

VENERABLE BRUNO GUILD

PROMOTING BRUNO LANTERI'S CAUSE FOR CANONIZATION

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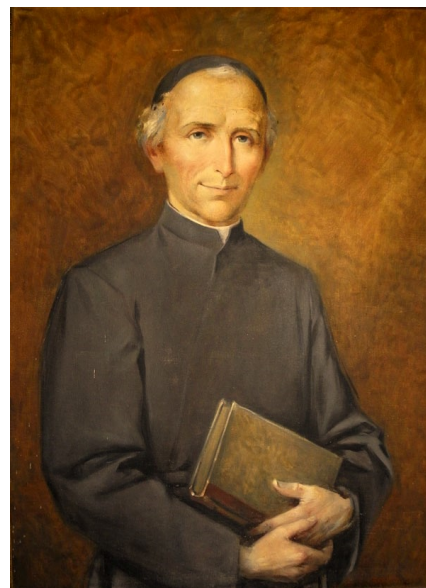
OBLATES OF THE VIRGIN MARY



From the Wilderness of Lent

Happy Lent to our friends and members of the Venerable Bruno Guild! This newsletter informs our friends, benefactors, and prayer partners of our activities as we promote Venerable Bruno's cause for canonization and share new prayer requests received through the website for Venerable Bruno (brunolanteri.org).

Please feel welcome to browse our Venerable Bruno Guild [website](#) for previous issues. In this issue you will find reflections offered by some OMV priests, the spiritual sons of Venerable Bruno. Recent prayer requests and testimonials will always be shared in our newsletter. These are shared by people who have asked us to share them with others and encourage them to pray too. We also share some news about projects in development with the Guild and ask for your prayers for their successful completion.



The reflections in this issue talk about guarding against discouragement and persevering in prayer, even when one might be weary. As we navigate the wilderness of our lives and this season of Lent, Venerable Bruno's words might offer some encouragement: "I beg you then with all the energy of my heart, not to be afraid of your past failings, but rather to let the memory of them lead you to a greater knowledge of yourself and humility before the Lord, and, at the same time, to encourage you to trust all the more in our heavenly Father, who is always so ready to welcome, forgive, and assist us." — To Ricasoli, Carteggio, II, 170 (taken from the Bruno Lanteri [website](#)).

We learned that Fr. Greg Staab, OMV passed away on March 1, 2018. Please remember him, his family, and the OMV congregation in your prayers. Thanks!

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Counsels Against Discouragement

By Fr. Larry Darnell, OMV

Fr. Larry has given us permission to reprint his notes on Venerable Bruno's counsels against discouragement. These are taken from the writings of Venerable Bruno. We share them here with you for your enjoyment.

"... you need not be anxious. You would like to live already in heaven where happy events are not followed by trials, but you must be patient since you must still remain here on earth, and suffer with patience the trials necessary to enter heaven."

Bruno offered two counsels: "If you want peace in this life, you must, first of all, decide to accommodate yourself to circumstances and not demand that circumstances accommodate themselves to you. You must, secondly, strive to practice uniformity of our will with God's. It is he who disposes everything, arranges everything, and permits all that takes place. We need only seek and follow his fatherly design, which is always to provide us opportunities for practicing different virtues, at times one, at times another, so that he will have something for which to reward us.

Then a word of caution and an encouragement: "I have noticed in your letters that you often turn in on yourself. Try to watch for this, and to focus less often on yourself, but to serve God with great simplicity. Instead of turning in on yourself, lift your gaze often with peace and love to God, and to his lovable will, to his adorable Providence. Tell him that regardless of whether you are good or bad, you want to be totally his, and that it is his to make you become better. Cast also upon him all your concerns about your children and your husband. The more you trust in him, the greater will be his care for you." Here, as always, for Bruno, confidence in God was the answer to concern about self.

"Above all," Bruno insisted, "I recommend with all my strength that you guard against discouragement, disturbance, and sadness, and so constantly seek to keep your poor heart in peace, and encourage it, and always serve God with holy joy. Always keep before you these two proposals that I urge you to renew often, and with a holy tenacity: first, never to offend God knowingly, and, second, if you should fall, never to persevere in this with your will, but, with humility and courage, rise immediately and begin again, firmly convinced that God forgives you in the instant itself that, with humility and trust, you ask his forgiveness." Through such teachings, Bruno encouraged the many who, like Ricasoli, sought his spiritual guidance.

Five Steps Against Discouragement

By Fr. Larry Darnell, OMV

1. Patience
2. Prayer
3. Will of God
4. Trust
5. Know that our Lady is praying for you...

Listen. Put it into your heart, my smallest child, that the thing that frightened you, the thing that afflicted you is nothing: Do not let it disturb you.
 Am I not here, I who am your mother?
 Are you not under my shadow and protection?
 Am I not the source of your joy?
 Are you not in the hollow of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms?
 Do you need something more?

Our Lady of Guadalupe, 1531



Our Lady of Guadalupe. This is the famous image that appeared on Juan Diego's tilma.



“In your letter I sense discouragement in the service of God . For God’s sake, guard against this since there is no enemy more to be feared than this.” — Fr. Lanteri

Father Larry Darnell, OMV currently serves as pastor of St. Peter Chanel Parish in Hawaiian Gardens, California.

No Longer Do I Call You Servants

By Fr. Michael Warren, OMV

"I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you." (Jn 15:15)

Venerable Lanteri recognized friendship with Jesus to be a prime reason why we should live in spiritual joy. The movement from mere servant to friend could be considered one of the most significant graces of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. At St. Francis Chapel in Boston, MA, the Oblates seek to nurture this grace through preaching, teaching, sacraments and direction. Accordingly, the painting, Lanteri with Ignatius and the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, is especially suited for the Oblate mission at the Chapel.

Within the painting itself one can see a discernible movement. Glancing at the painting, one's eye is immediately attracted to the light emanating from our Lady and the Child Jesus snuggled under her arm. The other figure bathed in light is the cherubim that directs our attention properly to the Sacred Hearts above him. At the core of the painting where all movement ultimately ends is with the Madonna and Child and their hearts aflame with divine love. The invitation is to yearn for this to be the core movement of our being. My heart and yours should desire to be inflamed with the same burning charity enlightening the Mother of God.

How might we attain to this lofty end, namely, friendship with God? The figures of Venerable Lanteri and St. Ignatius of Loyola inform us. Lanteri's perspective is on us and through his eyes he invites us to experience his humility as he immediately directs us away from himself toward St. Ignatius who himself is enraptured with our Lady. St. Ignatius, so thoroughly engrossed in loving contemplation of the Sacred Hearts upon which his eyes are affixed, records his Book of the Exercises in accordance with the instructions coming from our Lady, who softly gestures with her outstretched arm the divine communication she herself has received. So gently does Ignatius administer his pen that it is clear it is being conducted by a greater hand, perhaps the outstretched hand of the Infant Jesus who raises it in an act of blessing. This is the essence of the Spiritual Exercises: To be in the contemplative school of Mary with an eye toward complete conversion to the Way of the Lord Jesus, my most intimate friend.

In his Spiritual Directory Ven. Lanteri wrote that "The priest ought to have eyes only for considering that which he does, and should be blind to all other things. One may be weary of all his various occupations but not of praying and meditation." At St. Francis Chapel the Oblate fathers attempt to follow this maxim and to accept the salient invitation of Lanteri to continuously exercise the heart and mind in the ways of the Lord through our Lady as St. Ignatius so earnestly sought to do. Upon visiting the Chapel and viewing Lanteri with Ignatius and the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary the faithful should experience the fruit.

A replica of the original painting can be found hanging in St. Francis Chapel in Boston, MA. Come visit us in person if you're in town, or online at www.omvusa.org. We can be found in the "ministries" tab on the main page.



New prayer requests & testimonials

PRAYERS ANSWERED

New Jersey: Updated Feb. 20, 2018 Thank you so much for your prayers for my Uncle M. He had an MRI yesterday and got the results from the doctor today. The tumors are shrinking! God Is Good! We are very relieved and happy to hear this. The doctor was very happy with this and wants my uncle to start a new kind of treatment. It is something he will have on his head and it will kill new cancer cells as the divide. He will continue taking the chemo pill. The doctor also said that the area of the brain that the radiation was on is the part that helps short term memory; my uncle is having trouble with that. Thank you so much for your prayers and God Bless!

Original Prayer request (Dec. 8, 2017): Hello, Please pray for my Uncle M. He has glioblastoma. Please pray for him to be Completely Healed. Thank you. God Bless.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Massachusetts: Pray for L that she stays strong in trying to stay clean from drug addiction. And also for her twin children.

Missouri: Pray for F, one year old daughter of God with cancer tumors in her brain and down her spine. This family needs a miracle as she has been at St Jude's for 8 months and not sure she can receive more treatment. Thank you Venerable Bruno for your guidance as we both need miracles.

Pennsylvania: Our parish priest Fr. J has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. Please ask Ven. Bruno to intercede for his healing, God willing. Thank you!

Texas: My son, T, loved God as a child. In college he decided science made believing in God foolish. Please pray for his soul and his return to faith and joining the Holy Catholic Church.

Utah: That my friend N is cured of a rare form of Non-Hodgkins lymphoma through the intercession of Venerable Bruno Lanteri. N is a 21 year old junior studying Catholic Studies at our university. This major was not originally offered at our school, but he spoke with the religious studies department to make this an option. He is the first student in the history of the University to major in Catholic studies. An active member of his home parish and a member of the Young adult ministry team at the Newman Center at university, he sets a superb example for his peers on how to live a holy Catholic life.

Guild News

Children's book on Lanteri

A Guild member has volunteered to write a children's book on Ven. Bruno! She has both biographies of Ven. Bruno, his writings, the comic book, and several other items that she is using for context. She will be working with Dr. Pak and Fr. Dan Barron, OMC to ensure that the children's book stays faithful to the telling of his story. Please keep her in your prayers as she undertakes this project.

UPPER ROOM TALK: VEN. BRUNO LANTERI

WEDNESDAY April 18, 2018

7pm in the Upper Room
St. Clement Shrine
1105 Boylston St., Boston, MA



Ever wonder about the man who started the legacy of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary? Bring a friend and join us on April 18th at 7pm for an evening with Dr. Cabrini Pak, who will tell us more about this priest and his cause for canonization, which is currently under way. Dr. Pak is currently leading the effort to make Venerable Bruno Lanteri better known in the USA and beyond. Questions contact lanterians@omvusa.org.

Translations in progress

We are working on getting Venerable Bruno prayer cards translated to Spanish and Tagalog. The Spanish translation is complete and preparing for printing. If you would like prayer cards in Spanish, please let us know by contacting us (lanterians@omvusa.org). We are also, with the help of our newest staff member, Jenny Juarez, getting Fr. Tim's *Counsels of Mercy* pamphlet translated into Spanish. More news on that when the translation is completed.

VENERABLE BRUNO GUILD

Want to help the OMV promote the cause for canonization of their founder? Dr. Cabrini Pak is coordinating our national effort. Guild members can do as much or as little as they wish, according to their needs. If you would like to know more, please contact Dr. Pak at lanterians@omvusa.org.



Follow OMVUSA on social media! We are on Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter.
www.omvusa.org

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This image of Mary can be found in the OMV-Denver rectory. Created by Catherine Hubka.

