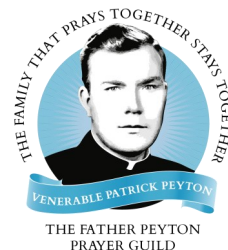


# For Members of the Worldwide Father Peyton Prayer Guild

*United in Prayer for a Spiritual Cause*



*Happy New Year!*

## Feast Days:

- Mary, The Holy Mother of God, **Jan. 1**
- The Most Holy Name of Jesus, **Jan. 3**
- Epiphany of the Lord, **Jan. 5**
- St. André Bessette, **Jan. 6**
- The Baptism of the Lord, **Jan. 12**
- St. Agnes, **Jan. 21**
- Saint Francis de Sales, **Jan. 24**
- The Conversion of St. Paul, **Jan. 25**
- Saints Timothy and Titus, **Jan. 26**
- St. Thomas Aquinas, **Jan. 28**
- St. John Bosco, **Jan. 31**

## From the Vice Postulator/Guild Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin 2020, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God. How fitting that eight days later, on January 9, we mark the birth of Patrick Peyton. A Holy Cross priest who, as a seminarian, was inspired by the Blessed Mother's intercession on his behalf when he was gravely ill with tuberculosis.

With a firm conviction that God had healed him, he sought to repay the Blessed Mother for her assistance in this Divine healing. **What followed was a mission to families around the world that would change the lives of countless people.**

This month I'd like to share with you the fruit of **Father Peyton's Family Rosary Crusades to the Philippines** through the words and photos of Father James Matthew, C.S.C., the director of Family Rosary there.



*Father Jimmy visits the children of Our Lady of Arranzazu while they gather to pray the Rosary with volunteer catechists.*

## How Did Father Peyton's Message Get to the Philippines?

Father Matthew (or Fr. Jimmy as he is better known) shared with me that the first recorded Family Rosary Crusade Unit (FRC) in the Philippines was established in 1947. It began with a parish priest giving a photo of the Blessed Mother to a young mother and teacher. The picture was from Father Peyton, and below it was written: *"Be an apostle of Our Lady of the Rosary. Spare no effort of Mind or Body or Heart to make Rosary Day Every-day in Every Family Circle."* Mrs. Lily Soriano Pujol would take this message to heart and make it come alive in her classroom and then her parish.

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*"Sinners and saints, kings and queens, rich and poor, the learned and the unschooled, men, women, and children alike find in the Rosary the perfect prayer."*

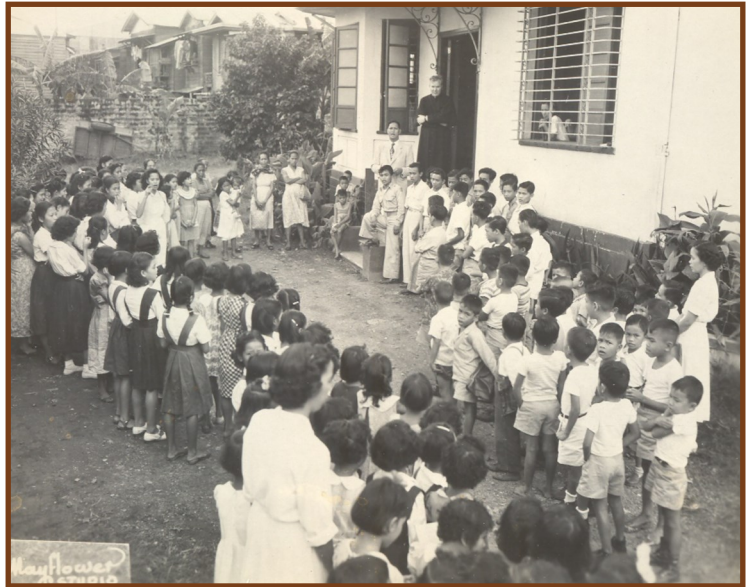
- Venerable Patrick Peyton -

Father Peyton would then come and lead the first Rosary Rally in 1951 at the request of the Dominican Fathers. This would lead to a nationwide Rally in 1959 that drew 1.5 million people to Luneta Park. With the preparation for and participation in each Rally, more people became involved in parish-based FRC units. From 1951-1985, Father Peyton would lead 18 Rosary Rallies with a total attendance of 6.4 million people! Over these years, Father Peyton's message that: "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together" took hold and when combined with the love of the Blessed Mother, resulted in radio and television programs that encouraged and informed the faithful.

### **How Do the FRC Units Work and How Are They Connected to the Father Peyton Prayer Guild?**

Today these efforts continue through our National Family Rosary office led by Father James (Jimmy) Matthew, C.S.C., and his dedicated staff and volunteers. Father Jimmy explained that FRC units typically meet monthly on the first Saturday at their home parish. Members gather at dawn for a procession in honor of "Mama" Mary that leads to the Holy Mass, the prayer of the Rosary in which some units pray for the Beatification and Intercession of Venerable Patrick Peyton. Father Jimmy has made it a priority to visit three units per month. He encourages the membership and, when needed, introduces the prayers of Intercession and Beatification/Canonization. The meetings also include planning sessions and breakfast.

Father Jimmy expressed his gratitude for all involved in the works of mercy done by FRC units that include: feeding the poor and homeless, visitation of the sick, religious education, medical and dental missions, family counseling and support groups, prison ministry, and youth-oriented programs all done to support the family and parish life. He noted that each unit that prays the Rosary and for the intercession and beatification/canonization of Venerable Patrick Peyton is a member of the Father Peyton Prayer Guild united in prayer with members around the world.



*Father Peyton, on the step at top right, speaking to a group of students and teachers in the Philippines in the 1950's.*



*The FRC Unit members attentively listen to Bishop Teodoro Bacani, Jr., esteemed speaker for the 10th General Assembly.*

On a personal note, Father Jimmy shared that through his priestly ministry at Family Rosary and with the FRC units, he has grown in his love for the Blessed Mother and admiration of witness of Father Peyton. Father Jimmy states: **"I have begun to see new signs of the power of Mother Mary's intercession in the healing ministry that I am involved with, and the power of the Rosary is strongly felt in my present life, more than ever before."**

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### What Intentions Could Guild Members Pray For?

Father Jimmy asked for prayers to preserve and nourish family life, instruction in the faith that leads all but especially the young to know and value the presence of God and Our Blessed Mother in their lives. He also asked that we pray that many more people will come to learn of Father Peyton's life and ministry, the FRC so that they will grow in confidence that "Mama" Mary is ever-present, guiding and assisting us in our work for her son, Jesus.

### A Word of Thanks:

On a personal note, in 2015, I had the privilege of visiting Father Roque D'Acosta, C.S.C., and leading a retreat for the leaders of the Family Rosary Crusade Units (FRC). I was inspired by the faith of these men and women and young people who traveled from the many islands and mainland to grow in their faith of God, Our Blessed Mother, and knowledge of the life and ministry of Venerable Patrick Peyton. Thank you to all of you and now Father Jimmy Matthew, C.S.C., for continuing this great work and uniting us in prayer for a spiritual cause for families and the Beatification/Canonization of Venerable Patrick Peyton.

In Jesus and Mary,

*Father David S. Marcham*

Father David S. Marcham  
Vice Postulator/ Guild Director



*Father Wilfred Raymond, C.S.C., President, and Father Pinto Paul, C.S.C., Director of Family Ministries, MA, USA, join Father Roque D'Costa, C.S.C., Provincial of the Fathers of Holy Cross, South India, and FRC Executive Director Father Jimmy Mathew, C.S.C., at the October Rosary Rally organized by FRC Antipolo under the leadership of their diocesan priest coordinator, Father Gerry Evarola.*



*The Bishop and priests from Antipolo and Holy Cross stand side by side with Marian devotees for the culminating Mass of the Rosary Rally.*



*The FRC-ICC Unit, in cooperation with the parish of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral in Cubao, organized a living Rosary in celebration of the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary on October 8, 2019.*