



Dominican Rosary Pilgrimage - Media Tip Sheet

Synopsis

The Second Annual [Dominican Rosary Pilgrimage](#) is a day-long event at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 28, 2024, hosted by the Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Joseph and local charters of the Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary. Anyone is welcome to attend. The Dominican Rosary Pilgrimage began spiritually with a [nine-month novena](#), starting on Jan. 27, 2024. More than 3,500 people attended last year's Dominican Rosary Pilgrimage at the Basilica.

News Hooks

Anxiety is endemic in our nation. The Rosary can counter anxiety and fear and is a way towards tranquility and transformation

A [study](#) from late 2023 indicates America is in a mental health crisis. The reasons vary but statistics show people of all ages are suffering from increased mental health disorders and don't know how to fix it. The Rosary is powerful and through consistent prayer, it can be one of the more overlooked ways to address the deterioration of mental health in our country.

The [percentage](#) of Catholics that regularly attend Mass continues to drop. The Rosary can help to bring them back into their faith.

Mass is crucial to the Catholic faith and it is alarming so many self-professed Catholics have fallen away from their Sunday obligation. The Rosary and the intercession of Our Lady calls them back. Father Pine said that one twenty-something former atheist drove all the way from California to attend last year's Rosary Pilgrimage. Watch his video [here](#).

2024 Dominican Rosary Pilgrimage Spokesmen



Fr. Patrick Briscoe, O.P.

Fr. Patrick Mary Briscoe, O.P., was ordained to the priesthood in 2016. He is currently the editor of *Our Sunday Visitor*. A native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Fr. Patrick joined the Order of Preachers after graduating from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, where he studied philosophy and French. In previous assignments, he has served as a parish priest and college chaplain. He is the author, with his Dominican brother Fr. Jacob-Bertrand Janczyk, OP, of "St. Dominic's Way of Life: A Path to Knowing and Loving God" and the devotional series "My Daily Visitor," published by OSV. He enjoys hosting the *Godsplaining* podcast, summer lake visits to his family, and exploring D.C.



Fr. John Paul Kern, O.P.

Fr. John Paul Kern, O.P., was ordained to the priesthood in 2019 and served as Catholic chaplain at the University of Louisville before being appointed Director of the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude and Executive Director of the Dominican Friars Foundation. He grew up in Annapolis, Maryland, where his father taught at the United States Naval Academy. Before entering the Order of Preachers, Fr. John Paul earned degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Nuclear Engineering from Penn State University and worked as a reactor inspector for the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Fr. John Paul currently serves as the Executive Director of the Dominican Friars Foundation as well as the Director of the Rosary Shrine of Saint Jude in Washington, DC, where he raises resources for the formation and work of the Friars and provides for the spiritual needs of the benefactors of the Shrine. He also enjoys preaching retreats, leading pilgrimages, and serving at the Parish of St. Vincent Ferrer and St. Catherine of Siena in New York City.



Fr. Joseph-Anthony Kress, O.P

Fr. Joseph-Anthony Kress, O.P., entered the Dominican Province of St. Joseph in 2010. He made his solemn profession on August 9, 2014 and was ordained a priest on May 21, 2016. In the spring of 2010 he graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville with a Bachelor of Arts and subsequently received a Bachelor of Sacred Theology and Masters of Divinity from the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception. Fr. Joseph-Anthony has served as the Chaplain to Catholic Hoos at the University of Virginia since February of 2017. He is a co-host of the Godsplaining podcast alongside four of his Dominican classmates. Over the years he has worked in overseeing

large-scale liturgies which include World Youth Day Krakow, National Eucharistic Congress, USCCB Convocation, Fr. Emil Kapaun Homecoming, and Amazing Parish conferences. A native of St. Clairsville, OH, he is the youngest of three.



Fr. Dominic Verner, O.P.

Fr. Dominic Verner, O.P., was ordained to the priesthood in 2016 and served as assistant chaplain at Providence College before earning his Ph.D. in moral theology at the University of Notre Dame. A native of Indiana, before entering the Order of Preachers, Fr. Dominic earned a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University and a Master's degree in Philosophical Studies from Mount St. Mary's University. At the University of Notre Dame, he wrote his dissertation on St. Thomas Aquinas's ethics of honor, and now as an Assistant Professor at Providence College, his research and teaching interests especially concern Thomistic virtue theory and how

honor, reputation, friendship, and glory motivate virtuous action. Fr. Dominic also serves as team chaplain to the Providence College Field Hockey team and enjoys leading Bible studies with students and leading pilgrimages and service trips to help students encounter Christ.