

Pro Sanctity Prayer

Jesus, Divine Master, who came down from heaven to give us the abundance of grace, increase it within us and make it become a river that overflows into eternal life.

Of your free will, you chose the agony of your passion and death, and in the Eucharist you give yourself as food for all people: help us understand the greatness of such an example.

May the fire of your love burn away the impurities of our human weakness, and give us the strength to follow your invitation to the infinite perfection of the Father.

Of faith, give us firmness; of charity, zeal; of hope, unshakable certainty.

Give us the desire to be heroic in every virtue, and the trust to attain holiness with the help of Mary, your mother and our mother. Amen

PRO SANCTITY MOVEMENT



Praying with the Explosive Gospel

Advent Season

Year B

Please contact one of our centers for more information on the Pro Sanctity Movement.

Pro Sanctity Movement National Center

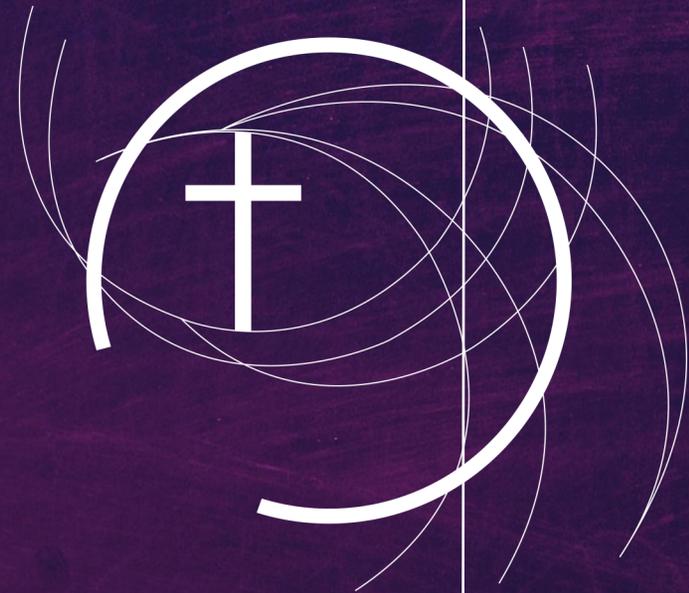
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Our Founder, Bishop Giaquinta

Bishop William Giaquinta was born in Noto, Italy on June 25, 1914. Ordained a priest on March 18, 1938, he served the Diocese of Rome where he was Secretary of the Vicariate of Rome from 1948 to 1968. On November 1, 1968, he was consecrated a bishop and charged with the pastoral care of the Diocese of Tivoli, just outside Rome. Due to poor health, he retired in 1987.



In the early years of his priesthood, Bishop Giaquinta began to teach the universal call to holiness, that all people are called to become saints. His passionate desire to draw all people to the love of God prompted many to follow him in the apostolate of interior life and holiness. To give structure and stability to this charism he received, he founded the Pro Sanctity Movement in 1947, which now has centers in Italy, Belgium, Malta, India, Latvia, Holland, and the United States. He also founded the Institute of Apostolic Oblates (a pontifical secular institute for lay women), the Institute of Apostolic Sodalities (a secular institute for diocesan priests), and the Social Animators (an ecclesial association for lay men).

Bishop Giaquinta's message of the universal call to holiness was confirmed by the Magisterium of the Church when the Second Vatican Council documented this teaching in the fifth chapter of *Lumen Gentium*. The author of numerous books and articles on spirituality, as well as many poems, songs and prayers, Bishop Giaquinta was an untiring preacher and teacher, conducting retreats and spiritual exercises for both the clergy and the laity. In his tremendous devotion to Our Lady of Trust, Bishop Giaquinta believed that through her intercession the world would learn of and respond to God's call to holiness. Bishop Giaquinta died June 15, 1994 and was proclaimed Servant of God by the Church on March 17, 2004.

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♦ A Gaze of Love

How do I experience God's love for me in this passage?

♦ A Gaze of Judgment and Truth

How is God calling me to conversion of heart?

♦ An Apostolic Response

What concrete action is God inviting me to in this encounter?

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said,

"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.

He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel,

"How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"

And the angel said to her in reply,

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,

has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word."

Then the angel departed from her.

"To God who spoke through the voice of an Angel the Immaculate entrusted her 'fiat.' To the same God who speaks to us, over and over again... We entrust our 'fiat' of love."

-Bishop Giaquinta

The Explosive Gospel

The Gospels reveal to us the exciting news of Jesus' infinite love and salvation! Bishop Giaquinta explained that we can never really read the Gospel without being converted: *"Surely if this true Gospel came close to our mediocrity, it would make it explode into the bits of rubble it really is!"*

Our Founder designed a specific method of *Lectio Divina* for the Pro Sanctity Movement, the Explosive Gospel. The Gospel must **EXPLODE** in our personal, family, and community life. It is a Word capable of revolutionizing our way of feeling and thinking, of living the faith, and of immersing ourselves in the reality where God has placed us.

There are three main moments while praying with this:

- ◆ A gaze of love – Meditation and Contemplation It is the moment to contemplate and meditate on the text. We do this in order to gather the maximum love that Christ, through His Word, wants to give us. Look with love at the Word, and the Word will look back at you with love! It reveals to us the infinite love of Jesus for us.
- ◆ A gaze of judgment and truth We are confronted by the Word in love, and so it enlightens us as to where we must grow or where there may be contradictions in our lives personally or in the community, inviting us to conversion.
- ◆ An apostolic response It is a prophesy in the sense of insight for future action. We are invited in the third moment to apostolic action. It is where the members of the Movement are invited to make a commitment to become prophets of the Gospel that revolutionizes their lives.

First Sunday of Advent

Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge,

each with his own work,

and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore;

you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming,

whether in the evening, or at midnight,

or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

“If the lures of sin and indifference should delay my steps, I implore you searcher of hearts, to reawaken in me a searing thirst that will draw me back to you and let me savor again the joy and peace of your Divine abundance.”
-Bishop Giaquinta

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Third Sunday of Advent

John 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God.
He came for testimony, to testify to the light,
so that all might believe through him.
He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.
And this is the testimony of John.
When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests
and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?"
He admitted and did not deny it,
but admitted, "I am not the Christ."
So they asked him,
"What are you then? Are you Elijah?"
And he said, "I am not."
"Are you the Prophet?"
He answered, "No."
So they said to him,
"Who are you, so we can give an answer
to those who sent us?
What do you have to say for yourself?"
He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,
'make straight the way of the Lord,'"
as Isaiah the prophet said."
Some Pharisees were also sent.
They asked him, "Why then do you baptize
if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?"
John answered them,
"I baptize with water;
but there is one among you whom you do not recognize,
the one who is coming after me,
whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."
This happened in Bethany across the Jordan,
where John was baptizing.

*"Divine Master, enlighten our minds that
we may begin to understand your
mysteries and radiate them throughout the
world."
-Bishop Giaquinta*

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Second Sunday of Advent

Mark 1:1-8

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:
Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.
A voice of one crying out in the desert:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.”
John the Baptist appeared in the desert
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins.
People of the whole Judean countryside
and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem
were going out to him
and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River
as they acknowledged their sins.
John was clothed in camel’s hair,
with a leather belt around his waist.
He fed on locusts and wild honey.
And this is what he proclaimed:
“One mightier than I is coming after me.
I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his
sandals.
I have baptized you with water;
he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

*“We have to love our perturbed, poor,
devastated, and tragic time in history
because this is the time in which the Lord
has placed us—especially you—to be His
witnesses. Our time has to be understood,
not judged; it has to be loved.”*

-Bishop Giaquinta

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