



# the Chalice

CALIX SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 52

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Issue No. 2



## President's Column

by Mike G.

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In the Saint Paul unit we are using the Letter of James as a study. This week we ended at "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world."

This led me to think about Little Sisters of the Poor.

Many of the residents at Little Sisters of the Poor are widows. Little Sisters was founded by Saint Jeanne Jugan in France in the 1800's.

Prayer to Saint Jeanne Jugan:

*Jesus, you rejoiced and praised your Father for having revealed to the little ones the mysteries of the kingdom of Heaven. We thank you for the graces granted to your humble servant, Saint Jeanne Jugan, to whom we confide our petitions and needs. Father of the poor, you have never refused the prayer of the lowly. We ask you, therefore, to hear the petitions that she presents to you on our behalf. Jesus, through Mary, you mother and ours, we ask this of you, who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen*

Jeanne Jugan founded the Little Sisters of the Poor and many times stressed humility as a virtue. I think humility is a vital need as a person in recovery. While I was drinking, I surely was not humble and had a distorted view of myself. I think the key to humility is seeing yourself as you are.

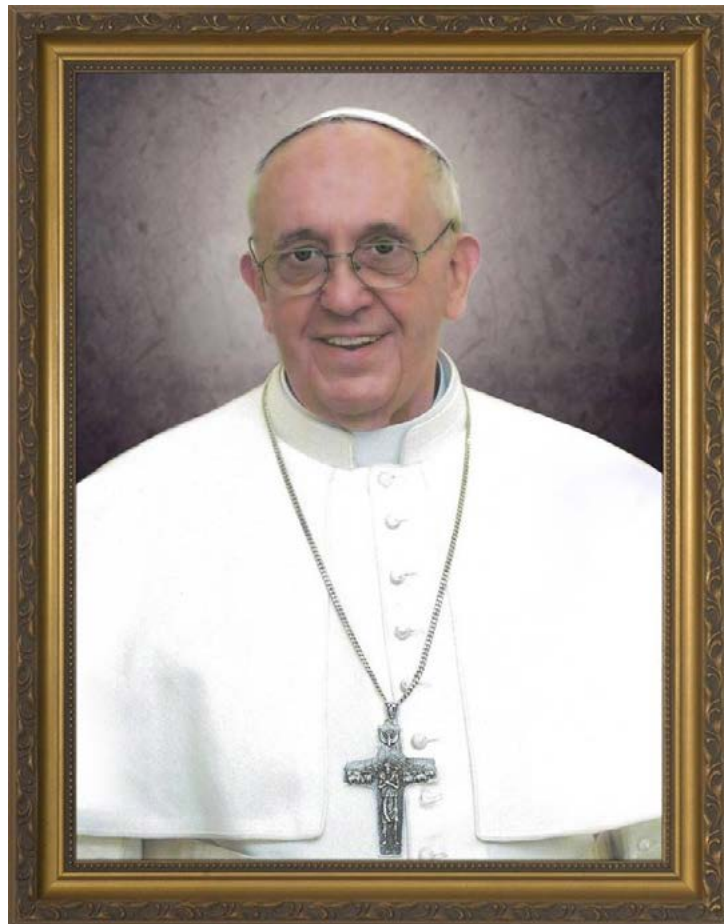
Good news! We have a new board member. His name is Lloyd Patton, and he is a member of Our Lady Parish in Penndel, PA. This gives us a full board. Yea!

The Saint Paul Calix held its induction on the 27th of April. I was happy to see three new members join. The speaker Morgan gave a great talk on Divine Mercy. We had a nice fried chicken dinner after the talk. Attendance was good and it was nice to see some members we had not seen for a while.



*Prayers for Our Past  
and Present Popes*

*by Father Roland Lajoie, SM  
Calix Chaplain.*



**December 17, 1936 – April 21, 2025**

Thank you, Pope Francis for your YES in serving our heavenly Father's Flock  
for 12 years as the "Peoples' Pope".

We, at CALIX, thank you for your apostolic blessing  
on the occasion of our 75th anniversary in 2024.

May your soul and may the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

We love you!



*Habemus Papam!*  
**POPE LEO XIV**

Get to know Pope Leo XIV and  
welcome him with our prayers!



**Calix Welcomes and Congratulates Pope Leo XIV  
as the Good Shepherd of Our Flock!**



**The First Word of Pope Leo XIV**

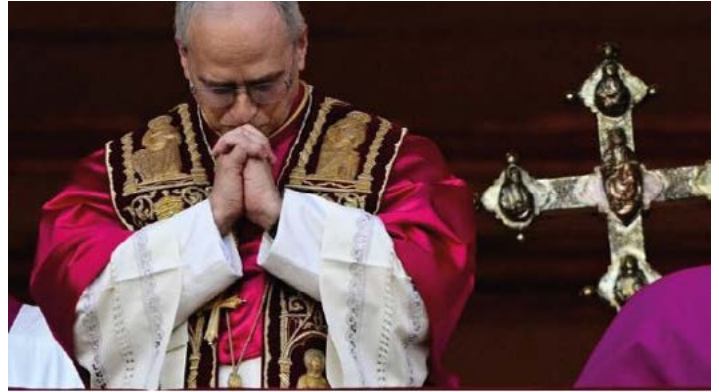
“Peace be with all of you

I also wish that this greeting of peace enters your hearts, reaches your families, all people, wherever they may be, all nations, and the entire earth. Peace be with you! This is the peace of the Risen Christ: a peace that is disarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. It comes from God, a God who loves us all unconditionally. We still hear in our ears that faint but always courageous voice of Pope Francis blessing Rome. The Pope who blessed Rome gave his blessing to the world, to the entire world, that morning of Easter Sunday. Allow me to continue with that same blessing: God loves us, God loves you all, and evil will not prevail! We are all in God’s hands. Therefore, without fear, hand in hand with God and with each other, let us go forward. We are disciples of Christ. Christ goes

before us. The world needs His light. Humanity needs Him as a bridge to be reached by God and His love. Help us too, and help each other, to build bridges, with dialogue, with encounter, uniting all to be one people, always at peace. Thank you, Pope Francis! I also want to thank all the brother Cardinals who have chosen me to be the Successor of Peter and to walk alongside you, as a united Church that always seeks peace and justice, that always works as men and women faithful to Jesus Christ, without fear, to proclaim the Gospel and be missionaries. I am a son of Saint Augustine, an Augustinian, who said: «With you I am a Christian, for you I am a Bishop.» In that sense, we can all walk together toward the homeland that God has prepared for us.

To the Church of Rome, a special greeting!

[Applause] We must seek together to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges, dialogue, always open to receive, like this Square, with open arms. To all, all those who need our charity, our presence, dialogue, and love. And if you allow me, a word, a greeting to all of you, and in particular to my beloved diocese of Chiclayo, in Peru, where a faithful people have accompanied their Bishop, shared their faith, and given so much, so much to continue being the faithful Church of Jesus Christ. To all of you, brothers and sisters of Rome, of Italy, of the entire world: we want to be a synodal Church, a Church that journeys, a Church that always seeks peace, that always seeks charity, that always wants to be close, especially to those who suffer. Today is the day of the Prayer to Our Lady of Pompeii. Our Lady Mary always wants to walk with us, to be close to us, and help us with her intercession and her love. So, I want to pray with you. Let us pray together for this new mission, for the entire Church, for peace in the world, and let us ask this special grace of Mary, our Mother. Hail Mary. . .



#### **Prayer for Our Pope Leo XIV:**

Lord, source of eternal life and truth, give to your shepherd Leo a spirit of courage and right judgment, a spirit of knowledge and love.

By governing with fidelity those entrusted to his care, may he, as successor to the Apostle Peter and Vicar of Christ, build your Church into a sacrament of unity, love and peace for all the world. Amen.

V/ Let us pray for the Pope. R/ May the Lord preserve him, give him a long life, make him blessed upon the earth, and not hand him over to the power of his enemies. V/ May your hand be upon your holy servant. R/ And upon your son, whom you have anointed. Our Father ... Hail Mary ... Glory Be...



## Sydney Unit News and Outreach

By Kevin S



### Calix Society, Sydney Unit – April - June 2025

*We substitute the cup that sanctifies for the cup that stupefies*

We look forward to Easter while on the Lenten journey. We have negotiated daylight saving times Sydney and Harrisburg. We prayed on the day of Unit Patron, Saint John of God – March 8.

Fr Kim's words relate to the Gospel for the second Sunday of Lent "The Transfiguration"; that event in the life of Jesus is a favourite scripture of mine and also occurs in the Gospel on August 6. Let's get transfigured!

#### Saturday Mass and About Calix talks [St Joseph, Enfield]

- 12<sup>th</sup> of April
- 10<sup>th</sup> of May

Please "Bring a plate", a suitable friend, or find some other way to serve.

#### Meditation Retreats [Third Sundays Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2025 (10:30am-3pm)]

Location: [The Benedictine Monks at Arcadia](#)

16th February: Attended by Kevin S and Mark P. of Enfield Steps.

Next Retreat / Meditation Day: May 18.

...Silence-Simplicity-Stillness.....MA-RA-NA-THA – Come Lord Jesus...

#### 2025 default Zoom text

Boundaries: [When to Say Yes, How to Say No To Take Control of Your Life \(2018\)](#). We are half-way through this book, biblical, based on substantive experience, and makes good sense for people in 12-step recovery.



#### Church Humour (Judson K. Cornelius, 2008)

Father Coogan finished the Sunday morning liturgy and shouted at his parishioners, 'stand up, all ye who prefer sin!'

Quillan, who had been half asleep, jumped to his feet.

"Do you prefer sin?" roared the Priest.

"Oh, I'm sorry! I thought you said *gin*."

*[Humour is a sign of recovery – anonymous]*

#### Evangelisation

We support the faith journey of Billy, who is interested in the Catholic faith from attendance at a Big Book Study group where Calix literature was available. Billy has commenced RCIA and likes to pray the Most Holy Rosary. We have also communicated with Bishop Don Sproston, about the Calix Society in Australia and left the door open for this West Australian Bishop to investigate Calix. *How can they know without proclamation* (Rom 10:14)? [Calix: Best kept secret of the catholic church].

#### Unit Membership

We recently welcomes new member "Lucy", from Melbourne. Zoom meetings have benefits! We welcome Lucy who always makes positive contributions to meetings and has told others about Calix. Thank you, Lord! People who align themselves with the [CREDO](#) are welcome.

Pay \$25 annually. OR Donate \$5 per month.

Stop contributing and your membership with expire at the end of the calendar year in contributed \$25.

<https://www.calixsociety.org/membership/>

#### Unit Chaplain

Reverend Father Kim



"... The point of the Transfiguration, is by virtue of our baptism in Christ and we have the Risen life in us. ... we have hope, we have the potential to change bad things that happen to us, into a blessing." – Fr Kim, St Joseph, Enfield - Second Sunday of Lent 2025.  
<https://stjosephenfield.org.au/bulletins/>

**Did you know (The Jesuit / 12-Step Connection – AUS and USA)?**

Father Richard Murphy SJ played a principal role in the establishment of the first Australian 12-step group in the 1940s.<sup>1</sup> Father Edward Dowling, SJ, was called "the greatest and most gentle soul to walk this planet" by Bill Wilson. Fr Ed helped transform Bill's life and deepened the spirituality of the twelve-step movement<sup>2</sup>. Tens of thousands of men, women, and children have benefited from the flow-on effects of groups which are informed (substantially) by Catholic theology. That is worthy of a prayer of gratitude! Hail Mary .....

Saint John of God and Venerable Matt Talbot, Calix Sydney Unit patrons, *pray for us*.  
Kevin S. for Calix Sydney Unit

<sup>1</sup> Nolan, J. (2000). [Richard James Francis Murphy \(1875-1957\)](#). Online in 2006. Australian Dictionary of Biography. Accessed March 2025.

<sup>2</sup> Goldstein, DE. (February 28, 2003). [Father Ed, The Story of Bill W's Spiritual Sponsor](#). Boston College. Accessed March 2025.

## ***Hometown Harmony***

*By Jim R and Christine K*

I'm Jim Rathburn, CALIX Board member and active in our St Paul Mn group. I grew up in La Crosse, Wisconsin, Catholic grade school and high school.

When we decided to commit time to outreach and making people aware of Calix, I had our La Crosse Diocese on my list. I sent information to the Bishop and he forwarded it to a Director of Ministries. He was enthusiastic and posted info to priests with Diocese direction on making parishioners aware.

A woman named Christine reached out to him and I. She wanted to start a group. Her persistence was God driven. She came up to St Paul to observe our meetings! She identified a priest to be the chaplain, and he was happy to help. They are off and running, having meetings for a few months now.

My hometown had a wonderful harmony and was filled with the Holy Spirit guiding them.

Blessings,  
Jim

The Calix Unit in the La Crosse Diocese started February 2025. The group meets via Zoom two Tuesdays a month 6 pm central time for one hour. The content of focus and discussion changes with every meeting. The content is based on the liturgical season and the 12 steps. We may discuss scripture, mediations, the sacraments, etc. Content is emailed to the participants the day prior to the meeting for prayer and reflection along with the zoom link. All Calix members are welcome to join us and we also encourage you to invite a friend. If you are interested in joining us and would like to receive our content for discussion, please email Christine at [healthandharmonywi@gmail.com](mailto:healthandharmonywi@gmail.com).

This past month participants from the group attended Faith and Recovery hosted by the La Crosse Diocese. The speakers at the event were: Joe McGivney. He wrote You're a Miracle? My story of Alcoholism, Miraculous Healing, and God's Infinite Power and Love. The second speaker was Keaton Douglas, the Executive Director of the iThirst initiative. It was really nice for our group to meet for Mass, and then to sit as a group to listen to the speakers. We even had a participant from the Minneapolis, MN Calix Unit join us.

-- Christine K.



# CALIX ZOOM RETREAT GREAT IS OUR GOD

**O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST, OUR HOPE FOR  
YEARS TO COME**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 2, 2025**  
**10AM-4PM EST**  
**9AM-3PM CST**

## **TALK #1** Beth

**"GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD  
THAT HE SENT HIS ONLY SON TO  
LOVE US INTO LIFE."**

Beth Sheridan is a child of God and grateful recovering alcoholic since August 2004. Raised as a cradle Catholic, she discovered Calix in February 2021. Beth is married to her husband, Tom and they have four adult children and three grandchildren. She works as a School Psychologist in NH, loves to laugh and listen to others willing to share their faith journey.



## **JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE**

Fr. Roland is originally from Van Buren, ME. He was ordained a priest in the Society of Mary, the Marist Fathers, July 5, 1974. He is presently a senior priest at St. Louis King of France Parish, St. Paul, Minnesota. He has been a member of Calix since 2018 and national chaplain since 2023.

## **TALK #2**

**Fr. Roland Lajoie, SM –  
National Chaplain of Calix**

## **TALK #3** Susan



## **SCRIPTURAL ROSARY**

Susan H. is thankful to be a sober Catholic woman, and active in the recovery community. She currently serves on the Board as Vice-President of the Calix Society and provides assistance to those initiating new Calix units locally and throughout the continent.



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 2025**



# CALIX ZOOM RETREAT GREAT IS OUR GOD

## TALK #4

Michael Googly

### THE VENERABLE MATT TALBOT

Matt can be considered the patron of men and women struggling with alcoholism. He was born in Dublin, where his father worked on the docks and had a difficult time supporting his family. After a few years of schooling, Matt obtained work as a messenger for some liquor merchants; there he began to drink excessively. For 15 years—until he was almost 30—Matt was an active alcoholic.



**THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO BRING GLAD TIDINGS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO CAPTIVES AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO LET THE OPPRESSED GO FREE, AND TO PROCLAIM A YEAR ACCEPTABLE TO THE LORD. (LUKE 4:18-19, EMPHASIS ADDED)**

**ZOOM RETREAT  
SATURDAY AUGUST 2, 2025**

**10AM-4PM EST**

**9AM-3PM CST**

**6AM-12PM PST**

VISIT [WWW.CALIXSOCIETY.ORG](http://WWW.CALIXSOCIETY.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION



**The Calix Society**  
We substitute the cup that sanctifies for the cup that stupefies

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 2025**



## ***Editors Notes, Call For Articles, etc.***

- ★ At Calix, we strive to be a source of inspiration and encouragement to each other, geared to our growth toward spiritual maturity.
- ★ For the Chalice newsletter, we want to share our members' recovery and spiritual journeys, recognizing that each individual is on a different part of that journey or path.
- ★ So, wherever you are on your recovery / spiritual journey, please consider writing an article for the Chalice.
- ★ Board member Susan H. has taken the lead in getting the Chalice back on its feet post COVID, she is doing a great job at soliciting articles so please send them along to her by [clicking here](#).
- ★ Please include your first name and last initial at the top of the article so we know who the article came from

As editor, I'm happy to assist in the layout of the chalice while Susan has volunteered to encourage members to submit articles for upcoming issues, collect them and forward them to me.

We are taking articles for the Fall issue already, so feel free to send them at any time. Tell your own story or share whatever you think will be helpful to other members (articles written by other, images, etc.).

We have no theme requirements to follow at this time, so consider upcoming articles as a sort of top-plate share... whatever is on your heart regarding your recovery.

We welcome feedback and suggestions, so just send them along to Susan or myself or any board member for that matter and we will consider them.

Blessings everyone!!

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### **Attention Calix Authors!**

If you have submitted copy intended for publication and it has not been in the Chalice, please resubmit it to [susanhaibeck@gmail.com](mailto:susanhaibeck@gmail.com) and in the subject box please say **"For Chalice"**. We receive so much wonderful correspondence, sometimes I may think it is an FYI and it was intended to be in the Chalice! It is encouraging and fascinating to learn of all the wonderful outreach and meaning work occurring in parishes all over the world by our members. The Chalice is another tool easily sent to a potential member.

Thank you!

Chalice Staff

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