

**ENTHRONEMENT GUILD
NEWSLETTER
75th ANNIVERSARY
EDITION – MAY 2021 –**

The year 2020 marked the 75th Anniversary of the Enthronement Guild of the Sacred Heart in the Diocese of Scranton. The Guild was established by Bishop Hafey at Marywood College in 1945.

The Feast of the Sacred Heart Will Be Celebrated with a Streaming Mass

The Feast of the Sacred Heart is a very special day for the Enthronement Guild. A streaming Mass will be celebrated by our Spiritual Moderator, Fr. Dan Toomey for everyone to experience. The Mass will be streamed on Facebook on the Vigil of the Feast, June 10th at 6 PM on the Gate of Heaven and Our Lady of Victory (Dallas) Facebook Page. It can also be viewed after the Mass. Please join us for this celebration as we gather virtually to honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus who provides us with His love and grace.

The Annual Dinner is Cancelled for 2021

We are announcing that the Annual Dinner has been cancelled again this year. Although things are beginning to open from the pandemic lockdowns and restrictions, you undoubtedly are aware the Dinner requires months of planning. With the notice just being released on lifting Pennsylvania gathering restrictions people seem to be slowly venturing out even to attend Mass. The consensus was that we should wait until next year to plan the Mass and Dinner on the Vigil of the Feast of the Sacred Heart.



Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass to be Held at the Oblates Seminary Chapel

Fr. Joseph Sibilano, OSJ will celebrate a special Mass at St. Joseph's Oblates Seminary Chapel in honor of the Feast of the Sacred Heart on Friday, June 11th at 7 PM. This is an annual

tradition established over 7 years ago at the Oblates. All are welcome to attend.

News Flash! Enthronement Mass Scheduled

We are pleased to announce our first scheduled Enthronement Mass since early 2020. The Mass will be held at St. Patrick's Church in Milford at 7 PM on Thursday, July 8th. Members of the Enthronement Guild Board will speak at Masses there on the weekend of June 26/27 and provide information on Enthronement as well as register those wishing to receive Enthronement Packets. Anyone who would like to attend the Mass or to receive an Enthronement may contact Maria Pappa at 570-587-0805.

Many Prayers are Requested

We continue to receive prayer requests from members and friends of the Enthronement Guild and we are most happy to pray for the needs of those who make the requests. A list of all special intentions is compiled and sent out to Guild Board members who remember them in their prayers daily. Intentions are also included in the monthly Mass offered by Fr. Dan Toomey. If you have prayer requests, please send them in the envelope provided.



June 22nd, 2017

Most Rev. Bishop Joseph Bambera, DD, JCL renewed the Enthronement of the Diocese to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary

Priests pictured above left to right are Fr. Joseph Sibilano, OSJ, Msgr. John Esseff, Bishop Bambera, Fr. Dan Toomey, Spiritual Moderator of the Guild, and Fr. Lee Havey, CP. Pictured standing behind are Enthronement Board Members along with Sr. Romaine Krug, IHM, Sr. Celesta Sinisi, IHM and Sr. Patricia Hauser, IHM.

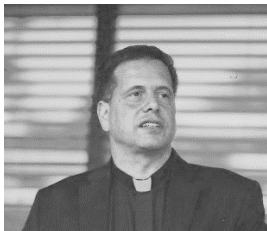


A Brief History of the Board Since 2004 **by Ernie Pappa**

Maria and I attended the Feast of the Sacred Heart Mass and Dinner together with Maria's Mom, Carol, and Dad, Raymond Wojewodski in June of 2002. Sitting with us at Dinner was a Seminarian named Daniel Toomey who was not yet ordained. Little did we know that we would be working with him on behalf of the Sacred Heart for nearly twenty years. I recall that we connected immediately with him and we were enthusiastic about his upcoming ordination as a priest in our Diocese. Shortly after Fr. Toomey was ordained, he took over the reins from Msgr. John Esseff as Spiritual Moderator of the Enthronement Guild.

In 2004 we joined the Board of Directors and in November, a new slate of officers was put forward which placed Carol as President, me as Vice-President, Maria as Secretary, and Sr. Romaine Krug, IHM as Treasurer. Sister Celesta was Sister Moderator at the time and Father Toomey, of course, Spiritual Moderator. There was a wonderful feeling of comradeship and mission as we set off to spread the message and grace of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary in the Diocese.

We began by researching two Enthronement Guilds, Syracuse, NY and Philadelphia, PA. Both groups had built a strong following and were conducting many Enthronements in their respective Dioceses.



As the Board met to work on a way that would be most appropriate for our Diocese, we were keenly aware of the need to make Enthronement very accessible to the faithful. In the words of Fr. Toomey, "The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart in someone's life, home, family or business needs to be available to anyone who desires to ask Jesus to be the King of their lives. Our Guild needs to be dedicated to getting this message out."

"In so many instances there have been many requirements placed on a family or individual before they were permitted to be a part of the Enthronement Ceremony. Our goal must be to eliminate any artificial barrier to Enthronement and make it available to any sincere person or family."

As a result of these discussions and research under Fr. Toomey's leadership we came up with idea of holding Enthronement Masses. The concept was simple and straightforward - people could attend the Enthronement Mass and receive the necessary information, including images of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Certificate of Enthronement. The Certificate could be signed by Fr. Toomey, another priest or a Board member. It could then be framed by those receiving Enthronements.

Prayers of Enthronement would be said at Mass and the Individual or Family would go home and place the images or their own image or statue in a special place of honor and pray additional prayers that would be included in the Enthronement Booklet found in the information packet provided to the family before Mass.

Following up on our early discussions and Fr. Toomey's suggestions, the Board felt that 'Outreach' was the main focus of our Apostolate and that we needed to reach out to the Diocese and offer Enthronement in this Mass format. Church bulletins, The Catholic Light, CTV-Catholic Television and other appropriate media such as JMJ Catholic Radio would be utilized.

Fr. Toomey further noted, "We understand that the Enthronement of the Sacred Heart Ceremony is not a Sacrament, but a Sacramental of the church. We desire to avail this opportunity to whoever desires this experience. The Enthronement is an experience of transformation for the individual, family, or business. It is a moment when people declare that Jesus Christ is the Center of their lives. The Enthronement has the charism of being able to touch the hearts and minds of the individual and family involved and call them into a deeper relationship with our Lord. The family and home become a place of prayer and faith through the Enthronement process. The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary help us to grow closer to our Lord and continue to develop our faith and prayer life with the Lord, as we declare Jesus Christ as our King."

We had the additional grace and benefit of having in place an Enthronement organization that had been offering Enthronements since the inception of the Diocesan Guild in 1945. Our Sister Moderator, Sr. Celesta Sinisi, IHM had been serving the Guild since 1994 and offered me training and guidance since I was asked to serve as the Toastmaster for the Annual Dinner in 2003. Sr. Romaine Krug, IHM served as our Treasurer and had been on the original Enthronement team since 1945. (Sr. Romaine will celebrate her 108th Birthday this year) With our dynamic IHM presence as a seasoned team and a new vision, we were armed for a new phase and direction for the Guild.

Many sincere and faithful people were also attracted to our Board to assist in our outreach and in organizing the Enthronement Masses. Bill and Debbie Orner brought organizational skills and Website

expertise that served to provide us with our website www.scrantondiocesansacredheartguild.com. Debbie has been serving as our Secretary. Jane O'Neill, our Treasurer, came to us with many years of experience in governmental and IHM organizational work. Maria's organizational experience and event planning and my background in diocesan development, PR and fundraising added to the wealth of combined skills provided by our board members.

Truly, it was the perfect storm for bringing about a tremendous outreach and growth for the Enthronement Guild Apostolate. In the words of Sr. Celesta, "For the 20 years in which my service as Moderator continued, the journey of grace deepened as the outreach to the people of God through the Enthronement which brought His love and the love of His Mother to so many families."

We have been so blessed by a caring and engaged Board that has supplied support and the willingness to put in time and effort to get the job done when necessary.

Beginning in November of 2004, Carol Wojewodski, Maria's Mom, served as President bringing her many years of participation with the Guild and a deep spirituality. I served as Vice-President with her for three years until I became President and served for six years. Then, Kim Lastauskas took the reins as President along with Michelle Ryman as Vice-President. They were focused on outreach and under their leadership we reached out to many parishes with Enthronement Masses. Steven Englot was the next President with Patrick Williams as Vice-President. Together Steve and Patrick brought to the Guild a strong spirituality and steady commitment to our mission to spread the message of Enthronement. And now Patrick serves as President. An article about Patrick appears later in the Newsletter.

It is clear that many people have been willing to roll up their spiritual sleeves and provide what is necessary to help bring the love and grace of the two hearts to hundreds of individuals and families throughout the Diocese. Our Board over the past 17 years continues to build upon nearly 60 years of work done by so many that came before.

Music has played a large part in our Enthronement Masses. I have served as music director since the beginning of our tenure in 2004. We have focused on involving the congregation through upbeat contemporary music led by guitar. The Sacred Heart Singers was formed in 2008 and has involved a number of wonderful singers and instrumentalists over the years with as many as 10 singers working together to make beautiful uplifting music. Jennifer Michel assisted in directing with me for a number of years until she left to focus on some of her own projects in 2018. Vanessa James and Robert Zito have shared their talents and have been key members of the group for many years. We look forward to the group singing again once restrictions are lifted.

As Sr. Celesta anticipated retirement, she began to train Maria to take over for her as Coordinator. When the time came for Sr. Celesta to step down in 2014, Maria was prepared to take over as Coordinator of the Guild and was appointed by Bishop Bambera. Only Sr. Celesta knew how much needed to be done behind the scenes to keep things running - but all is joyful work on behalf of the Sacred Hearts. And so, it continues...



A bump in the road occurred in Fall of 2017 when the IHM Center Leadership Team determined they needed the space we used for our office for another purpose. We needed a new home and as always, God provides. Fr. Joseph Sibilano, OSJ, a strong supporter of our Apostolate offered us office space and meeting space for our Board meetings as well as the use of the Chapel as needed. At the end of December 2017 we moved in and the Oblates of St. Joseph became the new home of the Enthronement Guild of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. Fr. Paul McDonnell, OSJ, who became Rector of the Oblates in July of 2020, has graciously continued to support our work at the Oblates.

We have been on quite a journey as an Apostolate and we look forward to serving the Two Hearts into the future. Our membership has been and continues to be very generous in offering prayer and financial support for our work and we are most grateful. We are a spiritual family under the care of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

I will close with another quote by Sr. Celesta, "The greatest grace is the gratitude offered to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary for the continuity of the Apostolate of the Enthronement by the Spiritual Moderator, Father Daniel Toomey and the dedicated Board Members guided by Patrick Williams, Board President, our Coordinator, Maria Pappa, and Ernie Pappa, Director of Communications. May the Two Hearts continue to bless all members and friends of the Enthronement Guild in many ways! "



*Patrick Williams and Fr. Dan Toomey
after his induction as President*

Our President - Patrick Williams

Patrick Williams served as Vice President of the Guild since September 2015 and has been President of the Enthronement Guild Board since November of 2019.

We would like to share a little of Patrick's story with you our members and friends. Patrick began his journey with the Sacred Heart in response to an advertisement for devotion to the Sacred Heart at First Friday devotions at Sacred Hearts Church in South Scranton. The Ad was placed by the Men of the Sacred Heart. Shortly after attending the event, he was inducted into the Men of the Sacred Heart at the National Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Harleigh, Pennsylvania on June 14th, 2001.

Patrick shared this about his time with the Sacred Heart group, "Time with the Men of the Sacred Heart has helped me grow spiritually as I experienced the grace flowing from our Savior's Heart into my life. It was truly a special time of faith and prayer."

It seems that those experiences were only a beginning for Patrick. He kept crossing paths with Sr. Celesta Sinisi, IHM, Moderator of the Enthronement Guild and in 2008 decided to accept her invitation to attend an Enthronement Board meeting at the IHM Center. Later in the year he joined as a Board member and the next chapter of his Sacred Heart journey began.

There is no doubting Patrick's leadership skills and charisma when one is around him. He has served in many capacities on the Board, Toastmaster at the Annual Dinner, Speaker and Outreach Coordinator.

According to Patrick, "the Enthronement Guild is more like a spiritual family than merely an organization. I have felt at home in the company of Board members and Sr. Celesta, IHM as well as Fr. Dan Toomey our Spiritual Moderator. What a beautiful way to serve the faith and spread devotion to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary!" Our gratitude to Patrick for his inspiration and leadership.

Rosary Rally Held at the Oblates

A Rosary Rally took place at the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary on Saturday, May 15th. The Rally marked the beginning of the Marian Devotion Ministries 2021 Fatima Journey for the 104th Anniversary of Fatima

when Our Lady appeared to the children Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta from May through October of 1917. More than 70 people were in attendance. The Rally was held at the Grotto outside in the beautiful sunshine and children from the St. Joseph Homeschoolers, directed by Theresa Stec, launched a Balloon Rosary which was admired by all. Everyone participated in prayers and hymns in honor of Our Lady of Fatima. Mass was held afterwards celebrated by Fr. Joseph Sibilano, OSJ.



Marian Devotion Ministries, a ministry dedicated to leading the faithful to Jesus through the Heart of His Mother, also hosted a Rosary Rally at Noon on May 15th at St. Lucy's Shrine (Scranton) in the rear of the church. Every month through October, Rosary Gatherings will be offered at different locations to be announced. Every third Monday of the month throughout the year, a musical Rosary and Chaplet is held at the Oblates of St. Joseph Chapel from 6 to 7 PM. All are invited.

Membership Mailing

Our annual membership mailing was sent out in January. If you have not sent yours in yet, please endeavor to do so. Thank You!

Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

O Most Holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore You. I love You, and with a lively sorrow for my sins, I offer You this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure and wholly obedient to Your will. Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in You and for You. Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions, give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, Your blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Amen



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