



THE  
RECEPTION INTO THE NOVITIATE

*and the*

CELEBRATION OF  
THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*for the*

RITE OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

*for the*

SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF  
THE MARTYR ST. GEORGE

*To glorify God and to make  
His Merciful Love visible.*



RECEPTION INTO THE NOVITIATE

*of*

*Kristen Leaderstorf ~ Sister Mary Emmanuel*

*Taylor Smith ~ Sister Mary Grace*

*Bridget May ~ Sister Mary Solanus*

CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST  
FOR THE PERPETUAL PROFESSION

*of*

*Sister M. Veritas Wilks, F.S.G.M.*

*Sister M. Philomena Cagandahan, F.S.G.M.*

*Sister Mary Joseph Kneemiller, F.S.G.M.*

*and*

THE FIRST PROFESSION

*of*

*Sister M. Magdalena Robinson*

*Sister Mary Kolbe McMullin*

*Celebrated by*

**Most Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki**

*Bishop of Springfield in Illinois*

St. Mary's Church

Alton, Illinois

August 3, 2024

The profession of vows is a public profession by which the religious sister consecrates herself to God and the mission of the Church by living the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This consecration will be realized by observing the Rule of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis and living in chastity, poverty, and obedience according to the Constitutions of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.



The religious insignia (the habits, veils, rosaries, and rings) were blessed at a special ceremony on the days prior to this celebration. To learn more about the particular meaning of each, you can find the blessings located in the back of the booklet.

Thank you for praying with us and sharing this day with our Sisters and community!



**Processional Hymn: Hail, Holy Queen, P.Piel**



1. Hail! Ho - ly Queen en - throned a - bove O Ma - ri - a!
2. Our life, our sweet - ness here be - low, O Ma - ri - a!
3. To thee we cry, poor sons of Eve, O Ma - ri - a!
4. This earth is but a vale of tears, O Ma - ri - a!
5. Turn, then most grac - ious Ad - vo - cate, O Ma - ri - a!



1. Hail! Mo - ther of mer - cy and of love, O Ma - ri - a!
2. Our hope in sor - row and in woe, O Ma - ri - a!
3. To thee we sigh, we mourn, we grieve O Ma - ri - a!
4. A place of ban - ish - ment of fears, O Ma - ri - a!
5. Tow'rds us thine eyes com - pass - ion - ate, O Ma - ri - a!



Tri - umph, all ye Che - ru - bim! Sing with us ye



Ser - a - phim! Heav'n and earth re - sound the hymn:



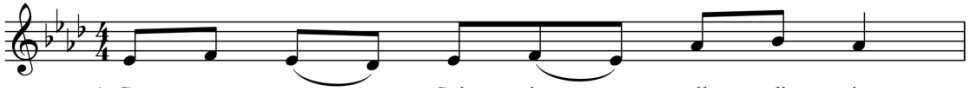
Sal - ve, Sal - ve,



Sal - ve, Re - gi - na!

*After all have arrived at their places, Bishop Paprocki, standing at the steps of the sanctuary, intones the hymn "Creator-Spirit, All Divine," which is continued by the congregation.*

### Creator-Spirit, All Divine



1. Cre - a - tor \_\_\_\_\_ Spir - it, \_\_\_\_\_ all di - vine,  
 2. O gift of \_\_\_\_\_ God, thine \_\_\_\_\_ is the sweet  
 3. The mys - tic \_\_\_\_\_ sev'n - fold \_\_\_\_\_ gifts are thine,  
 4. Kin - dle with \_\_\_\_\_ fire brought \_\_\_\_\_ from a - bove,  
 5. Drive far a \_\_\_\_\_ way our \_\_\_\_\_ dead - ly foe,  
 6. To us, through \_\_\_\_\_ thee, the \_\_\_\_\_ grace be shown  
 7. To Sire and \_\_\_\_\_ Son be \_\_\_\_\_ prais - es meet,



1. Come, vis - it \_\_\_\_\_ ev - 'ry \_\_\_\_\_ soul of thine,  
 2. Con - sol - ing \_\_\_\_\_ name of \_\_\_\_\_ Pa - ra - clete,  
 3. Fin - ger of \_\_\_\_\_ God's right \_\_\_\_\_ hand di - vine;  
 4. Each sense, and \_\_\_\_\_ fill our \_\_\_\_\_ hearts with love;  
 5. And grant us \_\_\_\_\_ thy true \_\_\_\_\_ peace to know;  
 6. To know the \_\_\_\_\_ Fa - ther \_\_\_\_\_ and the Son;  
 7. And to the \_\_\_\_\_ Ho - ly \_\_\_\_\_ Par - a - clete;



1. And fill \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ thy \_\_\_\_\_ ce - les - tial flame,  
 2. And spring of \_\_\_\_\_ life \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ fire \_\_\_\_\_ of love  
 3. And Fa - \_\_\_\_\_ ther's \_\_\_\_\_ pro - \_\_\_\_\_ mise \_\_\_\_\_ sent to teach,  
 4. And grant \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_ flesh \_\_\_\_\_ so \_\_\_\_\_ weak and frail,  
 5. So we \_\_\_\_\_ led \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ thy \_\_\_\_\_ guid - ance still,  
 6. And Spir - it \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ them \_\_\_\_\_ both \_\_\_\_\_ may \_\_\_\_\_ we  
 7. And may \_\_\_\_\_ Christ \_\_\_\_\_ send \_\_\_\_\_ us \_\_\_\_\_ from a - bove



1. The hearts which thou thy - self didst frame.  
 2. And unc - tion flow - ing from a - bove.  
 3. The tongue a rich and heav'n - ly speech.  
 4. The strength of thine which can - not fail.  
 5. May safe - ly pass through ev' - ry ill.  
 6. For - ev - er rest our faith in thee.  
 7. That Ho - ly Spi - rit's gift of love. A - men.

**Bishop Paprocki:** Send forth Your Spirit, and they shall be created.

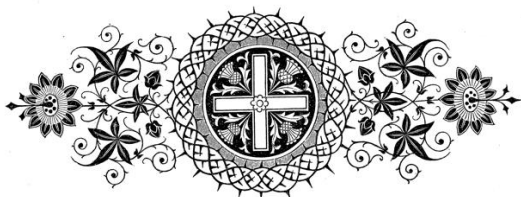
**All:** And You shall renew the face of the earth.

**Bishop Paprocki prays:**

Let us pray: O God, Who has taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that, by the gift of the same Spirit, we may always be truly wise, and always rejoice in His consolation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*Please be seated.*



***Rite of Initiation into the Religious Life***

*The Provincial Superior and Postulants approach and stand in front of the sanctuary.*

**Mother M. Mediatrix questions the Postulants:**

Dear Postulants, what is your petition?

**The Postulants respond:**

We wish to try your way of life, / and are willing to be tested / that we may follow Christ wholeheartedly / in this Community of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George. / As a sign that we belong to your Community, / we ask to be given your religious habit.

**Mother M. Mediatrix prays:**

Let us pray: Lord God, You give us the desire to hear Your call. Listen favorably to the prayer of Your servants, who desire to serve You more perfectly, and who ask to join our Community, the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George. Grant that our life in common may become a communion of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**Religious Community answers:** Amen.

*The Postulants turn to the Community.*

**Religious Community answers the Postulants:**

Dear Postulants, / with great joy we receive you into our Community. / We pray that you will become one with us according to Christ's prayer: / "That they may all be one as You, Father, are in Me and I am in You".

Dear Postulants, / we will pray and work with you, / and we will always be there when you need us, / because God wants us to serve Him in Community.

"We will render each other mutual service / according to the different gifts bestowed on us. / Thus our solidarity will constantly increase / until that day on which it is brought to perfection. / Then, / saved by grace, / we will offer flawless glory to God as a family, / beloved by God and by Christ our Spouse and Brother."

*(Constitution on the Church in the Modern World)*

*The Postulants turn to Bishop Paprocki.*



## **Bishop Paprocki addresses the Postulants:**

Dear Postulants: You are called to follow Christ in the religious life, not because of your good works, but because of the grace of God. Receive the habit as a sign of your dedication to God and wear it with humble hearts. God loves you, and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with each other. Forgive one another. The Lord has forgiven you. Now you must do the same. Over these clothes, to keep them together and to complete them, put on love.

*(See Col. 3:12-14)*

*Bishop Paprocki hands each Postulant the religious habit of the Congregation individually.*

## **Bishop Paprocki says to each Postulant:**

The religious habit be the garment of your salvation.

**Each Postulant answers:** Amen.

*The Postulants leave to change into their habits while the Sisters' choir and people sing.*



# O God Beyond All Praising

Lyrics: Michael A. Perry and Richard Proulx

Music: Gustav T. Holst:



1. O God be-yond all prai-sing, We wor-ship you to-day And
2. For at the cross of Je-sus We see that love dis-played, As
3. The flower of earth-ly splen-dor In time must sure-ly die, It's
4. Then hear, O gra-cious Sa-vior, Ac-cept the love we bring, That
5. O God, Al-migh-ty Fa-ther, Cre-a-tor of all things, The



1. sing the love a-ma-zing That songs can-not re-pay; For
2. there He suff-ered for us, Our sins up-on Him laid. And
3. fra-gile bloom sur-ren-der To you, the Lord most high; But
4. we who know your fa-vor May serve you as our King; And
5. hea-vens stand in won-der, While earth Your glo-ry sings; O



1. we can on-ly won-der At ev-'ry gift you send, At
2. three days la-ter ri-sing, He tri-umphed o'er the grave, That
3. hid-den from all nat-ure The e-ter-nal seed is sown, Though
4. whe-ther our tom-mor-rows Be filled with good or ill, We'll
5. Je-sus, Word In-car-nate, Re-deem-er most a-dored, All



1. bles-sings with-out num-ber And mer-cies with-out end; We
2. we may know re-joic-ing, His might-y pow'er to save; To
3. small in mort-al stat-ure, To heav-en's gar-den grown: For
4. tri-umph through our sor-rows And rise to bless you still, To
5. glo-ry, praise and hon-or Be Yours, O sov-'reign Lord; O



1. lift our hearts be-fore you And wait u-pon your word, We
2. know of His for-giv-ness, To know His bound-less grace; And
3. Christ, Your gift from heav-en, From death has set us free; And
4. mar-vel at your beau-ty And glo-ry in your ways, And
5. God, the Ho-ly Spi-rit, Who lives with-in our soul, Send



1. ho-nor and a-dore you, Our great and might-y Lord. \_\_\_\_\_
2. give us hope in dark-ness, That we will see His face. \_\_\_\_\_
3. we through Him are giv-en The fin-al vic-tor-y. \_\_\_\_\_
4. make a joy-ful du-ty Our sa-cri-fice of praise. \_\_\_\_\_
5. forth Your light and lead us To our e-ter-nal goal! \_\_\_\_\_

*The Postulants enter in the new habit.*

**Bishop Paprocki says:**

Dear Sisters, the founder of your order, St. Francis, answered Christ's call in a life according to the Gospel. Like St. Francis, you want to accept the Good News and to live it in a reply of love. To guide you in this way, receive the *Rule and Life* of the Brothers and Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis and the *Constitutions* of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.

*Bishop Paprocki hands each Postulant the Constitutions.*

**Bishop Paprocki says:**

Receive the *Breviary* of this Congregation and pray it in the name of the Church and in the intentions of the Church.

Through the praying of the Holy Office, the Church praises God without ceasing. It is the prayer that Christ addresses to the Father to honor Him and to intercede for the salvation of mankind.

*Bishop Paprocki hands each Postulant the Breviary.*

**Bishop Paprocki:**

You received the name Kristen on the day of your Baptism. Becoming a member of this Community you receive the name Sister Mary Emmanuel.

Sister Mary Emmanuel:

Thanks be to God.

**Bishop Paprocki:**

You received the name Taylor on the day of your Baptism. Becoming a member of this Community you receive the name Sister Mary Grace.

Sister Mary Grace:

Thanks be to God.

**Bishop Paprocki:**

You received the name Bridget on the day of your Baptism. Becoming a member of this Community you receive the name Sister Mary Solanus.

Sister Mary Solanus:

Thanks be to God.

*Please kneel.*

**Bishop Paprocki prays:**

Almighty God, give Your grace to these Sisters who now wear the religious habit as a sign of their dedication. Grant that, led by the Holy Spirit, in unselfish love, humbly and perseveringly, they may fulfill their vocations. You called them to participate in a special way to build the Mystical Body of Christ. May they make Christ visible every day of their lives for the honor of the Blessed Trinity.

**The New Novices answer:** Amen.

*The New Novices return to their pew.*



# The Order of the Mass of Religious Profession



*Bishop Paprocki incenses the altar.*

## Entrance Antiphon: Psalm 122(121):1-2, Weber

I re - joic - ed when they said to me:  
Let us go \_\_\_\_\_ to the house of the Lo - rd.  
Now our feet are stand - ing with-in your gates, \_\_\_\_\_  
O \_\_\_\_\_ Je - ru - sa - lem. \_\_\_\_\_

## Penitential Rite

**Bishop Paprocki:** Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

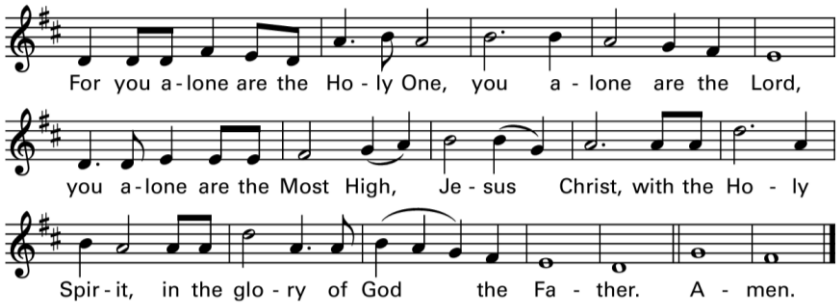
**All:** I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do: through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**Bishop Paprocki:** May blessed Mary, ever virgin, the holy apostles Peter and Paul, and all the saints assist you with their merits and prayers. May the almighty and merciful Lord forgive you and free you from all your sins. May he help you persevere in fruitful penance, good example, and sincere charity, and lead you to everlasting life.

**All:** Amen.

**Gloria: Heritage Mass**

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to  
 peo-ple of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we a - dore you,  
 we glo - ri - fy you, we give you thanks for your great glo - ry,  
 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, O God, al-might-y Fa - ther.  
 Lord Je - sus Christ, On - ly Be - got - ten Son, Lord God,  
 Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the  
 sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; you take a - way the  
 sins of the world, re - ceive our prayer; you are seat-ed at the  
 right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us.



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## Collect

*Please be seated.*

## *The Liturgy of the Word*



### **First Reading:** Song of Songs 2: 8-14

Hark! My lover – here he comes  
 springing across the mountains,  
 leaping across the hills.

My lover is like a gazelle  
 or a young stag.

Here he stands behind our wall,  
 gazing through the windows,  
 peering through the lattices.

My lover speaks; he says to me,  
 “Arise, my beloved, my dove, my beautiful one,  
 and come!

“For see, the winter is past,  
the rains are over and gone.  
The flowers appear on the earth,  
the time of pruning the vines has come,  
and the song of the dove is heard in our land.  
The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
and the vines, in bloom, give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one,  
and come!

“O my dove in the clefts of the rock  
in the secret recesses of the cliff,  
Let me see you,  
let me hear your voice,  
For your voice is sweet,  
and you are lovely.”

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33**



*Text: Lectionary for Mass, © 1969, 1981, 1997 ICEL.*

*Music: Brian Michael Page (b. 1964), © 2016 Christus Vincit Music.*

### **Second Reading: 1 John 4: 7-16**

Beloved, let us love one another,  
because love is of God;  
everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.  
In this way the love of God was revealed to us:  
God sent his only Son into the world  
so that we might have life through him.



In this is love:

not that we have loved God, but that he loved us  
and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

Beloved, if God so loved us,

we also must love one another.

No one has ever seen God.

Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us,  
and his love is brought to perfection in us.

This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us,  
that he has given us of his Spirit.

Moreover, we have seen and testify

that the Father sent his Son as savior of the world.

Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,  
God remains in him and he in God.

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.

God is love, and whoever remains in love  
remains in God and God in him.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Festival Alleluia: John 13:34**



Verse: I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

*Please stand.*

**Gospel: John 15:9-17**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples:

“As the Father loves me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love,

Just as I have kept my Father’s commandments  
and remain in his love.

“I have told you this so that my joy might be in you  
and your joy might be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this,  
to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer call you slaves,  
because a slave does not know what his master is doing.

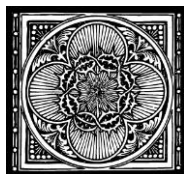
I have called you friends,  
because I have told you everything I have heard from my  
Father.

It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you  
and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain,  
so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give  
you.

This I command you: love one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



## ***Rites of Profession***

*Please be seated. Those to make their first profession proceed to the sanctuary. They stand, facing the Bishop and Provincial Superior.*

### **REQUEST**

#### **Bishop Paprocki questions the Novices:**

My dear daughters, what do you ask of God and of His Church?

#### **The Novices respond:**

We ask for God's merciful love, / and a share in the life of this religious community / of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.

#### **Bishop Paprocki and the Religious Community reply:**

Thanks be to God.

*The Novices turn to the Community.*

#### **Novices speak to the Religious Community:**

By the favor of God / we have studied your Rule / and have lived among you as your Sisters for the time of probation. / We now humbly ask you / that we may dedicate ourselves to God and to His Kingdom, / and make our Profession in the religious Congregation / of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.

#### **Religious Community answers:**

Thanks be to God.

*The Novices return to their seats.*

*Those to profess their perpetual profession proceed to the sanctuary.  
They stand, facing the Bishop and Provincial Superior.*

## **REQUEST**

### **Bishop Paprocki questions the Junior Professed Sisters:**

My dear daughters, what do you ask of God and of His Church?

### **The Junior Professed Sisters respond:**

By the favor of God / we have come to know the life of religious dedication in this Community. / We now humbly ask / that we may make Perpetual Profession in this religious Congregation / of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George, / for the praise of God and the service of the Church.

### **Bishop Paprocki and the Religious Community reply:**

Thanks be to God.

### **Bishop Paprocki speaks to the Junior Professed Sisters:**

In holy Baptism the Holy Spirit has poured out His love into your hearts. This love urges you to live more and more for Christ and His Church. You fulfill this by living a life according to the evangelical counsels, in which you give yourself entirely to God.

*The Sisters return to their pews.*

## **Homily**

## ***Rite of Temporary Profession***

### **EXAMINATION**

*After the homily, Bishop Paprocki questions the candidates regarding their readiness to dedicate themselves to God and to seek perfect charity according to the Rule and Constitutions of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.*

*Please remain seated. The Provincial Superior and Novices stand in front of the sanctuary.*

### **Bishop Paprocki:**

My dear daughters, you are already consecrated to God by water and the Holy Spirit. Are you resolved to be more closely united to God by the new bond of religious profession?

**Novices:** I am.

### **Bishop Paprocki:**

In your desire to follow Christ perfectly, are you resolved to live in celibacy as a sign of the Kingdom of heaven, to practice voluntary poverty, and to offer the sacrifice of obedience?

**Novices:** I am.

### **Bishop Paprocki:**

May Almighty God give you His grace to fulfill your resolutions.

**All:** Amen.

## PRAYER FOR GOD'S GRACE

### **Bishop Paprocki prays:**

Let us pray: *(all pray in silence)*

Lord, look upon these servants of yours who wish to imitate Your Son more closely by professing the evangelical counsels in the presence of Your Church today. In love grant that their way of life may bring glory to Your Name and salvation to all mankind. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

### **PROFESSION**

*The Sisters one by one kneel before Bishop Paprocki and Mother M. Mediatrix offering their public profession.*

### **Each Novice pronounces her vows:**

With a firm resolve to consecrate myself to God, and to follow Christ unconditionally, I, Sister \_\_\_\_\_, vow to the Triune God, in the presence of this assembled community, into your hands, Mother Mary Mediatrix, until the 16th of April of next year, a life of Consecrated Chastity, in Poverty and Obedience, according to the Rule and Life of the Brothers and Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis and according to the Constitutions of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.

With confidence in God, and trusting in the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, and of our Holy Father Francis, I place myself at the disposal of this religious Congregation, to glorify God and to make His merciful love visible.

## BESTOWAL OF THE INSIGNIA OF RELIGIOUS PROFESSION

*After the profession, Bishop Paprocki, with the assistance of the Provincial Superior and the Novice Directress, present the newly professed with the veil.*

### **Bishop Paprocki hands the black veil to each Sister saying:**

Receive this veil as a sign of that wondrous marriage between the Church and Christ, her only Spouse, which should be made visible in your life.

### **Each Sister responds:**

Christ has called me to this. “I can do all things in Him Who strengthens me” (*Philippians 4:13*).

*While the Sisters leave to change into their new veils, the congregation sings the Royal Wedding Psalm 45.*

### **Insignia Antiphon: Song of Songs 3:1, Psalm 45(44), *Brown***

Sg. 3:1, Psalm 45 (44)



I sought him whom my heart lo - - ves.



*The Sisters return in their new veils.*

**Bishop Paprocki says once:**

Wear this crucifix and walk with the Church like a pilgrim in a foreign land, pressing forward amid the persecutions of this world and the consolations of God. Christ has redeemed us through His poverty and Passion. As members of the Church, you are called to follow His way. Strengthened by the Risen Lord, announce the Cross and Death of the Lord until He comes.

*(Lumen Gentium 1, 8)*

**New Professed Sisters:** Amen.

*Bishop Paprocki hands the crucifixes to the Sisters.*

**Bishop Paprocki says once:**

Receive the Rosary of the Seven Joys of the Blessed Mother. Mary is the Prototype of the Church. She advanced in her pilgrimage of faith. Therefore, look upon her in your apostolic work. She, in her life, lived an example of maternal love. You should be animated by this love when you collaborate in the apostolic mission of the Church on behalf of the rebirth of men.

**New Professed Sisters:** Amen.

*Bishop Paprocki hands the Franciscan Crown Rosaries to the Sisters.*

*The Sisters return to their pews.*





## *Rite of Perpetual Profession*

*Those to make their perpetual profession stand and approach the sanctuary.*

### **EXAMINATION**

*Bishop Paprocki questions the Sisters on their readiness to dedicate themselves perpetually to God and to seek perfect charity according to the Rule and Constitutions of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.*

#### **Bishop Paprocki:**

My dear daughters, through Baptism you are already dead to sin and consecrated to the Lord. Are you resolved to unite yourselves more closely to Him by the bond of Perpetual Profession?

#### **Temporary Professed Sisters:**

I am, for I believe I can do all things in Him Who strengthens me.

#### **Bishop Paprocki:**

God has loved you with an everlasting love and has drawn you to Himself in His great mercy. Today you have come to the altar to take forever the vows of celibacy for the sake of the Kingdom of God, poverty, and obedience. Consider once more the obligation you freely take upon yourselves. If you want to commit your lives totally to God, you must follow Christ wherever He leads you.

I ask you, therefore, in the presence of the people of God: Will you forever forego the joys of marriage and unite yourselves more closely to Christ by the bond of perpetual profession to make visible the love of the Church for Christ?

**Temporary Professed Sisters:**      Yes, I will.

**Bishop Paprocki:**

Will you, throughout your entire lives, continue in poverty Christ's life of self-denial in the service of others?

**Temporary Professed Sisters:** Yes, I will.

**Bishop Paprocki:**

Are you willing through your obedience in this Community, at the call of the Church, to build up the Kingdom of God?

**Temporary Professed Sisters:**

Yes, I am willing and ask again to make Perpetual Profession in this Community.

**Bishop Paprocki:**

May He Who began this good work in you see to its completion before the day of Christ Jesus.

**All:** Amen.



## LITANY

*As a congregation, we ask that the Saints offer their strength and support, interceding to God on the Sisters' behalf.*

*Please stand.*

**Bishop Paprocki asks all those present to pray:**

Dear brothers and sisters, let us pray to God, the Almighty Father, for these Sisters: May He grant them the fullness of His mercy.

*Please kneel.*

*While the Sisters lie prostrate on the floor, the Bishop, Priests, and congregation sing the Litany of Saints. (See next page.)*



Cantor

Lord, have mer cy. Christ, have mer cy. Lord, have mer cy.

All

Lord, have mer cy. Christ, have mer cy. Lord, have mer cy.

Ma - ry\_\_ and Jo seph, Mi chael\_\_ and all an - gels, (etc.)

Pray for us. Pray for us.

All you ho - ly men and wo - men pray for us.

All you ho - ly men and wo - men pray for us.

Cantor

Lord, be mer ci - ful (Etc.)

All

Save your peo - ple.

Cantor

Give to your servant Pope Francis, and to all other bishops, the grace of growing daily in the likeness of Christ, Bridegroom of the Church.(Etc.)

All

Lord, hear our prayer.

Christ,\_\_ hear us; Lord,\_\_ Je - sus, hear our prayer.

Christ,\_\_ hear us; Lord,\_\_ Je - sus, hear our prayer.

**Bishop Paprocki alone rises and prays with hands joined:**

Lord, hear the prayers of Your people. By Your grace, prepare the hearts of Your servants for their religious consecration. May the fire of the Holy Spirit purify them from all sin, and make them burn with Your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

*Please stand.*

**PROFESSION**

**Each Temporary Professed Sister pronounces her vows:**

With a firm resolve to consecrate myself to God, and to follow Christ unconditionally, I, Sister \_\_\_\_\_, vow to the Triune God, in the presence of this assembled community, into your hands, Mother Mary Mediatrix, forever, a life of Consecrated Chastity, in Poverty and Obedience, according to the Rule and Life of the Brothers and Sisters of the Third Order Regular of St. Francis and according to the Constitutions of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George.

With confidence in God, and trusting in the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, and of our Holy Father Francis, I place myself at the disposal of this religious Congregation, to glorify God and to make His merciful love visible.

*After her perpetual profession, each Sister goes to the altar to place her written profession on it; she then signs the document of profession on the altar.*

*The signed profession remains on the altar, representing the Sister's consecration of her life; her sacrifice and personal offering are joined to the sacrifice of the Mass and offered up to God with it.*

***Please remain standing.***

*When they have all made their perpetual profession, the Sisters stand before the altar and sing "Take, Lord, Receive" with the choir, expressing their spirit of self-giving and joy:*

***Take, Lord, Receive***

Take, Lord, receive, all my liberty,  
my memory, understanding, my entire will.

**Refrain:**

Give me only Your love and Your grace;  
That's enough for me.  
Your love and Your grace are enough for me.

Take, Lord, receive, all I have and possess.  
You have given all to me; now I return it.

**Refrain**

Take, Lord, receive, all is Yours now:  
Dispose of it wholly according to Your Will.

**Refrain**



*The Sisters kneel for the solemn consecration prayer while the congregation remains standing.*

## **SOLEMN CONSECRATION OF THE PROFESSED**

*Holy Mother Church confirms, by a liturgical consecration, the religious profession. She implores the heavenly Father to pour forth in abundance upon the professed the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*

**Bishop Paprocki, with hands extended over them, says the prayer of blessing:**

Father in heaven,  
our desire to serve You is itself Your gift  
and our perseverance needs Your guiding hand.  
How right it is that we should sing Your praise.

With boundless love You created the human family  
through Your Word, in the Holy Spirit,  
and lifted it up into communion with Yourself;  
You make the human family Your bride  
radiant with Your own likeness,  
adorned with the gift of everlasting life.

When Your bride, deceived by the evil one,  
broke faith with You, You did not abandon her.  
With everlasting love You renewed with Your servant Noah the  
covenant You made with Adam.  
Then You chose Abraham, the man of faith,  
to be the father of a people  
more numerous than the stars of heaven.  
By the hand of Moses You sealed a covenant  
with them in the tables of the law.  
Throughout the ages there arose from this favored people  
holy women renowned for devotion and courage,  
justice and faith.

In the fullness of time You raised up  
the Holy Virgin from the stock of Jesse.  
The Holy Spirit was to come upon her, and Your power

was to overshadow her, making her  
the Immaculate Mother of the world's Redeemer.

He became poor, humble, and obedient,  
the source and pattern of all holiness.  
He formed the Church into His bride, loving it  
with love so great that He gave Himself up for it  
and sanctified it in His blood.

Father, in Your loving wisdom  
You have singled out many of Your daughters  
to be disciples espoused to Christ  
and to receive the honor of His love.  
Holy Church shines with their rich variety,  
a bride adorned with jewels, a queen robed in grace,  
a mother rejoicing in her children.  
Father, we earnestly pray You: send the fire of the  
Holy Spirit into the hearts of Your daughters  
to keep alive within them the holy desire  
He has given them.

Lord, may the glory of Baptism and holiness of life  
shine in their hearts.  
Strengthened by the vows of their consecration, may they be  
always one with You in loving fidelity  
to Christ, their only Bridegroom.  
May they cherish the Church as their mother  
and love the whole world as God's creation,  
teaching all people to look forward in joy and hope  
to the good things of heaven.

Lord, holy Father, guide the steps of Your servants  
and guard them on their pilgrimage through life.  
When they come at last to the throne of Christ the King,  
may they not fear Him as their judge,  
but hear the voice of their Bridegroom  
lovingly inviting them to the wedding feast of heaven.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
**All:** Amen



*Please be seated.*

## **BESTOWAL OF THE INSIGNIA OF PERPETUAL PROFESSION**

*The ring externally signifies the perpetual dedication to God that the Sisters have made.*

*The choir and congregation together sing the insignia antiphon as the Sister approaches Bishop Paprocki. In between each Sister's bestowal, the Royal Wedding Psalm 45 is sung by the cantors, followed by the antiphon again at the end.*

### **Insignia Antiphon: Psalm 45(44), Brown**

Mode VIII



I am be-tro-thed to him Who is Son of the e-ternal Fa-ther  
3  
off-spring of the Vir-gin Mo-ther and Sav-ior of the whole world.

**Bishop Paprocki places the ring on the finger of each Sister and says:**

Take this ring as the seal of the Holy Spirit, a sign of the everlasting covenant between Christ and you. God, Who is faithful, bless you ✠ the Father, ✠ the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**Each Sister responds:** Amen.

## STATEMENT OF ADMISSION

### **Mother M. Mediatrix addresses the New Final Professed Sisters:**

Dear Sisters, in the name of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George, I accept you as full members of our Congregation. From now on, you share in all the privileges and duties with us. Therefore, in the spirit of St. Francis and our foundress, Mother Mary Anselma, fulfill your special mission according to the Constitutions of our Congregation. Be always ready in obedience to God's call, serving Christ in our Community and in the sick, poor, and needy of every condition. Let us pray for one another.

**All the members of the religious family manifest their assent, saying:** Amen.

### **All Sisters continue saying:**

Lord, we want always to be open to receive the love which our Redeemer seeks to give to the world in the Holy Spirit. We want to make Your merciful love visible in our service. This we ask through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Francis. Amen.

*The Sisters return to their places, and Mass continues.*



## Liturgy of the Eucharist



### Offertory Antiphon Processional: A Sweet Holocaust Prayer over the Offerings



1&6. Lord, let our sac - ri - fice come be - fore you,  
 2. How blest the man who has trust - ed in God;  
 3. By your great won - ders re - vealed, might - y One;  
 4. My de - light, O God, is to do your will;  
 5. With my whole heart, Lord, your name will I praise;



1&6. A sweet hol - o - caust that's pleas - ing and true.  
 2. Fear and shame gone by the strength of his nod.  
 3. There is no e - qual to your glo - ry won.  
 4. Writ - ten in my heart your law to ful - fill.  
 5. Grat - i - tude, thank - ful - ness, all of my days.



1&6. Like thou - sands of lambs may it be to - day;  
 2. Let them all be glad who in you a - bide;  
 3. Hol - o - causts sin off - er - ings, you sought not;  
 4. Sing - ing of your right - eou - ness and loy - al - ty;  
 5. Praise to our God who is Fa - ther and Son,



1&6. An off - 'ring in love from those on their way.  
 2. Your mer - cy, sal - va - tion be mag - ni - fied.  
 3. Ra - ther a hum - ble heart should be our lot.  
 4. I come bowed be - fore your great as - semb - ly.  
 5. Spir - it of Love, Tri - une God, Ho - ly One.

*Text: Offertory Antiphon for Rite of Profession; Sicut in holocaust, Dan 3:40-45  
 Gregorian Missal, Psalm 40: 6-7, 9-10 Adapted Luke Massery and Sr. Mary George Brown © 2024  
 Tune: SLANE 10 10 10 10*

*Original Antiphon: As a holocaust of rams and bullocks, and of thousands of fatted lambs,  
 so let our sacrifice be in your sight on this day, that it may be pleasing unto you. For there is no shame for those who put their trust in you, O Lord.*

## Holy, Holy

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav'n and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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## Memorial Acclamation

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your  
Death, O Lord, un - til you come a - gain.

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## Great Amen

## Our Father *chanted*

## Lamb of God

Owen Alstott

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the  
world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace.

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# **Guidelines for Receiving Communion**

## **For Catholics**

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

## **For our fellow Christians**

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (Jn 17:21).

Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 §4). Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of Communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 §3).

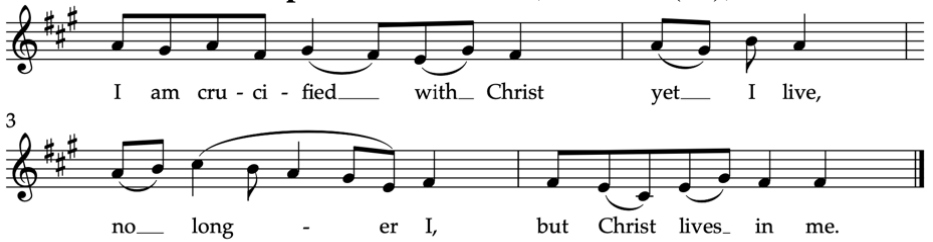
## **For those not receiving Holy Communion**

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

## **For non-Christians**

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

**Communion Antiphon: Gal 2:19-20, Psalm 34(33), Weber**



I am cru - ci - fied with Christ yet I live,  
no long - er I, but Christ lives in me.

**Post Communion Song: *Fairest Lord Jesus* sung by the Sisters' Choir (arr. Craig Courtney)**



*Following the Prayer after Communion, the new temporary professed Sisters and the new perpetual professed Sisters kneel before Bishop Paprocki.*

*Please kneel.*

## **SOLEMN BLESSING**

**Bishop Paprocki, with hands extended, prays:**

Dear Sisters, through your Profession in this religious Congregation, you have become members of the great Franciscan family. So, I ask for the Blessing of the Triune God with the words with which St. Francis himself often blessed his brethren:

“May the Lord bless you and keep you;  
May the Lord let His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord uncover His face to you  
and bring you peace.  
May the Lord bless you.”  
*(Numbers 6:24-26)*

**All:** Amen.



*The Sisters return to their pews.*

*Please stand.*

### **Apostolic Blessing for the Jubilee Year**

*The Holy See has authorized the Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield in Illinois, to impart the Papal Blessing at the conclusion of the Holy Mass offered on the occasion of this Jubilee Year for those in attendance or watching via livestream.*

*The Apostolic Blessing carries with it a plenary (or full) indulgence, as long as the recipient makes a sacramental confession of sins, receives the Eucharist, and prays for the intentions of the Pope (praying a Hail Mary and Our Father for the Holy Father's intentions is suggested), and is free of attachment to sin. These acts "may be carried out several days preceding or following the performance of the prescribed works. But, it is more fitting that Communion and the prayer for the Pope's intentions take place on the day the work is performed". (Handbook of Indulgences, Norms for Indulgences, 23.3)*

### **Deacon:**

The Most Reverend Father Thomas John, by the grace of God and the Apostolic See, Bishop of this holy Church of Springfield in Illinois, will give the (apostolic) blessing with a plenary indulgence, in the name of the Roman Pontiff, to all present who are truly penitent and have confessed their sins and received Holy Communion.

Pray to God for our Most Holy Father, Pope Francis, our Bishop Thomas John, and for holy Mother Church and strive, by holiness of life, to walk in full communion with it.

**Bishop Paprocki:**     The Lord be with you.

**All:**                     And with your spirit.

### **Bishop Paprocki:**

May God bless you with every heavenly blessing,  
make you always holy and pure in his sight,  
pour out in abundance upon you the riches of his glory,  
and teach you with the words of truth;



may he instruct you in the Gospel of salvation,  
and ever endow you with fraternal charity.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.

**Bishop Paprocki:**

Through the intercession of the blessed apostles Peter and Paul, may almighty God bless you, ✠ the Father, ✠ and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Deacon:** Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Bishop Paprocki:** Saint Michael the Archangel,

**All:** defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who wander about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



**Recessional Hymn of Praise and Thanksgiving:**  
*Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*



Ho - ly God we praise Thy Name! Lord of all, we bow be - fore Thee;  
 Hark! The loud ce - les - tial hymn, An - gel choirs a - bove are rais - ing;  
 Ho - ly Fa - ther, Ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spi - rit, Three we name Thee.



All on earth thy scep - ter claim, All in heav'n a - bove a - dore Thee;  
 Cher - u - bim and Ser - a - phim In un - ceas - ing chor - us prais - ing,  
 While in es - sence on - ly One, Un - di - vi - ded God we claim Thee,



In - fin - ite Thy vast do - main, Ev - er - last ing is Thy reign.  
 Fill the heav'ns with sweet a - ccord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord!  
 And a - dor - ing bend the knee, While we own the my - ster - y.



In - fi - nite Thy vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is Thy reign.  
 Fill the heav'ns with sweet a - ccord: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!  
 And a - dor - ing bend the knee, While we own the my - ster - y.

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 Lectionary for Mass, Volume IV, 2001. International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation.



*The rings for the perpetually professed Sisters have been blessed with the following prayer:*

***Blessing of the Rings***

Let us pray: Creator and Preserver of mankind, Giver of spiritual grace, and liberal Donor of salvation to men, pour forth Your blessing ✠ upon these rings, that those who wear them, being fortified by heavenly strength, may keep their faith unimpaired and their fidelity unspotted. As spouses of Christ, may they preserve the purpose of virginity and persevere in perpetual chastity. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The black veils, crucifixes, and rosaries for the temporary professed Sisters have been blessed with the following prayers:*

***Blessing of the Black Veils***

Let us pray: Father, Giver of all good gifts and bountiful Bestower of all blessings, we humbly ask You in Your mercy to graciously bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ these veils, which Your servants desire to put on as signs by which the religious state is to be known, and that they may be recognized among the other virgins as dedicated to You. May these veils be the emblems of lowliness of heart and separation from the world, by which Your servants are visibly to be instructed of their holy purpose. May they, under Your protection, preserve the virtue of holy chastity that they have received through Your inspiration, and may they be clothed with happy immortality. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Blessing of the Crucifixes***

Let us pray: We ask You, holy Lord, Almighty Father, Eternal God, to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ these crucifixes that they may be an effective remedy for mankind and an enrichment in faith. May they contribute to the progress in good works and to the saving of souls, and may they be a consolation and protection against the snares of the enemy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Blessing of the Rosaries***

Let us pray: Almighty and merciful God, we ask You in Your kindness to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ these rosaries, which are dedicated to the Seven Joys of the Mother of Your Son. We ask that You would pour upon them such great strength of the Holy Spirit that everyone who says them, or takes them with him, or keeps them reverently in his house, may during this life always and everywhere be free from visible and invisible enemies. At his death may he, crowned with good works, receive the grace to be presented to You by the glorious Virgin Mary. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The habits and white veils for the new novices have been blessed with the following prayers:*

***Blessing of the Habit***

Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, You have deigned to put on the garb of our mortality, and to be wrapped in swaddling clothes in the manger. You have graciously inspired Your glorious Confessor, our Father St. Francis, to institute three Orders, and the Supreme Pontiffs of the Church, Your Vicars, to approve them. We humbly ask you to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ these garments, which our Father St. Francis asked his followers to wear as a badge of innocence and mortification, and as a strong armor against the world, the flesh, and the devil. May these, Your Sisters, devoutly receiving it, so clothe themselves with You that they may, in the spirit of humility, faithfully walk in the way of Your commandments until death. You live and reign, world without end. Amen.

***Blessing of the White Veil***

Let us pray: God our Savior, we ask You to bless ✠ and sanctify ✠ with Your right hand these veils that Your servants are about to put on their heads, for love of You and Your Mother, the ever Blessed Virgin Mary. May they, by Your protection, always with equal purity of body and mind, preserve that which is mystically signified thereby: that when, with the prudent virgins, they come to the everlasting recompense of the saints, they may also be worthy to enter, conducted by You, to the nuptials of endless felicity. You live and reign, world without end. Amen.





PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA

Prot. No. 828/21/I


**DECREE**

The Apostolic Penitentiary, by the power granted in a special manner by Our Most Holy Father in Christ, Pope Francis, through Divine Providence, kindly grants to the Most Excellent and Reverend Father, Thomas John Paprocki, Bishop of Springfield in Illinois, that, on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the American Province of the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of St. George the Martyr, on a day chosen for the benefit of the faithful, after the celebration of the Divine Sacrifice, he may impart to all the faithful present, who are truly penitent and driven by charity, and who have participated in the same sacred rites, the **Papal Blessing** with the attached *plenary indulgence*, to be gained under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff).

The faithful who devoutly receive the **Papal Blessing**, even if, for a reasonable cause, they are not physically present at the sacred rites, provided that they follow the rites devoutly through television or radio broadcast, will be able to obtain the *plenary indulgence*, in accordance with the norm of the law.

Notwithstanding any contrary provisions.

Given in Rome, from the offices of the Apostolic Penitentiary,  
on the 23rd day of December, in the year of Our Lord 2021.

  
MAURUS Card. PIACENZA  
*Paenitentarius Maior*

  
CHRISTOPHORUS NYKIEL  
*Regens*





