



VIRUS, SOFA AND SAINTS

By Jack Gorman

I was sitting in a Freshman Retreat planning meeting when I first heard someone saying, "Bro, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati was so awesome. He was just on fire with love for Jesus Christ." I could feel the passion that dude had for this man, and I wanted to feel it too. So, I did research on this Italian guy with a wicked long name. Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati was a devoted Catholic born 1901. He was extremely dedicated to receiving Holy Communion and feeding the poor. He was also very "cool"; he went hiking on the weekends and was an instrumental social activist. I quickly became obsessed with Blessed Pier and looked up to him as a spiritual role model.

It is always helpful to have a specific person to look up to spiritually, but it seems to be especially helpful in these times of despair. It is helpful because we can look at their life and think "What would they have done if stores got shut down, if school got cancelled, if March Madness got cancelled?" Looking at Pier, I can safely say that he would be disappointed by the sports being cancelled, but I can also say that he would be optimistic. He would believe that this time of quarantine could be a time for self-development and a time to grow closer to God. But as I thought more about it, it became harder and harder to relate my life to Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati's life. I mean, he grew up in the 1900s! In a small town in Italy! How relatable is the 1900s to 2020? And a small town in Italy to Park Ridge? As I pondered this more I came up with this hypothetical: what if I were to bring Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati to modern times? What if I had the ability to make him plop right next to me on the couch? What would we do?

It is safe to say that he would have MANY questions, but after I explained to him that we were in a pandemic and can't leave the house, I think he would focus on one thing: how can we practice our faith from our homes? He would ask me "So Jack, how can we sustain and further our faith from your home?" My pessimistic self would say "There's no way to do it. Church is closed, events are cancelled. It's really impossible." And Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati would say "I don't believe you. There's always a way to further your faith." And I would say "Darn, you right." I would think realistically and show him so many things: I would show him online Masses, spiritual communion, the Pope's speech online... I would do so many things! And in doing all those things, I would realize that I am soooooo capable of enriching my faith in these disappointing times. I mean, there are so many outlets that I overlooked because I just wanted to be sad and hopeless. The reality is that I have no excuse to put my faith on hold. Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati would see that and be stoked.

After I realized all my options to grow my faith, I would hang out with Pier for a couple of hours and grow our faith in so many ways. He would go back to the 1900s, and I would be blessed with the knowledge that I am lucky to live in the times that I do. Although this is a hypothetical taken very far, it shows the truth of our current situation. Society tries to make everything negative and say that "2020 is the worst year ever," but that's just not true. The truth is that God allowed for the Coronavirus to come. Knowing that, I am going to follow His plan and make the most of it!

WE ARE FARMERS!

By a convert to *farmerism*

A farm in Silicon Valley is offering remote workers around the world a way to break up the monotony of endless Zoom calls and video chats. For less than \$100, you can request a cameo appearance in your video chat from [Sweet Farm's](#) llamas, goats, and other farm animals. The project, called [Goat 2 Meeting](#) allows people to bring farm animals into their work happy hours and corporate conference calls. Since Goat 2 Meeting opened up in mid-March, more than 300 requests have been made. Sweet Farm's animals have already made appearances in meetings for Fortune 500 companies and tech startups. In one virtual happy hour for a law firm, lawyers brought their kids along to the video call to meet the animals and get a virtual tour of the farm. The project will help the farm recover some of the revenue it has lost because of coronavirus lockdown. Pat Healy recently told us that lots of different people have attended his circles, but never a goat, at least not yet.



'VISITING' NURSING HOMES

By John Sacris



In light of the current situation, the residents of nursing homes have been heavily isolated for protection. As a result, they are unable to receive visitors, which is a source of great disheartenment for the residents. In order to put a little joy in their lives to the best of our ability, Sauganash would like to send letters to the residents of Nazarethville Nursing Home. To this end, we need your help! All you have to do is write a letter or card that could start as follows:

"Hi, My name is _____ and I go to _____ School and attend Sauganash Study Center." Then, offer a word of comfort, such as "we are praying or thinking of you during these times". Additionally, you could draw a picture, write a poem, or tell a story; basically, write something that might entertain them for a bit. It really does mean a lot!

When you're all set and done, just mail the letters to me at
203 N. Louis St. Unit E
Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056
and we will send them all at once. Try your best to send these letters to me by April 23rd so perhaps write them this weekend.

online UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY - FIRDAY - 12:00 pm
[Holy Mass](#)

SUNDAY 4/19 - 8:00 pm
[Family Rosary](#)

YOU DON'T HAVE A
TIME MACHINE, BUT
YOU HAVE TIME



WORDS OF WISDOM
from Chief Sauganash

5 FOR 5 FOR THE WEEKEND

PLAN OF LIFE

Mental Prayer

Although not having our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament makes prayer harder, Jesus recommends, "But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you."

Holy Mass

Virtually participate in the celebration of the Holy Mass and pray a spiritual communion: "I wish my Lord to receive you with the purity, humility, and devotion with which your most holy mother received you and with the spirit and the fervor of the saints."

Spiritual Reading

Just as we need food to keep our bodies healthy, we need spiritual reading to keep our souls healthy. Spend 5 minutes a day reading the Gospel.

Rosary

Our Lady is a powerful intercessor. Let's go to her for our intentions and show her our love with a crown of roses, the rosary. Our Lady, Help of Sick, pray for us

Examination of Conscience

Socrates says, "The unexamined life is not worth living." When you spend 1 minute with the help of the Holy Spirit, examining your conscience, and asking for forgiveness every night, you grow in love for our Lord and grow in knowledge of yourself.

LIFE WITH A PLAN

Schedule

Make a schedule for the weekend with a set time to wake up and go to bed. You can [click here](#) for a template.

Teach your Grandpa to take a *selfie*

He will never forget it (and if he does, teach him again).

Write a letter to someone in a nursing home

Scroll back up to Page 2 and follow the instructions from John. Put it in the mailbox by Monday night.

Game

Organize a game with your family. Choose your favorite board game or card game. Play Mafia or Resistance. Design your own escape room.

Book

Choose a book that interests you from the list [here](#). Or just take Justin's recommendation from yesterday's issue: *With Fire and Sword*.

1

2

3

4

5

WAKE UP,
DON'T MISS
THE ALARM

