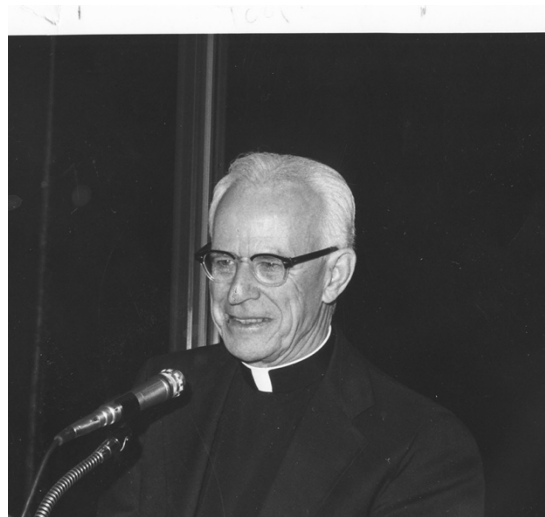


House of Wilson

Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati & Bl. Chiara Luce



Fr. James Francis Wilson

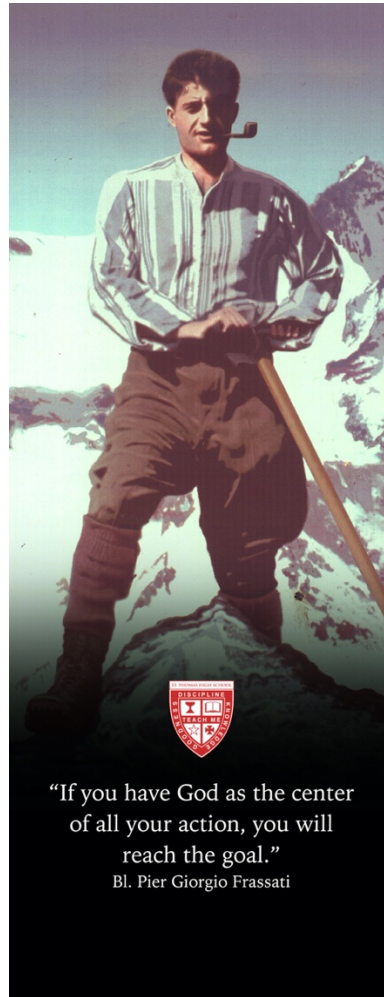


- General biography:
 - Born in Massey, Ontario on August 1, 1912.
 - Hall of Honor Member.
 - STH Athletic Hall of Fame Member.
 - He was ordained to priesthood in Toronto on June, 29th 1939.
 - 50 years of service to STH.
 - English, Spanish, and Latin Teacher.
 - Legendary Baseball Coach.
 - Director of Development.
- Interesting stories/information:
 - Taught and coached many famous STH alumni.
 - Virtual “whose who” of distinguished alumni.

- Major Jim McConn, former student and player of his, hosted a dinner to honor him at the Shamrock Hotel in 1981 where over a thousand people attended.
- As baseball coach:
 - Knew nothing of baseball until he moved to STH.
 - Won more than a dozen baseball state championships.
 - Baseball field named for him in 1982.
 - His former players paid for the new lighting and had the idea for the dedication.
 - Never lost his temper or yelled at an umpire.
 - Not a fiery type.
 - Calm, clear, confident, encouraging, fatherly demeanor with high standards for his players.
 - Did not overload players with complex strategies or instructions.
 - Leadership related to James 3:17, “first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.”
 - Promoted amateur baseball leagues, especially to help the underprivileged:
 - Faith Home was one such organization.
 - STH Baseball Teams competed in the American Legion semi-pro league.
 - “Baseball is such a good, clean sport. You don’t have to be a giant to play it. All you need are loose muscles, good coordination and a will to learn.”
- Crucial role in converting WWII hanger into the gym.
- Story:
 - An alumnus who never played under Coach Wilson nor was ever taught by him donated a million dollars because Father Wilson greeted him every day at the door, shook his hand, and smiled.
 - This alumnus had a difficult family life and Father Wilson truly made him feel special and welcomed.
- Director of Development:
 - Raised millions of dollars for STH.
- Spanish, English, Latin teacher:
 - Famous for quoting whole sections of Shakespeare’s plays.
 - Built the Spanish classes into an award winning, recognized program.
- *See famous Father-Son Mass Homily.*
- Chaplain:
 - At local hospitals and known by many patients especially those at hospice.
 - Was recruited to serve the Hispanic community due to his proficiency in Spanish.
 - To the sister schools and other Catholic schools in Houston.
- Civic Institutions:
 - Rotary Club
 - Education Committee of the Chamber of Commerce
 - Houston Grand Opera Association

- Co-founder of the Intitute de Cultura Hispanica of Houston
- Professional Baseball Players Association

Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati:



- Born in Turin, Italy on April 6th, 1901 and death is July 4th, 1925.
- Feast Day is July 4th.
- Notable Information:
 - Born to a rich family.
 - His father ran a successful newspaper and was a politician in the Italian government.
 - His parents were practically atheists but he had a special religious fervor and loved his Catholic faith.
 - He was an extremely charismatic young man and good looking and athletic with many friends and girl admirers but an average student.
 - He was an avid mountain climber and skier.
 - He won gold in the winter olympics for skiing.
 - He loved playing practical jokes and having fun with his friends.
 - But he also had a positive effect on them as well getting them to come to mass with him and serve the poor.

- He would perform little acts of service for the poor routinely which often got him in trouble with his parents who did not like him being late.
- He normally gave his bus pass to a poor woman and would walk home.
- When he would enter his home late for dinner, he would pause to say grace before going to the table so as not to shame his family who were not religious.
- When he was 25, he caught polio and died.
- Over 10,000 people, mostly the poor of the city, showed up for his funeral, shocking his parents who knew nothing of his works of charity.
- Quotes:
 - “Jesus is with me. I have nothing to fear.”
 - “Perhaps it was someone who needed it more than I do.” (his response when his bicycle was stolen)
 - “What wealth it is to be in good health, as we are! But we have the duty of putting our health at the service of those who do not have it. To act otherwise would be to betray that gift of God.”
 - “Every day that passes, I fall more desperately in love with the mountains... I am ever more determined to climb the mountains, to scale the mighty peaks, to feel that pure joy which can only be felt in the mountains.”
 - “By yourself you will do nothing, but if you have God as the center of all your action, then you will reach the goal.”
 - “I urge you with all the strength of my soul to approach the Eucharist Table as often as possible. Feed on this Bread of the Angels from which you will draw the strength to fight inner struggles.”
 - “Suffering that is nourished by the flame of faith becomes something beautiful, because it tempers the soul to deal with suffering.”
 - “But the important thing is to sing.” (his response to someone telling him he was out of tune while singing in the town square)
 - “My mother smoked over me when I was being fed at the breast.” (his lighthearted response to an inquiry about his love for Tuscan cigars)
 - “To live without faith, without a heritage to defend, without battling constantly for truth, is not to live but to ‘get along’; we must never just ‘get along’.”
 - “We must not squander the best years of our lives as so many unhappy young people do, who worry about enjoying the good things in life, things that do not in fact bring any good.... We must prepare ourselves to be ready and able to handle the struggles we will have to endure to fulfill our goals, and, in so doing, to give our country happier and morally healthier days in the near future.... We need the following: constant prayer to obtain God’s grace, without which all our efforts are in vain; organization and discipline to be ready for action at the right moment; and finally, we need to sacrifice our own passions, indeed our very selves, because without this sacrifice we will never achieve our goal.”

Bl. Chiara Luce Badano:



- Born on October 29, 1971 in Sassello, Italy and died October 7, 1990.
- Feast Day is October 29th.
- Notable Information:
 - Chiara struggled in school and even failed her first year of high school.
 - Chiara made several good friends, often going out late to have coffee with them.
 - She also enjoyed the normal teenage pastimes such as listening to pop music, dancing, and singing.
 - Chiara was also an avid tennis player; she also enjoyed hiking and swimming.
 - Her talents at tennis earned her a scholarship to college.
 - But at age 16 she was diagnosed with a rare form of bone cancer.
 - She became an inspiration and comfort to the other cancer patients on her floor including convincing another teenage girl not to commit suicide.

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- When she died at age 18, many miraculous healings occurred of the patients she knew.
- Quotes:
 - “Jesus, if you want it, I want it too.”