, follow His ways and we will be the children of God the Father desires. We will truly know who we are, why we are here, and who we belong to. Matt. 10:39

Rosie Neuman - 2014



*St. Anne Pray for us.*

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"We are healed and set free for the work of salvation through the Holy Spirit."  
Father Christopher Crotty

*Please visit our website for all the latest schedule information.*

*[www.instituteoftheholyspirit.com](http://www.instituteoftheholyspirit.com)*

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## SACRAMENTAL TRIAGE FOR THE SOUL "Confession"

Does the word strike fear or bring peace to your heart? Don't feel alone with your tinge of hesitation. Many have hesitation at receiving the Sacrament, especially those who have not been in many years. Recognize this reality, the evil one cackles when you allow him to sway you away from the Sacrament. Open yourself to the grace, mercy, and healing awaiting you in this beautiful Sacrament. Be radical and celebrate this sacrament. Make it an event: follow up with a favorite meal or pizza with family and friends who have joined you to get squeaky clean. Regular confession brings you forgiveness, absolution, sanctifying grace, sacramental grace and a new beginning, and that's just to start. Let the miracles flow to break down spiritual strongholds that keep you and your family from wholeness in Jesus. Larry King has it right; "Where else can you bare your soul, confess your sins and have them forgiven. All for Free. Truly, it is triage for the soul that ransoms captives in FREEDOM and grace.

### God Never Tires of Forgiving

Go to Jesus: he likes you to tell him these things!" He forgets, he has a very special capacity for forgetting. He forgets, he kisses you, he embraces you and he simply

says to you: "Neither do I condemn you; go, and sin no more." That is the only advice he gives you. After a month, if we are in the same situation ... Let us go back to the Lord. The Lord never tires of forgiving: never! It is we who tire of asking his forgiveness. Let us ask for the grace not to tire of asking forgiveness, because he never tires of forgiving. Let us ask for this grace.

Pope Francis  
During the Holy Mass in the  
Parish of St. Anna in the  
Vatican  
March 17, 2013

Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God.

St. Pope John Paul II

