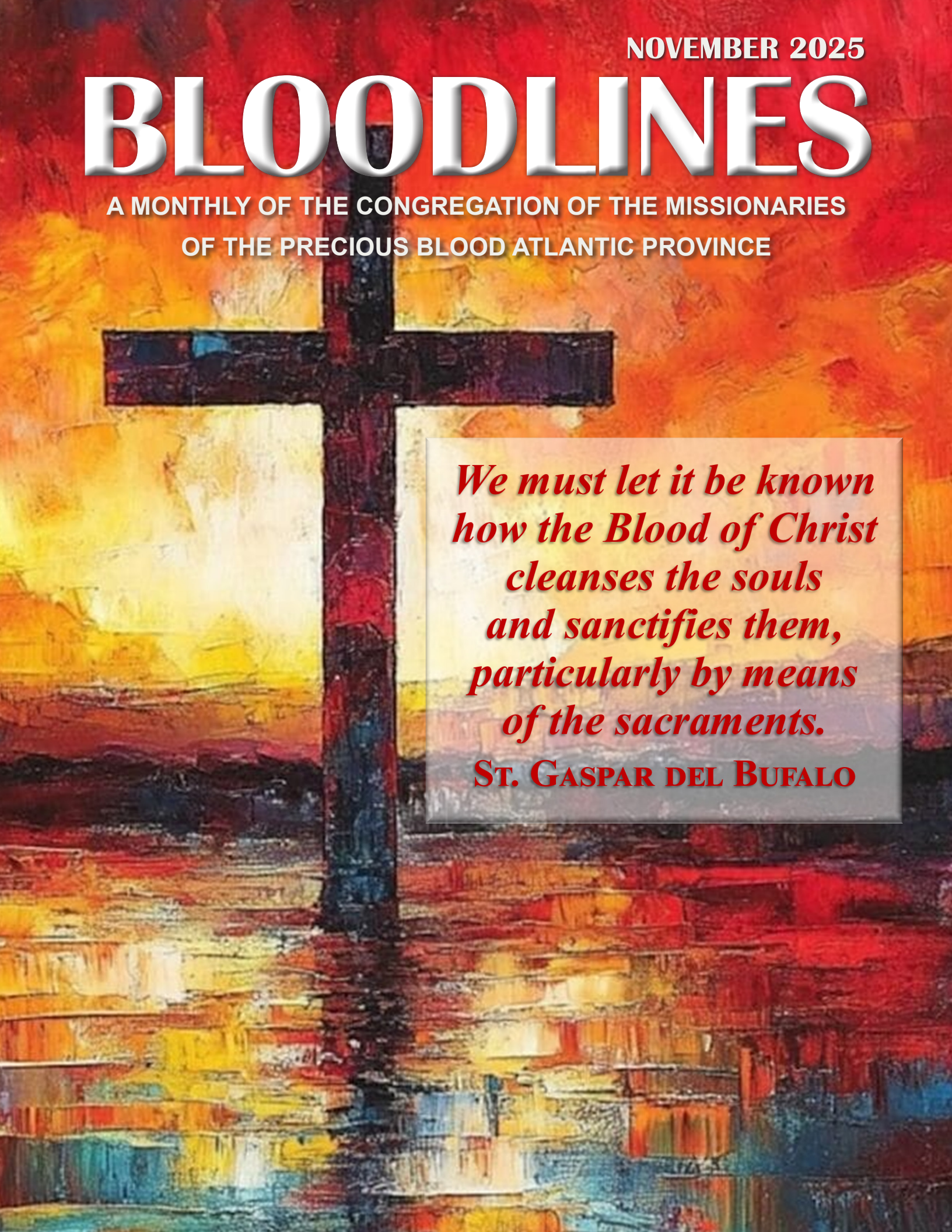


The background is an abstract painting featuring a large, dark cross. The cross is composed of thick, dark brushstrokes. The background is a vibrant mix of warm colors, including reds, oranges, yellows, and browns, with visible texture from the paint. The overall effect is one of intense spiritual energy and passion.

NOVEMBER 2025

BLOODLINES

A MONTHLY OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE MISSIONARIES
OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD ATLANTIC PROVINCE

*We must let it be known
how the Blood of Christ
cleanses the souls
and sanctifies them,
particularly by means
of the sacraments.*

ST. GASPAR DEL BUFALO



BLOODLINES is a monthly publication by the Congregation of Missionaries of the Precious Blood, Atlantic Province.

It is distributed to the Incorporated members of the Province and the Provincial Directors of the various Provinces.

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preciousbloodatlantic.org

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PROVINCIAL'S MESSAGE

THE CROSS AND THE CALL TO RENEWAL

On the Cross, Jesus offered himself to the Father—and for us. Through the shedding of his Precious Blood, he conquered sin and death for all. This gift opens the way to eternal life. We need not fear death, for the Holy Spirit assures us of God's mercy. We now live in the hope of everlasting life.

The Cross proclaims God's gift of love and life—a message that St. Gaspar preached and embodied.

To live in the newness of the Spirit is to say no to old habits. It calls us to release selfishness and indifference. As we embrace our Baptism more fully, grace fills us, and we become receptive to God's wisdom and love. We are invited to mirror the self-giving love of Christ, who laid down his life for us.

Each of us wrestles with the challenge of letting go of the "old" and putting on the "new." We should not be discouraged. Even our weaknesses can become teachers, drawing us into deeper reliance on God's grace and mercy. His goodness and patience renew us continually. This renewal may be slow, and we may not be fully transformed—but we are on the way.

So, how will you put off the old and put on the new self?

Growth comes in small steps. Can I be more patient with my brother in community? Can I forgive and release past hurts? As we begin to say yes to these questions, we will discover a deeper peace. With practice, we will see God at work within us. As our hope grows, so too does our faith.

God is committed to us—may we, in turn, be committed to becoming new.

FR. LUIGINO SANTI, CPPS



ST. GASPAR DAY: A FEAST OF FAITH AND HOPE



The annual celebration of St. Gaspar Day on October 21 was marked by a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving. Fr. Alarey and Br. Anthony graciously hosted the gathering,

which began with a joyful social time and a home-cooked dinner lovingly prepared by the CWL. Afterwards, the community gathered in the church for the Eucharist.

Parishioners, joined by friends from St. Roch's and St. Charles Borromeo Parishes, made the journey into the city to share in the celebration. The USC prepared a welcoming coffee hour, and everyone left with a sweet 'doggy bag' to take home.

Fr. Samuel D'Angelo, CPPS, offered a stirring homily, challenging us to live with hope. He reminded us that the Blood of Christ is truly the hope of the world. In a world that longs for hope, we as Christians are called to be a hopeful people—bold in sharing the love that God so generously shares with us.

VOICES, BLESSINGS, AND THE HUMBLE TURKEY

Fathers Jerome and Germán pulled out all the stops to mark the Canadian Thanksgiving

dinner. The beautifully set tables welcomed the humble turkey, complete with homemade gravy, harvest vegetables, fresh salads, pies, and ice cream.

Midway through the evening, Fr. Alarey couldn't resist breaking into song—limiting himself to just one, though his gift of voice delighted both the heart and ears of Fr. Mario. The room was filled with laughter, storytelling, cherished memories, and the joy of fraternity.

To close the evening, Fr. Gerardo led a heartfelt prayer of thanksgiving, inviting everyone to pause and reflect on the many blessings and goodness our loving God continues to offer. Truly, we remain forever thankful.

LIFE CHAIN: A WITNESS TO LIFE AND HOPE

On October 6, members of the USC gathered in front of St. Charles Borromeo Church for the annual Life Chain—a silent, prayerful witness promoting the dignity of life from conception to natural death, and calling for an end to abortion.

Fathers Gerardo and Lui joined the USC walk, lending their presence and support. On this warm and sunny Sunday afternoon, passing cars offered cheers and words of encouragement, and pedestrians paused to acknowledge the peaceful witness. Remarkably, three individuals were so moved by the display that they chose to join the silent march.

It was a quiet yet powerful moment of unity, hope, and public affirmation of the gift of life.

It was a quiet yet powerful moment of unity, hope, and public affirmation of the gift of life.



UNITED IN PRAYER AND PURPOSE: Supporters of Life Chain, joined by Fr. Gerardo, stand prayerfully outside St. Charles Borromeo Church, offering silent witness to the sanctity of life from conception to natural death.

FAMILY AS COMMUNION: A REFLECTION ON COMMUNITY LIFE

Fr. Mario Cafarelli offers a reflection that invites our attention and dialogue. Comments and feedback are welcome to keep the conversation alive and meaningful.

During the 2025 Provincial Assembly of the Atlantic Province, members were struck by Fr. John Colacino's reference to family as an image for community life. Inspired by this, I felt moved to explore the concept of family and how it relates to us as members of religious life.

Scripture is rich with references to family, and the most ideal is the Holy Family—Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. This sacred trio represents not only an ideal of family life but also a model for Christian families. The Catholic understanding of family is deeply rooted in Scripture, Tradition, and the Church's teaching. It sees the family not merely as a human institution, but as a sacred vocation and mission.

Here are some key insights from Catholic thought on family dynamics:

The family is willed by God from the beginning, modeled on the love shared within the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is the "domestic church," the first place where faith and love are lived.

St. John Paul II emphasized that family life must be rooted in self-giving love, mirroring Christ's sacrificial love for the Church. Each member is unique, yet the family thrives on mutual respect, dialogue, and the balance between individuality and unity. The Church acknowledges that no family is perfect. Disagreements are natural, but the family is a "school of forgiveness," where mercy and reconciliation are continually practiced.

Religious life, too, is a form of family—bound not by blood, but by vows and a shared vocation. Like any household, religious communities share daily life, prayer, work, joys, and struggles. Both family and religious life are schools of love, forgiveness, and service. Both shape individuals in virtue, self-gift, and faith. Balancing personal freedom with communal responsibility is a shared challenge. Both are visible signs of God's presence: the family as a natural image, religious life as an eschatological sign pointing to heaven.

Of course, both natural families and religious communities face relational tensions. Catholic tradition does not shy away from this reality. It sees tension not as failure, but as an opportunity for growth in holiness. Whether in households or monasteries, people bring their personalities, wounds, gifts, and limitations.

"In the end, we always find moments of reconciliation and grace."

TENSIONS OFTEN ARISE FROM:

- Differences in personality and background (e.g., cultural diversity, generational gaps)
- Expectations and roles (what each member believes community life "should" look like)
- Authority vs. autonomy (balancing obedience with personal responsibility)
- Workload and mission stress (uneven distribution of tasks, burnout)
- Emotional needs and attachments (loneliness, jealousy, cliques, or unhealthy dependencies)
- Communication breakdowns (lack of openness, avoidance of conflict)

Catholic tradition offers tools for navigating these tensions:

- Conversion of Heart: Tension invites deeper charity. Members are called to humility, forgiveness, and bearing one another's burdens.
- Structures of Dialogue: Chapter meetings, spiritual direction, and community councils help surface issues openly.
- Rule of Life and Constitutions: These provide clarity on expectations, roles, and practices—reducing confusion.
- Spiritual Practices: Common prayer, the Eucharist, and the Liturgy of the Hours center the community on Christ.
- Fraternal Correction: Done with charity, as Jesus teaches in *Matthew 18*.
- Tensions as Part of the Journey: The early Church faced conflicts (*Acts 6*: food distribution; *Galatians 2*: Paul confronts Peter). Holiness is not the absence of conflict, but the ability to transform conflict into communion.
- Paschal Mystery: Every tension, every dying-to-self in community, is a participation in Christ's death and resurrection.

► Witness to the World: When communities and families live reconciliation and unity despite differences, they become powerful signs of God's kingdom.

IN SUMMARY: The Catholic understanding is that **both family and religious community are schools of communion**. Relational tensions are not signs of failure but invitations to grow in love, humility, and forgiveness. Through prayer, dialogue, and conversion of heart, conflict can be transformed into deeper unity—making both family and community a true reflection of the Trinity.

When all is said and done, we as a community may face difficulties, disappointments, and even moments of scandal. Yet we also experience great joy, understanding, and love. Our Province has always stood by one another, no matter the circumstances. We may disagree, and at times even fall short in how we treat one another, but in the end, we always find moments of reconciliation and grace.

WORDS OF OUR FOUNDERS

Any thought that does not lead to virtuous action and to God is to be dissipated.

One should conduct oneself with calmness, and problems are to be treated with modest simplicity and clarity, serving purely the glory of God.

ST. GASPAR DEL BUFALO Letter 3614

Have faith in the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, as you will reap many victories from it: 'Ipsi vicerunt draconem propter Sanguinem Agni'. May the Holy Virgin Mary be our guide, our leader in the holy journey, and may the great St. Francis Xavier be our example. How fortunate we are to use the short time we have been given on our pilgrimage on earth, to save souls.

BLESSED GIOVANNI MERLINI Letter 440

Holding One Another In Hope

REFLECTION

Scripture Readings:

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Luke 4:16-30

Do you remember *Gulliver's Travels*? In part three of the series, Gulliver visits the flying island of Laputa, where he encounters a man who claims to have invented a device that extracts sunshine from cucumbers. This curious contraption allows him to bottle the sunshine and release it to brighten his home on dark days.

Oh, if only such a thing were possible. Dark days come to us all—the death of a loved one, the loss of health, a failed project, a trust betrayed. In those moments, hope dims and the shadows of doubt grow longer.

The believers in Thessalonica were losing hope. "Why is it taking so long for Jesus to return? Our loved ones are dying, what is their fate?" Responding to their questions, St. Paul goes back to the basic truth that is found in the paschal mystery, that is, the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Through the outpouring of his precious blood, we are given a beacon of hope to enlighten our way as we journey in faith, a hope leading us to everlasting life.

Why is hope so important? St. Augustine once said, "Of the three great theological virtues: Faith, Hope and Love... he believed that the greatest is Hope. Why?"

*Because Faith tells us that
GOD IS—there is a God.
And Love tells us that
GOD IS GOOD
But Hope tells us that
GOD WILL DO GOD'S WILL.*

Hope is the firm conviction that God is working in all things toward the good, no matter how chaotic, desperate, or tragic life's circumstances may be. Without hope, there is no reason to believe. Without hope there is no reason to love. Jesus is our one hope; he does not disappoint.

Remember what the Lord said to the prophet Isaiah, (*Chapter 35*) "Say to the fearful of heart: Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; With divine recompense he comes to save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall see, and the ears of the deaf be opened; Then the lame shall leap like a stag, and the mute tongue sing for joy. A highway will be there, called the holy way; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray on it.

Last week, two parishioners from Holy Trinity Parish in Dayton went back to Spain to finish their walk along the Camino de Santiago—the "Way of St. James". They had started the journey back in 2020, in the time of Covid, but were not able to finish because so many hostels had closed along the way. We all know the sound of hopes crashing to the ground when the unexpected turns around and bites us. Sitting on the wreckage of our hope, where do we get the courage to go on?

St. Gaspar points us to the Book of the Crucifix. Here we are reminded of the Way of the Cross. Living in hope, Jesus shouldered its weight, fully aware that it would lead to his death. In speaking of the shoulder wound of Jesus, St. Bernard of Clairvaux wrote, "Upon this Wound He bore our sins and the pain it caused him was greater than any of His other Bodily Pains.

In spite of this, He bore his shoulder wound to Calvary so that we might be saved, so that we might live with him forever.”

Jesus invites us to take his yoke upon our shoulders, to learn from him as we carry the weight of leadership, as we carry the weight of a decision, maybe we carry the heavy cross of illness, or the death of a loved one. The shoulder wound of Jesus speaks to a journey we all must take.

As we walk with Jesus, we see that the blood of Christ is hope for the world; that God is working all things to the good for those who trust in his love and mercy.

Today we begin the journey of the XXII General Assembly. We see the past as we look into the rearview mirror of life and acknowledge the many ways God has guided our congregation over the past 210 years. This view of life strengthens our hope as we look to the future. The tools we need along this journey are adaptability, resilience, and companionship.

Embracing the mission to which he was called, Jesus read from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind.” This is the mission that Jesus gives to each of us, to draw hope from his Precious Blood as we respond to the needs of others. His Precious Blood is a beacon of light that guides our path along the way.

“As we raise the cup of salvation in this Eucharist, and call upon the name of the Lord, may we in turn pour out our lives each day to advance that “new order

of things that Christ brought about in the shedding of his Precious Blood.” “Say to the fearful of heart: Be strong, do not fear!” (Is 35) The Precious Blood of Jesus is Hope for the world!

FR. ANGELO ANTHONY, CPPS

MISSIONARIES UNITED IN PRAYER AND REFLECTION

On September 30, members gathered at the Merlini Mission House for a day of prayer, reflection, and fraternity. Christine Way Skinner, a longtime friend of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, graciously led the day’s reflection. A scholar and author of several books, Christine offered an inspiring presentation on how we live hope each day—especially as missionaries. Her theme, *Blood of Christ—Hope for the World*, resonated deeply with all in attendance.

Following the presentation, the group shared joyful fellowship over a home-cooked Greek dinner at a nearby restaurant.



CPPS members share a meal with Christine Way Skinner (second from left) following a day of reflection at the Merlini Mission House.

INVESTED IN SERVICE: FR. SAMUEL D'ANGELO JOINS THE ORDER OF ST. LAZARUS

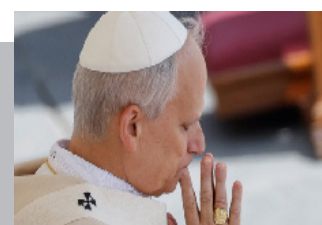
We extend heartfelt congratulations to Fr. Samuel D’Angelo, CPPS, who was inducted into the Order of St. Lazarus on October 18, 2025. The Order is dedicated to charitable service, particularly in the advancement of hospice palliative care, the training and education of caregivers, and the promotion of Ecumenism to foster Christian unity across pastoral, cultural, and social spheres.



Fr. Samuel’s investiture was encouraged and supported by Bishop Thomas Dowd. He currently serves as Chairperson of the Ecumenism Council in the Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

We are proud to share in the joy of his investiture. Though he now wears the green lapel cross

of the Order, his Missionary Cross continues to shine with unwavering witness.



PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER
FOR THE PREVENTION OF SUICIDE
Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

DATES TO REMEMBER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

NOVEMBER 18: Gary Luiz

NOVEMBER 20: William Mnyagatwa

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

NOVEMBER 9: Oreste Cerbara

NOVEMBER 10: Patrick Sena

ALL SOULS AND ALL SAINTS

According to our Provincial Statutes:

Community Life n. 9, reminds us:

‘Every year, in every Mission House or residence, preferably in the month of November or during the provincial gatherings, the following Masses are to be celebrated

by every priest:

- a) for all the faithful departed;
 - b) for the deceased of the congregation; and
 - c) for the deceased relatives and benefactors.
- All other members are to participate in one Mass for each of the above intentions.

UPCOMING GATHERINGS

NOVEMBER 25

Day of Recollection

Merlini House, 1:30pm

Social/Dinner: 4:30pm

Fr. Peter Poole will lead us in prayer and reflection—a meaningful opportunity to prepare our hearts for the Advent Season and to mark the closing of the Jubilee Year of Hope. Yet our pilgrimage journey continues, carried forward with renewed spirit and faith.

DECEMBER 13

The Knights of Columbus of St. Alphonsus Church will host the **Missio Dinner 2025**—a formal banquet to be held at **St. Paul’s Basilica**.

Blood of Christ—Hope For The World

BLESSED GIOVANNI MERLINI



GIOVANNI MERLINI was an extraordinary communicator. Through his preaching, he opened both ears and hearts. He spoke with clarity, conviction, and compassion—qualities that made

him a spiritual father and a wise superior.

As a preacher, Merlini was bold and tireless. He proclaimed the Word of God in churches, public squares, and through spiritual direction, reaching thousands. Like St. Gaspar, he had the gift of drawing crowds, whether through short reflections or longer homilies. He was a master of spirited, concise phrases that stirred the soul and planted seeds of the Gospel far and wide.

“A saint is not afraid of new languages if they speak to the soul”—and this was Merlini’s gift. In his gentle and wise way, he found words that resonated deeply. In humility, he sought no attention for himself, but pointed always to Jesus Christ, reminding people that the Blood shed on the Cross was an act of total love and mercy. This is the truth.

In a noisy and chaotic world, truth can be easily lost. As missionaries, we are called to be present and visible where people search for meaning. We are to reach out, sharing the message of hope and healing.

Merlini’s unique blend of deep conviction and humility conveyed God’s love with authenticity. Leaving his diocese of Spoleto, he joined the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, driven by a sincere desire for a life of faith. Under the guidance of St. Gaspar, he deepened his spiritual formation and immersed himself in the life of the community, allowing his gifts to flourish naturally.

He bridged prayer, virtue, and patience with conviction and humility, inspiring both his confreres and the People of God. His desire was to live authentically and in peace. His humility invites us to examine our own lives more deeply, with devotion to the Word of God and gratitude for the gift of Jesus’ Blood.

Coming to know Merlini through his writings inspires me to live my faith more sincerely. The practice of living simply in the present connects us to God and strengthens our desire to live His will.

**POPE LEO ONCE SAID,
“The world is hungry for a voice
of wisdom, justice, mercy,
and truth.”
Our faith is to be like a living fire—
a flame that burns brightly
within us and through us,
rekindling faith and truth
in others.**

FR. LUIGINO SANTI, CPPS

John Tries, a longtime friend of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, offers his reflection on Christian hope. A retired Catholic school teacher, John now dedicates his time to tending his expansive farmland in central Ontario, where flowers, fruit trees, vegetables, and farm animals flourish under his care.

THE FIRST THING THAT CAME TO MIND was the troubling news and the harsh actions of certain governments. Cutting foreign aid to those in need—people who cling to hope for a better life through that support—feels deeply unjust. Then I thought of being a refugee for whatever reason (war or famine or persecution) and having to leave one’s beloved homeland and it filled me with such sorrow. I couldn’t get over the longing feeling in a refugee’s heart as they got up each morning in hopes of a better life for themselves and/or their families.

Then my thoughts turned to the Holocaust victims in the past and now the innocent victims of Gaza, Ukraine, and Sudan who are enduring horrible wars and persecution because of someone else’s cruel agenda. How could they feel any hope? Could the overwhelming feeling of despair leave any room for hope?

And so, with these thoughts in mind, I started researching for some lofty and enlightened ideas about ‘hope’. Hastily scratched notes about hope kept piling up, but the months of May and June were

difficult ones this year. As I continued searching for brilliant insights about hope, I was struck—quite suddenly—by the obvious. Let me explain:

May started with the most stubborn dry cough, which turned into an even more stubborn wet cough that lasted well into three weeks. I sure hoped I would get better soon as I drowned myself with hot soup and Vitamin C. When I finally felt better (and ready to get to ‘already three weeks delayed’ garden work), my ambition was met with unseasonably wet and cold weather that made any gardening impossible. I sure hoped the weather would get better watching from my sunroom window!

Around that time, doctors diagnosed my bother-in-law with esophageal cancer. We all deeply hoped he would make it through the impending surgeries and begin to recover.

Then on June 1st, my brother died suddenly from accidental drowning caused by a ‘low blood sugar’ effect. He had special needs and more than his fair share of pain and suffering in life. We always hoped he would get better physically and mentally and learn to love (or at least enjoy) life, but now our focus centred on funeral arrangements and grief. We all sure hoped he would be in a place with no more pain and suffering.

A week after the funeral on June 12th, I had the long-awaited gum graft surgery—an appointment I had been both anxious and eager to face. Two weeks of soft food and lots of pain ensued but hope for successful healing and an even bigger hope for a big juicy steak got me through it.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

When receiving condolences from family and friends after my brother's passing, I kept noticing all the words of 'hope' expressed to me. It then occurred to me that, in spite of all the words of wisdom and philosophical studies about hope, we are always surrounded by feelings and thoughts of hope. Hope is not a lofty idea to be pondered but the real foundation of our earthly lives. Hope sustains and moves us forward. That said, my nature still compels me to ponder the wisdom of the ages—so I continue.

In *1 Corinthians 13:13*, St. Paul tells us, "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love but the greatest of these is love." This makes sense as God is pure love and God is eternal, so love is the greatest as it passes the test of time and space. Following that, if heaven is union with perfect and unconditional love, then there would be no need for faith or hope in the next life. If you have eternal love, you are complete.

In *Hebrews 11:1*, we are basically told that hope is "when faith is directed to the future". For Christians, Jesus made it clear that "everything is possible for one who believes". (*Mark 9:23*) So, faith and hope are intrinsically linked for Christian believers.

Shifting toward a more universally accepted understanding of hope—namely, its dictionary definition—we find it expressed in two primary ways. First, as a noun, hope is defined as "a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen," or "a feeling of trust and confidence in the future." Second, as a verb, hope refers to

"a wistful desire for something to happen" or "an expectation of something desirable."

Several websites categorize hope into three distinct types:

Realistic Hope is a desire for outcomes that are probable. Hope is for a realistic option.

Utopian Hope is a desire for outcomes that are less likely but still desirable. This hope gives one the ability to envision new possibilities that could bring joy for self and others.

Chosen Hope is somewhat related but hoping for an outcome that one actively must work towards.

In this third way, hope is not just optimism (a general outlook on life) but a belief in the possibility of positive outcomes. (This reinforces the Christian belief that hope spurs faith into action so that the positive outcomes can occur.) It moves past just 'wishful thinking' too because it has a firm belief in a better future and that motivates one to work towards it, despite adversity. (I can't help but think again of immigrants and refugees leaving their friends and family and homeland for the futures of their children.)

Poets describe and compare hope to 'light', 'candles', 'lamps', 'anchors in storms', 'the sunrise', 'the northern star', 'rainbows', 'a bird building its nest', 'the spring thaw', 'seeds germinating', 'a lighthouse', and 'pure optimism'. These are all things that we need and appreciate in our lives.

A philosophical and medical view of hope sees it as very important in four main ways:

► Hope enhances well-being and mental health. It can reduce stress and anxiety and helps us cope in difficult situations.

► Hope fosters resilience. In fact, it seems hope and resilience have a lot in common. Hope helps you stay anchored through 'life's many storms'. My mom used to say, "Well, we got through that!" She knew that we would 'get through it' with some grit and determination. We stayed strong, having hope that the situation or adversity would soon be over.

► Hope gives a sense of purpose to work through things. At a crucial moment in J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, Frodo asked Samwise Gamgee, "What are we holding on to, Sam?" Sam answers, "That there is some good in this world, and it's worth fighting for!" His purpose is clear, namely survival of the 'good' and conquering of the 'evil'. We, as humans, always need hope that good will triumph over evil.

► Hope fuels motivation and goal achievement. One can only admire the countless hours of practice that athletes or musicians endure because they have hope that their efforts will lead to success in competition. One might add that in this case 'hope is not just enough', unless it motivates one into action.

The Russian novelist, Fyodor Dostoevsky once said, "To live without hope is to cease to live." One can only empathize with those who have lost hope. An Italian proverb says, "Hope is the last thing that one ever loses." One can lose a lot of material things and relationships, but if one loses hope that things can get better in time, despair is inevitable. We all know someone who seems

to have lost hope. Given the vital role hope plays, it stands to reason that we must actively cultivate it—nurturing hope in our thoughts, words, and actions.

Recommendations on self-help sites give these five ways to activate hope:

1 Set clear and achievable goals. As the Greek philosopher Socrates once said, "Know thyself." We must be mindful of our own talents, capabilities, and limitations.

2 Practise positive thinking. At a time in history where social media is exploding with conspiracies and negativity, one must keep a clear head and think positively, realistically and with a sense of gratitude.

3 It's important 'to believe in oneself' and to have 'self-compassion with oneself' when there is a temporary inability to overcome adversity. Same would apply to have compassion for others and to believe in them even when they don't live up to expectations. Have hope that they still might.

4 Seek support as there is strength in numbers when working through or towards something.

5 Continue to use hopeful sayings with oneself and others, such as: "Hope you're well," "Hope I can get through this," "Hope you have a good day," and "Hope I/you stay strong".

In conclusion, hope is not just a feeling. It is one of the most powerful and necessary forces, which can and must be cultivated and harnessed, in our lives and those around us. It is an absolutely essential part of our life here on earth as we continue to survive and thrive as individuals and as a society,

Vocation Calendar

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2

MARIO CAFARELLI

3

BROTHER ANTHONY CANTERUCCI

4

RENÉ CERECEDO

5

JOHN COLACINO

6

SAMUEL D'ANGELO

7

BRENDAN DOHERTY

8

JOSEPH GRASSO

9

JEROME HOLOGA

10

DOMINIC JUNG

11

GERARDO LAGUARTILLA

12

GARY LUIZ

13

RON MAHON

14

WILLIAM MNYAGATWA

15

PETER NOBILI

16

LUI SANTI

17

GERMÁN SANTIAGO

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RON WIECEK

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WORLD PEACE

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CANCER PATIENTS AND
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RESPONSIBLE CIVIC AND FEDERAL
LEADERS

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THE FORGOTTEN

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POPE LEO XIV

Prayer for Vocations

Through the intercession of St. Gaspar del Bufalo
and Blessed Giovanni Merlini

O LORD OF THE HARVEST,

You call each of us by name to follow You in love and service.
Look with mercy upon Your Church, and raise up generous hearts
to labor in the vineyard of Your Kingdom.

Through the intercession of St. Gaspar del Bufalo,
fiery apostle of the Precious Blood,
inflame in us a passion for souls,
a courage to proclaim the Gospel,
and a love that is willing to be poured out for others.

Through the prayers of Blessed Giovanni Merlini,
faithful servant and wise guide,
grant us perseverance in discernment,
trust in Your providence,
and a spirit of humble obedience to Your will.

Bless our families, parishes, and communities
with holy vocations to the priesthood, religious life,
and all forms of consecrated service.

May those You are calling respond with joy,
and may we, as Your people, support them with prayer and love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

