



Bloodlines

Newsletter of the Atlantic Province
Summer 2017

Provincial Assembly 2018

A council meeting will be held at the St. Gaspar Mission House in Niagara Falls, ON on August 24. Per Provincial Statutes Section II, Assemblies, Article 77 the minutes of the assembly will be approved at that time by the Provincial and Council and then forwarded to the membership. The *acta* will also be forwarded to the Generalate for final approval. In the meantime, enjoy some of the photos from the assembly kindly taken by Frs. Augusto and Patrick. Due to space limitations, more will follow in the next issue.





CALENDAR

JULY

1 – SOLEMNITY OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

- 1 - O – Alaray Abello (2007)
- 3 - O – Dominic Jung (1995)
- 3 - O – Sam D’Angelo (1999)
- 12 - B – Augusto Menichelli (1973)
- 12 - B – Joseph Grasso (1955)
- 16 - B – James Reposky (1946)
- 29 – B – Patrick Gilmurray (1963)
- 31 - O – St. Gaspar Del Bufalo (1808)
- 31 - O – Joseph Grasso (1992)

AUGUST

- 3 - I – Anthony Canterucci (1949)
- 8 - B – Peter Nobili (1942)
- 14 - O – Carlo Della Vecchia (1948)
- 15 – SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION: B.V.M.
Foundation of the Congregation (1815)
- 15 - I – Ronald Wiecek (1965)
- 18 - D – Sebastian Contegiacomo (1982)
- 19 – B – Carlo Della Vecchia (1924)
- 24 - B – Luciano Baiocchi (1930)
- 24 – D – Francisco Del Valle Milan (2016)
- 25 - I – Dominic Jung (1994)
- 28 - B – Venerable John Merlini (1795)
- 29 - I – Joseph Grasso (1991)

SEPTEMBER

- 1 – B – ATLANTIC VICARIATE EST. 1966
(Fr. Nick Arioli – First Vicar Provincial)
- 1 – O – Patrick Gilmurray (2012)
- 2 - D – Nicholas Arioli (1992)
- 7 - I – Rene Cerecedo (1984)
- 9 - B – San D’Angelo (1967)
- 12 - B – Rene Cerecedo (1951)
- 29 – I – German Santiago Esteves (2012)
- 29 – I – Gregorio Hernandez Cortez (2012)



Voice of the Founder

“To utter the name Jesus is to make known the dignity of the Redeemer...by referring to the Blood of Jesus Christ is to make known the dignity of the Redemption” (Letter 1133).



Provincial Retreat

June 11-15, 2018
Mt. Carmel Centre; Niagara Falls, ON



In your charity please remember

*Benita Salvador
Grandmother of Fr. German*



A Reflection by Lui Santi C.PP.S.

He did the same with the cup after eating, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you...

Jesus gave us and still gives Himself to us under the two species - bread and wine- to assure us of his complete and entire presence to us. He continues to give Himself to so that we can understand what it means to be 'sacrificial.' What is a sacrifice? We live in a world where sacrifices no longer have meaning by young people and it is no fault of their own.

By sharing, eating and drinking at Eucharist, Jesus continues to *purify* us spiritually and physically. He *cleanses* us. Jesus continues to *sanctify* us spiritually and physically. He invites us to be *holy*. Jesus continues to *unite* us. He encourages us to be *one* with each other, to treat each other as brothers and sisters, to put aside differences and to see each other as *equals*.

If we try to live out these tasks, then we have understood the Passover meal. We have passed over from Old to New. We are Eucharistic people and we are Eucharistic presence to each other.

At the Last Supper, Jesus offers and consecrates a third cup which is required at the Passover meal, a cup of Thanksgiving. So how appropriate that this cup is offered as a tremendous gift of uniting God with us. We encounter him and we become one. What a joyous reminder that He continues to cleanse us by his Precious Blood. Notice how accommodating Jesus is with us. He wanted to remain with and within us. He could have done so in countless different ways, but he chose the simplest way through his body and blood.

It is here that we are nourished and strengthened to accept the difficulties of life and the ability to share the joys of life. It is here that we welcome and embrace the changed *bread* and *wine* which have become the *body and blood of Christ*.

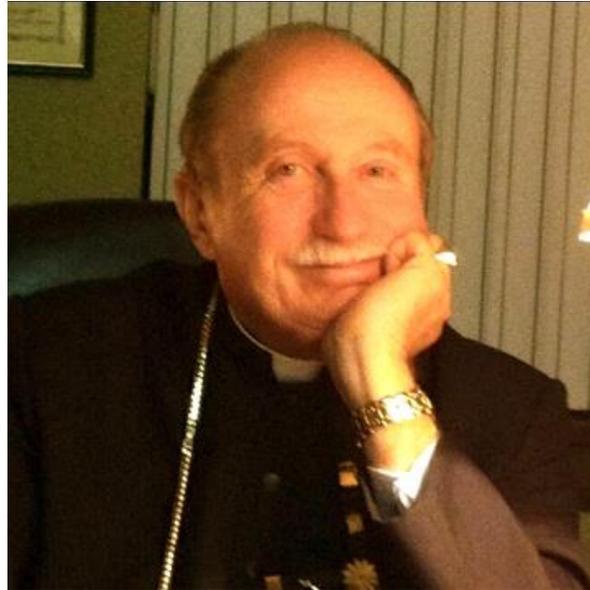
Realize that you delivered from the futile ways of life, not by silver or gold, but with the Precious Blood of Christ. This is God and a God who is love. Once we are fed then we can be Eucharist to others. As we are dismissed at Mass, we are asked to go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

How can we go out to serve the Lord and help each other unless we are in communion, unless we are fed, unless we are part of the covenant?

What a privilege to be Catholic-Christians who are called and welcomed into a new covenant-relationship with Jesus. As Jesus washed the apostles feet out of love, so we too are made clean--new and renewed--as we dare to be washed and drink from his Precious Blood.

Member Profile

Fr. James Reposkey C.P.P.S.



I was born in Uniontown, Pa, the son of parents of Hungarian and Italian background. I had one brother. Parents and brother are deceased. I attended public school all of my life. After First Holy Communion I became an altar boy and at the age of 8, I decided that I would like to be a priest. I lived close to the church and would be called upon very often to serve Mass. As a child, I would play priest and celebrate Mass, finding things to use as vestments and my dad, being a bartender, furnished me with a cocktail glass that resembled a chalice. As I grew older, my pastor and the associates saw this vocation growing and gave me the opportunity to get involved in the day to day working of the parish, helping in the rectory and in the Church. My parents and family were supportive and did not try to discourage me. I made the decision to enter the seminary under the auspices of the Diocese of Greensburg and was sent to St. Pius X Seminary in Erlanger, Kentucky for a special Latin program for 2 years. I was then sent to St. Francis Seminary in Loretto, Pa where I received my B.A. in Philosophy. I began my theological studies at St. Frances but then quit and began teaching in St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Parochial schools in Uniontown for a year and a half. I remained close to the parish and my pastor, Father Nick Thomas. He was very supportive of me and my temporary decision. As it so happened, a Precious Blood Missionary, Father Robert Hunt gave a mission in our St. Therese's Parish and I had the occasion to sit and talk to him. My spirit was rejuvenated and with the help of Precious Blood Father Fred Falce, I returned to my preparation for the priesthood with the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. I was sent to study with students for the Atlantic Vicariate in Rochester. I was professed in 1972, received my M. Div. from St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester and ordained a Priest in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Greensburg, Pa by Bishop Willam G. Connare on May 4, 1974. My first assignment was the Associate Pastor at St. Roch's in Weston, Ontario 1974-1979 when I was made Pastor of St. Roch's and remained Pastor until 1992 when I was moved to St. Alphonsus in Toronto and remained there until 2016 when I was transferred to St. Charles

Borromeo Church in Toronto. I am grateful to have had 2 long assignments where I was able to forge many friendships and to see the kids and adults grow and make their mark in life. I feel blessed by St. Gaspar for my vocation and the opportunity to minister to the people of God in these three parishes and lend my abilities to the Atlantic Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. May God continue to bless me and give me the strength to carry out my Priesthood dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus.

Welcome to Our Newest Candidate



My name is Gerardo Valencia Laguartilla, I was born and grew up in the City of Tayabas, Province of Quezon in the Southern Tagalog Region of the Philippines. My parents are Nicolas and Clarissa Laguartilla. I have one sister; her name is Marina Corazon Laguartilla Bacareza. She is married to Edgardo Bacareza and they have one son named Edward Laguartilla Bacareza. I grew up in an environment of strong devotion and faith in God and in the Roman Catholic Church. My family and relatives through our grandmother were very active and involved in our parish – the Minor Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel. I started my involvement in the church when I became an altar server at the parish and eventually developed my devotion, my maternal love for Mary and personal conviction that I would like to become a priest someday somewhere.

I took some studies at the local College in the Province taking Agriculture courses. Then I went to Manila, and studied Philosophy and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy on March 22, 1997 at Christ the King Mission Seminary School in Quezon City. I entered the Blessed Sacrament novitiate after my graduation. Then I took some theological courses at Loyola School of Theology and at some point in my life I decided to explore other possibilities and to broaden my horizons and orientation by traveling to Toronto Canada in January 2001. I took some courses at the University of Toronto which were very unique with their ecumenical and multi-cultural dimensions. I was also involved in different civic, liturgical and pastoral apostolates in the Archdiocese as I had in the Philippines.

I have learned a lot by meeting different kinds of people with their diverse cultural and historical backgrounds. It has been wonderful to develop different kinds of associations and healthy friendships whether in the Philippines, Asia and here in Canada. With these experiences I am learning a deep respect and love for humanity as God people, as my brothers and sisters. The seed and gift of vocation that is planted in me by God when I was young continues to flourish and develop by my deep sense of encountering Jesus in prayer, especially the Eucharist, and in people, including the poor, the sick, migrants, and youth. Indeed everything is grace.

Report from the Formation and Vocation Committee

The members of the Vocation/Formation committee are Fr. Augusto (Formation Director), Fr. Alrey (Vocation Director), Fr. Sam, Fr. Lui, and Fr. Michael. The committee met during the assembly at which the following items were discussed:

- Our newest candidates, Gerardo, Kevin and Ronaldo, all from the Philippines, have already studied philosophy and have been accepted at St. Michael's in Toronto where they will begin theological studies in September. A local paralegal is assisting in the process of obtaining student visas.
- Even though his formation won't start until September, Gerardo is already living with us in the house of formation. He is volunteering at Radio Maria and St. Francis Table during the week.
- The application of Jerome, a Tanzanian, was reviewed and he has been accepted as a student starting in September at St. Michael's.
- Paul, a parishioner from St. Roch, has also made application but it was considered incomplete.
- The committee decided to have regular meetings throughout the year. We will be looking especially at devising a new formation program that will be presented to the council and eventually the next assembly. The Formation Director will arrange a schedule and agenda for these meetings.
- We also spoke about the distinct roles of the Formation Director and the Vocation Director and the importance of having full-time personnel in these offices.
- The protocol and process for accepting new candidates was discussed.
- Finally, the importance of supporting the house of formation, both spiritually and materially, was discussed.

From Around the Province

Rochester

The Sunday Mass community that gathers at the mission house was pleased to celebrate the Christian initiation of Lorin Francis Adler during the Easter Vigil held at Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Brighton, NY – the canonical parish in which the mission house is located. The parish graciously received the community and permitted Fr. John to administer the Easter sacraments. Lorin was a catechumen for several years and in addition to Mass has attended retreats and courses offered at the mission house. He is pictured here with his sponsor Tom Malthaner, a local advocate for the homeless associated with the Catholic Worker.



New Portrait of the Venerable Merlini by Artist John Newton



USC Retreat

The last full weekend has for many years been the time for the annual USC Retreat in Ancaster. This year 36 people participated including members of the USC/El Shaddai prayer group from St Charles parish in Toronto. They provided an hour of "Glory and Praise" music on Saturday and Sunday which was well received by the other retreatants. Fr. Peter gave presentations in English and in Italian on the theme, "I came that you may have life to the fullest" (John 10:10).

