



For Members of the Worldwide Father Peyton Prayer Guild

United in Prayer for a Spiritual Cause



Feast Days:

- Memorial of St. John Vianney, **August 4**
- Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, **August 6**
- Feast of St. Lawrence, **August 10**
- Memorial of St. Clare, **August 11**
- Memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe, **August 14**
- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **August 15**
- Memorial of St. Pius X, **August 21**
- Feast of St. Bartholomew, **August 24**
- Memorial of St. Monica, **August 27**
- Memorial of St. Augustine, **August 28**

From the Vice Postulator/Guild Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Father Peyton's life was firmly rooted in his faith and family. Those two elements were crucial in his journey to the United States of America, and all that followed. At the age of 19, he and his brother, Thomas, left Ireland to find work and pursue the American dream. They brought minimal material possessions but a strong faith in the Blessed Mother and Our Lord, Jesus. Like many young men and women, they went to stay with family. Their sister, Beatrice, and her husband, Michael Gallagher, lived in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and so this became Patrick and Thomas' new home.

Their sister, Nellie Peyton, who worked in the bishop's residence, would also play an essential role in both brother's lives. Knowing of Patrick's past sense of God calling him to the priesthood, Nellie arranged a meeting for Patrick with Monsignor Paul Kelly, rector of the St. Peter's Cathedral, about a position of sexton (custodian). Patrick would first work selling American flags door to door and then briefly, construction. However, work at the Cathedral under the direction of Monsignor Kelly and time praying and working close to the Eucharistic Lord would reignite his call to the priesthood.



Father Patrick and Father Thomas Peyton, C.S.C., with their family in Scranton. Their eldest sister, Beatrice, preceded the boys to America with their sister, Mary, in 1920. Beatrice met and married Michael Gallagher and established the Peyton Family's "home in America," where they were always welcomed back.

Continued on back

"Because of the daily family Rosary, my home was for me a cradle, a school, a university, a library and most of all, a little church." - Venerable Patrick Peyton

In the following year, strengthened through prayer and family support, Patrick approached Father Patrick Dolan, C.S.C., who was conducting a parish mission with three other Holy Cross priests. Patrick shared his desire to serve God as a missionary and received a glowing recommendation from Monsignor Kelly. At the end of that summer, both Patrick and Thomas left for the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, to enter the Congregation's high school seminary and begin their journey with the Congregation of Holy Cross.

At the time, it was difficult to comprehend God's plan. However, the Peyton family's foundation of faith, which began in Ireland, allowed them to trust God's will. The love of sisters who shared that faith facilitated the spiritual rekindling of the future Father Patrick Peyton's call to the priesthood and enlightened his brother Thomas's mind and heart.

Parallels to this story can be seen in our families as well. What is needed is faith and courage, combined with a love for God and each other. May we be inspired by Father Peyton's journey to persevere in prayer with our families and courageously follow God — fueled by our love for God — and those He blesses us to serve in His Name.

In Jesus and Mary,

Father David S. Marcham

Father David S. Marcham
Vice Postulator/Guild Director

PS: Learn more at FatherPeyton.org



During the Family Rosary Crusade which Father Peyton, C.S.C., conducted in his home diocese in Scranton, PA 1949, Father Peyton paid a friendly visit to some of the men with whom he worked with at the Steam Shovel Operation before entering the Seminary.



The Father Peyton Rosary Prayer Garden at the Cathedral of St. Peter in Scranton, PA.

The Father Peyton Center
518 Washington St.
N. Easton, MA 02356 USA
508-238-4095
VicePostulator@HCFM.org

www.FatherPeyton.org



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HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES