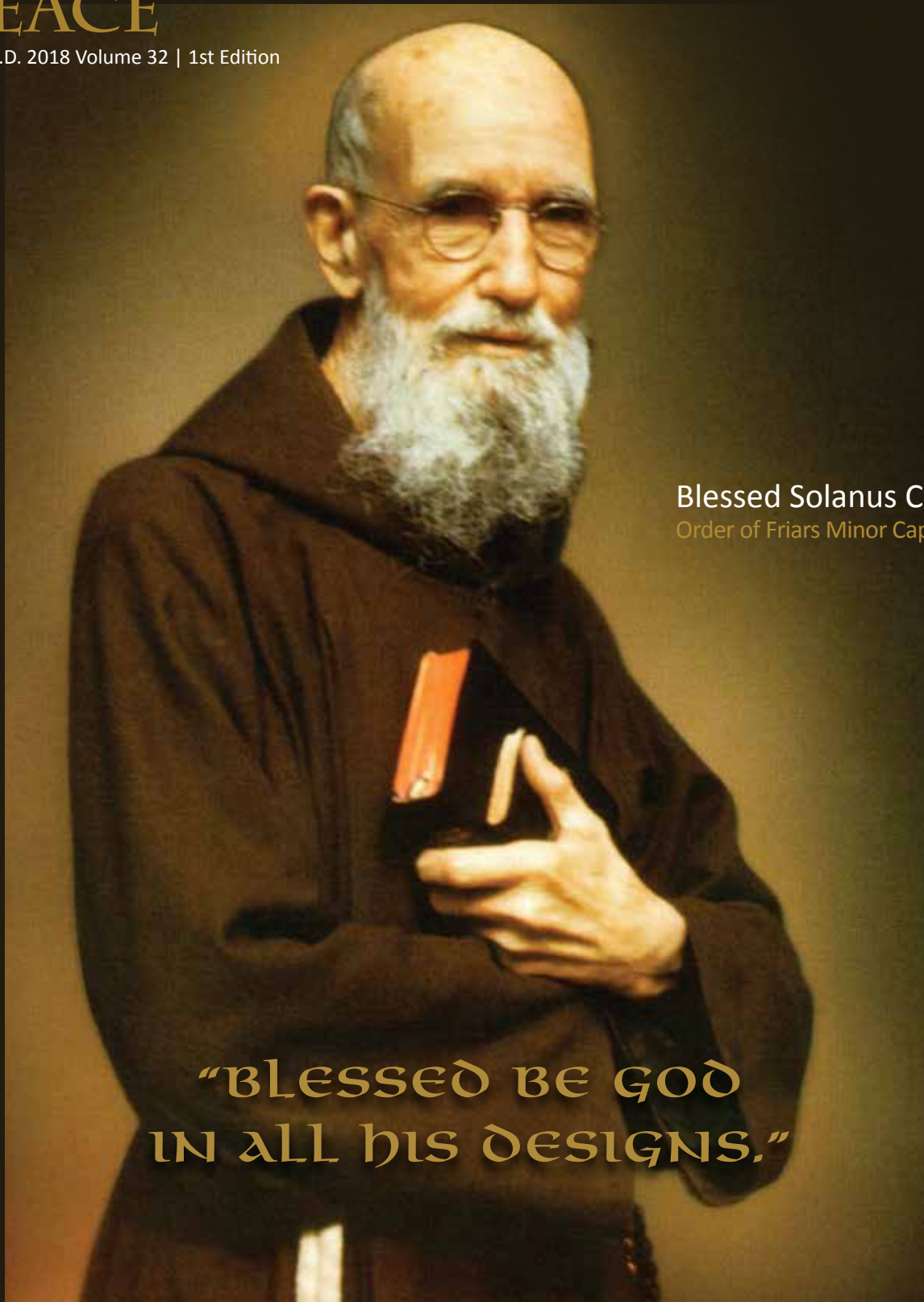


FRANCISCAN BROTHERS OF PEACE

Newsmagazine A.D. 2018 Volume 32 | 1st Edition



Blessed Solanus Casey
Order of Friars Minor Capuchin

*“BLESSED BE GOD
IN ALL HIS DESIGNS.”*

Devoted to the Gospel of Life



Brotherhood Update

by Brother Conrad Richardson, fbp
Community Servant

Holiday Food Programs

Our sincere thanks to all who assisted us with our Thanksgiving and Christmas food programs to those in need. The season became brighter for numerous families who came to our door, thanks to the generosity of our friends and benefactors who donated turkeys, hams, holiday foods, grocery store gift cards and warm clothing. We also appreciate all those who spent time volunteering with us by sorting and bagging food. We now “thank God ahead of time” (Bl. Solanus Casey) for your continued support and prayers for our Franciscan way of life and for those we continue to serve.



Dear Brothers, pray for us!

Brothers Attend FOCUS Conference

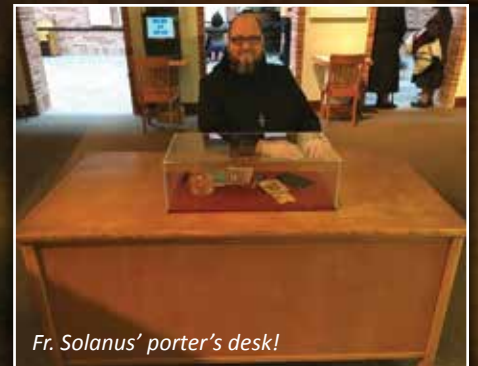
BY BROTHER PASCHAL, FBP

What a blessing it was for Brother Antonio and me to share in this disciple-makers gathering! FOCUS is a Catholic collegiate outreach whose mission is to share the hope and joy of the gospel with college and university students (www.focus.org). They have teams of young adults on over 120 campuses, discipling college students for Christ and His Church. The organization’s biannual conference, called SLS (Student Leadership Summit), was held in Chicago January 2-6. It brought together over 8,000 college student leaders, campus ministers, missionaries, priests, bishops, lay leaders, and Religious women and men to pray together and become better disciple-makers.



We joined a small group where we practiced the “win-build-send” model of FOCUS, which should strengthen our outreach to the local KaRen refugees. We saw old friends and made new ones. We got to meet passionate and searching students, prayed for their vocations, and shared our own. We also thoroughly enjoyed our Conventual Franciscan brothers at St. Bonaventure’s Friary and are so grateful they shared their housing, liturgies, and friendship with us. “Go and make disciples...”

Actor Jim Caviezel’s surprise Conference visit.



Fr. Solanus’ porter’s desk!

"BLESSED BE GOD IN ALL HIS DESIGNS."

The Beatification of Father Solanus Casey, OFM Capuchin • November 18, 2017

BY BROTHER CONRAD, FBP

A portrait of an old friar with a white beard and kind face holding a breviary caught my attention as I walked down the hall of the discernment house where I lived before entering the Franciscan Brothers of Peace. Kevin, my house mate and now long-time friend, was sitting at the desk in his room with the door open, and as I stopped to say hello I was drawn to the picture on his wall. "Who is that?" I asked. I knew as much that he was a Franciscan, I was actually discerning that particular vocation. Kevin told me about the humble doorkeeper (porter) and about the Father Solanus Casey Guild which I subsequently joined, soon receiving my very own portrait of this blessed friar.



Paula Medina Zarate processes with relic of Blessed Solanus, accompanied by Provincial Minister Michael Sullivan, OFM Cap. and another friar.

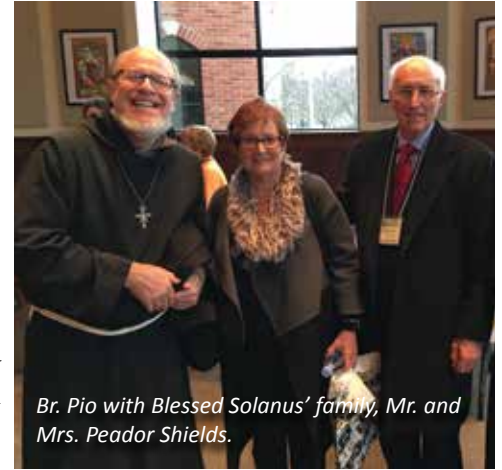
for the Causes of Saints, celebrated the Mass and read Pope Francis' decree in Latin (which was also read in English) declaring Father Solanus officially blessed. Then a large wood-framed image of Blessed Solanus was unveiled — the same image that I received over twenty years ago when I became a Guild member. It was also announced that the liturgical memorial of Blessed Solanus is July 30th, which is the eve of the anniversary of his death.

During the rite of beatification, a first-class relic of Blessed Solanus was presented for veneration. The relic was carried by Paula Medina Zarate. In 2012 Ms. Zarate, of Panama, was miraculously cured of a rare skin disease through the intercession of Father Solanus. Interestingly, she did



Praying at Blessed Solanus' tomb.

not seek his intercession for her own need when she had the chance to visit the shrine, but only offered prayers for others at his tomb. Before she left she heard a voice asking, "And you, what do you need?" It was then that Zarate asked to be healed of her skin disease. She immediately felt heat moving through her body, noticing that her skin was beginning to flake away revealing pinkish new skin underneath. It was this medically unexplainable miracle that led to Father Solanus' beatification.



Br. Pio with Blessed Solanus' family, Mr. and Mrs. Peador Shields.

God's designs are indeed a wonder. We should give thanks to God for having such a great friend and intercessor among the heavenly host. Blessed Solanus Casey... pray for us!

Pope Francis' Apostolic Decree:

"We, fulfilling the wishes of Allen Henry Vigneron, Metropolitan Archbishop of Detroit, and several other brothers in the Episcopate as well as many Christian faithful, on the recommendation of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, by our apostolic authority, decree that the Venerable Servant of God, Francis Solanus (secular name: Bernard Casey), professed priest of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin, a humble and faithful disciple of Christ, tireless in serving the poor, henceforth be called by the name of 'blessed' and that he may be celebrated annually on the 30th of July in the places and ways established by law. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

— Given in Rome, near St. Peter, on the 11th of November, on the Memorial of St. Martin of Tours, bishop, in the year 2017 of Our Lord, the fifth of our pontificate.



Brothers Attend Local and National Marches for Life

January is Pro-Life Month. The brothers have always pro-actively upheld the dignity of human life; from pre-born children, to the medically vulnerable, to international victims of torture and to all people threatened by the culture of death. With forty-five years of legalized abortion and scores of medically vulnerable persons being deprived of basic food and water (considered medical treatment for those who can not use a fork and spoon), not to mention physician-assisted suicide (legal in six states so far), combined with the myriad of lives lost due to war and other acts of senseless violence, the brothers will never stop defending our most defenseless brothers and sisters.



www.brothersofpeace.org



FRANCISCAN HOLY HOUR

EVERY FIRST FRIDAY AT 7:00 P.M.

Adoration + Franciscan Crown Rosary + Chanted Compline + Benediction

Refreshments and Fellowship follow.

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE FRIARY + MEN 18-35

EVERY THIRD FRIDAY FROM 7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

Lively Discussion + Recreation + Refreshments

Adoration + Chanted Compline

NEW!