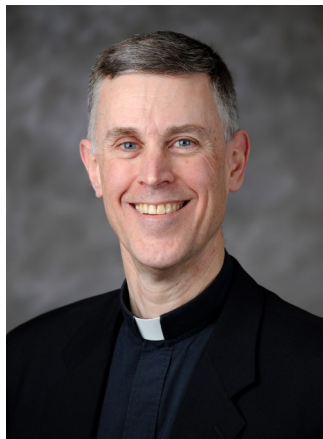




## For Members of the Worldwide Father Peyton Prayer Guild

*United in Prayer for a Spiritual Cause*



### Feast Days:

- Memorial of St. Alphonsus Liguori, **Aug. 1**
- Memorial of St. John Vianney, **Aug. 4**
- Feast of The Transfiguration of the Lord, **Aug. 6**
- Memorial of St. Dominic, **Aug. 8**
- Memorial of St. Clare, **Aug. 11**
- Memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe, **Aug. 14**
- Solemnity of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **Aug. 15**
- Memorial of The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **Aug. 22**
- Memorial of St. Monica, **Aug. 27**
- Memorial of St. Augustine, **Aug. 28**
- Memorial of The Passion of St. John the Baptist, **Aug. 29**

### From the Vice Postulator/Guild Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have been blessed to have two seminarians of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Thomas Searl and Edwin Donnelly, spend the summer here at Holy Cross Family Ministries. We invited them to reflect on their time and what they will carry with them as they continue on their journey toward ordination.



(L-R) Thomas Searl, C.S.C., Father David S. Marcham, Edwin Donnelly, C.S.C.

### Thomas Searl

“What has most captivated me about Venerable Patrick Peyton is the extraordinary reach he had, despite his humble origins. I recently watched an old Family Theater Productions’ film about him with some fellow C.S.C.s, and I was struck by how vividly they remembered the iconic figures in it—Father Peyton commanded the attention of a nation and its celebrities while remaining grounded in his identity as a humble Irish priest.

What resonates most with me is his conviction that his vocation was nourished in a “Family Rosary Home.” I, too, grew up praying the Rosary with my family, not realizing then how those simple, faithful prayers were quietly planting the seeds of my own vocation. Father Peyton’s lifelong commitment to promoting the Rosary, even as its popularity attenuated, is a compelling witness to the enduring grace of prayer and Mary’s intercession.

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*“There is no mind profound enough to exhaust the riches of the Rosary in meditation and contemplation.”*

- Venerable Patrick Peyton -

My time at Holy Cross Family Ministries—The Father Peyton Center—has deepened this appreciation. Before arriving, I knew little about Father Peyton’s legacy. But working alongside those who continue to champion his mission, leading the Rosary with reflections, and receiving prayer requests from around the world—all have shaped my discernment and revealed the priestly role of intercession in a powerful way.

I’m grateful to have contributed to organizing the archives and enhancing access to Father Peyton’s Rosary Reflections. Yet the greatest takeaway is the example of those devoted to his Cause—and my new friend in Venerable Patrick. As the Church looks to the future, I believe his Canonization would offer countless people a relatable model of holiness, rooted in family, prayer, and perseverance. His life continues to invite us into the mystery and strength of the Rosary.”

### **Ed Donnelly**

“Venerable Patrick Peyton’s Irish roots and immigrant experience captivate me deeply. Born in Ireland, Peyton carried his cultural heritage into a new world, much like my own family, who emigrated from Ireland and Italy to forge a vibrant Irish- and Italian-American identity for ourselves in New Jersey. This shared journey of bringing one’s native roots into a broader community resonates with me. His ability to experience God through his native culture—particularly through the Rosary—while adapting to a universal mission inspires me. It reflects how my own heritage, rich with family and cultural pride, informs my vocation.

My childhood, filled with Irish and Italian traditions and personalities of every sort, echoes Father Peyton’s memories of praying the Rosary as a child, a practice that grounded him and fueled his global ministry. This continuity of faith, from family hearth to public mission, shaped his compassion and closeness to Jesus’ heart, qualities I strive to emulate in my priestly discernment. His journey through seminary resonates with my own, as I find in his example a model of fidelity to roots and openness to God’s expansive call—a balance I seek in my own formation.

My time at The Father Peyton Center has been a gift. Daily service at Mass and leading Rosaries have affirmed my call to serve at the altar and preach. Additionally, archival work, poring over Father Peyton’s writings and related texts, has enriched my prayer life and love for my community, the Congregation of Holy Cross. These documents, some destined for public sharing, have illuminated Father Peyton’s zeal and the Congregation’s mission, strengthening my commitment.

As I conclude my time at The Father Peyton Center, I will leave behind a revised and edited version of Father Tom Feeley’s short biography of Father Peyton, crafted with care in hopes it becomes a bound resource for families. The relationships forged with confreres and friends here will endure, as will a fortified commitment to the Congregation’s mission. These treasures—spiritual, communal, and vocational—will shape my path as I continue to serve and grow within Holy Cross.”

Please pray for Tom and Ed, and all the Holy Cross seminarians, as they continue in their formation.

In Jesus and Mary,

*Rev. David S. Marcham*

Father David S. Marcham  
Vice Postulator/Guild Director

