

Pope Francis to the Passionists



ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

20 Nov 22



Pope Francis wished to express his paternal affection and joy during this tricentenary celebration. In a message addressed to the Superior General of the Passionists, the Holy Father encouraged them to strengthen their "commitment to the needs of humanity. This missionary calling is directed above all towards the crucified of our age-- the poor, the weak, the oppressed and those discarded by many forms of injustice. The implementation of this task will require a sincere effort of inner renewal on your part, which derives from your personal relationship with the Crucified-Risen One. Only those crucified by love, as Jesus was on the cross, are able to help the crucified of history with effective words and actions." Furthermore, he said that "this significant centennial anniversary represents a providential opportunity to move towards new apostolic goals," while being mindful that "contact with the Word of God in prayer and reading the signs of the times in daily events will enable you to perceive the creative presence of the Spirit whose outpouring over time, points out the answers to humanity's expectations. No one can deny the fact that today we live in a world where nothing is the same as before."

Please find the full version of the Message:

https://1drv.ms/b/s!Ar7qUCcg7Dzo4C_Ar-mj_WIZ_aNg

A photograph taken from a low angle looking up at a group of people. They are all pointing their index fingers upwards towards a bright, overexposed sky. The people are diverse in appearance, with different skin tones, hair colors, and styles. Some are wearing hats or have makeup on. The overall mood is one of aspiration or looking towards the future.

Ad Multos
Annos



"Heartfelt congratulations to the Passionists on the Tricentenary of their foundation! We wish them flourishing and joy as they embark on this year of festivities. We hold in our hearts the entire Congregation spread out across the globe - Priests, Brothers and lay faithful associated with the Passionist Order. We pray for all who have received the generous ministry of Passionists across countless parishes.

Most precious to us is our own Passionist Parish of St Joseph, high up on Highgate Hill. There has been a Passionist community there for more than a century. The Parish of Our Lady of St Gabriel of Sorrows down the hill in Archway also was founded from Highgate in the 1920s. We give thanks today for Fathers George, Tiernan, Benedict and Thomas for the witness they and their predecessors give to Christ and his mission.

Gratitude, Prophecy and Hope - Renewing our Mission. This is their Jubilee logo. And it captures perfectly our joy at their presence here in the Diocese of Westminster. To Highgate Parish, and to Passionists throughout the world, we say, 'Ad multos annos' - may you serve the mission of Christ many years and more."

Rt. Rev. Nicholas Hudson
Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster

PASSION LED US HERE



In November 1720 a young man from Ovada in Italy, Paul Daneo, began a retreat. Nothing unusual you might think, except that this young man was to go on to found the Congregation of the Passion (Passionists) and become known as St. Paul of the Cross. This weekend marks the founding of the Passionists and therefore is the Tercentenary Jubilee of that wonderful event, a time of special blessing for all who are connected to the Passionists. In his retreat Paul wrote the first Holy Rule, words which flowed from his heart as they were given to him by God.

The beginning was not easy however. At first Paul simply had his brother, John-Baptist, as a companion as they lived a life of prayer, penance, silence and solitude. When Paul went to see the Pope to ask permission to gather companions for this way of life our holy founder looked so humble and poor that the door keeper sent him away without further ado. Thinking that all his hopes had slipped away Paul went to the Basilica of St Mary Major to pray. It was there that he was inspired to make the distinctive vow of our Congregation, to keep alive the memory of the Passion.

God's will be done! The initial rejection was not to last and by the end of his life Paul had founded twelve Religious communities ~ the Congregation was flourishing. Passionists are now to be found in over sixty countries around the world.

Of particular interest to the parishioners of St. Joseph's might be that once people started to join the Passionists, St Paul of the Cross needed somewhere to train them. The Novitiate house was dedicated to St. Joseph, and when

Blessed Dominic founded the first Passionist Province outside Italy it was also dedicated to St. Joseph.

Also of interest, taking us right back to the very beginning, is the special inspiration St Paul of the Cross had in connection with "England and the surrounding countries." As early as his first retreat, mentioned above, Paul was praying for England (interestingly, on the feast of St Thomas a Beckett of Canterbury) and as an old man, celebrating Mass, he was seen to pause, tears in his eyes. When asked after Mass what had happened he replied that God had given him a vision of the Passionists in England, tears of joy coming to his eyes.

The central mission of St Paul of the Cross was to preach the love and mercy of God. Paul understood that at the heart of the Gospel, at the heart of what Christ continues to do for us, is a message of suffering and love - God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, to enter this world and transform it with divine love, a love which is stronger than sin, suffering and death. We in turn are called to live this love also, and therefore to have our hearts open to the cry of those in need - to love those who are "crucified" in the world today and to do all we are able to protect God's creation, the "crucified" earth. The Crucified God loves us - let us do all we can to love those who are in need today.

Throughout this special Jubilee year may St Paul of the Cross pray for us, and may the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Sorrows of Mary our Mother, be always in our hearts.

John Kearns CP, Provincial



image - passionistcharism.wordpress.com

Blessed are We



This year we celebrate the tricentenary of the Passionists. The celebration is centred around renewing their commitment to proclaiming the Passion of our Lord as a sign of hope and love for humanity.

The congregation has two primary goals, Preaching Missions and Contemplative Life, which they blend together as one in their vocation. Their mission is rooted in prayerful community life, and expressed in collaborative ministry to all peoples, especially the poor and suffering. As Passionists, bound by a special vow, to keep the memory of the Passion of Christ alive, they remember what was done to Jesus in His Passion, and stand with every living being who is experiencing their own crucifixion.

Blessed Virgin Mary is the principal patron of the Congregation, particularly under her titles as Mother of Sorrows and Our Lady of Holy Hope. And St Michael the Archangel is the heavenly protector of the Congregation.

Among many and varied celebrations, what I am looking forward to is the international

congress at Rome's Pontifical Lateran University that will reflect on the theme: "The wisdom of the cross in a pluralistic world".

Our founder Paul Francis Danei was an Italian mystic known as St. Paul of the Cross. He founded the Passionists on November 22nd 1720. On that day, St. Paul of the Cross was clothed in a black habit to mark the start of his life as a hermit. He then made a 40-day retreat during which he wrote the rule of life for the religious congregation he wanted to establish. For St. Paul of the Cross, the Passion of Jesus was "the most overwhelming work of God's love."

He was convinced that renewed awareness of the suffering of Christ could lead persons to deepened faith and help them to find meaning during their suffering and distress. Through his life and ministry, St. Paul of the Cross worked to renew the religious awareness of his time, particularly among the neglected groups of his society.

On this auspicious occasion please join me to thank God for the gift of Passionist Charism that carried us, the Holy Joes this far. We wish the Congregation a Happy Jubilee. We remember with gratefulness the great Passionists who served at St. Joseph's. And the Jubilee invites us to rededicate ourselves to the wonderful Passionist Charism. And the Parish Council will be coming up with a detailed plan for our Jubilee Celebrations.

May the Passion of Jesus Christ be always in our hearts.

Lorraine Redmond
Chairperson
Parish Council



Eternal Rest

+Finbarr Casey

+Marie Nasser

+Teresa Vecjheshy

+Josephine Talbot

Perpetual Light

Brendan Nolan

Kathy O'Brien

Gladys Ryan

Andreas Panayioutom

John McDonnel

Barbara Mayers

Mai Wharton



St Joseph's Church,

Highgate Hill, London N19 5NE, Tel. 020 7272 2320

e-mail: joseph.highgate@gmail.com

Fr. George (gaskoloth@hotmail.com)



Christmas Masses

We are now preparing for our Christmas Masses. To enable maximum attendance in compliance with applicable COVID-19 guidelines, the Parish will offer additional Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Bookings for these Masses are now open on the Parish's Diocesan website:
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/highgate/events/>. Attendance at all Masses remains capped at 90 persons, so please pre-book now for Christmas!



Welcome

Please Come In

The church is
open for prayer

On Wed. 10AM - 11AM
On Sat.& Sun.
10AM – 12PM

No Congregational worship

Mass Online.

We will be live streaming
our Masses starting this weekend.

Weekdays 9:30AM
Sundays 12Noon and 7PM

We are both on our website
stjosephshighgate.org.uk

and on our YouTube channel;



St. Josephs Highgate



Since this is our first attempt at doing this,
we ask you to be patient as we struggle
with our weak internet.

Who is a Passionist?



Find out

<https://youtu.be/2IWti2O8Yr0>



Inauguration of the
Passionist - Jubilee Opening Mass
10:30 AM, on Sunday 22 November

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jaf_77A_BtU&