



# CONNECTIONS

*Celebrating Our Eucharistic Partnership in the Eymardian Family*

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## Looking to the Provincial Chapter

The Province of Saint Ann will hold its 25th Provincial Chapter October 21-26, 2018, at Bethany Center in Lutz, Florida. When in session, the Chapter is the supreme governing authority in the Province. Please pray for God’s blessing and guidance on the meetings and the important work of prayer, dialogue, and discernment being undertaken.

*Jim Brown  
Director  
Center for Eucharistic Evangelizing*

## Our Lady and the Rosary

In October 2017, Pope Francis was reflecting on praying the rosary:

“I would like to emphasize the beauty of a simple contemplative prayer, accessible to all, great and small, the educated and those with little education. It is the prayer of the Holy Rosary. In the rosary we turn to the Virgin Mary so that she may guide us to an ever closer union with her son Jesus. . . . The rosary is an effective means for opening ourselves to God, for it helps us to overcome egotism and to bring peace to hearts, in the family, in society, and in the world.”

This past April, Pope Francis invited Catholics worldwide to join him in praying the rosary during the month of May for peace in the world, especially in Syria, Nigeria, and the Koreans. He later added that we should pray for peace in all the conflicted areas of the world.

The *Rule of Life* of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament states in number 14:

Mary, mother of Jesus, voice of the poor and the lowly, welcomed the word of God into her heart and put it into practice.

We will honor Mary as the poor one of Yahweh and the servant of the Lord, with a love like that of the Founder who also invoked her under the title of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament. We will love to meditate the mysteries of the rosary.

It is in this spirit that we would like to let you know about a recent book written and published by Ivonne J. Hernandez, an Associate of the Blessed Sacrament from Saint Vincent de Paul Church in Holiday, Florida, *The Rosary: Eucharistic Meditations with Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Apostle of the Eucharist*.

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*Rule of Life, 14*

CENTER FOR  
EUCCHARISTIC EVANGELIZING  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

A Ministry of the  
Congregation of the  
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### Our Lady and the Rosary (*Continued*)

As our guest writer, Connie Bulat, says in the article below, Ivonne takes each of the 20 mysteries of the rosary (*the Joyful Mysteries, the Mysteries of Light, the Sorrowful Mysteries, and the Glorious Mysteries*) and offers an Eymardian reflection and one written by herself to help us pray in this contemplative way, the Holy Rosary.

Ivonne references two books from what is referred to as The Eymard Library: *The Real Presence* and *Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament*. (See “A Historical Note” below). The quotes she uses give us a perspective inspired by Saint Peter Julian to help us reflect on each mystery of the rosary.

Let us take up the invitation from Pope Francis and pray the Holy Rosary for peace in our world, within our Catholic Church, and within our own country, and wherever we find conflict — in our families and communities and even within our own hearts.

To order the book, go to [www.elishebahouse.com](http://www.elishebahouse.com).

*Jim Brown*

#### A HAPPY FIND

I have been a rosary person for most of my life, inheriting my love of the rosary from my parents. This past spring, my husband John was listening to the Gus Lloyd radio broadcast on Sirius XM’s The Catholic Channel. He gets his daily reflection each day. On this day, Ivonne Hernandez was being interviewed about her new publication *The Rosary: Eucharistic Meditations with Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Apostle of the Eucharist*.

This was intriguing to us since she said she was an Associate of the Blessed Sacrament from a parish in Florida run by the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. We two were in the midst of the formation program to become Associates of the Blessed Sacrament.

So I looked up Ivonne’s website *Elisheba* and found the book she was talking about. This wonderful book written by Ivonne has given me an incredible new way to pray my daily rosary. Ivonne has researched Saint Peter Julian’s writings and picked a passage for each of the 20 mysteries of the rosary. Each mystery also has a reflection written by Ivonne to help in our understanding and meditating on that mystery.

I have found this book to be an amazing way to grow in my love for Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament and through her, to her Son in the Eucharist. Thank you, Ivonne, for sharing your gift with us.

*Connie Bulat*  
*Associate of the Blessed Sacrament*  
*Cibolo, Texas*

#### A HISTORICAL NOTE

When in 1995 then-Pope John Paul II inserted the feast of Saint Peter Julian Eymard into the general calendar of the Catholic Church on August 2, he effectively decreed that Father Eymard had a Eucharistic spirituality for the *whole* Church. He was no longer a saint just for the two religious congregations and the lay aggregation he founded and the people of his home town, La Mure d’Isère, in France.

Increasingly, many have discovered this saint for our times on the Internet and through volumes known as The Eymard Library, compiled and published after Father Eymard’s death by Father Albert Tesnière, SSS.

We are very fortunate today to have six volumes of Saint Peter Julian’s letters and correspondence, translated by Sister Catherine Marie Caron, SSS, and 17 volumes of his actual works.

*Jim Brown*