

# Good News



## The Pro Sanctity Newsletter

Published by  
Pro Sanctity East

[prosancitynewyork@verizon.net](mailto:prosancitynewyork@verizon.net)

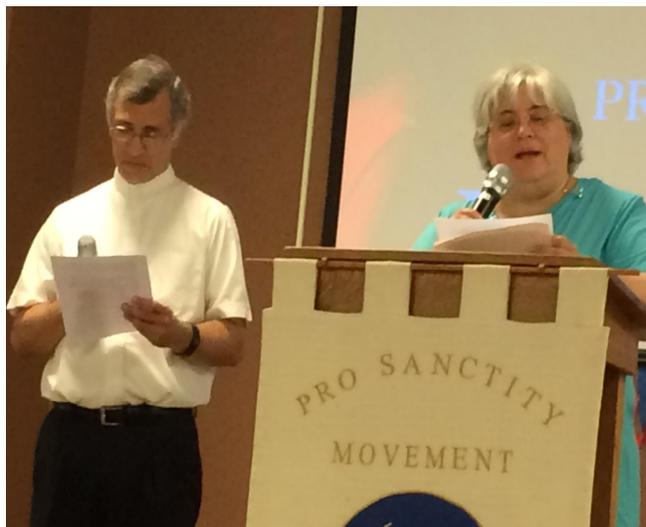
New York  
Fall 2015

[www.nyprosancity.org](http://www.nyprosancity.org)

## Love is Revolution

The following is the powerful message that Loredana Reitano, Vice President of Pro Sanctity and General Moderator of the Apostolic Oblates, presented at the Convention in Elkhorn, Nebraska this summer...

I bring you greetings from our International President, Vincenzo Florindi. He wanted to be at this Convention with you, but his work did not allow him to participate. Vincenzo followed us with his prayers and he is determined to come and visit to share



Loredana presents in Italian  
and

Msgr. Andrew Vaccari translates the message that

**LOVE  
IS  
REVOLUTION**

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with you the joy of belonging to the Pro Sanctity Movement. I wish to thank Donna Spoto, a member of the International Board, for her presence. With her, we are taking the first steps to achieve what the new International Pro Sanctity Charter calls for.

**Love is Revolution!** A fascinating slogan, that our Founder, Servant of God Guglielmo Giaquinta, bequeathed to us and fills our hearts, our prayers, and our dreams for the future; but it is not just a slogan, it is a courageous proposal for life, a commitment, a vocation, a clear vision and daring conversion of our exist-

tence, of our families, all of society in view of holiness.

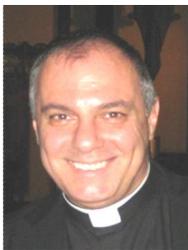
But where do we start a revolution? Where do we begin the revolution that Christ calls us to live, today, at this time in history? From a **YES** and a **DESIRE**.

A **YES**: Because of the YES of a young girl, Mary, Christ became flesh, He came to dwell among us. Because of the YES of Mary, God's plan is realized and the revolution of love has begun in history, in Jesus, a revolution still alive and active, that no negative force can turn off.

A **DESIRE**: the thirst of

**Continued on page 3**

## Holy Families !



**Rev. Msgr. Steven J. Aguggia - Pro Sanctity Spiritual Advisor and Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens**

The excitement was palpable when Pope Francis came to New York. Everyone was invigorated, not just to see a celebrity but to hear his message. The Holy Father touched on so many issues. His main purpose for his visit to America, however, was to attend the world meeting of families in Philadelphia. This is a gathering of people, families, experts, religious leaders and others to discuss family issues and ways to strengthen the family structure.

There is so much at work in our society against families. But there is so much that we can do to keep our families together and to strengthen them. The family is the basic unit of society and is holy. It is holy only because it is into a family that the Son of God was born.

Our human families must be reflections of this holy family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. One of the things that we can do to strengthen family life is to ensure that our families have at their center, the Lord Jesus. We need to

realign our attitudes and priorities. Our children are so busy today with many activities but do they realize how important it is to gather as a family on Sundays for mass? What about families sitting together to enjoy each other's company, especially at meal times? Is it possible to think about a family actually praying together, perhaps in the evening before bedtime?

Sometimes little things can mean a lot and some habits are formed when we are very young, like prayer.

Of course, we must never forget families that are in trouble. Many people experience difficulties in family life. Sometimes, through no fault of our own, distances separate us from one another. Sometimes, there is unemployment or sickness or even the death of a family member. All of these things can have adverse effects on fami-

lies or, on the other hand, they can be challenges for families to overcome together. With the strength that comes from a strong life of faith in a family and from prayer, these and all difficulties can be managed.

And we must never forget, as healthy families, to pray for those families which are not healthy, which experience difficulties which are too difficult to overcome.

The call of Pope Francis to build up family life and to keep Jesus at the center of everything that we do is a real challenge to us in this day and age, in this society. As we contemplate the Holy Father's words, let us pray that we may be instruments of the Lord as we strive to build up our families in imitation of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, the holy family.

### **Words from the Founder**

#### **Servant of God William Giaquinta**

#### **From "Love is Revolution" - A Family**

*As it is certain that the Church is the People of God, it is still more certain that the Church is the Family of God. God is our Father, Christ is our first-born Brother, Mary is the Mother of God, of Christ, and of us*

*Consecrated through the sacrament of matrimony, every couple and their children is a little nucleus of a supernatural family, set in a poetic way amid the cry of a baby, the song of the mother, the good smell of a meal cooking. The parish is a family gathered around the good Father at an altar adorned by white linens and flowers full of their perfume. The local Church or Diocese is a family, whose own bishop knows how to be for his children a brother and father, to have a smile and firmness, a sevenfold cord of the sacraments through which the Spirit repeats the truth in melodies of love (St. Ignatius of Antioch). The whole Church is a family which, in a world needing peace and love, shows itself a living reality of the Father who looks for the far-off, lost prodigal son, as Jesus recounts in the Gospel (Luke 15:11-32).*

*Those who are already children of the Church should remember that other persons, all others, in fact--from our separated brethren to non-Christians to atheists--are brothers who need to know from us that all persons belong to the family of Christ and God.*

#### **Pro Sanctity East Newsletter Editors**

Msgr. Steven Aguggia  
Angela Di Paola, A.O.  
Rosemary Darmstadt  
Mona Edwards  
Mariakutty Joseph, A.O.  
Nina L. Riti  
Ann Sutherland

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Jesus on the Cross expresses a strong desire, an immeasurable, "exaggerated," Bishop Giaquinta, our Founder would say, love of every man. A desire that became a **thirst**, leading Jesus to accept death for love of each one of us, we who are loved by him always, loved without measure and without calculation, a pure gratuitous gift of love for us, for our holiness.

And us? We can, indeed we want, with our whole heart, to be saints today, men and women of **YES** and of **DESIRE**.

A small **YES** can change the world! Every time we say yes to God's call to holiness -- through a smile, a gesture of attention and tenderness, the time spent to alleviate loneliness, a space for prayer found in the busyness of our days, the word of the Gospel guarded in our heart while we are at work, honesty in our work, care for creation -- we put in motion the **revolution of love**.

Whenever we have the strength, with our **YES** to the call to holiness, to openly declare ourselves Christians, to live a simple lifestyle, to weave fraternal relations that express care and dedication, respect for others, to act as brothers and sisters together, to proclaim Christ, we put in motion the revolution of love. Each time we say **YES** to the will of God in the fragments of our days, in our everyday actions done with love, we make Jesus present in history, we activate a **revolution of love**.

A desire can revolutionize the world! What is our greatest desire? What does our heart desire? Do not stop at the 'things' we need. The 'things' fill the universe with junk. Let us think of something far bigger and deeper.

Whenever we want to love freely, simply, with generosity; whenever the desire to be loved as we are, becomes the desire to make the other feel loved as he is,

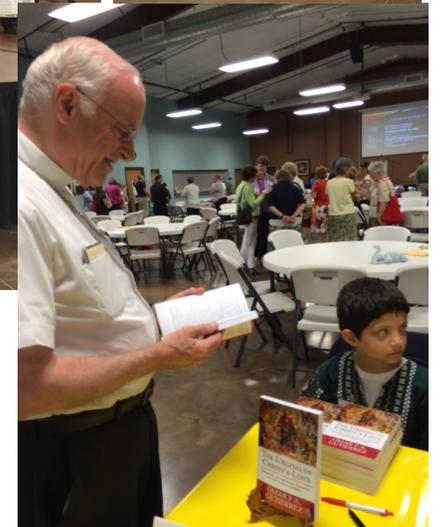
because he is a masterpiece, he is a gift; whenever we desire that the persons we know, persons entrusted to us, may encounter Christ and His love; whenever our desire to love, to give God's love to others, becomes a **YES** to God's will, and it manifests itself in a concrete gesture of love, tenderness, compassion for others, -- we put in motion the **revolution of love**.

If we bring this courage of love to our neighborhoods, our homes, our places of work or recreation, to the nations in which we live, we can create a network of love that reaches out to the world, and we attain the dream of an international law of love,+ as our Founder wanted. Do we have this courage? Let us learn to live our lives as Christians and members of the Pro Sanctity Movement with pride. Let us live the joy and a sense of obligation for the gifts and the call we have received. A gesture of love reaches the heart of the earth and the heart of heaven. How wonderful this is!!! May Mary and Jesus make us saints of **YES+** and of **DESIRE+!!!** God bless you!

*Below right: Three seminarians from the New York dioceses John, Brendan and Ben serving at the liturgy*



*Bishop R. Chappetto, Episcopal Moderator of Pro Sanctity and Bishop Joseph Hanefeldt of NE on the way to open the convention*



We were honored to have so many members of the clergy celebrate mass at the Convention in Elkhorn, Nebraska.

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*Right; Bishop Chappetto and a young member of Pro Sanctity share time together to review a book written by one of the speakers, the boy's father, Omar Gutierrez.*

### How Do Families Relate to Each Other in Today's World?

Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, (love) is not pompous, it is not inflated, **it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.** Love never fails, If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing. St. Paul gave the formula to the Corinthians in Chapter 13:4-8. Is this how YOU relate to your family?

The best example of this kind of love is God, ~~for~~ God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.+(John 3:16) Jesus died upon the cross obedient to His Father~~s~~ will for our sinfulness. God used His only Son to show us that His love for us is unconditional. Therefore, our love for one another should be unconditional and a sacrificial love as His Love is for us.

This kind of love then begins at home, according to Pope Francis, the quiet things done by our family members from the making of a warm supper, an early lunch awaiting for someone who has to go to work, even a tender night kiss or a blessing before going to bed, or a hug after returning from a hard day~~s~~ work. Love is shown by little things. Our love should be the giving of ourselves to others. The Love that God shows us and wants us to have is not a touchy-feely kind of love, it is real love. It is not here one moment and gone the next. To paraphrase St. Paul~~s~~ message to the Colossians 3:13 . Love is bearing with, putting up with, and forgiving one another.

When we use the word love do we really mean it? Saying it is one thing living it is another! Love in the family has to be lived, shown, and be tangible.

## The Personal Challenge ...

Nina L. Riti

*This entire newsletter is packed with challenges...you cannot read the article by Msgr. Aguggia and not hear the challenge that screams out to us as he highlights the main purpose of the Pope's visit to Philadelphia to discuss family issues and how Msgr. succinctly presents possible causes of the threat to strong Christian families as well as suggested steps to meet the challenges that face family life today. He ends with the suggestion that we "pray that we may be instruments of the Lord as we strive to build up our families in imitation of Jesus, Mary and Joseph...the holy family".*

*How about the challenge that Loredana offered to us in her presentation to the convention that met this summer in Elkhorn, Nebraska where she reminded us of one of Bishop Giaquinta's passions, which was the theme of the convention, namely, that LOVE IS REVOLUTION. To quote Webster's dictionary "revolution is a fundamental change in the way of thinking about something or an activity designed to effect fundamental changes in socio-economic situations." She said this theme was "a courageous proposal of life, a commitment , a vocation, a clear vision and daring conversion of our existence". Yes a REVOLUTION. No truer words could be spoken...the challenge of a world that is so ME-oriented, making the big buck, looking a certain way, only concerned with what's in it for me...Love is truly a revolution...and Loredana points out ways we can say YES to meeting this challenge in ourselves, our family, our community, and our world. She ends by asking "Do we have this courage? She reminds us that "a gesture of love reaches the heart of the earth and the heart of heaven."*

*But to me, the biggest challenge was Pope Francis confronting us on so many issues. In his short visit he put a match to and illuminated so many issues that challenge us today...he discussed capitalism, the environment, and immigration. He presented compelling arguments about abortion, celibacy, contraception, women in the world today, gay marriages, and LGBT people. He discussed these issues without alienating people or saying this is right, this is wrong...I loved it when he said that in effect everyone knows in their own heart the truth on the these issues. He embraced everyone. I urge you to read what Pope Francis said on these issues so you can meet the challenges they present to us as individuals, a community, and a society. I am going to end by reiterating the story that Pope Francis shared about St. Katharine Drexel when she spoke to Pope Leo XIII of the needs of the missions, the Pope responded to her and simply asked "What about you? What are you going to do?" Do you have the courage to be the light of the world as Pope Francis challenged us to be as we walk the path of Jesus on these issues?*

# Pictorial Journey of the Convention in Elkhorn, Nebraska

*Below:* Smiling faces greet us at the registration table

Fr. Scott Trayner, the EMCEE for the Convention introduces Teresa Monaghan for the opening presentation and she presented Mr. & Mrs. Finocchiaro who had originally introduced PS to Msgr. Dunne who invited PS to the Diocese of Omaha, NE



*Left:* Everyone stands for the opening prayer

*Right:* small groups listen and share a Conference presentation.



*Below:* Joan from California with Msgr. Vaccari and Beatrice from Brooklyn smile for the camera.



*Above:* Bishop Chappetto listens as Archbishop G Lucas shares some ideas.

Festival of Faith children perform for the attendees

From young to old we enjoyed good food and conversation



Compiled by Ann Sutherland



## Blessed Zélie and Louis Martin

### The First Couple to Be Canonized

'God gave me a Father and Mother more worthy of Heaven than of Earth'. These prophetic words were evoked by the future St. Thérèse of Lisieux, the daughter of Louis Martin (1823-1894) and Zélie Martin (1831-1877). In March 1994, this holy couple was publicly recognized when Pope John Paul II affirmed them Venerable, and, when Pope Francis officially declared them saints on October 18th 2015, they became the first couple ever to be canonized.

#### Marriage - A True Vocation

Besides the fact that they raised a young lady who would later be canonized, Louis and Zélie Martin were outstanding in their own rights. As a married couple they started their journey to canonization with their courageous examples for others. They demonstrated the meaning of marriage by truly appreciating and accepting God's plan and loving each

other unconditionally as husband and wife. They believed that marriage is a spiritual walk in union with each other and that it is meant to be a vocation.

Neither Louis nor Zélie had initially set their sights on marriage. Before they even met, both Zélie and Louis were turned down when they applied to join religious orders. Hence Louis, a deeply religious man, had resigned himself to being a lifelong bachelor. This resignation was not to last because, on the couple's first encounter in April 1858, Zélie heeded the voice that said 'This is the one I have chosen for you.' After a formal religious engagement of three months, Louis and Zélie were married at midnight on July 13, 1858 in the church of Notre Dame in Alençon, France. After overcoming their initial adversities as a newly married couple, their relationship became the center of their holiness. This couple loved each other unconditionally and often declared the same to each other in their love letters.

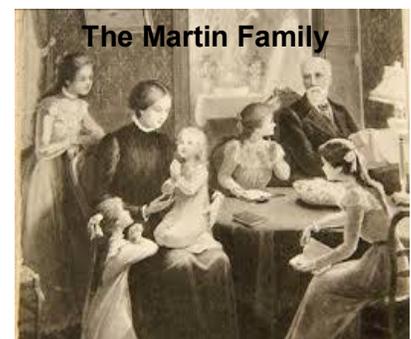
#### A Home Filled With Love

The couple lived in a comfortable house in Alençon, France. Zélie prayed that God would give her children and that they would be consecrated to Him. They produced nine children of which two of the girls and both boys died at early ages. The remaining five girls became nuns. In addition, Zélie ran her successful lace-making business and the couple created a close, caring, family home for their children and also cared for others who were

sick and dying. While enduring the loss of their children, as well as nursing others with health issues, the couple never lost their faith in God. During the Franco-Prussian war they housed nine German soldiers and treated them justly and charitably. The Martin's union lasted nineteen years until Zélie died of breast cancer in August 1877.

#### Beatified Seven Years Ago

The Beatification of Louis and Zélie Martin took place on October 19<sup>th</sup> 2008, on what would have been their 150<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, in Lisieux in the Basilica of St Thérèse during the papacy of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. They were beatified as a couple following the miraculous cure of Pietro Schiliro through their intercession. In an interview with the National Catholic Register the vice-postulator, Fr. Antonio Sangalli, O.C.D., proclaimed that Louis and Zélie Martin's works of mercy were the very foundation on which they built their life. They thought that they had callings to being a nun and a priest, but God had other plans. They listened and chose the married state as their true vocation. This special couple has definitely demonstrated that God can work powerfully through each of us - if we let Him.



# *Mark your Calendar ...Come and grow with us*

There will be Eucharistic Adoration every **Monday** from **10 AM to 5 PM** in the chapel of the Pro Sanctity Center at 45-30 195th St., Flushing, NY 11358

Come to the Bethany and spend some quiet time in conversation with the Lord.

## ***Festival of Faith***

*Children 3-9 years old  
Our Lady of Angels Parish  
4th Avenue, Bay Ridge,  
Brooklyn NY 11209  
Saturday, Nov. 21, Dec. 19  
February 13, 2016  
4:00-6:00 p.m.*

## **Bible Sharing**

*Our Lady of Miracles  
Simonetti Parish Center  
East 86th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236  
“The Joy of the Gospel”  
Nov. 5 through Dec. 17  
7:30 p.m.*

*Lenten Program  
“Knowing the Faith”*

## ***St. Mary Mother of Jesus***

*23-26 84th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11214  
“The Joy of the Gospel”  
Beginning October 28  
7:30 p.m.*

## ***St. Fidelis Parish***

*124-06 14th Ave, College Point, NY 11356  
Madonna Room  
“The Joy of the Gospel” **Spanish**  
Nov. 1st & 22nd, Dec. 6th & 20th  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.*

## ***Pro Sanctity Center—St. Kevin***

*45-30 195th Street, Flushing, NY 11358*

### ***Pro Sanctity Small Group***

*Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.*

*Fridays at 10:00 a.m.*

***“Pro Sanctity Creed”***

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## ***Advent Day of Prayer***

***Saturday, December 12, 2015***

*9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Kevin Church*

*Program 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

*Breakfast and Lunch included*

*Donation \$ 20*

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## ***Pro Sanctity Weekend Retreat***

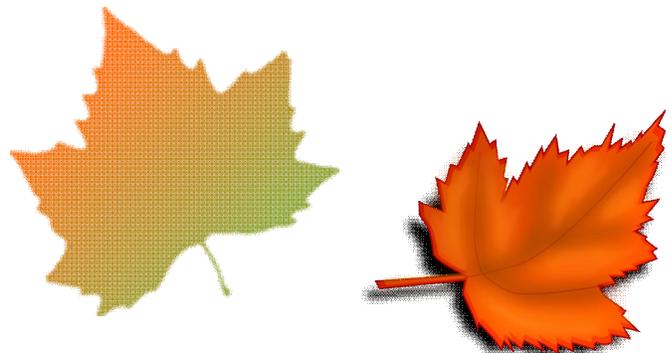
***April 15, 16, 17, 2016***

*Seminary of the Immaculate Conception*

*440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743*

***Presenter: Rev. Msgr. Thomas G. Caserta***

*Pastor of St. Bernadette Parish*



Apostolic Oblates  
Pro Sanctity  
45-30 195th St.  
Flushing, NY 11358

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*The Pro Sanctity Movement is a Catholic Organization dedicated to promoting the Universal Call to Holiness by seeking to address the needs of the mind with theology, the heart with spirituality, and the hands with ministry.*

## **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**

Celebration of the Day of Universal Sanctification

**11 a.m. Mass**

St. Mary's Nativity Church-St. Ann

46-02 Parsons Blvd. Flushing, NY 11355

**Celebrant: *Rev. Louis DeGaetano***

*Parochial Vicar of St. Mary's Nativity*

***Music by: Mr. Ed Contreras & the Filipino Choir***

*Light lunch will be served in the Parish Hall*

## **Celebration of the Feast of**

**OUR LADY of TRUST**

**Sunday, February 7, 2016**

**3:00 p.m.**

**Our Lady of Miracles**

Brooklyn, NY 11236

*For information about all the events please call 718-649-0324*