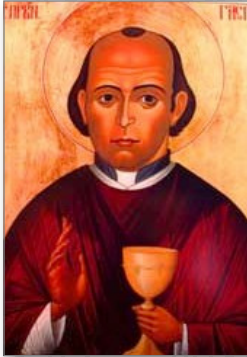


ST. GASPAR DEL BUFALO



Founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood (C.P.P.S.)

St. Gaspar was born in Rome on January 6, 1786. Early in his life already, Gaspar was moved to serve the poor, the sick and the outcast. Ordained on July 31, 1808, he became known as a gifted and popular preacher.

Not long after his ordination, Gaspar was exiled and imprisoned for refusing to take an oath of allegiance to Napoleon. The emperor had taken control of the Papal States and was forcing all the clergy of Rome to take the oath. Gaspar famously responded: "I would rather die or suffer evil than to take such an oath. I cannot, I must not, I will not."

It was during his imprisonment that Gaspar began to envision a new religious community that would be dedicated to the Blood of Jesus. On August 15, 1815 he founded the Congregation of Missionaries of the Most Precious Blood (C.P.P.S.) in Giano, Italy. He wanted his missionaries to be people who were dedicated to preaching God's word with an emphasis on devotion to the Precious Blood in order to be a source of on-going renewal for the people of God and for the world.

Gaspar died on December 28, 1837. On June 12, 1954, he was declared a saint of the Church. His feast is celebrated on October 21st.

APOSTOLATES

The members of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood continue the charism of their founder, St. Gaspar, preaching renewal and reconciliation. Individuals follow the call of God, using their gifts to further the kingdom of God through their particular apostolates always mindful that all are brothers and sisters through the Blood of Jesus.

Apostolates in which members of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood are presently involved:

- Parish ministry
- Foreign missions
- Missions and retreats
- Health care
- College campuses
- Education
- Spiritual direction
- Vocation and formation

COMPANIONS

Precious Blood Companions are lay men and women who share in the life of the Missionaries. Like Precious Blood priests and brothers, companions have been attracted by the charism of St. Gaspar through his writings and example. Men and women choose to dedicate themselves to serve and witness the spirituality of the Precious Blood, at home, at work, or through ministry at their local church.

Contact: companionskc@yahoo.com

VOLUNTEERS

The Precious Blood Volunteers strive to participate in the spirituality and charisms of the community through study, prayer, and ministry. Volunteers foster Precious Blood Spirituality in their ministry with the men and women of the community, living and teaching the Word of God, and serving the marginalized, especially the poor.

Contact: volunteers@kcprovince.org

Vocation Prayer

O God,
You created me for a purpose,
a specific task for the Church
and humanity.
You have always known
the work I was cut out for,
a work which only I can do
and no other.
If I do not accept this work,
it will never be done.
Therefore, I have a job to do.
Make clear to me your will,
and I will follow you
in whatever task this may be.
I know I can do all things
in you, my strength. AMEN.



CONTACT INFORMATION

Precious Blood Center
2130 Saint Gaspar Way
Liberty, MO 64068
816-781-4344

Vocation Ministry Office
voc.office@yahoo.com

Please visit our Web site at:
www.kcprovince.org

PRECIOUS BLOOD VOCATION MINISTRY



Congregation of the Missionaries of the Most Precious Blood is a Society of Apostolic Life dedicated to the missionary ministry of the Word.

SOCIETY OF APOSTOLIC LIFE

United by a bond of charity,
we the members of the
Missionaries seek to serve
God's people through our
Mission, Community
and Spirituality.

MISSION

As missionaries, we are ministers of God's prophetic Word through our lifestyle and our preaching.

COMMUNITY

In the bond of charity, we are called to live a simple lifestyle in a community that reflects hospitality, reconciliation and common prayer.

SPIRITUALITY

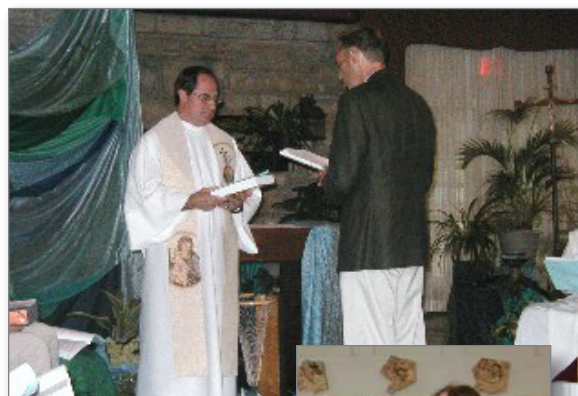
Hearing the "cry of the blood" in the world today, members seek to identify with the reconciliation won for us through the Precious Blood of the cross.

Missionaries of the Precious
Blood are Priests, Brothers
and Companions who seek to
live the spirituality of the
Blood of Jesus.

DISCERNMENT/ INQUIRY

INQUIRY: PRIESTS AND BROTHERS

A person may, with the help of a Precious Blood member, discern what God may be calling him to do with his life. If he wants to look more closely at the Community, he would request to become an inquirer. The inquirer remains in his present living situation while maintaining contact with the Missionaries. A member of the Community journeys with the inquirer through this period which lasts no longer than two years. During this time, an individual who is interested in continuing to journey with us would seek an application to begin the initial formation stage.



*Formation
Liturgies*



STAGES OF FORMATION

All stages of the formation process for the Kansas City Province are followed collaboratively and concurrently with the Cincinnati Province.

INITIAL FORMATION

At this stage, an individual is invited to enter as a candidate for the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. This part of the formation process will normally happen at Gaspar House in Chicago, Illinois. A college student would normally attend St. Xavier University in Chicago. This stage invites people to grow in human and religious development, to be involved in apostolic settings, and to become acquainted with the history and spirituality of the Community. The candidate would have the opportunity to experience community living.

SPECIAL FORMATION

In the Special Formation Stage, the candidate takes time to explore and immerse himself into Precious Blood Spirituality, the charisms of our Community and the life of St. Gaspar. Special formation begins with a summer experience that focuses on community history and becoming more personally acquainted with Precious Blood apostolates and ministries. The summer experience is followed by a nine month residency living with Precious Blood members in community. The focus of this time is to experience community, to become more personally

acquainted with members and their ministries, and to experience life as a member of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. The final stage of Special Formation is a second summer experience focused on community history, as well as sharing and reflecting on the experiences of the candidate's residency.

ADVANCED FORMATION

As a candidate enters Advanced Formation, one important decision he will make is whether he feels called to follow a call to be Brother or Priest. During Advanced Formation, a candidate begins preparation for professional or vocational ministry for his apostolate in the Missionaries of the Precious Blood and the Church. For those seeking preparation for ordained ministry or professional theological training, candidates for the Missionaries of the Precious Blood attend Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, Illinois. For those candidates who seek to serve the Church in other areas, such as teaching, administration, or social services ministries, appropriate training is offered depending on the need of the candidate.

Generally, upon the conclusion of the third year of advanced formation, the candidate makes a permanent commitment to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood known as "definitive incorporation." Upon incorporation a candidate becomes a member of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.