

October 2021

NEWSLETTER

Sacred Heart Fraternity, Austin, Texas



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Happy 65th Birthday to Sacred Heart Fraternity

Happy birthday fraternity! This month at our fraternity meeting we will celebrate our fraternity's 65th birthday. Our fraternity was canonically established October 14, 1956. We will have a birthday cake to go with our usual meal after mass with Friar Florencio. Be ready to sing happy birthday.

This month at our Fraternity meeting:

The meeting will be held in classroom 3 in the education building behind the church. Initial formation will be at 10:30. Karla and Mark will review chapter 19 of the Franciscan Journey and will meet with Ron. Charlie will review chapter 1 of the Franciscan Journey and will meet with Pat.

Ongoing formation will begin at 1:00. We will continue with the Holy Father's encyclical Fratelli Tutti. We will discuss chapter 7. We will also discuss admonition 21.

Holy Mass will be celebrated by Friar Fr. Florencio Rodriguez TOR at 12:00 noon followed by a meal in classroom 3 before ongoing formation.



Food Pantry

We will open the food pantry at 9:00 am and keep it open until 10:30. Covid rules and procedures apply while we operate the pantry. Masks must be worn. It is a drive through only. No one receiving food will be allowed to leave their car. We are to take a box of food to the car and place the box in their trunk or back seat. If they are a walk up, social distancing applies.



OCTOBER: MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

By tradition, the Catholic Church dedicates each month of the year to certain devotion. The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. October includes the Feast of Our Lady

**The best way to celebrate the month is,
of course, to pray the Rosary.**

But why is it that on October 7th the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary? On **October 7, 1571**, a great victory over the mighty Turkish fleet was won by Catholic naval forces primarily from Spain, Venice, and Genoa under the command of Don Juan of Austria. It was the last battle at sea between "oared" ships, which featured the most powerful navy in the world, a Moslem force with between 12,000 to 15,000 Christian slaves as rowers.

The patchwork team of Catholic ships was powered by the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Knowing that the Christian forces were at a distinct material disadvantage, the holy pontiff, **St. Pope Pius V** called for all of Europe to pray the Rosary for victory.

We know today that the victory was significant, prevented the **Islamic invasion** of Europe, and evidenced the Hand of God working through Our Lady.

At the hour of victory, St. Pope Pius V, who was hundreds of miles away at the Vatican, is said to have gotten up from a meeting, went over to a window, and exclaimed with supernatural radiance: **"The Christian fleet is victorious!"** and shed tears of thanksgiving to God. What you may not know is that one of three admirals commanding the Catholic forces at Lepanto was Andrea Doria.

He carried a small copy of Mexico's Our Lady of Guadalupe into battle. This image is now enshrined in the Church of San Stefano in Aveto, Italy.

Not many know that at the Monastery of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Spain, one can view a huge warship lantern that was captured from the Moslems in the Battle of Lepanto.

In Rome, look up to the ceiling of S. Maria in Aracoeli and behold decorations in gold taken from the Turkish galleys.

October: Month of The Holy Rosary
(continued)

In the Doges' Palace in Venice, Italy, one can witness a giant Islamic flag that is now a trophy from a vanquished Turkish ship from the Victory.

At Saint Mary Major Basilica in Rome, close to the tomb of the great St. Pope Pius V, one was once able to view yet another Islamic flag from the Battle, until 1965, when it was returned to Istanbul in an intended friendly token of concord.

At Lepanto, the Victory over the Moslems was won by the faithful praying the Rosary. Even though they had superior numbers, the Turks really were overmatched. Blessed Padre Pio, the Spiritual Father of the Blue Army, said: "The Rosary is the weapon," and how right he was!

The Battle of Lepanto was at first celebrated liturgically as "Our Lady of Victory." Later, the feast of October 7th was renamed "Our Lady of the Rosary" and extended throughout the Universal Church by Pope Clement XI in 1716 (who canonized Pope Pius V in 1712).

And with that we are back to Fatima, Portugal where Our Lady, when asked her name, said: "I am the Lady of the Rosary." At Fatima, Our Lady taught us to pray the Rosary every day.

Heaven presented its peace plan at Fatima and truly gave us hope for the world.

Conversions were promised at Fatima: the conversion of sinners; the conversion of Russia; and what also appears to be the conversion of Islam.

Our Lady of The Holy Rosary, pray for us!

