



Holy Name Society Newsletter

Spreading Devotion to the Most Holy Name of Jesus

AT THE NAME OF JESUS:

A REFLECTION ON ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Bend the knee - proclaim the Lord.

At the Name of Jesus...

St. Paul's opening of his Letter to the Philippians, Chapter 3, provides a concise creed and related action plan for all Christians. Verse 10 tells us to bend our knee and use our tongue to proclaim Jesus as Lord whenever we hear his name (Phil 2:10) St. Paul tells us to do just two things. "Bend the knee" calls us to humble ourselves physically in honor of the one who reigns over all. We are to use our body in dropping down lower to signify that Jesus is greater.

We are also to use the God-given gift of speech to proclaim Jesus is Lord. Of all

the things we could say, offering praise to God through His Son is the best use of this gift. As St. Paul tells us, do these two things (bend the knee; praise the Lord) whenever we hear the holy name of Jesus. This seems simple; all should be able to comply.

We will briefly look at why we should do this and provide some suggestions as to how to do it. The suggestions offered here will allow each and every person

to easily and positively respond to St. Paul's call.

Why? The command of St. Paul is strikingly simple – bend and proclaim. Still, some might ask why we should do this. St. Paul provides the answer in Phil. 2:7-9: Jesus is God. This means He is all powerful, all knowing, and timeless. He could

do and can do whatever He desires. Yet, He chose to humble Himself by

becoming one of us, taking the human form (taking the form of a slave; coming in human likeness.) This is truly amazing. St. Paul explains it clearly for us in this well-known second chapter of his letter to the Philippians. "This description of

"A simple way to honor Him and imitate His humility is to bend the knee, bow the head, and proclaim Him "Lord" ... each time we hear the name of Jesus."

Christ as a servant to be imitated is the most famous passage in Philippians (and, indeed, among the most

memorable lines ever penned by this apostle.)" (Raymond E. Brown, S.S., *Introduction to the New Testament*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997). Jesus, who is God, went beyond just becoming a servant. He "humbled Himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross (Phil 2:8)."

Think and Act. God raised Jesus to the highest heights, He who went so low. God gave Him a "name above every name (Phil 2:9)." Because of this, we are to think and act a certain way whenever we hear the Holy Name of Jesus. How? Regarding the action, St. Paul tells us to bend the knee, to drop down in humility. Sometimes, it is not always possible or practical "to bend the knee." The Church, in her wisdom has provided us with an excellent substitute. Bow your head at the name of Jesus! This practice is part of the

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY

- Promotes the honor and glory of our Divine God and the personal sanctification of its members by acts of love and devotion to the most Holy Name of Jesus. This spiritual life of its members is a perpetual act of reverence and love.
- Promotes respect for the most Holy Name of God, faith in the Catholic Church and the Magisterium, loyalty to one's country, and respect for all lawful authority, both civil and religious
- Our members perform the Corporal Works of Mercy: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, shelter to the homeless, tend the sick, visit those in prison, and bury the dead; as well as the Spiritual Works of Mercy: to convert sinners, instruct the ignorant, counsel the wayward, comfort the sorrowing, bear adversity patiently, forgive offenses, and pray for the living and the dead on a parochial, diocesan and national level.

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HOLY NAME SOCIETY AND BLESSED JOHN

*E*ditor's Note: Given the current process of exploring and making clear the "Vision, Values, and Mission" of the Holy Name Society, it is appropriate that we reflect briefly on our confraternity in relationship to Bl. P Giovanni Garbella, O.P., our patron. The following notes are taken from a "Prayer Service and Vigil for the Cause of the Canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli," from the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens, N.Y. with appreciation to Most Rev. Nicholas DiMarzio and to Mr. Anthony Merolla, Archdiocesan Executive Secretary.

Friar John Garbella was born December 1 [circa 1200] in the

small village of Mosso Santa Maria, near Vercelli Italy. He died November 30, 1283.

Friar Garbella was Beatified by St. Pope Pius X on September 7, 1903 and was given the title: Blessed John of Vercelli.

As a confraternity, this worldwide organization has its roots in September 20, 1274 when Pope Gregory X issued the "brief:" *Nuper in Concilio*, to the then Master General of the Dominican Order, Friar John Garbella, O.P. [who] asked Friar John to take action against a growing heretical practice wherein the people would call down the name of

Jesus on persons... for purposes of punishment, harm, damnation... Friar John [despite physical limitations] set out on foot, spending the rest of his life going about Europe. His work followed him! The Confraternity of the Most Holy Name of Jesus remains as a world-wide organization through his efforts.

Friar Garbella died November 30, 1283, near the age of 82 while still pursuing his missions for Pope Gregory X. On September 7, 1903 he was named a Blessed by the Church – the first step in the process of

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NAHNS NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Mark your calendars! The 45th Annual National NAHNS Convention is rapidly approaching. It is expected to be an exceptional four (4) days of prayer, fellowship, and serious planning for the future of the Holy Name Society.

This year's Convention is being hosted by the Holy Name Society of the Parish of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church in the Diocese of El Paso, Texas, Thursday, September 17th through Saturday, September 19th.

The following information and required registration forms are

already on-line at the NAHNS website. Also on-line are the convention booklet advertise-



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church

ment and participation forms and a form for social program activities.

Members of the NAHNS Executive Board should be on site

from the morning of September 17. There is also a scheduled conference call of the Blessed John of Vercelli the evening of September 16.

Convention Registration Fee: \$275.00/person, includes the Friday evening Presidential Reception, Saturday Tour, Saturday Evening Presidential Banquet, and all Convention Packet supplies, including identification badge. The NAHNS website also has the name of follow-up contact individuals in El Paso, for further information, as needed.

Visit the NAHNS website (nahns.com) for all details.

A PRO-LIFE PRAYER

[The following prayer is an excerpt from the homily given by Pope St. John Paul II on the 7th of October, 1979, on the National Mall in Washington D.C. As we approach the advent of the World Meeting of Families and a visit by Pope Francis, we pray for many intentions in union with him. We pray with our associates, especially in Philadelphia, New York City, and Washington, D.C., in the words presented 26 years ago in celebration of life IN HIS NAME.]

Almighty God, Our Father, You have given us life and intended us to have it forever. Grant us your blessings. Enlighten our minds to an awareness and to a renewed conviction that all human life is sacred because it is created in Your image and likeness.

Help us to teach by word and the example of our lives that life occupies the first place, that human life is precious because it is a gift of God whose love is infinite. Give us the strength to defend human life against every influence or action that threatens or weakens it, as well as the strength to make every life more human in all its aspects. Give us the grace...

“Almighty Father, give us the courage to proclaim the supreme dignity of all human life and demand that society itself give its protection. We ask this in Your name ...”

When the sacredness of life before birth is attacked, to stand up and proclaim that no one has the authority to de-

stroy unborn life.

When a child is described as a burden or is looked upon only as a means to satisfy and emotional need, to stand up and insist that every child is a unique and unrepeatable gift of God with a right to a loving and united family.

When the institution of marriage is abandoned to human selfishness or reduced to a temporary conditional arrangement that can easily be terminated, to stand up and affirm the indissolubility of the marriage bond.

When the value of the family is threatened because of social

and economic pressure, to stand up and reaffirm that the family is necessary not only for the private good of every person, but also for the common good of every society, nation, and state.

When freedom is used to dominate the weak, to squander natural resources and energy, to deny basic necessities to people, to stand up and reaffirm the demands of justice and social love.

Almighty Father, give us the courage to proclaim the supreme dignity of all human life and demand that society itself give its protection. We ask this in Your name, through the redemptive act of Your Son and in the Holy Spirit.

AT THE NAME OF JESUS

(Continued from page 1)

normal Mass etiquette, as noted in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (2011):

A bow signifies reverence and honor to the persons themselves or to the signs that represent them. There are two kinds of bow: a bow of the head and a bow of the body. A bow of the head is made when the three Divine Persons are named together and at the names of Jesus, of the Blessed Virgin, and of the Saint in whose honor the Mass is being celebrated.

The above text is in reference to the Mass. However, many Catholics and specific groups within the Catholic Church, such as the Holy Name Society, have long encouraged this practice for all the faithful anytime they hear the name of “Jesus.” This suggested practice, bow the head when hearing the name of “Jesus” is partially based on St. Paul’s instruction in Phil 2:10.

The second part of St. Paul’s instruction is to proclaim “Jesus Christ is Lord” (Phil 2:11) when we hear His name. How? There are endless ways to do this. The sim-

plest and most accommodating in all situations is the “Jesus Prayer.” There are at least two forms of the simple “Jesus Prayer.” The first is, saying the name of Jesus, usually three times either aloud or to oneself. The person praying this should repeat the triplet several times. A second form of the “Jesus Prayer” is “Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” This likewise can be offered in private or aloud. These prayers are components of the notion to “pray without ceasing” (1 Thes. 5:17). They are also especially appropriate replies upon hearing the name of

“Jesus.”

St. Paul’s opening salvo in Philippians provides a concise summary of the “Jesus Proclamation.” God highly exalted Jesus, in part, because of the humility of Jesus. We should strive to imitate Jesus, becoming like him by taking on his humility. A simple way to honor Him and imitate His humility is to bend the knee, bow the head, and proclaim Him “Lord” (“Jesus Prayer”) each time we hear the name of Jesus.

*Ron Schmitz
President, NAHNS*

NAHNS STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Much to the good has happened across the Holy Name Society since our Spring 2015 issue of this newsletter. For this we give all praise and gratitude to Our Lord Jesus Christ, even as we recommit ourselves to the sacred pledge of our confraternity. As we review the past months, we note that “strategic planning” went into high gear with a weekend retreat at a Chicago motel not far from O’Hare Airport. We were pleased with arrangements made by Stan Baran, Chairman, NAHNS Regional Vice President Committee.

Based in part on activity and also on an increasing awareness of active Holy Name Society programs across the country, we are seeing significant evidences of the vitality and spiritual blessing of our confraternity from Hawaii to Maine over the past several months. We are continuing

to see a more solid awareness of the gifts to be realized from living “personally” in Jesus Christ and living by our spiritual charter and of the spiritual gifts to be received for others and ourselves from our response to those blessings. In the past several months, with Ron Schmitz and Mike Gores, leading the way, we have had several substantial and productive conference call meetings of the NAHNS Executive Board, exploring and re-articulating the “Vision, Goals, and Mission” of the Holy Name Society. This exploration of the Holy Name Society, past, present, and future, will be continuing most especially during our days together at the national convention – and beyond.

The following is a draft summary of key strategic planning results adopted by the Executive Board during the April planning session held in Chi-

cago, Ill.

NAHNS Mission: To aid all people in entering into their relationship with Jesus through reverence and devotion to the Most Holy Names of God and Jesus.

NAHNS Vision: A world in which the Most Holy Names of God and Jesus are accorded due reverence in people’s speech and actions, to help strengthen the individual and the family.

Goals:

1. To provide the opportunity for every practicing Catholic in the U.S. to enter into devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus by December 31, 2018.
2. To provide guidance, support, and resources to all HNS Communities to obtain consistency in de-

votions and programs by December 31, 2018.

3. To improve organizational effectiveness through better communication with (arch) diocesan unions, parish societies, and other Holy Name groups.
4. To increase awareness of and support for the HNS among bishops, pastors, and Dominicans.
5. To strength NAHNS by increasing its human and financial resources.

The NAHNS Executive Board looks forward to sharing and growing our increasing spiritual awareness of “Vision, Goals, and Mission” with our associates and others at the annual national Holy Name Society convention, 17-20 September 2015, in El Paso, Texas.

PAST NAHNS PRESIDENT - RICHARD “DUTCH” WEILAND

Richard “Dutch” Weiland of Cheektowaga, (Brooklyn) New York has passed away. Mr. Weiland was a long-time member and leader of the Buffalo Diocesan

Union, Holy Name Society and had served, 2003-2005, as President of the National Association of the Holy Name Society.

In recognition of his many years of service to the Holy Name Society, we submit him and his family to the prayers of the associates of our confraternity.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

CLEVELAND DIOCESAN UNION HNS

The Holy Name Society is embarking on a special project to encourage Marian devotion in all of the Catholic schools and PSR programs in

the Diocese of Cleveland. The HNS, with the permission of Bishop Lennon, are raising funds to provide over 5,000 of these Prayer Book Manuals

to every religious education teacher. These manuals will provide the “basics” of how to pray the rosary, the Memorare, the Magnificat,

and other traditionally Marian prayers and devotions. They will be distributed through the Diocesan Office of Catechetical Formation and Education.

2015 NAHNS EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINATION COMMITTEE

In accordance with the procedure defined in the National Association of the Holy Name Society (NAHNS) Constitution and By-Laws, the NAHNS President has nominated and the NAHNS Executive Board has approved the appointment of Mr. Raymond W. Zientara, of the Diocese of Buffalo, to the position of Chairperson of the Nomination Committee for the year

2015.

NAHNS Officer Elections will be held at the upcoming National Convection in El Paso, TX. The convention is scheduled to begin on September 17th. Any individuals interested in seeking an elected office of NAHNS should read the enclosed additional information as to the procedure to be followed per

the National Constitution and By-Laws.

All nominations including a biography and letter of recommendation from the appropriate Spiritual Director must be received by the Nomination Committee Chairperson on or before August 31, 2015. The required nomination information should be sent to Mr. Raymond W. Zientara at the

following addresses:

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1215

Or via email to:
rzientara@buffalodiocese.org

COMMITTEE FOR THE CANONIZATION OF BLESSED JOHN

The Committee for the Cause of Canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli has also been very active. This committee is in the process of being re-energized with new committee members since the current members of this committee have asked to step down to make way for new

leadership in this important cause. Many of the existing members had been with that committee since its inception. The NAHNS Executive Board is looking for new members to step-up and continue the wonderful efforts of their predecessors. If you are interested in being part of the

committee, please contact Paul McKeough, NAHNS Secretary via e-mail at: paulmckeough1@icloud.com

The NAHNS Executive Board will be hosting a conference-call of current and new members on Thursday evening, September 17th, from the

convention site in El Paso. In the meantime, we give our continuous gratitude to Our Lord Jesus that "favors," potential miracles, continue to indicate evidence of the sanctity of Blessed John and the blessings on the Holy Name Society through his intercession.

DOMINICAN PROMOTERS OF THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY

We are thankful to the Lord Jesus for the return from serious orthopedic surgery of Fr. Tom Hayes, O.P., our national Spiritual Director, Emeritus, who is back in the Dominican residence in San Francisco and as active in support of the Holy Name Society as ever, even as he continues his recovery. We also welcome two Dominican Friars who will play important roles in our confraternity, in addition to their other responsibilities.

First, Fr. Augustine Hilander, O.P., former vicar, Holy Family Cathedral, Anchorage, AK, is returning to his home state of California, to serve as Provincial Promoter, Province of the Holy Name of Jesus, and is already actively supporting and assisting our efforts towards the canonization of Blessed John.

Second, Fr. Nicholas Maria Monco, O.P., a Fenwick High School (Chicago, IL) teacher/counselor and current Promoter, St Albert the Great

Dominican Province, Chicago. Fr. "Nick" Maria was with us during our recent meetings there and also made a positive contribution to our strategic planning efforts.

We regret to report that Fr. Stephen Carmody, O.P. has been reassigned from his role in St. Joseph Province as Province Promoter and Vice Postulator for the Cause. He is now serving as a pastor of two traditional Dominican parishes in southern Ohio.

At the same time, we welcome Fr. Hugh Vincent Dyer, O.P. from the parishes of Sts. Philip and James, Baltimore, MD, as Provincial Promoter.

We also welcome Very Rev. Kenneth Letoile, O.P., the recently appointed Prior Provincial, St. Joseph Province. When information on the current Vice Postulator for the Cause for Blessed Fr. John Garbella, O.P. is received, we will provide that information to all of our American associates.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY AND BLESSED JOHN

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Canonization or Declaration of Sainthood. This is indicated as quite remarkable in general; what is even more remarkable, is that his body was never found. In the year 1562, some radical Calvinists destroyed the church in Montpelier, France, where Friar John was buried, and disinterred his tomb to the extent that his body could not be found. The Dominicans were able to retain his walking stick, which except for a few portions cut from it, remains at Vercelli, Italy.

The Confraternity of the Most Holy Name of Jesus [Holy

Name Society] had its formal beginning on April 13, 1564, when Pope Pius IV canonically (formally) instituted it. He thereby provided Papal recognition and approval for

Evangelization

“From the beginning, the process of prayer and action has been about helping the (arch)dioceses and parishes of the Church to better accomplish the work of evangelization and outreach, preach the Gospel, perform works of charity, and educate people in the faith, all of which are at the heart of the Church’s mission. So let’s do it, and do it right. That’s what the new evangelization is all about.”

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan

this confraternity endowing privileges and indulgences. The Confraternity continues today to promote devotion to the names of God and Christ. Father Charles McKenna, O.P. introduced the Society

alcohol. It was he who developed the title “The Holy Name Society.” Father McKenna worked with a “mission band” which traveled about the Eastern United States promoting the Holy

Name Confraternity. He died in 1917 and is known as “The Apostle of the Holy Name.” The Holy Name is a canonical organization of the Catholic Church. The Cause for Canonization remains a principal effort of the National Association of the Holy Name Society

Blessed John has a very strong history of being a “peacemaker.” He was widely accepted and trusted and is said to have

been able to move about freely between antagonists in his efforts to mediate differences. There seems to be ever a need for devoted souls such as him.

BLESSED FR. JUNIPER SERRA, O.F.M.

[The following reflection on the sanctity of Blessed Fr. Juniper Serra, O.F.M., prepared by our associates at the New York City Fire Department Holy Name Society is being shared, in part, most especially in honor of Blessed Serra who will be canonized by Pope Francis, on 23 September 2015 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. We especially pray in union with all of our Hispanic associates, living and deceased, present and future.]

In 1934, four Catholic friends

from Seattle had an idea to meet regularly over a meal and discussion of how Christian values could be lived out in their professional lives. As time proceeded and this group grew, they decided to add an additional focus: encouraging of vocations to the priesthood and to religious life. They chose Padre Junipo Serra, noted Spanish missionary, as patron. Today this group, now known as Serra International, has grown to a membership of more than 19,000 men, women, and permanent deacons in 37 countries. Today

“Serrans” are still dedicated to spiritual growth, continuing Catholic adult education, fellowship, and the encouragement of Church vocations.

Encouraged, in 1972, by His Eminence Terence Cardinal Cooke, the Serra Club was formed, spear-headed by George Alessi, composed primarily of Holy Name members.

Who is Father Serra, O.F.M.? Born in 1773 on the Spanish island of Majorca, in the Mediterranean Sea, Junipo

Serra became, first, a university professor, and then a missionary and evangelist to the New World people, helping to convert many natives from widely disparate communities to embrace Jesus Christ and to learn technologies of the Old World to enhance their quality of life, both spiritual and material. Fr. Serra was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II in 1988; and, in the words of Pope Francis : “ushered in a new spring time of evangelization in those immense territories extending from California to Florida.

A REFLECTION ON BLESSED JOHN OF VERCELLI

[The source for this article is a report prepared by Mr. Sam Fusaro and Mr. T. Paul DiVito in their report of an exceptional "Favor" attributed to the intercession of Blessed John of Vercelli, in 2006. The individual reported his evident healing in 2008 which continues to the time of the publication of this report.]

The Cause for the Canonization of Blessed John of Garbella, O.P. continues especially through the devotion of those devoted to the Holy Name of Jesus. In recent months, continuing indications are witnessing toward the influence of Blessed John on several occasions. Our prayers continue to be needed as we move ever closer to a positive conclusion to this Cause for Blessed John. Over the coming months, efforts will be made to share something of the history of several "Favors," attributable to Blessed John of Vercelli, even as the Holy Name Society and our Dominican associates look to bringing these "Favors" to the attention of the Church authorities.

By way of example, the 36th Annual Mass for Blessed John of Vercelli will be celebrated October 11, 2015, at Our Lady Help of Christian

Church, Abington, PA., preceded with Confessions, and including Recitation of the Holy Rosary at Our Lady's Grotto. We urge all of our Holy Name Society members in parishes across the country to share in this celebration of the continuing devotion through the intercession of

have been healed by some otherwise naturally inexplicable cause.

Mr. Samuel Fusaro and T. Paul DiVito provided witness, in 2008, to one man and that witnessing changed this man's life. These men witnessed to

another and led this man to share in their devout profession as members and long-time leaders of the Holy Name Society and especially as leaders of the Committee for the Canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli.

Mr. Joseph Borowski, Fair Lawn, NJ, professes that miracles "occur in each and every one of our own lives... maybe

not in the form of medical healings... but maybe in other forms, [including the healing of the spirit]. In fact, our witness professes from his experience that "life itself is a miracle; and each and every day is a blessing to be treasured." Mr. Borowski has lived an ordinary life as a devout Christian, yet he professes that something extraordinary has happened to

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PRAYER to the Risen Christ Diocesan Union of Holy Name Societies

*Heavenly Father and God of Mercy
we no longer look
for Jesus among the Dead
for He is alive
and has become the Lord of Life.
From the Waters of Death
You raised us with Him
And renew Your Gift of Life within us.
Increase in our minds and hearts
The rise Life
We share with Christ
And help us to grow as your People
Toward the fullness of eternal Life with You.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.*

Blessed John to Our Lord in His Holy Name and to His Mother, Help of Christians.

It is becoming increasingly clear that miracles happen, through our prayers, especially in union with those favored of the Lord for their exemplary, holy lives and their unwaiverable faith. Miracles do happen. "They do!" insist those who

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A REFLECTION ON BLESSED JOHN OF VERCELLI

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him. As an ordinary mailman and as an ordinary faithful parishioner at St. Anne's Catholic Church, in his home town, Mr. Borowski has earned credit for being more perhaps than the average parishioner. As a professed Saecular Franciscan, Mr. Borowski has served as a Junior Confraternity Chairman, taught religious education, and helped facilitate the parish "Boys Confirmation Retreats." Clearly, he was open to the Spirit from these soul-enriching experiences.

When Mr. Borowski gives credit "To the Miracles in our lives... and the Blessings in our Lives..." he is clearly professing his faith. "Life in itself is a Miracle and each and every day is a Blessing to be treasured. In this profession he is acknowledging that his letter of witness is being sent by one whose life has been touched by an "amazing miracle" that has happened to him [It is a healing he has experienced not through any scientific explanation and by no other possible explanation. To him, it is evident that "it is through the intercession of Blessed John of Vercelli."

"Miracles Happen."

The reflections in this writing are from a report Committee for the Cause of Canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli and from Mr. Joseph Borowski, O.F.S., who has witnessed in his own life a curing from psoriatic arthritis. While aggressive treatments were brought bear by his rheumatologist and staff at Barnert Hospital, Patterson, N.J., his condition did not improve. In fact, psoriatic arthritis is an auto-immune disease with no known cure. Still, in his own words, Mr. Borowski says "It was his intercession [the in-

tercession of Blessed John] that CURED me. I still [after ten years] have my book of prayers with the names of all the people I prayed for in it... including myself... along with a Medal of Blessed John of Vercelli. I even have old x-rays taken wile I was seeing the rheumatologist which I have never looked at. "MIRACLES HAPPEN." They do.... And I remain... just an ordinary man who had an extraordinary thing happen to him."

*Blessed John of Vercelli,
Pray for us....*



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