

## I Will Never Leave You Orphans By Deacon Wigton

I grew up believing that the Eucharist was truly the body and blood of Jesus. My mother said it was, and that was enough for me. I went to school, learned a lot of stuff. I loved science. Science deals with the hard, cold facts. Everything can be analyzed, tested, looked at from a thousand different vantage points. There is not much argument when we talk about gravitational forces, atomic energy, mathematical formulas, and chemical reactions. There is a great deal of security and dependability, in fact. It gives the 'Left Brainers' a sense of security. Suddenly the Eucharist did not fit that description. It looked like bread and wine, but it was not. How is that even possible? How unsettling to the scientific mind. I wasn't the only one with doubts. Lots of other college kids, especially those in the sciences were having trouble. Even the idea of there being a God came into question. Was God just a concept to explain the things that we just hadn't quite figured out yet?



Years later I met Jesus. He knocked on the door of my heart. He got into my boat. He was a person! He was not a figment of my imagination! He was real! Those who had not yet met Him could never convince me otherwise. I had met Him personally! Just because they had not met Him, did not make Him less real. It was simple. They just needed to meet Him, then they too would not be able to deny His presence.

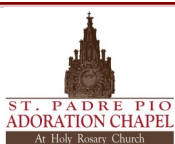
I had entered a whole other realm that I hadn't really recognized. A realm outside of the facts and figures of science. A realm unto itself where there was a new and wonderful understanding. A place where physical laws could be defied. It was a place where the blind could be cured. The lame could walk. It was a place where miracles were a part and parcel of everyday life. Jesus was not only real and

present, He was also active in our lives and wanted to be involved in everything that we do.

The idea that He would give us His flesh to eat and blood to drink, was an overwhelming concept. Yet, as God, if He decided it was necessary for eternal life, why contest it. (John 6:54). When many of the disciples left Jesus because they could not accept this shocking news, Jesus asked His apostles, "Do you also want to leave?" Peter was the one to respond, "You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." I could identify with St. Peter. He could not contest it, how could I? My mother was right, after all!

Even that was not the end of the story. Jesus had something to help the 'Left-Brainers' who needed science. Eucharistic miracles were possibly for that purpose. One that validated my new belief that Jesus was really present in the Eucharist was that of the miracle of Lanciano where at a Holy Mass in 8th century, the bread and wine visibly appeared to become Flesh and Blood. In 1970-'71, 1200 years later, scientists jumped in to analyze these specimens. This critical investigation found that they were truly flesh and blood. The flesh was determined to be live cardiac muscle that had undergone severe stresses, and the blood, also still alive, was type AB positive. The DNA of the blood matched that of the cardiac muscle. Interestingly, the shroud that covered Jesus' body after His death, and is held in Turin Italy, has also been analyzed. Blood stains on the cloth have been found to also be AB positive. This was undeniable proof that confounded the greatest of skeptics!

In Lanciano, Italy, the Eucharistic specimens have been kept in reliquaries for 12 centuries where pilgrims have come from around the world to worship them because they are truly the Body and Blood of Jesus. They are there that we might know that Jesus really did say: *"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink."* (John 6:54-55) Jesus continues to give us Himself, true food and true drink. As He promised: *"I will never leave you orphans"*. (John 14:18) He is here for us today to feed us, to nourish us, to comfort us, and sustain us. Come, let us worship!



### St. Padre Pio Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Located in the Old Convent Building at HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH  
6982 S. Schomberg Road \* Cedar, MI 49621 \* 231-228-5429 \* mail@holyrosarycedar.org  
For more information, contact: Dosie Kermode, 231-632-7834

*Faithfully Praying  
Since June, 2012  
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# HOLY ROSARY PRAYER CORNER

Prayer feeds our lives. Prayer is a gift. It is a gift because Christian Prayer is based on knowing the Lord Jesus, and having the Holy Spirit stir and move through us in prayer. Please keep these intentions in your prayers.

## Pray for those that are not able to attend Mass with us

- Jill Anderson - Home
- Ted Bodus - Woodside Assisted Living
- Betty Flaska - Maple Valley \* Gerri Galla - Local Nursing Home
- John King - Home \* Loraine Kulanda - Home
- Ann Mazurek - Home \* Kelly Priest - Woodside Asst Living
- Elizabeth Randall - Home

**Please call the office to correct & update this list.**

## *In Our Thoughts & Prayers* Recent Prayer Intentions

- Loren Wilson - Health Rehab \* Vicki Weber - Knee & Back Rehab \*
- James Mattis - Multiple Life & Health Challenges \* Mary Bauer Schaub
- Dan & Barb H - Health Issues \* Leonard Dezelski \* Rita Wilson
- Margaret Siemiantkowski - Ongoing Health Issues \* KP - Special Healing
- Joe Paladino - Serious Health Problems \* Maggie - Ongoing Health Issues
- Therese Drzewiecki Rosinski - Brain Tumor Surgery Rehab \* Dan
- Carol T. - Continued Recovery \* Leah Jones Doriot - BC Surgery Recovery
- Scott Weber - Difficult Shoulder Healing \* Drake O. - Neck Injury
- Jim Anderson - Parkinsons Complications \* Jean LaCross - Cochlear Implant 8/23
- \* Colton (20-Year-Old) - Crushed At Work \* Leonard - Seriously Ill



## FOR OUR MILITARY MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

- Ken Artz —US Air Force
- Isaiah Belanger —US Navy
- Charles Berninger —US Coast Guard
- Nicholas Bryan —US Army
- John Bunek —US Navy
- Curtis Bunek —US Navy
- Keith Castle —US Marines
- Matthew Culver —US Navy
- Timothy Fisher —US Army
- Peter Freundl —US Coast Guard
- Joshua Harris —US Coast Guard
- Christopher Kohler —MI National Guard
- Jesse Kohler —MT National Guard
- Jacob Kunde —US Air Force
- Austin McQueer —US Marines
- Collin Platts —US Army Nurse Corp
- Ryan Tondreau —US Army
- Leif Vanderwerf —US Marines
- Dr. Daniel Weber —US Army
- Tim Wigton —MI National Guard
- Andrew Zeits —US Army

Most of us will never know the sacrifices that our military servicemen and women make to serve and protect us all. But what is often overlooked is the tremendous sacrifice made by their families. Starting with the spouses, the sons & daughters - and all the way down to the parents & extended family of those that serve as well. Please keep them all in your prayers.

## Prayer for The Vocations in Our Diocese

### Seminarians:

- Jake Belanger
- John Mawby
- Mark Steck
- David Witkowski

### Religious Life:

- Sister Philomena Marie of Christ Crucified (Gianna Belanger)
- Margaret Foster



### Candidates for Diaconate:

- Jason Maday
- Neil Witkowski

Christopher Witkowski

*O Lord Jesus Christ, lead our Seminarians & Diaconates in Your unerring footsteps; so that they may serve as models of purity, possessors of wisdom and heroes of sacrifice. Teach them generosity and service; but above all, teach them to know You and to love You. ~ Amen*

## For the recently deceased & their families

- Fr. James Swiat (St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish)
- \* Kenneth Wigton \* Marilyn Rodes \* Dale Kowalkowski
- Elmer Hohnke \* Robert Feys \* Janet Sheren \* Leanne Weber

### Cancer Patients:

- Leonard Couturier \* Peter Freundl \* Martin Gallagher \* Tim Keilty
- Christopher McGlynn \* Chris Napolillo -Continued progress
- Jan Novak - Continued progress in healing
- Erin Richards Rashy \* Shelby Richter \* Francis Rosinski
- Therese Rosinski \* Craig Stallman
- Ruth Trotsky (Cancer & Parkinsons) \* Kelly Winowiecki Florip
- Tina VanderWulp \* Christi \* Danielle - breast cancer
- Dan S. \* Gabby - melanoma \* Jack - skin cancer \* Kathleen
- Lori \* Marissa \* Patricia - lung cancer \* Randy \* Steve

### \* Ongoing Prayer Intentions \*

- \* Chris Berkey - Neurological issues \*
- \* Ed Budd - Diagnosed with Agent Orange Complications \*
- \* Delores (Ditto) Couturier - stroke recovery \*
- \* Infant Joseph "Jae" Engelhardt - desperately needs heart transplant (born Jan 20) \*
- \* Toddler Henry Gauthier - Continued progress in mobility & normal development \*
- \* Lucas P. - teen - serious food allergies and EOE \*
- \* Conor Rigan - age 5 - Prayers that brain scans detect no more tumors after 6 surgeries, untold radiation & chemo treatments \*
- \* Hailie Tondreau - Hypermobility Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome \*
- \* Kayla Tondreau - Continued recovery from SJIA \*
- \* Randy W. (Buckley) - Parkinson's \*

## PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

Call Rita Wilson 231-228-5838 or Carole Jones 231-633-2111