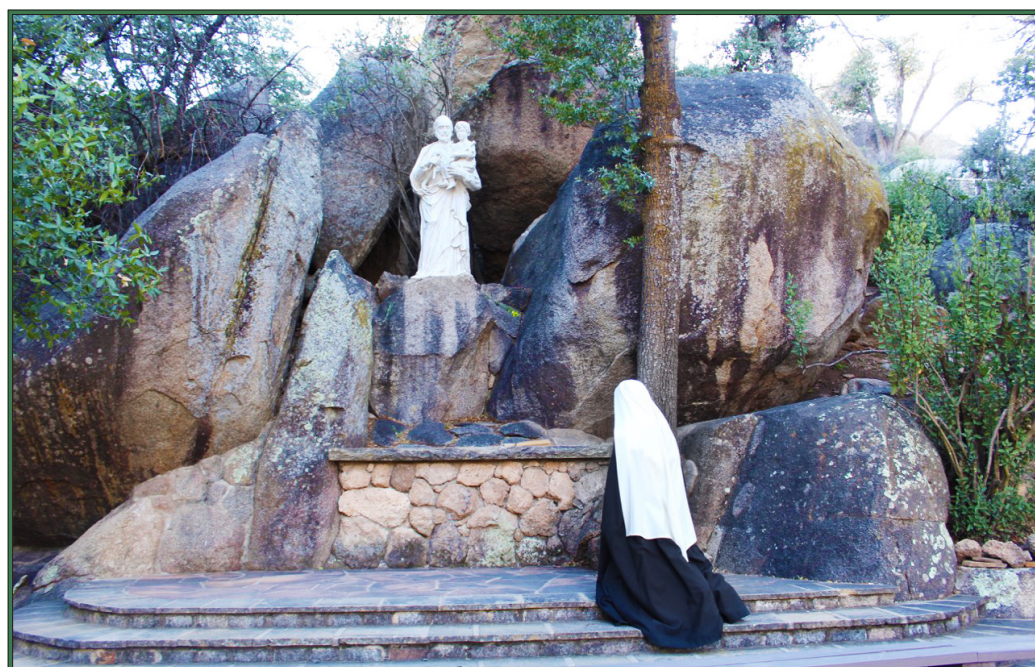




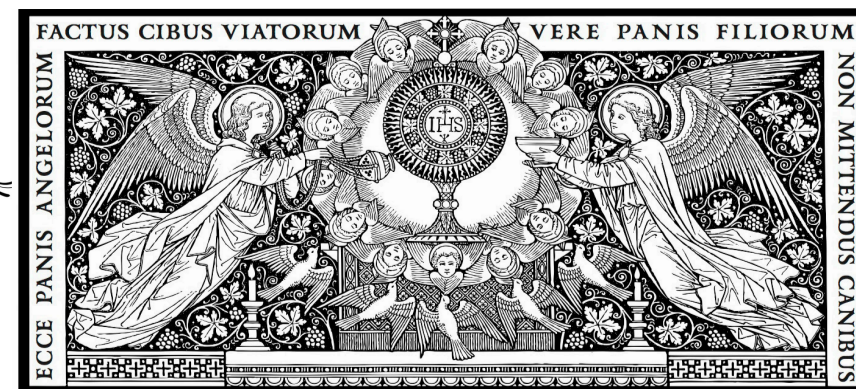
## The Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas

20120 Barnett Road

Brooksville, Florida 34601



*Angelica - Spring 2016*  
*The Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas*



Dear Reader,

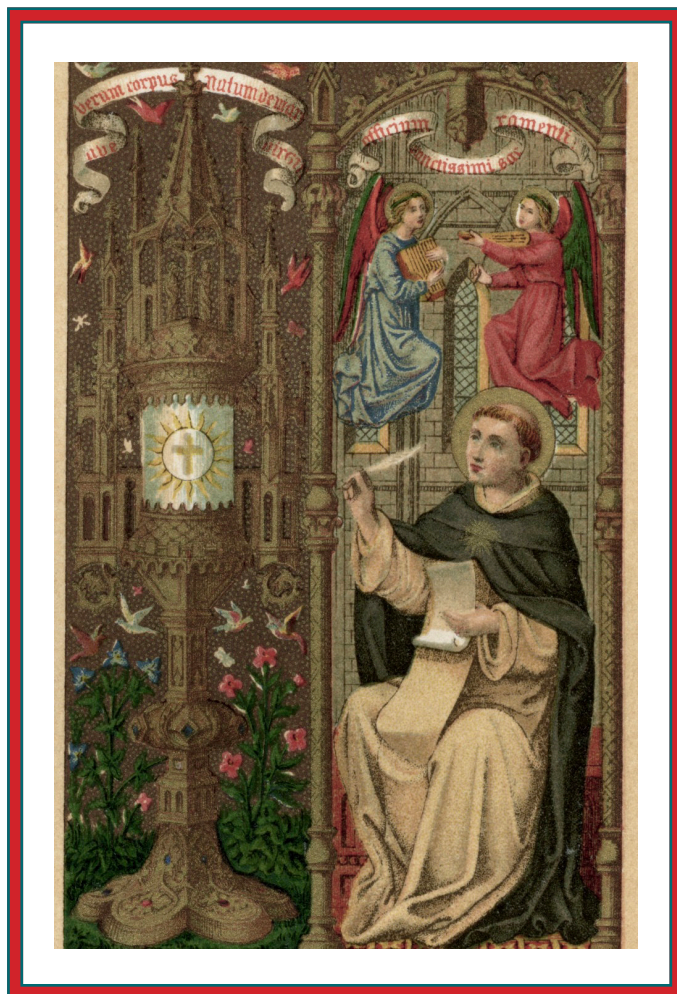
As the end of May approaches, our thoughts turn in anticipation to the upcoming feast of Corpus Christi. The Mass and the Divine Office for this feast were written by Saint Thomas Aquinas, who was commissioned by the pope to do so. The sublimity of his compositions manifests the high sanctity of the holy author. No one could have composed such rich treasures of music, poetry, and liturgy as the “Lauda Sion,” the “Sacris Solemniis,” and the “Pange Lingua” without a living faith and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

The Angelic Doctor was accustomed to recite daily the following prayer: “Sweetest Jesus, Body and Blood most holy, be the delight and pleasure of my soul, my strength and salvation in all temptations, my joy and peace in every trial, my light and guide in every word and deed, and my final protection in death.” On his deathbed, when the saint’s bodily strength failed, the ardor of a lifetime of deep faith and true devotion endured; for when the Holy Viaticum was brought to him, the Saint, though exhausted, weak, and feverish, rose from his bed and prostrated himself on the ground to adore the Most Blessed Sacrament. Upon answering the customary question of faith put to him by the priest, he said: “If it were possible to have a knowledge more certain than faith in the truth of the doctrine of the Holy Sacrament, I answer, by virtue of that knowledge, that I believe and know for certain that this Sacrament is true God and Man, the very Son of the Father, and of the Virgin Mary.”

It is our duty as his children and as members of the Christ’s Mystical Body to follow Saint Thomas’s example. We, like him, must make the Holy Eucharist the center of our lives-not







only when we are before the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, but the whole day long, even while working, recreating, and eating. This is the life of a true devotee of the Holy Eucharist; if we are to accomplish any good for the Church, we must make this mode of living our own. Naturally, it is impossible, not only to lead such a life, but even to desire to lead it. Grace, however, abundantly supplies if we would only ask for it. Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, at this moment, holds these graces in His hands waiting to pour them into the souls who come and present themselves to Him. It is for us to live this devotion to the Blessed Sacrament; so that, when we die, we may be able to say with St. Thomas as we receive Holy Viaticum: “I receive Thee, the price of the redemption of my soul, the viaticum of my sojourn here below, Thee, for whose glory I have studied, watched, preached, and taught...Soon, soon will the God of all comfort complete His mercies on me, and fill all my desires. I shall shortly be satiated in Him and drink of the torrent of His delights; be inebriated from the abundance of His house, and in Him Who is the source of life, I shall behold the true Light.”



✻

“Virgin Immaculate, perfect lover of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, we ask you to obtain for us the graces we need to become true adorers of our Eucharistic God. Grant us, we beg of you, to know Him better, to love Him more, and to center our lives around the Eucharist, that is, to make our whole life a constant prayer of adoration, thanksgiving, reparation, and petition to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Amen.”  
Blessed Peter Julian Eymard



*With spring in full bloom, we are spending more time outdoors. In Phoenix, we are currently expanding the convent garden. Though the hard desert-like clay can hardly be called rich soil, nevertheless, many plant and flowers grow well here. Carrots and potatoes were recently added to the plot, and a little corn patch was planted. The grape vines are now growing tall, and the strawberries are off to a good year.*



*The Sisters took advantage of the Easter vacation to see nearby scenery.*



### *Girls' Sodality Bonfire Night*

