

September, 2018

For Members of the Worldwide Father Peyton Guild

United in Prayer for Spiritual Cause



From the Vice Postulator/Guild Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin a new month and the autumn season, I hope this letter finds you well. Just like all families, so the Church of Jesus Christ, from time to time, has to navigate its way through rough seas. During these times, it's easy to feel like the disciples in the boat being tossed about by the turbulent waves. They are in fear even as they see a ghost who turns out to be Jesus walking toward them on the rough seas. It is only when he has calmed the seas that they are able to hear his message, "Fear not!" As I've reflected on the rough waters through which the Church is now sailing and prayed about what each of us can do, I thought of God's universal call to holiness and the example of Father Peyton's lifelong reliance upon prayer.

The good news is that we are not without recourse and resources when turbulence afflicts our immediate family, our parish, or the broader Catholic family. Jesus and our Blessed Mother are with us. Father Peyton knew difficult economic and behavioral challenges, especially in his childhood; yet he never lost hope. If you take a look at the long history of the Church, at each time of crisis God raised up great figures of holiness and heroic virtue: Saint Benedict in the 5th century, Saints Peter Damian and Bernard of Clairvaux in the eleventh century, Saints Francis of Assisi and Dominic in the 13th century, Saints Teresa of Avila and Ignatius of Loyola in the 16th century, and Saints Teresa of Calcutta and John Paul the II in the 20th century.

All of these great figures, whom the Lord called to lead a reform of his Church, share a love for the Lord Jesus, our Blessed Mother and a commitment to constant communion with God through prayer. However, in the midst of the turmoil, we are often like the disciples overwhelmed by fear and sadness. This is precisely when we wisely turn to the healing power of prayer. In a memorable and beautiful homily, Father Pinto Paul, C.S.C., recently spoke of inviting families in trouble to sit and pray together, holding each other's hands, united in God, Our Blessed Mother, and in faith, hope and love; and to do this especially when it's hard to hold on. A young Patrick Peyton learned this lesson at home; what a gift he was given and then shared with people like you and me, and millions of others around the globe. Perhaps he is that heroic figure who can help lead the Church and all of us through the troubled seas of the 21st century. As we continue in this new month and new season, would you join me in prayer for Father Peyton's Cause, our Church, and the needs of families throughout the world? Your prayers are powerful when united with many others. Think about inviting other families, friends and neighbors to join all of us in prayer. Please let them know we would love to have contact with them by mail, email, website, or phone as listed below.

Thank you for your faith-filled support of Father Peyton's Cause and ongoing ministry. Together, united in Jesus and Our Blessed Mother, we not only weather storms but grow stronger in the love of God.

May God bless you,

Father David S. Marcham

Father David S. Marcham
Vice Postulator/Guild Director

"From my earliest memories, I saw my father with the Rosary beads in his hands and my mother holding hers. My older brothers and sisters and I knelt around them praying."

- Venerable Patrick Peyton -