

### **Father Paul Wattson, SA, Apostle of Christian Unity and Charity**

Father Paul was born on January 16, 1863 in Millington, Maryland, to Rev. Joseph Wattson and Mary Electa Wattson, and baptized Lewis Thomas Wattson. He was ordained as an Episcopal priest in 1886. In 1898, in collaboration with an Episcopal sister, Lurana White, he helped to found the Society of the Atonement, taking vows of Franciscan poverty, obedience and chastity at Graymoor in Garrison, NY, with the mission of promoting Christian unity.

Founder of the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, Servant of God Father Paul of Graymoor was a true apostle of Christian Unity and charity, an ardent Franciscan, missionary of At-One-Ment and leader. His life purpose and legacy was work for the realization of Christ's prayer at the Last Supper: "May they all be one, just as, Father, you are in me and I am in you, so that they also may be in us." (John 17:21)

This legacy of At-One-Ment, and the example of his life and work have drawn others into the world to be bridge builders, peace makers and reconcilers.

As there can be no crown without the cross, so there could be no atonement without the shedding of Christ's most precious blood. The precious blood and the atonement, therefore, are essentially and eternally related. (Father Paul Wattson, *The Lamp*, July 1912 pp.169-170)

