



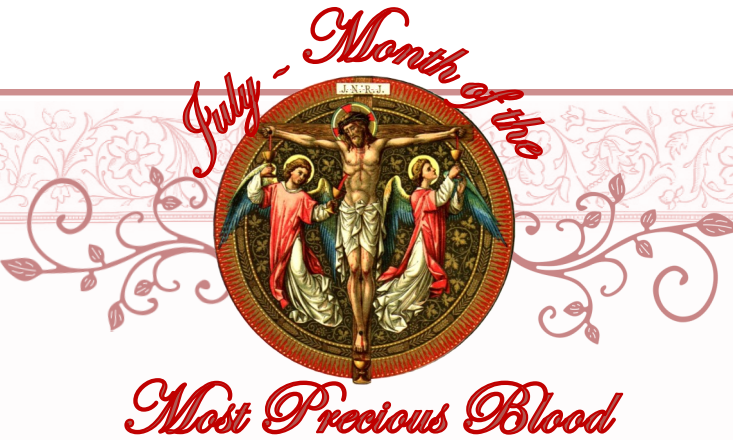
The Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas

20120 Barnett Road
Brooksville, Florida, 34601

Angelica - Summer 2015
The Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas



Our new novice, Sr. Mary Bosco with her former classmates on her Vestition day.



Dear Reader,

During April several young ladies visited our convent for a vocations week, coming from every part of the United States—Washington State, California, Wisconsin, Virginia Owing to the present circumstances in the Church and the small number of religious, most young people are not exposed to the religious life and must take extraordinary means — travelling across the country — to have this exposure. During their stay at the convent these girls were given the opportunity to spend a few days with us, glimpsing at the life of a Sister, taking part in some of the works of our apostolate and assisting at our devotions. Coming to the decision and taking the actual step of entering the convent entails a heroic sacrifice and on May 21 we were happy to witness one of our own students make this sacrifice when she entered the novitiate, taking the name Sister Mary John Bosco. Please pray that more young people receive the grace of a vocation and generously respond in making the tremendous sacrifices the perseverance in this vocation demands.



The last few months of the school year passed quickly. Plays and concerts, with their tedious practices and rehearsals, were no sooner over than the whirlwind of review week, exams, and report cards began.

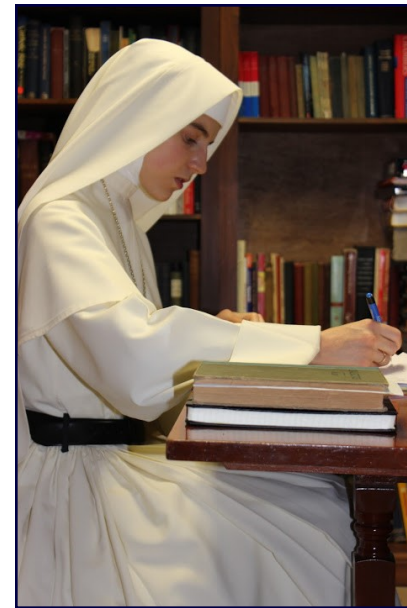
Now, our Sisters take a three-month break from the classroom. They will be travelling to a summer camp held in Ohio and will also prepare their courses for the upcoming school year.

We thank you for your prayers and support in our teaching apostolate. During these summer months, let us ask God's blessings upon our Sisters, our benefactors, and our families.

In Jesus through Mary,
The Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas



In Brooksville a concert was held for the families.



Sisters prepare their courses.



Over the summer, some of the Sisters continue taking classes in philosophy.

The students in Phoenix performed a theatrical performance on the life of the humble shepherdess St. Germaine Cousin.



St. Germaine teaching the little village children catechism and sharing her small lunch of bread crusts with them.



Here two townspeople witness one of the many miracles of St. Germaine's life—her sheep remaining around her crook without moving while she attends Mass.



St. Germaine appears to and cures a wealthy countess.



St. Germaine's cruel stepmother repents of her treatment after the death of the saint.



The Sisters enjoy working in the garden during their free time.



Sisters continue to give music lessons throughout the summer. Taking advantage of Skype, we have been able to give lessons to our students in other states.

St. Germaine Cousin

From the time of her birth in 1579 until her death in 1601, Germaine Cousin's life was filled with sickness and suffering. She was born with a deformed hand and later suffered from scrofula. Her mother died when she was still an infant, and her father's second wife constantly mistreated her while her father did nothing to protect her. She was forced to sleep in the stable. From the age of nine, she was relegated to tending sheep and was practically forbidden to come into contact with the rest of the family.

Germaine was extremely devout and became advanced in the virtues of humility and patience, as well as love of neighbor. She refused to miss daily Mass and would set her crook in the ground and leave her sheep in the care of her guardian angel while she attended Mass. Not once were any of her sheep lost, even though the meadow where they grazed was bordered by a forest full of ravenous wolves. One day she miraculously walked over flood waters in order to reach the church in time for Mass.

Even though her stepmother only gave her crusts of bread, Germaine would share what little she had with the village children whom she would gather around herself to teach what she knew of the catechism.

At the age of 22, she was found dead on her straw pallet, worn out by a life of illness and suffering. About half a century after her death, her body was found to be still incorrupt and became an object of great veneration and the source of countless miracles.

