



Bloodlines

Newsletter of the Atlantic Province
Winter 2017

From the Provincial and Council

On Friday, March 10, 2017, the Provincial Council met in Niagara Falls, Ontario, at the Provincial Centre at 10:00 a.m. All members of the Provincial Council were present as well as the provincial treasurer who gave a report on the gala for the mission projects. The meeting ended at 4:45pm and reconvened the following day from 9:00-10:30am. In addition to some personnel issues, the meeting was largely devoted to developing a five-year plan for the Province under the following headings:

- I. Identifying Potential Candidates for Leadership Roles
 - A. Provincial and Council
 - B. Provincial Offices and Committees
 - i) Treasurer
 - ii) Secretary
 - iii) Mission Committee
 - iv) Formation Director and Committee
 - v) Vocation Director
 - vi) Investment Committee
 - vii) Union of the Blood of Christ
- II. Hiring a Provincial Office Administrator and/or a Director of Development
- III. Mission Houses
 - A. Viability
 - B. Support
 - i) Personnel
 - ii) Financial
- IV. Revision of Provincial Statutes and Customary
- V. Formation and Vocation Ministries
 - A. Revision of Formation Policies
 - B. Revision of Formation Program
 - i) Interprovincial Collaboration
- VI. Staffing of Current Ministries
 - A. Actuarial Data/Impending Retirements
 - B. Prioritizing Commitments
- VII. C.P.P.S. Mission Projects Support
- VIII. Status and Future of the Mexico District

Much discussion took place on each of these items. In addition to the regular reports from provincial entities, the plan will be the major item on the agenda for the upcoming provincial assembly in the hope that members of the province will take collective ownership of any decisions or policies that might result for its implementation.



Voice of the Founder

“Let us all remind ourselves to cooperate together so that the fruits of the holy Mission will remain stable and permanent.”

(Letters, #2264)



Provincial Business Assembly

May 29-June 2, 2017
St. Francis Centre; Caledon, ON

Provincial Retreat

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



In your charity please remember

Edilberto Bacus

(Uncle of Fr. Alarey Abella)

Rosa D'Amico

(Grandmother of Fr. Michael Mateyk)

Calendar

MARCH

- 3 - B - John Colacino (1956)
- 12 - B - Gregorio Hernandez Cortes (1975)
- 17 - D - Joseph Gentili (1980)
- 25 - O - Ronald Mahon (1977)

APRIL

- 16 - B - Timothy Coday (1954)
- 17 - I - Gary Luiz (1974)
- 18 - D - Carl Longenback (1999)
- 22 - I - Timothy Coday (1978)
- 23 - B - BIRTHDAY OF THE ATLANTIC PROVINCE (1987)
- 23 - O - Gary Luiz (1977)

MAY

- 2 - O - Brendan Doherty (1981)
- 4 - O - James Reposky (1974)
- 8 - I - Jeffrey Finley (1990)
- 9 - D - Angelo Della Vecchia (1992)
- 10 - O - Peter Nobili (1969)
- 12 - MARY, MOTHER OF MERCY (Optional Memorial)
- 21 - O - Phillip Smith (1977)
- 21 - O - Timothy Coday (1994)
- 24 - MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS (Memorial)
- 24 - O - German Santiago Esteves (2014)
- 25 - O - Rene Cerecedo (1985)
- 27 - B - Anthony Canterucci (1929)
- 28 - B - German Santiago Esteves (1974)

JUNE

- 3 - B - Mario Cafarelli (1956)
- 9 - B - Jeffrey Finley (1969)
- 12 - GASPAR DEL BUFALO CANONIZED (1954)
- 20 - D - Mario Bufalini (2010)
- 21 - B - Luigino Santi (1961)
- 23 - B - Phillip Smith (1950)
- 25 - O - Michael Mateyk (2011)
- 26 - O - Ronald Wiecek (1971)
- 27 - O - Luciano Baiocchi (1954)
- 29 - O - William Mnyagatwa (1973)

Reports on District Meetings

Toronto District Meeting; Monday, February 27, 2017

Present: Brendan Doherty, Augusto Menichelli, Brenden Doherty, Alarey Abella, Mario Cafarelli, Ron Mahon, Michael Mateyk, William Mnyagatwa, Luigino Santi, Peter Nobili, Phil Smith, Sam D'Angelo (via skype)

Introduction

The provincial recounted that the purpose of the meeting was to prepare for the international symposium on community life in July of this year, in Rome. He then summarized what the various documents were that had been emailed to all the members for review prior to the meeting – Normative Texts, excerpts from writings of Pope Francis, various CPPS resources.

Discussion

The Provincial asked if there were any clarifications or questions that anyone wanted to make. One member recommended that we review all the documents to refresh our memories before beginning. Others felt that it would be a waste of time, as the documents were to be read ahead of the meeting. Rather than reading out all of the material that was sent previously, the Provincial Director decided to read out the brief summary of a mission house which came from the research of John Klopke.

A discussion concerning mission houses ensued.

The number of people St. Gaspar envisioned living together in a mission house surprised several members. The Provincial stressed that what was applied in the 19th century doesn't necessarily apply to our contemporary situation and that what is needed is a greater adaptation to the signs of the times. One member explained that he understood a mission house as being connected to a church (not a parish) and was meant to be a place of refreshment, where the community would gather for a monthly retreat, and would invite diocesan clergy to renew themselves at the mission house as well. The mission house was therefore a place of constant mission.

A member remarked that there was little interest in recounting the Province's history, as it had been attempted at one of our community retreats and very few were interested. The archives have a recounting of the early days of the Atlantic Vicariate by one of our older members who wrote down his memories partly in Italian and partly in English.

Another member stated that there was a distinction to be made between residences and mission houses. Mission houses can only be erected or suppressed by a Provincial Assembly. Mission houses were endowed too, so that they didn't have to rely on the income ministry of the priest. One member questioned whether the province should have a set number of persons living in a community house to call it a mission house. Some disagreed with giving a number. One member suggested that one of the criteria for a mission house the need to have a community ministry that operates out of the house.

One member felt that any residence could be a mission house, as mission houses are places of renewal. Another member felt that not every place could be considered a mission house just because a member lives there. The greater question is what does it mean to live a community life? It was stressed that a sense of comradery and family atmosphere is important for community life. If we can't support ourselves among each other, then what are we doing? A greater balance between doing things together as a community and having some time for oneself. We've lost the balance. It's difficult to re-form that.

One member was drawn to the community because of the sense of family that we have. We have to be good at hospitality or we will lose any vocations that are cultivated. What does it mean to be real brothers? Once we have answered those concerns, we will attract vocations for sure. A member said that the destruction of the family is a part of the problem. You can't just have bodies living in a house and call it a community.

One member reiterated the call for having one intentional community in the Province where community life is exemplified and hospitality is constant and inclusive. Practically speaking however, it's difficult for persons from different cultures and perhaps different ages, to get along, if they're living together. He didn't see the value of doing things together if the two don't get along. One member responded by asking the others to free ourselves from egoistic attitudes. We need to enter into dialogue and conversation about every day matters, not just church and ministry. We don't have conversations any more. When do we pray together? When do we discuss community life or anything about the province? Do our ministries take precedence to all else? A member responded by saying that he was taught that the mission always comes before the community. Community life always comes down to how well we get along with each other. It takes determination and effort.

A comment was made about how the early communities of our Province lived miles apart from each other so that when the members all came together, there was a great comradery. Once we started living closer, to each other, that comradery became more difficult. So when someone doesn't want to make community, it becomes evident.

One member expressed his difficulty at finding time even to come home for dinner. Then after the effort, the community was resistant to change the prayer time so that he could be included.

One member joined this province because of its welcoming attitude and family style.

One member said commitment is a big part of being a part of a community.

One member reiterated that community life is about making 'deliberate' choices. We have to choose to do this or that for the community. At least once in a while, we need to have a deliberate choice to show solidarity. Someone felt that the three parishes in Toronto should agree to meet together in a zone meeting every other month. The meeting would include all people who are in other ministries too. One member felt that there should be community discussions and a meal once a month. There could also be some discussion of what the group wants to do together.

One member stated that when official community gatherings are celebrated, we should not allow other non-members of the community to come. Another member agreed as it helps to foster greater communication and fellowship. A third member agreed. One member disagreed. One of the things about us is that we can invite others to our groups, like associates. We need to strive for fullest participation possible of the laity in our community life. One member urged a balance between the two. There are times to be among ourselves and there are times to invite others. One member reminded us of the resolutions we made in the last district meeting.

One member was first attracted to the CPPS by how well the community members worked well together. When he came to big celebrations, he felt the love and comradery of all the members for one another. One member suggested that the question is not why did we come, but why do we stay?

The Provincial requested that each member write him a paragraph about one of the questions on the back of the handouts and email it to him. He will try to synthesize the responses for the symposium.

Niagara District Meeting; Thursday, March 9, 2017

Present: Mario Cafarelli, John Colacino, Patrick Gilmurray, Joseph Grasso (by Skype), Gary Luiz, Josephat Msuya, Ron Wiecek.

The method used for this meeting involved the reading of the individual questions and the opportunity for the members to respond.

1. All sounds wonderful on paper but challenging on a daily basis. It was felt, however, that all try very hard. We should have the courage to discuss matters and disagreements. There were good memories. Each person seemed to have his view on Community life. It should be more spontaneous, not forced. There were those who experienced supportive moments, especially when they felt to be in a vulnerable state.
2. The ideal was to have a community to come back home to that is supportive and nurturing. A balance needs to be created between ministry and community. A community should be accepting and encouraging. It needs to be a life-giving environment. One should feel as if they were coming back to a “home”.
3. Hospitality should be extended and received. This Province has that gift to a certain extent. We have experienced, when together, moments that were relaxing and supportive.
4. Mere fact that this Province still exists demonstrates that we have the qualities that mirror the open heart of Christ. This involves being sensitive about the other, sharing our burdens and concerns. We should have the ability to overcome divisions and obstacles.
5. How far can we push the canonical envelope? We don’t really have a lay association, in the sense and reference to the three levels of lay participation, especially the third level (participation in the apostolic mission). The fullest expression may look like the old Arch-Confraternity of the Precious Blood. We have to be truthful when promoting ourselves. We have to mean what we say and say what we mean. Involvement has to be real and practical. We should be involved in lay formation. We need to bequeath what we have to others when

we are no longer here. There's a need, therefore, for a common understanding of what this all means and a common way of going about it.

6. A lot of religious are not good at this. In order to be faithful, we need to accumulate less in our lives. Our attitudes toward possessions need to change. Possessions can and do come to possess us. Simplicity can be defined in different ways. How do we assess this sort of thing? Having possessions doesn't mean that we don't have the spirit of poverty. There are needs that one has but everyone needs to be prudent. There is a view that we don't really live luxuriously or ostentatiously. In relation to the religious who take vows, we live more authentic and simple lifestyles that are more exemplifying than they do.
7. Even St. Gaspar did not live this concept of the Mission House. Only so much can be done. Some of our Houses get a lot of use in this area. Everything depends on who is living there and what commonality they can arrive at. All have to be onboard with the concept and the reality.
8. Present ourselves in a way that is realistic. The walk and the talk need to match. Live out the new evangelization. Revisit what the Mission House is all about.
9. Last item pursued, the Mission House.

Report on the February Meeting of C.P.P.S. Members in Latin America on "Reimagining"

Escribo para comunicarle brevemente lo sucedido en la reunión en Colombia, de la que tuve la oportunidad de participar y de la que en estas líneas quiero compartirles.

1.- Los dos primeros días hicimos una valoración, análisis y presentación de cada una de las unidades de los miembros participantes (Chile, Colombia, México, Guatemala, Perú y Brasil). Expusimos los miedos, los valores y cualidades con las que contamos. Compartimos lo que hacemos y vivimos en cada una de nuestras realidades. En la mayoría de las unidades hay preocupaciones pues no hay vocaciones, hay miembros enfermos y muy pocos. Pero aun así en algunas unidades se hace trabajo con laicos. Se hace misiones populares y se atiende la pastoral en las Diócesis correspondientes.

2.- En los días siguientes fue para deliberar un poco sobre el motivo de esta reunión, en la que el padre Bill, Moderador General, en este caso como facilitador, nos introdujo a hablar sobre una posible Provincia Latinoamericana. En este enfoque hubo muchos comentarios de parte de los miembros de cada una de las unidades.

a) México: Yo, llevé el mensaje de los padres René y Gregorio de que optamos por continuar formando parte de la Provincia del Atlántico.

b) Chile: El Padre Luis Briones, informó que los miembros chilenos no están decididos todavía a formar parte de una nueva provincia.

c) Perú: El Padre Máximo dijo no estar preparados todavía para ello, pero que hay posibilidad de hacer un proceso.

d) Guatemala: El Padre Noé dijo que los miembros no están de acuerdo en hacer una nueva provincia todavía. Pues hay muchas necesidades.

e) Brasil: El Padre Arcelino dijo que no hay ese deseo todavía de separarse de su provincia actual.

f) Colombia: El Padre José dijo que ellos si desean se haga una nueva provincia pues se sienten con lo necesario para poder dar el paso.

3.- En fin, después de discutir los puntos a favor y en contra se toma la decisión de hacer una visión y ver la posibilidad de comenzar a trabajar este año con comisiones, retiros y reuniones para ver si se puede hacer realidad este sueño.

4.- Yo noté mucha resistencia al inicio de parte de algunos miembros, pero al final se llegó a un acuerdo de comenzar el proceso y análisis al respecto. Pero la posición de México es que queremos seguir formando parte de la Provincia del Atlántico. Eso fue lo que yo dije en la reunión como punto final.

-- *Germán Santiago Estévez C.P.P.S*



I am writing to briefly communicate what had happened in the meeting in Colombia in which I had the opportunity to participate and want to share with you what went on.

1. The first two days we shared the assessment, analysis, and presentation of each of the units that participated (Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Guatemala, Peru, and Brazil). We explained the means, the values, and the qualities about which we were speaking. We shared what we did and how we lived in our situations. The majority of the units have a deep concern that there are not vocations, there are sick members, and there are very few members in the unit. They then said the work is done with lay people. Popular missions and attendance at Diocesan meetings are also done in this way.
2. On the following days there was time to debate about the reason for the meeting. Fr. Bill, the Moderator General, acted as facilitator, and introduced the topic of possibly becoming a Latin American Province. On this point, there were many comments by all the members from every unit.
 - a) Mexico: I relayed the message of Fr. Rene and Gregorio that we opt to continue to be part of the Atlantic Province.
 - b) Chile: Fr. Luis Briones informed us that the Chilean members are still not decided about forming part of a new province.

- c) Peru: Fr. Maximo said that they still are not prepared for that, but that there would be a possibility to enter into a process.
 - d) Guatemala: Fr. Noe said that the members do not agree in becoming a new province since there are many needs.
 - e) Brazil: Fr. Arcelino said that there was not a desire for them to be separated from the Teutonic Province.
 - f) Colombia: Fr. Joe said that for them to become a new province, they would have to feel the necessity to take that step.
3. In the end, after discussing reasons for and against, the decision was made to see if there is a possibility to begin to work this year with committees, retreats, and meetings to see if this dream could be realized.
 4. I noticed a lot of resistance at the beginning by all the members, but in the end they agreed to begin a process and analysis in this respect. But the position of Mexico is that we wish to continue to be part of the Atlantic Province. This was the final point that I expressed at the meeting.

Translated by Fr. Ron Wiecek C.P.P.S.

Around the Province

From the Provincial

Report on the Meeting of the Precious Blood Leadership Conference March 21-23, 2017; Salem Heights – Dayton, OH

Present: Janice Bader (CPPS O’Fallon), Mario Cafarelli, Larry Hemmelgarn (CPPS Cincinnati), Charlene Herinckx (SSMO Oregon), Barb Hudock (ASC), Joyce Lehman (CPPS Dayton)
Absent: Joe Nassal (CPPS Kansas City)

All had gathered at Salem Heights on the evening of March 21 for the evening meal and conversation. The following morning included more conversation and celebration of Eucharist.

Business Meeting

Spirituality Committee

Michael Goode, CPPS, has replaced Timothy Guthridge, CPPS, on this committee.

Barb shared the change of plans proposed by the Spirituality Committee.

Summer of 2017

- Easter Season Reflection Booklet is in process.
- Ton Sission’s *Food, Film, Eucharist* is scheduled for July 7- 9.
- Donna Liette will host an immersion experience at the PBMC June 18-22.

The two events are intended for Community members only. The expenses above the income generated by the two events will be covered by the PBLC.

Summer of 2018

The proposed *Sharing our Histories* program has been postponed until next summer. It was suggested that two people from each Community (a story-teller and an historian) be invited.

Summer of 2020

The large-group retreat will be scheduled for 2020. The PBLC members suggested the possibility of repeating the *Sharing Our Histories* as part of that retreat.

The Spirituality Committee questioned the possibility of adding a second member from each Community to the Committee. The PBLC recommended continuing with one member from each Community (due to cost and providing accommodations for 14 people) but forming sub-committees as needed. It was also suggested that the Spirituality Committee might want to contract with someone for bigger projects such as the 2020 retreat.

A request to include the Missionary Sisters of the Precious Blood on the PBSC was made by a member of the Spirituality Committee. It was noted that the members of the PBLC appointed a member from each of their Communities to serve on the PBSC. Since this group of Sisters opted not to become members of the PBLC and do not have a direct relationship with the founding of PBLC Communities, it was concluded that it would not be appropriate to invite them to membership on the Spirituality Committee.

This discussion led to the observation that there is no one from the Atlantic Province serving on the PBSC and that someone would be most welcome to join.

Sharing

Sharing of both events in past histories and current events in life of the PBLC Communities was interesting and lively.

Next meeting

Hosted by: CPPS/Atlantic Province in Niagara Falls, Canada

Date Change: October 2 – 4 (Mon.-Wed.) Some are hoping to arrive on Sunday.

From Br. Anthony Canterucci C.P.P.S.

St. Gaspar wrote, “So, let us not fail to continue doing this good work, diffusing it further, extending it everywhere to the glory of God” (*Letter 1822.*) The desire to fulfill St. Gaspar’s words and reaching out to the poor still lingers in my blood. It is the reason why I get up in the morning. Since my retirement and addressing various health issues I have regained my strength. I am moving slowly but plugging along.

Many of you may remember Sr Terenzia who resided at St. Alphonsus, Toronto years ago. She has been in the Philippines now for over 15 years. Recently made an appeal for support and assistance in operating a program which she runs from the mission house of the Carmelite Missionary Sisters of St. Theresa. She provides a daily meal for street kids, a shelter for the elderly in the area, and offers food packages for families who do not have enough food to feed their families.

Since October I have shipped 3 tons of food and clothing to continue her valuable work of love. Generous donors have also donated \$5000.00 to continue her outreach programs. Recently, Sr. Edna, who lives here at St. Alphonus, has returned from her well-deserved vacation and reports that St. Terenzia is doing well and very busy in her ministry-outreach. She added that cooking oil and flour is in great need and so with that in mind, I am doing my best to seek out those food supplies.

I have also spent January and February in Tanzania reviewing and preparing for this coming summer's project. I will accompany 8 high school students and 2 chaperones from the Kamloops, BC area and hope to return in October. I will attend this year's Business Assembly and will address any questions and concerns you may have regarding the Water Project or any of our other projects.

From the Rochester House

The Lenten season has seen a number of activities including several gatherings for the Stations of the Cross and a retreat day on the Solemnity of the Annunciation -- the third in the "Doctors of the Church" series with St. Ephrem of Syria's hymns guiding the reflections and ending with a prayer service for all those suffering from the ongoing conflict in Syria.