

IT WAS GOD'S GRACE

On a small farm in Dickeyville, Wisconsin, the seeds of hard work, simplicity, and faith were well planned for Donald, now Bro. Ervan Digman SDS. As a young boy, Bro. Ervan assumed the chores and labors of a dairy farm, milking 30 cows before he left in the mornings to attend a nearby small Catholic school which Salvatorian Sisters ran. The Salvatorian Sisters in Dickeyville significantly influenced him as he began to entertain thoughts of religious life and ultimately pursue his vocation as a Salvatorian brother at the young age of 15.

Shortly after his profession of vows in 1950, he was assigned briefly to the Society's Jordan Seminary in Michigan until his transfer to the Society's Divine Savior Seminary in Lanham, Maryland, where he stayed for a decade. At the Lanham seminary, he picked up several trades. Even without the benefit of a classroom, he kept a huge boiler room running, did construction work on the property, and operated heavy machinery. Energized by hard work, Bro. Ervan also set up a chicken and turkey farm and processed the eggs for sale. To top that off, he added the role of bus driver to his duties until he was reassigned to St. Michael Parish in Grand Ronde, Oregon.

St. Michael Parish was one of the first Society-established Indian ministries in the USA back in 1892, and Brother is quick to enthusiastically point out that he was the last Salvatorian to serve in that original Society ministry. He served 26 years in this tiny parish, teaching



Bro. Ervan loves machinery, especially the tractor

physical education, running the roller rink, and making sure maintenance was taken care of on the buildings and school bus, which he also drove. "One of my fondest memories throughout my ministries has always been driving that bus in Grand Ronde, Oregon, and working at the roller rink," he shared. "Any time I could help at the Indian Mission, I was happy."



Bro. Ervan Digman SDS

He then moved to Mesa, Arizona, and served at Queen of Peace Parish until his retirement in 2000. His dedication to fixing and maintaining almost anything earned him a "jack of all trades" title from the parish. He did it all from painting and plastering to plumber, electrician, groundskeeper, and more, never losing his momentum.

"It was God's grace that called me to my vocation, came to my assistance, and pulled me through some challenging circumstances in my life," shared Bro. Ervan, who is celebrating 71 years of profession as a Salvatorian Brother this summer. Though Bro. Ervan's activities have lessened, he continues to enjoy his golden years of retirement at Alexian Village in Milwaukee.

MINISTRY OF SERVICE

Taking his Salvatorian religious journey another step, the Salvatorian Center's spiritual director, Bro. Silas Henderson SDS was ordained a Deacon on Saturday, February 20, at the St. Augustine Cathedral in Tucson, AZ.

Although most people think of deacons as being men who will eventually be ordained as priests or married men who feel called to take on this special form of ministry, Bro. Silas is taking on this particular ministry as a religious brother, joining Bro. George Maufort SDS and Bro. Sam Larson, in the ministry of "permanent" deacon. Bro. George, celebrating 58 years of profession this June, continues to minister at St Peter



Bro. Silas ordained a deacon

- Catholic Indian Mission in Fort Yates, ND. Bro. Sam, now retired, celebrated 71 years of profession this past March.

As a deacon, Bro. Silas is ordained to proclaim the Gospel at Mass and to preach and to baptize, to witness marriages, and to celebrate other liturgical rites. He has taken on a unique ministry of service to help make Christ's love known to the poor, the sick, and to those who are often overlooked by the broader culture. As Bro. Silas reflected, "I see the special ministry entrusted to me as a deacon as a wonderful expression of what each of us Salvatorians is called to do and to be: a witness of the love of Christ for everyone we encounter."

ST. JOSEPH

patrons of the Salvatorians.

To celebrate this special anniversary, Pope Francis has designated December 8, 2020, until December 8, 2021, as a special Year of Saint Joseph.

As Pope Francis reflected, "Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the

Saint Joseph is also honored as one of the heavenly patrons of the Salvatorians.

history of salvation" (Patris Corde, no. 1). In many ways, this quotation embodies the work of so many Salvatorian priests and brothers

throughout the world. Often in hidden ways—in the shadows—Salvatorians continue the Savior's work of lifting up those who are the last and the least in the eyes of the world.

We hope you will join us in this Year of Saint Joseph in offering prayers for all the Salvatorian priests and brothers—and all the members of our Salvatorian Family—who serve God and the Church in ways that might seem small, but which to God have infinite value. Saint Joseph, pray for us!

In the Divine Savior,

Bro. Silas SDS

Bro. Silas SDS

NEWS

Founder beatified

Our Salvatorian Family of priests, brothers, deacons, sisters and lay men and women joyfully announce that our founder, now called Blessed Francis Jordan, was beatified at the Basilica of St.



Official Beatification Portrait

John Lateran in Rome, Italy on May 15th, 2021.

The celebration, was an intimate gathering due to ongoing Pandemic restrictions.



SPRING INTO ACTION

The season of growth expands beyond blooming trees and gardens. In Spring... our clocks spring ahead in many parts of the country, we spring clean, and often our motivation levels climb. Ensure your legacy lives on with family and causes near to your heart. Spring into action with a financial health plan.

You can make sure loved ones are taken care of and you can support our mission with a deferred gift designated through your will or estate planning. Would you take a moment now to consider this? You know you can make a huge difference today by setting up an automatic monthly gift. Call us at 1-800-254-4902. An envelope is enclosed for easy giving.

CAMP

unflinching support to CSC, the camp pool will be renamed and dedicated in his honor as a tribute to his commitment and service to camp and his celebrated stint as a



swim instructor over the course of many summers.

Renovated camp pool dedicated to Fr. Glen Willis

OUR MISSION

In the spirit of our founder, Father Francis Jordan, the Society of the Divine Savior was founded more than 130 years ago and is a Catholic religious community working to share the love and mercy of our Savior, Jesus Christ, through all possible means.

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HOPE



Salvatorian Newsletter Spring 2021

STARTING POINT

One of the Church's most beloved saints, Saint Joseph is a figure shrouded in relative obscurity and legend. A tradesman, traditionally believed to have been a carpenter, Saint Joseph most likely taught Jesus his trade. On several occasions such as during Mary's pregnancy, the flight into Egypt, and the return to Palestine, he was guided by an angel. Because of the special care he showed to Mary, his wife, and to her child, Joseph was proclaimed patron of the Universal Church by Blessed Pius IX in 1870. Because it is believed that Saint Joseph died in the loving embrace of Jesus and Mary, he is also honored as a patron of a happy death. Saint Joseph is also honored as one of the heavenly



St. Joseph

CAMP RETURNS

Exciting summer news

While things may look a little different this summer, we have received exciting news about summer camp operations from the Governor of Maryland, where our beloved Camp St. Charles is located. We can confidently welcome campers this season, and we are so excited! "We are going to have so much fun this summer that we will definitely make up for 2020," said Laura Hall, camp director.

"Our team is working tirelessly, adapting our programs to meet revised guidelines

from the American Camp Association Field Guide for Implementation of CDC Guidance," she said. "We are all eager to return to camp and are continuing to work on a variety of ways to adapt our summer camp programming and integrate COVID-19 mitigation protocols.



Fr. Glen shares his love of music.

Honoring Fr. Glen A special virtual celebration took place on March 5th to honor Fr. Glen Willis SDS, who for over 60 years has served Camp St. Charles, while wearing a variety of hats. In recognition of his contributions and