

ANOTHER LETTER FROM ME-- FR PATRICK FARRELL, PROVINCIAL DELEGATE FOR SOME AND PRACTICAL FRIEND AND BROTHER TO THE REST WHO APPRECIATE MY HOLY HILL CLARION...:

Dear Members of The Secular Order and supportive friends,

There is a very important lesson about the Faith experience which may be helpful to you.

You see, after 17 or 18 years as a priest at our Shrine of Mary at Holy Hill here, I asked some good friends of mine, "Who is the best preacher at Holy Hill?" Well, they were honest. They said Fr. So-and-so. I asked "Why?" They answered that he was very bombastic. I asked who was the next best. And they mentioned another who they explained had an armchair approach. So, I continued on until there were just two left.

At which point I decided I would figure out the rest for myself!

That is the first part. A few years later, as Pastor of St. Florian's, our Carmelite parish in Milwaukee, one Sunday everything went better than perfect. So, with many dozens of compliments under my belt, I went out Sunday afternoon to visit my friends. I announced to them that I had finally "won one".

One of the family members told me, "Fr. Pat, the only reason you were successful was that God gave them a grace of faith. If they were atheists, they would simply have laughed at you."

And that was the truth, wasn't it?

Not only homilists and preachers need to keep in mind the action of the Holy Spirit, but Formation Directors and all their helpers. Work hard, but pray harder.

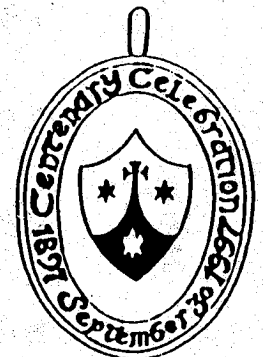
Remember how St. Therese of Lisieux used to picture herself as holding out her empty hand, asking Jesus to put in it whatever it was that the person she was directing needed to hear.

It is very easy to offer what you want to give, and not what the other person needs. Hence, the need to pray for guidance.

Teachers, parents, counsellors, and advisers of all sorts would do well to follow the example of St. Therese, the Little Flower.

--Fr. Pat, OCD

**SAINT THERESE CENTENARY MEDAL.** This oval (actual size above) commemorative medal is available in bronze @ \$12, and silver @ \$22, postpaid. All profit to be sent to the Missions. Write to: Loretta Gallagher OCDS, 36 Virginia Ln, Newburyport MA 01950, 508-462-1057.



**OCDS EASTERN REGIONAL CONGRESS**

**JUNE 12 - 15, 1997**

**HUNTINGTON HILTON HOTEL**

**Long Island, New York**

**"ST THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS,  
ONE PERFECT ACT OF LOVE - THE LITTLE WAY"  
1897 - 1997 FIRST CENTENARY OCDS CONGRESS**

**"I feel that my mission is only beginning; my mission to make the good  
God loved as I love Him, to give my little way to souls."**

**"St. Therese of the Child Jesus"**

**GENERAL SESSIONS:**

**THURSDAY: June 12, 1997 - 6:30 pm**

**REV. PATRICK FARRELL, OCD -**

**"St Therese - Help of the Secular Carmelite and  
Ordinary Christians"**

**FRIDAY: June 13, 1997 - 9:30 am**

**REV. JOHN SULLIVAN, OCD -**

**"Some Special Personal Focuses on the The Little Way"**

**FRIDAY: June 13, 1997 - 2:00 pm**

**REV. KEVEN CULLIGAN, OCD**

**"St. Therese: Spiritual Guide"**

**FRIDAY: June 13, 1997 - 8:00 pm**

**ELDA MARIA ESTRADA**

**"The Primacy of Love in Therese of Lisieux"**

**SATURDAY: June 14, 1997 - 2:00 pm**

**REV. BENEDICT GROESCHEL, FFR**

**"The Final Consumation - What Makes a Saint"**

**SUNDAY: June 15, 1997 - 9:30 am**

**REV. SALVATORE SCIURBA, OCD**

**"The Little Way - A Perfect Act of Love"**

**WORKSHOPS - Friday, June 15, 1997 - 10:45 am & 3:15 pm**

**REV. KIERAN KAVANAUGH, OCD -**

**"St. Therese and St. John of the Cross"**

**REV. ANTHONY HAGLOF, OCD -**

**"Therese's Way and Our Way"**

**REV. JAMES HANNON -**

**"Life and Message of St. Therese of Lisieux" - Slide Presentation**

**REV. JOHN MORAN, MM, OCDS**

**"Our OCDS Promise - To Tend Toward - Perfection in the Spirit  
Of the Beatitudes"**

**MRS. PEGGY WILKINSON, OCDS**

**"Fire at the Heart of the Church"**

### Evaluation of Prayer by Effects

Most people assume without question that their inner experiences are sound indicators of progress or decline in prayer. St. John of the Cross knew that many individuals think they are not praying when indeed their prayer is intense, and that others place high value on their prayer while it is little more than non-existent.

We need more than, than inner experience to realistically evaluate the quality of our prayer. We need an objective measure based on results; we must look for visible effects in our lives.

Perhaps it would be good to refer to this list every few months, in order to keep a proper perspective on our prayer life. Then too, we can ask the Lord to grant us the prayer which will bring about these effects in our lives. He is always ready to give whatever we sincerely desire and dispose ourselves to receive.

Am I becoming more aware of my true self, both from a positive and a negative point of view?

Am I growing more careful about not offending God, even in very little ways?

Is my sense of gratitude to God growing, and my desire to praise him?

Do I feel more and more drawn to time alone with God? (in prayer, scripture reading or spiritual reading of others kinds)

Am I more and more drawn to the Mass, and to our Lord in the Eucharist? Am I becoming more loving to others, especially to difficult people? Am I more quick to forgive and forget injuries?

Am I less critical of others? Do I avoid discussing the affairs of others?

Is my desire to serve God increasing? Even when serving him inconveniences me or I don't feel well?

Do I find myself drawn more to the Blessed Virgin's loving care? To the saints and angels?

Do I find myself less content now in the company of those who do not love God as I do?

Do I think of God more often? Perhaps even continually? (that is, when not absorbed in some activity)

Am I more moderate in eating, drinking, sex, comforts, etc., subjecting them to reason rather than impulse?

Do I find myself willing and even glad to give up my own preferences for those of others, and to accept whatever comes my way gladly?

Do I really enjoy giving things to others more than receiving? Am I willing to share even what I need for myself?

Dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

# JUNE



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)</p> <p>For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <i>Luke 6:45</i></p>	<p>2 Sts. Marcellinus &amp; Peter</p> <p>Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice sake for theirs is the kingdom of God. <i>Matthew 5:10</i></p>	<p>3 Sts. Charles Lwanga &amp; Comps.</p> <p>There is a soft nocturnal glow in a mind that is freed... calmed and meditative. <i>Bl. Teresa Benedict</i></p>	<p>4</p> <p>Lift up your heart to the Lord with a gentle stirring of love desiring Him for His own sake and not for His gifts. <i>Cloud of Unknowing</i></p>	<p>5 St. Boniface</p> <p>Blessed are the clean of heart for they shall see God. <i>Matthew 5:8</i></p>	<p>6 Sacred Heart of Jesus</p> <p>The Lord is our God! The Lord alone. Therefore you shall love the Lord our God, with all your heart... <i>Deut 6:4</i></p>	<p>7 Immaculate Heart of Mary</p>
<p>8 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>I desire mercy and not sacrifice. <i>Evening Prayer Canticle of Mercy</i></p>	<p>9 St. Ephrem</p> <p>The more intense one's faith, the closer is their union with God. <i>St John of the Cross</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>I shall wait as long as He wills. <i>St. Therese of Lisieux</i></p>	<p>11 St. Barnabas</p> <p>My every act is love. <i>St. John of the Cross</i></p>	<p>12</p> <p>To each person, the manifestation of the Holy Spirit is given for the common good. <i>1 Corinthians 12:7</i></p>	<p>13 St. Anthony of Padua</p> <p>Once and for all we must trust God and abandon ourselves to Him alone. <i>Br. Lawrence</i></p>	<p>14 Blessed Virgin Mary</p> <p>O Jesus, my love, my vocation is love. <i>St. Therese of Lisieux</i></p>
<p>15 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time</p> <p>Fathers Day</p> <p>If you ask the Father anything in My name, He will give it to you. <i>John 17:23</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>The greater perfection a soul aspires to, the more dependent it is upon graces. <i>Br. Lawrence</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>This is the vocation of the Carmelite: to be a pure host who constantly offers herself to God for the sinful world. <i>Bl. Theresa of the Andes</i></p>	<p>18</p> <p>O my God, Trinity whom I adore! Help me to become utterly forgetful of self. <i>Bl. Elizabeth of the Trinity</i></p>	<p>19</p> <p>A good person is like clean air; we draw breath from it though it cannot be seen. <i>St. Raphael Kalinowski</i></p>	<p>20</p> <p>We can do this much...copy as nearly as possible, the humility and gentleness of His Sacred Heart. <i>St Margaret of the Sacred Heart</i></p>	<p>21 St Aloysius Gonzaga</p> <p>Love one another. Such as My Love has been for you, so must your love be for each other. <i>John 13:34</i></p>
<p>22 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p>Christ is everything in all of you. <i>Colossians 3:11</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p>Christ wants your life in order to give you His. <i>Edith Stein</i></p>	<p>24 Birth of John the Baptist</p> <p>Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I consecrated you. <i>Jeremiah 1:5</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p>I do not regret that I have given myself to love. <i>St. Therese of Lisieux</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>The Lord is your guard and your shade. <i>Psalms 121</i></p>	<p>27</p> <p>My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord. <i>Luke 1:46</i></p>	<p>28 St Irenaeus</p> <p>Life in man is the glory of God; the life of man is the vision of God. <i>St. Irenaeus</i></p>
<p>29 Sts. Peter and Paul</p> <p>Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <i>Romans 12:12</i></p>					



# JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 It is worth of note that God does not place His grace and love in the soul except according to its desire and love. Those who truly love God must strive not to fail in this love, for they will thereby induce God...to further love them and find delight in them. <i>St. John of the Cross</i>	2	3 To obtain an answer to the requests we bear in our hearts, there is no better means than to concentrate the strength of our prayers on what is more pleasing to God. <i>St. John of the Cross</i>	4	5 In tribulation, immediately draw near to God with trust, and you will receive strength, enlightenment, and instruction. <i>Saying 66</i>
6 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Lord said to me: "My grace is enough for you, for in weakness power reaches perfection." <i>Cor 12:9</i>	7 Thus says the Lord, "I will allure her, I will lead her into the desert and speak to her heart." <i>Hosea 2:16</i>	8 Through these trials in which God places the spirit and the senses, the soul in bitterness acquires virtue and strength. <i>St. John of the Cross</i>	9 Bl. Jane Scopelli Let not these souls become anxious, let them hope in the Lord...His Majesty will bring it about what they now have in desires they shall possess in deed. <i>St. Teresa of Avila</i>	10 Alas, I'm still at the place as I was formerly! But I tell myself this with gentleness and without sadness! It's so good to feel that one is weak <i>St. Therese of Lisieux</i>	11 St. Benedict Do not worry about what you will say or how you will say it...the Spirit of the Father will be speaking in you. <i>Matthew 10:19</i>	12 What does it matter what we feel ...the abyss of your misery attracts the abyss of His mercy. <i>Bl. Elizabeth of the Trinity</i>
13 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time In Him we were chosen...we were predestined to praise His glory by being the first to hope in Christ. <i>Eph 1:12</i>	14 Bl. Kateri Tekakwitha He who will not take up his cross and come after Me is not worthy of Me. <i>Matthew 10:38</i>	15 St. Bonaventure What did you go out into the desert to see? <i>Matthew 11:7</i>	16 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel The Blessed Virgin Mary is present in a very special way in the life of Carmelites...She is the "Mother of the whole Order" <i>Rule of Life Art 7</i>	17 Bl. Teresa of St Augustine-Carmelite	18 I AM WHO AM <i>Exodus 3:14</i>	19 Since the dough they had brought out of Egypt was not leavened, they baked unleavened loaves. <i>Exodus 12:39</i>
20 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time I have no will other than the will of God. <i>Br. Lawrence</i>	21 The sword of the Spirit, the word of God, must abound in your mouths and hearts. <i>Carmelite Rule</i>	22 St. Mary Magdalene I only know that God looks after me. What could I fear when I am with Him? <i>Br. Lawrence</i>	23 Mother of Divine Grace-Carmelite This is the will of my Father that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him should have eternal life. <i>John 6:40</i>	24 Bl. Mary Pilar Bl. Maria Prat The prayer of the heart challenges us to hide absolutely nothing from God and to surrender ourselves to his mercy. <i>Henri Nowen</i>	25 St. James Apostle In Him and through His blood, we have been redeemed, and our sins forgiven. <i>Ephesians</i>	26 Sts. Ann and Joachim God of our fathers you gave Joachim and Ann the privilege of being the parents of Mary the Mother of your Incarnate Son. <i>Liturgy of the Hours</i>
27 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sorrow for God's sake produces a repentance without regrets, heading to salvation, whereas worldly sorrow brings death. <i>II Cor 7:11</i>	28 St. John Soreth Carmelite If a man expects to receive any mercy in heaven he should give mercy on earth. <i>St Caesarius of Arles</i>	29 St. Martha Our Lord's words teach us that we labor among the many distractions of this world, we should have but one God. <i>St Augustine</i>	30 It is not the man who recommends himself who is approved, but the man whom the Lord recommends. <i>II Cor. 10:17-18</i>	31 St Ignatius Loyola The goal set before us is no trifling one; we are striving for eternal life ... the good things of eternal life are faithfully promised to us because of his love for us. <i>St Cyril of Jerusalem</i>		

# AUGUST

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



## WISDOM OF GOD, BE WITH ME, ALWAYS AT WORK IN ME



1 St. Alphonsus Liguori  
The beginning of wisdom is fear of the Lord, which is formed within the faithful in the womb  
*Si. 1:12*

2  
If you desire wisdom, keep the commandments, and the Lord will bestow her upon you.  
*Si. 1:23*

3  
Today is holy to the Lord your God. Do not be sad and do not weep; for today is holy to our Lord.  
*Ne. 8:9*

4 St. John Vianney  
Your works are holy,...just,...and done with great wisdom, since You Lord, are wisdom itself.  
*Teresa of Avila-Soliloquies*

5  
...for the Lord searches all hearts and understands all the mind's thoughts.  
*I Ch. 28:9*

6 Transfiguration of the Lord  
"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."  
*Mt. 17:5*

7 St. Albert of Trapani  
Jesus is the image of the invisible God.  
*Col. 1:15*

8  
I only know that God looks after me...I cling to Him with all my strength.  
*Br. Lawrence of the Resurrection*

9 Bl. Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein)  
When we believe ourselves to be alone He is there...He hears us...He loves us.  
*St. Augustine*

10  
Praise the Lord for the Lord is good. Sing a psalm to his name for he is loving.  
*Ps. 135:2*

11 St. Clare  
"You will grow very foolish, daughter, if you look at the world's laws. Fix your eyes on me, poor and despised by the world."  
*Spiritual Testimonies #5*

12  
13 for the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.  
*I Cor. 1:25*

14  
The Lord gives wisdom, from Him comes knowledge and understanding; He stores up sound wisdom for the upright.  
*Pr. 2:6,7*

15 Assumption of Mary into Heaven  
And a great sign appeared in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun. And the moon was under her feet; and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.  
*Rev. 12:1*

16

17  
By day the Lord will send his loving-kindness: by night I will sing to him, praise the God of my life.  
*Ps. 42*

18  
There is no creature...that can know how much...how sweetly...how tenderly our creator loves us.  
*Julian of Norwich*

19  
A vocation is the greatest blessing that God can give to a creature.  
*St. Teresa of the Andes*

20  
Remember what you promised when you entered Carmel.  
*St. Teresa Margaret*

21 St. Pius X  
Contemplation is nothing else than a secret and peaceful and loving inflow of God.  
*St. John of the Cross*

22 Queenship of Mary  
Hail, O Queen of Mercy, protect us from the enemy, and receive us at the hour of death.  
*Queenship of Mary - gradual*

23  
So now children listen to me; instruction and wisdom do not reject.  
*Pr. 8:32,33*

24  
Come, let us worship, bending the knee before the Lord. For He is our God and we are His people, the flock He shepherds  
*Ps. 95*

25 Bl. Mary of Jesus Crucified  
I do my work in simple faith before God, humbly and lovingly.  
*Br. Lawrence of the Resurrection*

26 Transverberation of St. Teresa  
I say very simply to God what I wish to say, and He always understands me. For me, prayer is an aspiration of the heart...  
*Therese of Lisieux*

27 St. Monica  
It is the laity's specific vocation and mission to express the Gospel in their lives and...to insert the Gospel as leaven into the world in which they live and work.  
*The Wisdom of John Paul II*

28 St. Augustine  
29  
God watches over the affairs of those who truly love Him without their worrying about them.  
*Letter II - John of the Cross*

30  
Let nothing trouble you, let nothing scare you, all is fleeting; God alone is unchanging.  
*Efficacy of Patience - St. Teresa of Jesus*

31 You are God: we praise you; You are the Lord; we acclaim you; You are the eternal Father: all creation worships you.  
*Hymn—Te Deum*

**MORE QUESTIONS ON ST TERESA'S WAY OF PERFECTION:**

Ch. 18. n.2.

D.) Whether or not you are a "contemplative", have you found yourself thinking you are LOST and have to begin all over again?

E.) Have you known anyone who seemed to be doing all right, or even better, who confided to you that, with a decrease or disappearance of consolations, they thought they must have lost their way and must begin again? What would you tell such a person? And, do you follow that advice yourself?

F.) What does it mean for you to "be courageous and determined to suffer"? Does it mean a self-punishing attitude or behavior? Or, does it mean that, if you live with a Christ-like spirit, you must be ready to handle the wrath, criticism, punishment to be offered by the "world" opposed to Christ--though possibly in name they claim to be committed to Him, sometimes even by religious or secular vows.

G.) So, how courageous were you when devout Religious, Catholics, Christians, seemed to dump on you for acting in a Christ-like manner?

CH 13. n.3

H.) Do you see what you are suited for? What is the "proper task" that God has given you? And, does it seem appropriate for you? Do you see it as a service to Christ? As of some benefit to your neighbor?

I.) Do you "try" to be a contemplative? And, does that mean to be free of responsibility, obligations, etc.? Or to stare lovingly at Jesus, admiring Him, and desiring to be more like Him? Even if that means more efforts on your part?

J.) Have you been tempted to be a "coward"? And, what are honestly your best efforts? (Your best may be far below your ideal efforts.)

CH 18. n.4:

K.) The soldiers, as Teresa says, need to be present and ready. How do you become present and ready to undertake the tasks God desires to give you?

L.) At certain times Teresa herself was not up to mental prayer. Are you ready, if YOU feel at a certain time not up to mental prayer, to turn to "vocal prayer, reading, and colloquy (conversation) with God?"

M.) If you are not currently experiencing delight in prayer, do you understand that it may not be meant for you? Or, do you feel you have a right to it?

CH 18, n.5:

N.) Do you complain only of yourself? Or do you blame God, other people, noises, timing, etc. when you fail to experience delight in contemplative prayer?

O.) What for you is keeping the "flag of humility" raised? What for you is "suffering as Jesus suffered?"

CH 18, n.6:

P.) Have you recently demanded spiritual favors and consolations from the Lord? (When you pray, is it to please yourself or God?)

CH 18, n.7:

Q.) Do you consider yourself "advanced" in the spiritual life? If so, do you have the understanding Teresa speaks of? It will be manifested in "deeds done for your own spiritual growth and for the good of others". Has that been your concern? (Notice the "good of others").

Could we conclude that the spiritually immature, aka beginners, might be expected to put too much importance on delights in prayer, raptures, visions, etc.? Have you in the past? Do others? Are these things part of God's strategy to eventually bring us to Himself, like baby food, until you have teeth?

R.) What does "obedience to the Superior" mean in your case? In Catholic Canon Law, all superiors have limits on their authority. In your case, what are the areas in which somebody is the representative of God? And, why is Teresa talking about this? Could it be that she expected Superiors of Nuns and those with religious authority over others would ask for a simple, balanced approach to the question of delights in prayer?

In the Catholic Catechism there are 74 pages on prayer. How many have you read?

**RETREATS AT HOLY HILL:**

Sept 11-14, 1997 There will be a silent retreat for the OCDS Community of OL of the Blessed Sacrament, MN, and OTHERS WHO ASK SOON ENOUGH. Fr. Denis Read will speak on St. Therese's spirituality. Cf. Karen Cronin, OCDS #516-552-1033. Cost as below.

Fr Denis will also offer a retreat in November (13-17) for Seculars. For this latter cf Sister Elaine Weber 414-628-1838 at teh address at the top of this Clarion. Single occupancy \$147; double \$126 per person.

Cf. Sister Elaine for the cost of a private retreat. The problem for that is that some days are taken, and you have to double-check to make sure there is an available retreat master. If I am "on the road" at the time you pick, there may be someone else who can be of help. Cf. with Sister Elaine.

On May 24th, the Feast of Our Lady of Holy Hill--Marv, Help of Christians--Bro. Alan Meyer, OCD, was ordained a Deacon, and Fr. John Grennon,OCD, was ordained a priest.



**THE FACES OF SAINT THERESE.** This 20-inch full color circular 400-piece jigsaw puzzle is a lovely devotional work of art. It is based on ten authentic photographs of Little Therese. The cost is \$10.95 plus packing and postage. Only \$79.00 for a carton of 12. Write to: Monastery of Saint Therese, Discalced Carmelite Nuns, 35750 Moravian Dr, Clinton Twp MI 48035-2138.

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Eastern Province

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