



Published by Pro Sanctity East    [prosantitynewyork@verizon.net](mailto:prosantitynewyork@verizon.net)    [www.nyprosantity.org](http://www.nyprosantity.org)  
Fall 2022

## Listening ...Walking Together

*Turning to the disciples in private he said, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. For I say to you, many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it" (Lk. 10:23-24)*

We are blessed. One of the ways we are blessed is that we are people of faith. The gift of faith is a gift offered to all and accepted by some. Those who do accept the gift of faith are blessed because we realize that our faith



### IN THIS ISSUE

<b>This Just In.....</b>	<b>p 2</b>
<b>Words of the Founder...</b>	<b>p 2</b>
<b>Pope Francis said.....</b>	<b>p 2</b>
<b>Coordinator's Report...</b>	<b>p 3</b>
<b>Ask Pro Sanctity.....</b>	<b>p 4</b>
<b>Points to Ponder.....</b>	<b>p 4</b>
<b>Come Grow With Us.....</b>	<b>p 5</b>
<b>Saints Our Models.....</b>	<b>p 6</b>
<b>Our Stories .....</b>	<b>p 7</b>
<b>Save the Dates.....</b>	<b>p 8</b>

guides our lives and opens for us a pathway to journey in holiness towards the God of love. Our faith is personal.

It touches at the very heart of who we are. It forms us into that new person, conformed to Christ. Our faith is personal, but it is not private. It is meant to be shared and manifested.

That is the journey of faith. It means that we must strive to live out our lives as people of faith in everything we do and say. Our journey through life in faith is not simply leading us to

the steps of the church for Sunday Mass. It is meant to lead us to workplaces, schools and shops. In other words, it means allowing our faith to form and shape every aspect of our lives so that we reflect Christ at all times.

When we embark on a journey, we begin by making sure we are ready and have the means to complete it.

When we travel by car we make sure our gas tanks are full and we have the fuel we need. So too in our spiritual

**Continued on page 3**

## This Just In...

**Nina Riti**

In our Fall newsletter we told you about the "Queen of Apostles Bethany" a new Pro Sanctity center in India (Bethany is the term Bishop Giaquinta uses in lieu of convent) by Liz Cherlyatharappel.

In this newsletter, we are happy to report on the wonderful trip Jessi Kary, our National Co-Director, reported back to us when she went to India saying... "I had the opportunity to go to India to visit our communities and experience our life, charism, and apostolate there. Though the culture is vastly different from ours, the spirit of Pro Sanctity that permeated our communities and apostolate made me feel at home. Even 9,000 miles away, the universal call to holiness is a true bridge leading to communion---communion with Christ and communion with each other. Christ and His invitation to the infinite love of the Father is truly the place where our differences reveal spectacular richness and we live and work as brothers and sisters. I am so grateful to have the privilege to journey together with the Pro Sanctity family in India evermore completely and deeply!

See page 5  
For her pictorial  
journey



### Pro Sanctity East Newsletter Editors

Rev. Msgr. Steven Aguggia  
Mona Edwards  
Rosemary Darmstadt  
Angela Di Paola  
Cathy Palermo  
Nina L. Riti  
Steven SooHon  
Ann Sutherland

### Words from the Founder



Servant of God William Giaquinta

## From Writings of Bishop Giaquinta

It is not enough to speak of faith, others have to see us manifest our faith as a reality that we live. Our witness of faith must surface in the way we speak, act, judge and deal with others.

If we wish to have faith, we have to ask the Lord for it. We have to grow in faith, and, above all, to insistently ask the Lord for that faith : *Lord, increase our faith* (Luke 17:6). Because only if we have a faith capable of moving mountains can we carry out the apostolate of faith.

We must spread the faith, be apostles of faith, which today is both especially difficult and important. It is so important because it is so difficult, and unfortunately, it is much more difficult because it is so important.

We are called to be witnesses of faith for others; and to be experiences of faith for others.

**Adapted by Steve SooHon**

## Pope Francis Said

Pope Francis said in his August 14, 2022 Angelus address that the fire of faith should spur us to conversion, not lull us into complacency. Faith is not a lullaby that lulls us to sleep, but rather a living flame to keep us wakeful and active, even at night. He was reflecting on the passage from St. Luke who wrote - "Jesus said to his disciples: I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing." According to the Pope, the fire of the gospel does not give a false sense of peace, but spurs people into action. He said " It is just like fire: while it warms us with God's love, it wants to burn our selfishness, to enlighten the dark sides of life - we all have them - to consume the false idols that enslave us" He continues that Jesus is inviting each person to be rekindled by the flame of the gospel. Are we passionate about the gospel, read it often or carry it with us? Does the faith we profess and celebrate lead to complacent tranquility or does it ignite the flame of witness in us? In our communities, the fire of the Spirit should burn, with the passion for prayer and charity, and the joy of faith. Let us reflect on these questions, and say that we are inflamed with the fire of God's love, and want to take it to each person so that they may discover the tenderness of the Father and experience the joy of Jesus, which enlarges the heart and makes life beautiful.

**Compiled by Steve SooHon**

Continued from page 1

lives, our lives of faith do we need "fuel." From where does this come? The sacraments!

That is where we meet Jesus himself and that is nowhere more true than in the Holy Eucharist, where the Lord becomes our very food, a spiritual food which gives us the energy we need to make progress on our journey.

We are blessed because we are people of faith. Blessed are we because we have heard and seen and believed, but we cannot remain content in that blessed feeling. We are called to live it out! Share it!

Be Christian through and through!



*Article by:*  
**Msgr. Steven J. Aguggia**  
**Pro Sanctity Spiritual Advisor**  
**Chancellor Diocese of**  
**Brooklyn and Queens**  
**Pastor of St. Pancras**

### Eucharistic Jesus

Eucharistic Jesus,  
Show me your face  
Welcome me into you Heart  
Reveal the Father to me  
Grant me your Spirit.

Amen

By: Bishop Giaquinta

### Jesus, Bread of Life

O Jesus,  
Bread of life  
Loving Son of  
Mary,  
Be with me  
Through all  
my days  
That I may  
love you  
Let be so!



## FROM THE REGIONAL COORDINATOR

**Ann Sutherland**

### Dear Members and Friends of Pro Sanctity,

I hope that all is well with you and your loved ones. Having just returned from a Pro Sanctity weekend retreat I feel spiritually and physically reenergized. This was the second of two Pro Sanctity retreats which were well attended. I hope that those of you who attended experienced the "Beauty of Belonging" which was the theme for both retreats. For those of you who would have liked to attend, especially our regulars, we missed you and hope to see you soon.

The theme of the retreats was in keeping with the ... synodality: "**Listening and Walking Together.**" If you recall in the "This Just In" section of our Summer 2022 newsletter it was reported that members of the local board met virtually with our international president Sonia Chiavaroli, and face to face with two other members of that entity and discussed various aspects of the movement as well as deciding on a theme.

The discussion was centered around "**Listening and Walking Together**" and how we can study and incorporate this concept in our theme for the 2022-2023 year. The local group subsequently met on several occasions and, after some brainstorming decided on the theme "Come Let's Walk together." It's in this vein that we have started to implement this theme by utilizing several variations such as the one for the retreats.

We have also been apprised by the National Board on the International Pro Sanctity Movement theme for the year and this is also in keeping with synodality:

*"Our Cammino to Holiness: The Mission of the Pro Sanctity Movement in the Church." The word "camminare" is an Italian word which means "to walk" or "to journey." Some are perhaps already familiar with this word in Spanish ("camino"), meaning "the way" or "the path." Drawing from the richness of languages and cultures, we are focusing on the idea of togetherness on our Cammino to Holiness... "While the theme is new this year, we know that its essence has been embedded within the Movement's mentality since the beginning, that we are all destined to be saints, all brothers and sisters."*

Which leads me to draw your attention to the flyer in this newsletter on the Universal Day of Sanctification on November 12<sup>th</sup> to be held at St. Kevin's. Again, the theme is "**Listening and Walking Together.**" Hope to see you there.

As we anxiously await the process of the upcoming synod, we continue to integrate and implement this theme, which is so timely and on which our founder, Servant of God, Bishop Giaquinta was so persistent.

All the Best!

**How can we respond to others on the Journey?**

*“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27)*

In our secular culture, we are taught that it is the responsibility of one to successfully navigate life based solely on the education, or talents and the will or courage to do so. This ideology leads to individualism or the “looking out for oneself”. But there are those who choose to “accept the gift of faith” (Msgr. Steven Aguggia) which teaches that we need to know and love God above all else, and others as well as ourselves. When we take on this faith-based perspective, it leads us to depend on God for our every need and to care about others in our effort to navigate life.

In life all living things are dependent on each other. God in His infinite wisdom made it that way. Therefore, we are to respond to each other first and foremost with God’s love of a contrite heart. We have to be brave to witness to God’s mercy in our life to each other. We have to be more “we-like” centered and less “me-like” in all our interactions with one another.

If we would only follow God’s Word which is written in the Bible, we will know that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life and we can do all things through God who empowers us.

**Points to Ponder****Nina L. Riti*****Ponder - to consider something deeply  
and meditate upon it***

*Again, as you read this newsletter I ask you to ponder on the thoughts of each of the newsletters articles. For example, Msgr. Aguggia says that our journey in life “means allowing our faith to form and shape every aspect of our lives so that we reflect Christ at all times” Ponder this fact and ask yourself, Does your life reflect Christ? I remember when I was teaching at South Shore I was having a discussion with one of the boys and he said to me “Oh she is a good girl”...this little girl unknowingly was reflecting Christ in her actions (I know she went to CCD classes and had asked me to sign her service sheet when she gave up her lunch period to help me in my office) she was reflecting Christ every day to all she met.*

*In Ask Pro Sanctity Mona Edwards reminds us “If we would only follow God’s Word...in the Bible, we will know that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life and we can do all things through God who empowers us”. On Sunday, when you leave Church, (I always say the Gospel is Jesus’ love letter to me and I ponder its message to me as I start each week). so I ask you to ponder God’s word every Sunday so it can lead you on your journey to reflect Christ in your daily life for the week you are beginning..*

*Steve SooHon reminds us of what Bishop Giaquinta said “it is not enough to speak of faith, others have to see us manifest our faith” so I ask you to ponder how do YOU manifest your faith. He then reminds us what Pope Francis said that we should not be “lulled into complacency” wow what is complacency..a “feeling of quiet pleasure or security, often while unaware of some potential danger”. Are we closing our eyes to unpleasant issues that surround us because it is easier to say nothing than discuss them and try to understand and accept the person but not change our ideas.*

*Lastly, Cathy Palermo told us about Bishop Sheen and said “his personal example brought many converts to Catholicism including celebrities”. One of those actors was Ramon Estevez. Ramon Estevez? A young actor who felt his ethnic heritage was closing the door to getting hired and inspired by Bishop Sheen took the name Martin Sheen. I remember my Dad refusing to speak Italian to his children for fear that we might have an accent and be subjected to the discrimination he had to contend with. Ponder on how you reach out to be inclusive and welcoming to all the people God puts in your path.*

*John 14:15 “If you love me, you will do as I command”. Your faith will help you follow this dictate from Jesus so ponder how are you responding to His command?*

# Mark your Calendar for 2022 – 23

## ...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

Right: Pro Sanctity Social Animators (lay men) and Apostolic Sodalities (priests) were in Rome for their annual meeting and received an audience with Pope Francis.



Above: Jessi Kary with Fr. Matthew and other Pro Sanctity leaders after a meeting pose for the camera.



Above & right: Pro Sanctity members gather to say good buy to Jessi Kary



### St. Kevin Parish Jesus: The Way, The Truth and the Life

Monday Evening at 7p.m.  
Po Sanctity Center

Friday Morning 9:45 a.m.

Msgr. Finnerty St. Kevin Parish  
Center

more info call Agnes Rus  
714-309-6651/ 718-649-0324

### O.L. Angeles Parish

Presenta en Espagnol

**Los Sacramentos**  
Segundo & Cuarto Miercoles  
de mes en el Salon de St. Jose  
-73th Street  
Bay Ridge, NY

info call Lilliana 718-759-7431  
Gloria 718-848-3206

### Reflection and Sharing

### The Sacraments

at

Pro Sanctity Group of  
Brooklyn

Conference call and  
Face to Face  
Thursday  
7:00 pm

Call No. 339-207-8069

Pro Sanctity Spanish Group  
of Brooklyn & Queens  
Conference call on

Monday to Friday  
At 8:15 pm

Call No. 339-209-4970

El group P.S.  
Conozcamos a Cristo

**Saint Fidelis Parish**  
Presenta en Espagnol

**Los Sacramentos**

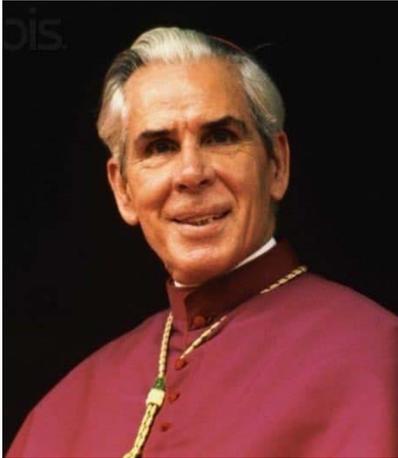
In the Madonna Rm  
First, Second & Third  
Sunday  
of the month

11:30 am  
after the Mass

For information call  
Gloria 718-848-3206  
Alba 917-683-4670

# Our Models ... Saints for Our Times

By **Cathy Palermo**



## Archbishop Sheen

Archbishop Sheen, best known for his popular television program "Life is Worth Living" is held today as one of Catholicism's most widely recognized figures of the twentieth century. He contributed to the Catholic church in many ways ranging from teaching in classrooms, churches, and homes, to preaching over a nationally publicized radio show, and two television programs, as well as writing over 64 books.

### Early Years

Fulton John Sheen was born May 8, 1895 in El Paso, Illinois and baptized in St. Mary's Church. After Baptism, his mother dedicated him to the Blessed Virgin Mary, a dedication he himself renewed at his First Holy Communion. In his early years as a student, Fulton was known for his outstanding intellect. He attended St. Viator College in Bourbonnais, Illinois where he excelled as a student, writer and orator.

He turned down a significant scholarship for graduate school and followed his desire to become a priest and entered St. Paul's Seminary in St. Paul, Min-

nesota. On September 20, 1919 he was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Peoria at St Mary's Cathedral. At this time he made his famous promise to make a Eucharistic Holy hour every day, a promise he kept faithfully throughout his life. Following his ordination, Sheen moved overseas and earned his Doctorate of Philosophy from The Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium in 1923. That same year, he received the Cardinal Mercier Prize for International Philosophy, becoming the first American to earn such a distinction. Upon returning to America, Sheen continued to preach, as well as teach theology and philosophy at the Catholic University in Washington DC from 1927 to 1950.

### Television Evangelization

In 1930 he started hosting a weekly Sunday night radio broadcast called *The Catholic Hour*, which captured many devoted listeners. It drew in an audience of four million people every week. In 1950 he became the director of the society for the Propagation of the Faith, raising millions of dollars over the years to support the missionary activity of the church. These efforts influenced tens of millions of people all over the world, bringing them to know Christ and his Church. In addition, his own preaching and personal example brought many converts to Catholicism including celebrities.

In 1951 Sheen was appointed Auxiliary Bishop of the archdiocese of New York. The same year, he started the Catholic television program, *Life is Worth Living*. This was a new approach to evangelization through the use of television. The show ran for 6 years with 30 million viewers weekly competing with Milton Berle and Frank Sinatra at the time. In 1953 he won an Emmy Award for "Most Outstanding Television Personality." In 1966, Sheen moved upstate, where he

was appointed Bishop of Rochester, NY. During this time he hosted another television series, *The Fulton Sheen Program* which ran until 1968. In 1979 Fulton received his greatest honor when Pope John Paul II embraced him at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. The Holy Father said to him "you have written and spoken well of the Lord Jesus. You are a loyal son of the Catholic Church." With this last acknowledgment, Archbishop John Sheen died 2 months later on December 9, 1979, in his private chapel in his Manhattan apartment during his daily Holy Hour.

### Servant of God

In 2002 he was declared by Pope John Paul II to be a "Servant of God." On June 28, 2012, Pope Benedict recognized the heroic virtues and the life of sanctity of Bishop Sheen, who could then rightly be called "Venerable". Bishop Sheen had a gift for communicating the word of God in the most simple way. His background in philosophy helped him to relate to all of his listeners in a very personalized way. His timeless messages continue to have a great relevance today. During one of his radio talks in 1943 on his series "Crisis in Christendom", Archbishop Sheen saw not only what was happening in his times, but was prophetic about our times. He warned us of the crisis we are seeing now as a consequence of distancing ourselves from God. As Sheen told his radio listeners, "unless America restores religion and morality and discipline under God, it will avail us naught to arm ourselves against the enemy from without." He also had a message of hope when he said "this is not the end of civilization nor are we without hope. We have simply reached a moment in history where God is permitting us to feel our inadequacy, so long as we trust only in ourselves."

# OUR STORIES

Right below: Fr. Lionel Pacheco gave the first conference of the Spanish retreat on October 1, 2022- "The Beauty of Belonging"



Below: The participants posed for a group picture after the closing mass.



Above: Ann Sutherland our coordinator welcomes the retreatants



Above: Fr. John Costello gives an inspiring meditation on the theme of "The Beauty of Belonging." to English retreatants



Above: the group is praying the Rosary in the main Chapel of the retreat Center at Huntington.

Right: Retreatants smile at the camera at the end of their weekend retreat



## Is it a choice?

Jessica Hanna, a mother of four, was diagnosed with terminal breast cancer when she was 14 weeks pregnant. Several doctors advised her to have an abortion but she declined, choosing life instead. A passionate pro-life advocate who openly shared her beliefs online and with the people in her life, Hanna explained how her pregnancy pushed her to truly live out her strongly held beliefs.

Jessica Hanna, "It was just a journey of, 'wow. Now you've talked the talk — the pro-life talk. Now you've become the woman everybody uses in their arguments — what if the woman's life is in danger?' she said. "And now it's time for me to walk the walk." A devout Catholic, Hanna turned to her faith to help get her through the difficult times. After each chemotherapy treatment she prayed at the tomb of Blessed Father Solanus Casey, a soon-to-be saint whose body is buried in Detroit, her hometown. "I prayed at his tomb for me to be miraculously healed and for my son to come out beautiful and healthy," she recalled.

After being diagnosed, she felt God was calling her to something. Unsure of her own future, she made a social media account two days after her diagnosis to share her journey with others and create a prayer community where she could pray with her followers and offer up her suffering for their intentions.

"I thought no suffering should ever go to waste," Hanna said. "I don't know where God is taking me. Is he going to take me to the path where I need to show people how to die gracefully, with his grace and mercy? Or is he going to show a miracle?"

"The Blessed Virgin Mary is somebody who knows what it's like to have the sorrows when it comes to your child and the fear," she emphasized. "So, if you go to her, she will take those fears, she will bring them to her Son and she will beg with you in order for Him to deliver and to bring His mercy upon you and your child. Unite your suffering to Christ's Cross."

After she gave birth her scans were clear — there was no sign that cancer had spread to other organs or lymph nodes. Her once-terminal diagnosis was now curable. She gave birth to a healthy baby named Thomas Solanus.



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

NON PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
FLUSHING, NY  
PERMIT NO. 1461

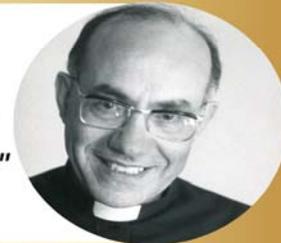


*The Pro Sanctity Movement is a Catholic Organization dedicated to promoting the Universal Call to Holiness by seeking to address the needs of the mind with theology, the heart with spirituality, and the hands with ministry.*



**Pro Sanctity Movement**  
*invites you to celebrate the*  
**Universal Day of Sanctification**

**The Legacy of  
Servant of God, G. Giaquinta  
"Listening & Walking Together"**



**Saturday, November 12, 2022  
11:00 AM Mass  
St. Kevin's Church  
195 St. & 45th Ave. Flushing, NY 11358  
Celebrant: Msgr. Steven J. Aguggia, Chancellor of the  
Diocese of Brooklyn and pastor of St. Pancras parish.  
Music: Mr. Rolando Rivera and Choir**

**Refreshments will follow in the Finnerty Hall.**

**For more information, call:  
Ann Sutherland: 917-873-1707  
or 347-587-0297**

**For more information, please call 718-649-0324 or 347-587-0297**