

St. Gaspar Del Bufalo

St. Gaspar founded the Society of the Precious Blood in Giano, Italy. Even before he was ordained he preached and ministered to the poor. He twice refused allegiance to Napoleon; once he was exiled and once imprisoned, after which he dedicated his life as an apostle of The Precious Blood. He is pictured here with the mission cross over his heart, the symbol of his community, and with the larger cross and his hand uplifted as he is often portrayed in his portraits. He is often portrayed with the communion chalice receiving the precious blood. Here he is assisted by an angel. The grape vine, symbol of Christ's offering, is shared with St. Maria De Mattias, his contemporary and follower in devotion to the Precious Blood.

The Precious Blood Fathers served the faithful in the western part of the diocese from 1927 to 1991. The priests of this congregation played an invaluable role in the establishment and growth of St. Mary's, Garden City; St. Anthony, Lakin; St. Raphael, Syracuse, and St. Stanislaus, Ingalls. The Precious Blood Fathers established two national parishes for Hispanic congregations in Garden City and Deerfield. Both are now territorial parishes.

