



THE FLAME

THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

CHARISMATIC RENEWAL

October 2023 issue



Still ABLAZE from our Catch the Fire! 2023 Conference...

Dear Friends,

I'd like to thank you all for attending the *Catch the Fire!* Conference with Deacon Larry Oney. He did an amazing job with his inspirational presentations and Healing service. We were all so blessed. *Read comments and testimonies on our website here:*



<https://ccsraleigh.weebly.com/testimonies.html>

I really enjoyed the Surrender Band. They did an awesome job and created a wonderful environment for the Holy Spirit to be fanned into flame. Deacon Oney incorporated Praise and Worship throughout the entire conference. The Band ministered along side Deacon Oney seamlessly. We were so blessed to have them join us again this year.

I'd like to thank the volunteers, prayer teams and CCS Board members for planning and ministering at the conference. We are so blessed to have unity and fellowship together. I was very impressed by our volunteers this year. Thank you to all who helped out and showed God's love. Everyone jumped in and helped where needed and truly showed Christian love as they used their many gifts. Thank you to all our attendees. It was great seeing everyone and enjoying

fellowship. I really felt God's anointing.

View Photo Gallery of pictures here: <https://ccsraleigh.weebly.com/photo-gallery>

Let us know if you'd like to share your testimony, experiences or anything else to edify your brothers and sisters in faith. We'd love to hear from our charismatic community.

Blessings and Peace,

Maria Muratore

Director of Catholic Charismatic Services

Diocese of Raleigh



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS...

By Mary Trombetta



October 4, 2023 was the Blessing of the Animals and the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis is the patron Saint of pets and animals. I love this feast day and the joy it brings me to watch so many of our parishioners come to church with their beloved pets for a special outdoor ceremony in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. As a prayer is offered, the pet is sprinkled with holy water as our pets sit stoically (well some of them!) and we pet parents' feel a sense of peace and security knowing our God

cares for our pets and is always watching over them.

I have had many cats and a few dogs throughout the years, I also work with animals and see first hand the joy animals bring to humans. Nothing brings people together better than a puppy or kitten! Studies show that dogs reduce stress, anxiety and ease loneliness, not to mention can also be a true lifesaver to a physically or mentally disabled person. My daughter, in college, mentions all the time that there are many emotional support animals on campus. I encourage you to read or reread the life of St. Francis, a true spiritual powerhouse with a chock full of wisdom and knowledge of all of God's creatures.

St. Francis of Assisi's Prayer for Pets:

Good Saint Francis, you loved all Gods creatures. To you they were your brothers and sisters. Help us follow your example of treating every living thing with kindness. Saint Francis patron saint of animals, watch over my pet and keep my companion safe and healthy. Amen.

WHO DOESN'T LOVE ST. FRANCIS?

Facts about St. Francis

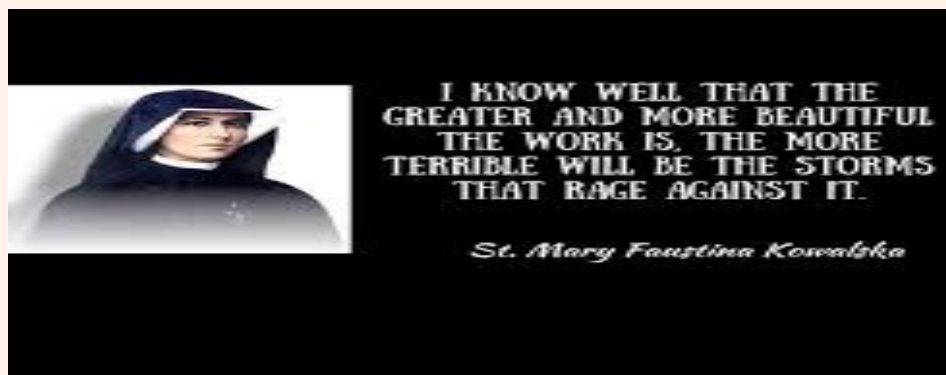
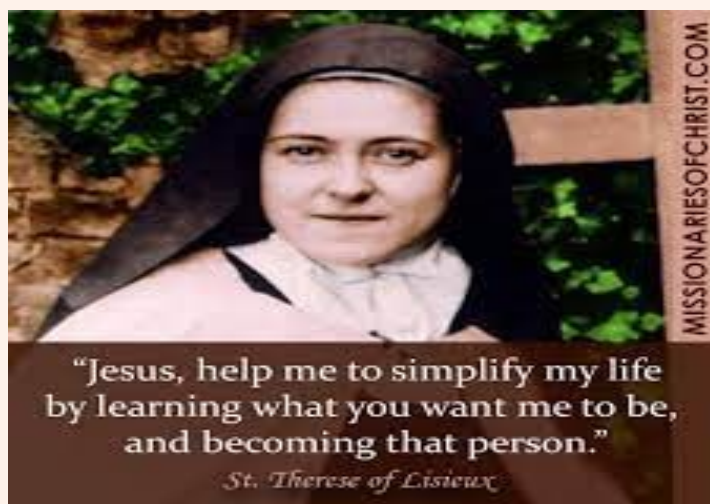
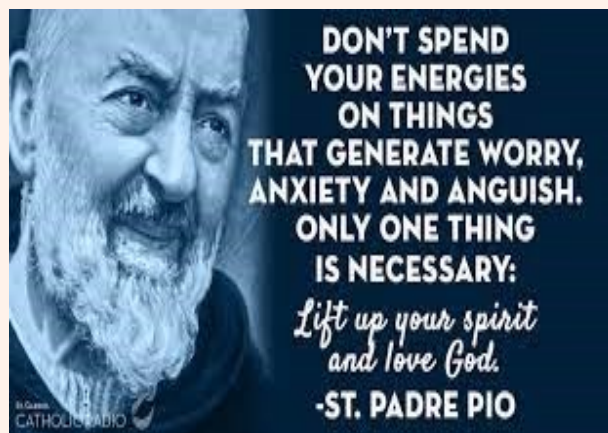
We celebrate St. Francis of Assisi's feast day on October 4th, which commemorates his death in 1226 (actually, he died near midnight on October 3, but the Catholic Church has chosen the next day to honor him).

The man who would become St. Francis was born as Giovanni di Bernardone in 1181 or 1882 in Assisi, Italy. When his father returned from a business trip to France to find he had a son, he re-named him Francesco, or Francis as he was known then and since. The son of a wealthy merchant, he entered adulthood in the lap of luxury. He loved the good life, known for being fun loving and his early devotion to parties. He sought adventure and fame as a soldier and was once a prisoner of war. He also loved the outdoors and nature.

As a young man, Francis received several visions that made him abandon his hedonistic ways and become a devout Christian. He committed himself to Christ fully. When asked if he would marry, he replied "Yes, I am about to take a wife of surpassing fairness." He meant poverty, a commitment he continued throughout his life, forsaking his inheritance and living always in a humble lifestyle. He often slept outdoors or in caves, and his clothing was a simple tunic tied around the waist by a rope. Once when robbed and left with no resources, he declared himself happy and free to follow a life of poverty and spiritualism.



We are officially into Fall. October is a very special time for our favorite Saint feast days. Padre Pio, St. Therese de Lisieux, St. Faustina and St. Francis of Assisi. Let us know who your favorite saint is and share a little bit about them.



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 21, 2023

Raleigh Diocese Centennial Eucharistic Congress:

<https://dioceseofraleigh.org/event/diocese-raleigh-eucharistic-congress>

December 2023

Annual Family Charismatic Christmas Celebration:

*details to be announced