

SS.CC.

News & Reflections

Summer Issue, 2008

U.S.A. Western Province

Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary

Our Charism Statement

The Sacred Hearts' call is to become a Eucharistic Community striving for a holiness of which one of the principal elements is devotion to the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, expressing this call in loving care and mutual support, and responding to the needs of all with selfless love

Message from the Provincial

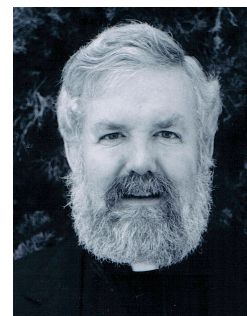
Dear Brothers,

This is the first of many newsletters. Thank you, Peadar for your great effort in putting it together. If I am any measure to go by, it must have taken him many and persistent requests for material.

This will be the only time that I will have the privilege of writing the cover letter. We will elect a new Provincial in June so my term will be up. I

want to thank you for your support and encouragement during the past three years. I hope that I did some good for the Province and as a Province we can

have many more years of good service to the people entrusted to our care. Sincerely yours
Mac

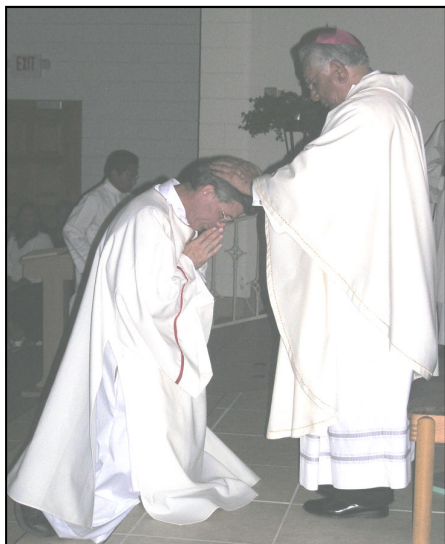


Fr. Donal McCarthy, SS.CC.

SS.CC. Ordination—U.S.A. West Province

On Wednesday, May 14th, Brother Brian Guerrini, SS.CC. was ordained to the Order of priesthood at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Artesia, New Mexico. Bishop Ricardo Ramirez, C.S.B. presided.

Concelebrating were the following members of the SS.CC. community: Donal McCarthy (Provincial U.S.A. West), John Roche & Peadar Cronin (California), Bill Petrie (Provincial-U.S.A. East Coast), Richard LaFrack, Paul Murtagh (pastor), Jerry Shanley & Emilio Vega Garcia (Texas), and Chris SantAngelo.



Newly ordained Brian Guerrini, SS.CC. receives blessing from Bishop Ricardo Ramirez at ordination ceremony.

Also attending were the following SS.CC. sisters: Damien Dang, Marie Lemert, & Marie Dominic Reantaso. Attending also were members of the Franciscan community from nearby Carlsbad as well as members of the diocesan clergy from Roswell and Las Cruces.

Brian was happy to have present for the occasion his brother Joe and his brother's fiancée, Ann.

Brian joined the SS.CC. community in 1986, taking his temporary vows after Novitiate in 1987 and Final Vows in 1990. For the next 2 years he worked at St. Joseph-Notre Dame H.S., Almeida, followed by a 2 year stint at St. Louis parish in Cathedral City, CA. While taking care of his ailing father, he spent the next five years at Cardinal

(Continued on page 2)



SS.CC. Provincials Bill Petrie (East Coast) and Donal McCarthy (West Coast) at Mass for Brian's ordination in Artesia, N.M. - May 15

Retreat Sched.—starting Mon., 10 am

- 8:00 am—breakfast
- 9:00 am—Morning prayers, talk
- 11:00 am—2nd talk
- 12:00 pm—lunch
- 4:00 pm—Mass
- 5:00 pm—Gaudeamus
- 6:00 pm—Supper
- Reconciliation Service—One Evening
- Fr. Brian—celebrant on Tuesday

Chapter Schedule—Available at retreat

P.O. Box 668, San Dimas, California 91773

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SS.CC. Celebration of Ordination by U.S.A. West Province

(Continued from page 1)

Ritter High School in Indiana. From 2000-02 Brian worked at Damien H.S. in La Verne. After spending six months in Hemet with the discerning team, he joined that team in making a commitment to the then-new Community-in-Mission project in Artesia, New Mexico, where he's been for these last six years. On Oct. 4, 2007, Brian was ordained Deacon. Last year, Brian took refresher courses in theology at the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas.

Father Brian will continue ministering in the Pecos Valley, in English and Spanish, serving three parishes of Our Lady of Grace and St. Anthony's in Artesia, New Mexico, and Immaculate Conception in Dexter, N.M., and the two mission churches of St. Catherine's in Hagerman, N.M. and Our Lady of Guadalupe in Lake Arthur, N.M. He expects to continue to work with the local St. Vincent de Paul Society and Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Las Cruces, N.M. as a board member and as a member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council. He will also continue as the chairperson for the Sacred Heart Communities in Collaboration, a national non-profit organization composed of fifteen religious communities of priests, sisters and brothers devoted to the spirituality of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Concluding in Brian's words, "I am privileged to be a member of the New Mexico USA CIM Project. It has been and is a truly collaborative ministry with our brothers from the East Coast Province and our sisters from the Pacific Province. Our community life together is a real inspiration and support for my ministries in this part of the southwestern U.S. It has called for facing many challenges both in community life and in ministry, but continues to be a source of life for me through the Hearts of Jesus and Mary and our own SS.CC. missionaries, Blessed Damien and Blessed



God's Appointment

"I have considered the task which God has appointed me. God has made everything appropriate to its time and has put the timeless into our hearts. I recognize that there is nothing better than to be glad and to do well during life. For every person to eat and drink and enjoy the fruit of their labor is a gift of God. I recognize that whatever God does will endure forever, that God may be revered in all things."

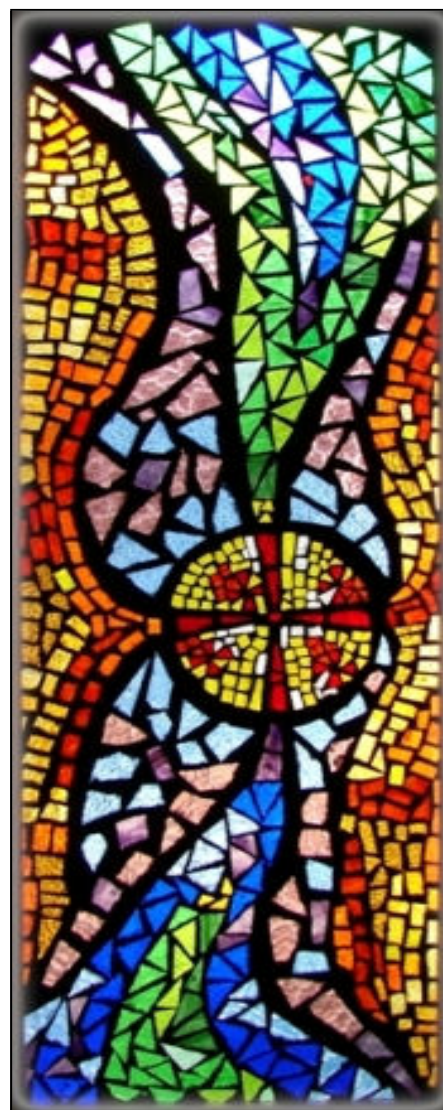
-Ecclesiastes, Chapter 3

Chosen by Brian for his announcement card for Ordination.



Fr. Paul Murtagh, SS.CC. (pastor) with SS.CC. sisters, Damien Dang, Marie Dominic Reantaso, and Marie Lemert

Eustaquio. I find myself enjoying the challenges and growing both personally and ministerially. I hope and pray that our SS.CC. presence with the people of southern New Mexico and the Diocese of Las Cruces will continue to prosper and that it may be a source of vocations for our Sacred Hearts community."



Stain glass with Eucharistic theme
Fernando León sssc
Community of Concepción (Chile)

SS.CC. Ordination in India

Stephen Banjare, SS.CC. was ordained to the priesthood on April 28 in St. Mary's parish church in Kolkata.

Archbishop Lucas Sirkar presided. Stephen, the eleventh Indian brother to be ordained, did his theological studies in Manila and this year spent a pastoral year in London. He will be part of the team that will begin a new community on the outskirts of Kolkata, with the hope of eventually staffing a parish.



50th Anniversary Celebration for Bishop Amat High School—2008



SS.CC. community at Bishop Amat High School (1962-63 L.to R.): Bro. John Shelley, Frs. Flan Markham, Martin O’Loghlen, Luke Zimmer, Gregory Brennan, Cyril Sheehan, Joseph Murphy, Willebrord Willemen, Benedict Folger, William Lean, John Fee, Brendan Kieran.

On April 12, 2008, Bishop Amat High School in La Puente, California celebrated the 50th anniversary of its founding. Honored during the celebration were the religious communities that ministered there over the course of its history. Among those communities were our brothers and sisters. Down through the years fifty three SS.CC. brothers and five sisters taught at Bishop Amat. Representing the brothers of the Congregation at the celebration were Frs. Donal McCarthy, Provincial U.S.A. West, and Martin O’Loghlen, former provincial. Both Donal and Martin taught at Amat.



The Heart of the Matter; Mary’s Mercy Center—an update!

Sometimes, we—men especially—lie to ourselves. We feel that we are fine even when we are not. Last October I was diagnosed with an irregular EKG. No big thing! I checked with the cardiologist in February and he sent me to the heart surgeon who operated on me on March 5th. I had a triple bypass. Two things I learned from the whole experience. One, you cannot take your health for granted. Secondly, I received many prayers, cards and letters wishing me well. This was tough because it told me unequivocally that I was loved. I didn’t do anything, and I was loved.



Fr. Mike Barry, SS.CC.

What was a great source of comfort and blessing to me was the Brothers. Many sent cards, called up, and Fr. McCarthy came to visit often. Community defies structure and true community comes from the heart. I am very proud of my Community here in the West.

Mary’s Mercy Center

Mary’s Mercy Center continues its ministries. The feeding program extends to six days a week. Many young people volunteer on weekends, but we are always in need of more volunteers. Mary’s Mercy Center reached a milestone on September 12, 2008 when the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Veronica’s Home took place. A large crowd attended

plus the local dignitaries. The foundation was prepared in early 2008, and the whole project has a completion date of January 2009.

Devotional Booklet on Fr. Damien

The good news of impending canonization of Blessed Damien has inspired a greater interest in the saint to be. Fr. Mike Barry & Mrs. J. Slominski have put together a devotional booklet on Fr. Damien. This booklet includes a novena for Fr. Damien, Fr. Damien’s spirituality, a Chaplet to Fr. Damien, a litany of Fr. Damien. These booklets are available for \$3, and the Chaplet beads for \$5. Contact Fr. Mike or Peg in Hemet.

Damien High School in its infancy: In 1959, five of our fathers answered the call by volunteering to administer and help staff the newly opened Pomona Catholic Boys’ High School in La Verne, which in 1969 was renamed Damien High. Below listed members of SS.CC. (from left): Aidan Doherty, Kieran Rush, Fred Furey (principal), Jerome Lane, and Alan Nagle. Over the years 60 SS.CC. members have worked at Damien High School (from that time to the present).



Holy Name of Mary, San Dimas

Holy Name of Mary is a vibrant, dynamic and alive parish community, and it is my privilege and honor to be pastor. An extraordinary amount of work has been going on behind the scenes. It is an exciting time for all of us, and we are filled with enthusiasm as we continue to strive to “Realize Our Dream.”



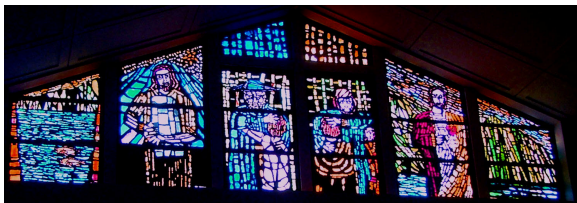
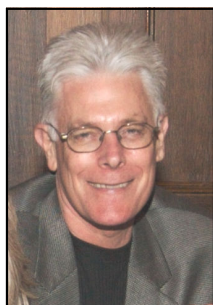
Tom Mullen, SS.CC.

The hours that are volunteered in our parish are just wonderful—we are who we are because of our collaborative ministry and lay leadership.

SS.CC.'s "Painter's Monk" - "Pomona's Storefront Padre"

By A.S. Ashley

Everybody knows Father Bill, that is, most everyone who's an Artist here in Pomona's Art Colony. You might have occasionally seen him walking along the streets of downtown: the man with the shock of white hair sticking up skyward like some massive celestial antennae; Vegas Mafia goonbah shirt; and sweat pants slathered with the pigments of a hundred Jackson Pollack paintings. He moves quickly, almost invisible...Father Bill sightings, are often rare, for the immeasurable time he spends stationed in front of his current canvas.



Bill's stained glass creation, Saint Ann, Kaneohe, Hawaii

It's no joke that his artistic dedication takes on a religious fervor: it is his calling and his Parish assignment. That's right, it's his calling. At one point during his Priesthood, Father Bill was told by his superiors, that as a Priest, he should dedicate his service to God in the form of painting; and by doing so, he would bring beauty to the world. So in a sense, Father Bill could be viewed as a Painter's Monk.

Fr. Bill Moore, SS.CC. has



been a resident of Pomona's Arts Colony for the past 5 years. His loft is a storefront studio, on the wild, wild, West end of Second Street. He likes it there, somewhat off the beaten path, away from any downtown distractions.

I found Father Bill when I first came to the Arts Colony. I was roaming the streets, spying loft space, stopping and asking people what life was like in the community. There was Father Bill, in his studio, feverishly working on a painting (he arguably has the best work ethic I've ever seen in an artist), when he saw me staring into his window like some mad stalker....

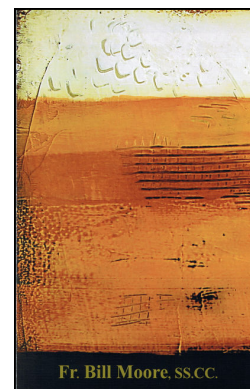
Hi, I'm Ashley, an artist...I'm looking to move here and I want to ask you a couple of questions about the

area... Father Bill invited me in... we talked for over an hour. I discovered quickly,

that this quiet, gentle man was surprisingly passionate about art and life in general...I came away feeling that I had met someone worthy of seeking out again, and I do (I usually make a point to stop by his "storefront parish" weekly to talk about God-know-what).

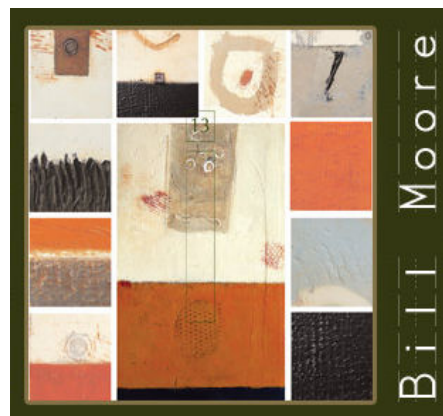
Looking around his studio, I can best describe Father Bill's artwork as "of-the-earth." His canvases are worked aggressively with warm hues and heavy paint, some areas smooth, others textured, like some distant to-

pography of golden and rusted deserts. Sometimes his canvases look like square and flattened pottery, old and rubbed to reveal its glistening core. Others look like a hatch-door



opening to a blast furnace: colors hot and vibrant in the center, cool edges holding the molten middle firm in its square. Father Bill does very well selling his work, but understand he's a priest, and all the proceeds from his sales go to his [congregation].

Father Bill participates in many local art shows in the Metro Area. If you happen upon his name in a listing of artists exhibiting in an event, make sure to stop by to see his work, and hopefully get a chance to meet this gentle and wondrous man.



Dear Father Bill:

I am the new proud owner of one your marvelous works: *The Order within all nature/Sanctuary Stone*. I stumbled upon the Austerer Gallery last month while visiting Palm Springs, and when I walked into the large room with a friend of mine, we both looked at your paintings in the corner and gasped at the same time! It took me a little time to decide on acquiring this painting, as it spoke to me deeply. My father died suddenly in January, and I cannot quite put into words why this work conveys so much peace and comfort on the heels of my loss, but it does...and for that I thank you, as I thank God for you and your exceptional gift.

My pastor, a Franciscan friar, is also an art lover and was so impressed by your work. I look forward to following you in your art career and hopefully collecting more of your pieces...Blessings to you, Fr. Bill, as you add immeasurable beauty into the world... Fondly
Mark Higgins - Durham, North Carolina

Vatican Theologians See Miracle in Hawaiian Woman's Cancer

By Anna Weaver

[Catholic News Service](#)

HONOLULU (CNS)

-- Theological consultants to the Vatican Congregation for Saints' Causes have ruled that the cancer cure of a Hawaiian woman was due to Blessed Damien de Veuster's intercession, Honolulu Bishop Larry Silva announced April 29.

The decision represents a major step forward in Father Damien's cause for canonization. The final actions required to declare the priest a saint are the endorsement of the congregation's committee of cardinals and bishops and the approval of the pope

Father Damien, the 19th-century Belgian missionary of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary who spent the final 16 years of his life caring for the Hansen's disease patients on the Hawaiian Island of Molokai, was beatified in 1995 in Belgium by Pope John Paul II.

"I give thanks and praise to God for the news I received this morning!" Bishop Silva wrote in an e-mail message to diocesan personnel on the theologians' decision.

In his announcement, Bishop Silva included the name of the Oahu woman, Audrey Toguchi, whose cancer disappeared a decade ago after she began prayers to Father Damien that included pilgrimages to Kalaupapa where the priest worked and died. It was the first time the diocese had made her name public.

Toguchi, in a May 1 interview with the Hawaii Catholic Herald, Honolulu diocesan newspaper, said that when she first learned she had cancer "I put everything in God's hands."

She decided to pray to Father Damien, who had given his own life in service to others. "Father Damien is not going



to let me go," she thought at the time.

The sainthood process generally requires two miracles, one for beatification and one for canonization.

An alleged miracle -- usually a healing -- must overcome two hurdles. First, medical experts must declare it dramatic and unexplainable. Next, theologians must determine that it was caused through the intercession of the candidate for sainthood

In Father Damien's case, the medical commission of the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes ruled last October that the healing was "unexplainable according to available medical knowledge." In this latest judgment, the theological consultants determined that the cure was attributable to Father Damien. The cure in question involved the disappearance of cancer, without treatment, from Toguchi's lungs in 1999. The case was documented in an article about "complete spontaneous regression of cancer" published by Dr. Walter Y.M. Chang, in the October 2000 issue of the Hawaii Medical Journal.

According to the article, three malignant lung tumors were discovered by X-ray in September 1998. The cancer was a reappearance of matching malignancy surgically removed earlier from other parts of the body.

Upon learning of her condition, Toguchi began praying to Father Damien and visiting Kalaupapa.

Before therapy could be applied, an X-ray a month later showed that the tumors had decreased in size.

Monthly X-rays revealed further



shrinkage until scans in May and October 1999 could find no sign of the cancer. The doctor's report stated that the "lung metastases disappeared with no therapy at all."

The Diocese of Honolulu in 2003 convened a tribunal to investigate the miracle. The month long process involved seven meetings and interviews with six

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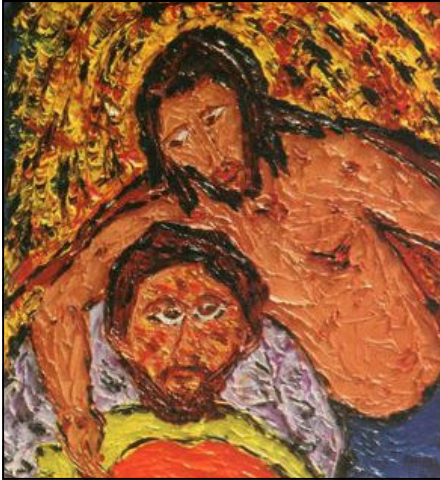


Stained glass window in the new Travers/Cronin Athletic Center at Damien High School in La Verne, California.

Vatican Recognizes Miracle Attributed to the Intercession of Blessed Damien

(Continued from page 5)

medical doctors, the former cancer patient, her husband and sister, and two priests who had counseled the patient. Of the doctors, most of whom were not Catholic, five were connected with the care of the patient and one was independent.



The tribunal's findings were formally opened at the Congregation for Saints' Causes Sept. 11, 2003

The ensuing process wasn't all smooth sailing. The congregation asked

the Honolulu tribunal to reconvene in 2005 to clarify parts of its original report. And last November, an official at the congregation quietly visited Hawaii for further examination of the case.

Canonization Process: Two miracles attributed to Father Damien (posthumously) have been documented: On June 13, 1992, Pope John Paul II approved the cure of a nun in France in 1895 as a miracle attributed to Damien's intercession. In that case, Sister Simplicia Hue began a [novena](#) to Father Damien as she lay dying of a lingering intestinal illness. The pain and symptoms of the illness disappeared overnight. In the second case, a Hawaii woman's cancer completely disappeared after she prayed at the empty grave of Father Damien on Molokai.^[9] On [June 4, 1995](#), Pope John Paul II [beatified](#) Blessed Damien and gave him his official spiritual title. On [December 20, 1999](#), [Jorge Medina Estévez](#), Prefect of the [Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments](#), confirmed the November 1999 decision of the [United States Conference of Catholic Bishops](#) to place Blessed Damien on the liturgical calendar with the rank of optional memorial. His official Feast Day is on [May 10](#) of each year. His canonization is expected late in 2008 and he will receive the title of Saint Damien of Molokai.

During the beautification homily, **Pope John Paul II** said: *"Holiness is not perfection according to human criteria; it is not reserved for a small number of exceptional persons. It is for everyone; it is the Lord who brings us to holiness, when we are willing to collaborate in the salvation of the world for the glory of God, despite our sin and our sometimes rebellious temperament."*

My Journey: Counting the Milestones

The recent journey to Artesia to Brian's Ordination reminded me of my own journey to Ordination 25 years ago this August. This year is a milestone



Fr. John Roche, SS.CC.

stone stone year for me as I turn the big 60 and celebrate 25 years. After 25 years I have become a good religious – I now get up at 4 o'clock – twice a day! I don't feel any different from the day I was ordained except that I need that extra little nap time.

My own journey to ordination was a long one. I remember Sr. Annuncia introducing a visiting White Father to our class of seven-year-olds. Of course all the lads were fascinated with his stories of Africa and crossing crocodile infested rivers and all such stories that sends a young boy's imagination wild. I think every single boy had signed up for the White Fathers that day. Faithfully every month he sent

us a newsletter full of more stories from Africa and how Fr. John Doe had built a new church in the middle of the jungle and had converted thousands. Every month he had 5 new words of Swahili to learn and he had a special couple of paragraphs in Swahili that contained the new words.

At some stage during my seventh year I switched heroes. I read the life story of Fr. Damien and he became my hero. We had a card with 60 small squares in the shape of a cross and we had to collect a penny for each square. Each time you collected a penny you pierced a square with a needle. I was the first in my class to collect the 60 pennies and won a tea cup and saucer, no less, for my effort. The tea cup never made it home – my sister said that she would carry it because I would only drop it. Well on the way home we were gostering with the Lalors and Carrols and the cup got broke. My secret for filling the cards was that I would go into the church opposite the school and search for pennies that people had dropped at mass.

The years rolled on and in my teenage years the appeal of following in Damien's footsteps waned – I seemed

somehow to be more interested in following Nancy or Sheila to a dance.

In my late teens and twenties the thoughts of following Damien would surface every now and then. Diocesan priesthood never took my fancy. Damien with his church building and taking care of the "lepers", as we called them then, was always the model of priesthood that attracted me. When this surfaced I would contact a vocation director and either never turn up for the meeting or let it fizzle. I suppose God always works in his own sweet time.

As it happened my sister moved to Daventry and through Marriage Encounter had become friendly with the priests there who often dropped in. One weekend I was visiting my sister, and Pat Lynch dropped by and casually dropped an invitation to a Come-and-see weekend coming up shortly. I went and during one of the breaks I was chatting with Andy Wafer, and I explained to him that I felt I had a calling but was mostly doubtful of it. He gave me very good sound advice – "you have to do something or get off the pot" – he might have phrased it slightly differently as I now recall! It was

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Musings from the Monastery

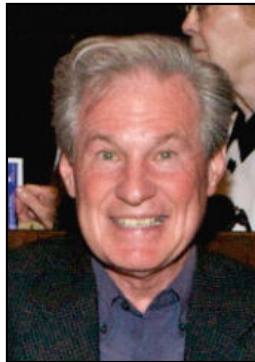
My first week here at the Abbey of Gethsemane, I listened to a number of tapes by the poet John O'Donohue. On one of them entitled "The Poetics of Hope" he shared the following quote from the Hopi Indians.

"You have been telling the people that this is the eleventh hour; now you must go back and tell them this is THE HOUR. There are things to be considered: where are you living? What are you doing?

What are your relationships? Are you in right relation? Where's your water? Know your garden! Is it time to speak your truth? Create your community! Be good to each other and don't look outside yourself for the leader.

This could be a good time. There is a river flowing now very fast; it is so great and swift that there are those who will be afraid; they will feel they are being torn apart, and they will suffer greatly. Know the river has its destination. The elders say we must let go of the shore and push off into the middle of the river. Keep our eyes open and our heads above the water and see who's in there with you, and celebrate! At this time in history we are to take nothing personally, least of all ourselves, for the moment we do, our spiritual growth and journey comes to a halt. The time of the loen wolf is over; gather yourselves. Banish the word struggle from your attitude and vocabulary. All that we do now must be done in a sacred manner and in celebration. We are the ones we have been waiting for."

As I thought of these words, I thought of our upcoming chapter with hope.



Fr. Rich Danyluk, SS.CC.

Pat Crowley "On the Road Again"

Back from a pilgrimage to Medjugorje. I had twenty nine on the Pilgrimage, the majority of whom were from Phoenix and its environs. One of the highlights was meeting Bishop Brendan Comiskey, SS.CC. who was likewise, leading a pilgrimage from the homeland. A distinctive grace for me was the opportunity in being available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I am always in awe of the number of conversions.

It is nice to be back on the road again. Thank you all for all your prayers and support during my recent bout with cancer. April found me conducting retreats for Sisters both in the Bay Area and San Diego. There were likewise, a number of healing services in the local parishes.

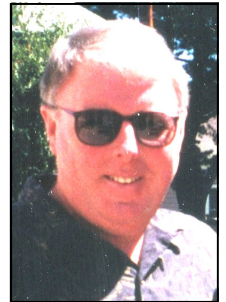


Pat Crowley, SS.CC.

Report from Jerry at Holy Spirit Parish

While I miss friends and the Bay Area, life is definitely less stressful here. I enjoy living in a rectory that is not "over the store" and being able to share meals without some of the staff always around. The parishioners appreciate the Congregation's staffing the parish and having a resident priest. It was always Pat Crowley's dream to have a parish in Hemet that would complement Sage Road. I greatly appreciate having him visit and help out. We both agreed that the parishioners have been most generous and helpful in refurbishing both this rectory and the two mobile homes on Sage Road, and it is our privilege to minister to their faith needs.

On Tuesday, May 20th, Archbishop John Dew of Wellington, New Zealand, came here to observe how this parish and others are administered with lay Pastoral Coordinators (His fam-



Jerry Holland, SS.CC.

Counting the Milestones: "The Précis of My Journey"

(Continued from page 6)

the jolt I needed to get off the fence. I had a few meetings with Eamonn who in the June of 1976 said – "You start in September".

It was no longer theory now for to go I would have to give up a very nice job in Biophysical Research at Birmingham University. After a couple of months of inner turmoil I decided that I had to get it out of my system once and for all – so I took the plunge and handed in my notice. Now I really began to worry – how am I going to handle all those holy Joes in the seminary? But I need not have worried because most of the guys had worked a couple of years or so and didn't have a romantic image of priesthood. They were down to earth.

I thought I was well educated

after studying science, but the philosophy and theological studies opened up a whole new world to me that I enjoyed thoroughly. I enjoyed my seven years at Maynooth. Damien had surfaced again and Bill Petrie opened the way for me to go to India for my deaconate year. I fell in love with the work and the people. I returned after ordination and thought I was settling into a long commitment to the work there when the political climate changed. Chris Grannel and I were there under Commonwealth status (nobody had told India that Ireland was no longer part of the Commonwealth). The Government told us we had to return to Ireland to get new visas but even after a year they never materialized. Chris headed for the Bahamas and I wound up in prison!

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Damien High School's Tijuana Mission Outreach Project

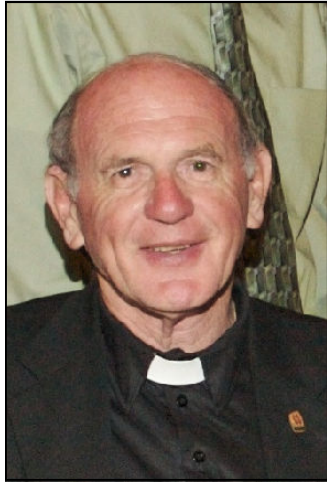
By Thomas Nolan and Jacob Bruce

Today's world often seems like a place where people make every effort to upgrade their own lives either financially, socially, or in a way to compete with their neighbor. However, at Damien High School in La Verne, California, students are relentlessly working to improve the lives of other people. This mission is embodied in the Tijuana Mission Outreach Club. Students work to provide clothes, rice, beans, flour, toiletries, and bread for the poor while building everything from houses, to classrooms, community centers and churches. Together, with the time and energy of students and teachers, this mission has been made possible.

Often we go through life and are taught to be thankful for everything that we have. However, visual aid always help make thing easier. It is because of this that Fr. Pat Travers, SS.CC. continues to work tirelessly so that the many high school students could see how much they truly have.

The club makes trips to the poverty stricken area, about 20 miles east of Tijuana, just about every other week. It is these times that they bring clothes and other donated goods to the people, and perform odd jobs for the San Eugenio Mission located n the La Morita area. Four times a year, the

club conducts what they refer to as "food runs." Here, they bring a thousand pounds each of rice, beans, and flour, as well as 400 loaves of bread. The biggest of these "food runs," is in January with what is known as the Epiphany Trip. Here hundreds of people from the local Damien community travel to La Morita to bring double what is brought in a normal food run in addition to many other goods.



Fr. Patrick Travers, SS.CC.

Getting all the goods into Mexico isn't easy. The Mexican government does not allow rice, beans, or clothes into their nation from America. Therefore, stress is high when the group

pulls up to the border. Father Travers, however, will not stop working to help the people. "It's a challenge sometimes," said Father. "But I guess I am just a stubborn Irishman."

Although these single day trips are important, none of these day trips compare to what is considered the pride and joy of the Tijuana Mission Club—the summer building project. Each year, hundreds of fathers and sons caravan down to the area and work from sun-up till sun-down building houses for the poor as well classrooms, community centers and churches. In the span of the club's existence, 36 houses, 5 churches, 4 sets of classrooms, and 1 community center have been created from the hard work of the students and their fathers. This coming summer, the club is prepared to build an additional six houses, a set of classrooms, and a community center that will function as a church.

One mem-

ber of the club, Andrew McCraven, class of 2009, had the opportunity to travel down to the area several months ago to see the sites of the houses which the club will be building on this summer. "I was deeply moved by the particular family which consisted of a father and a mother and with four young boys, and another child on the way," said McCraven. "Their house consisted of three poorly constructed walls, some type of roof, and a sheet to cover the front and operate as a door. In a large dirt area in front of their "house" was a mattress. After talking with the family, I discovered that the family had to drag the mattress into the house every night to have a place to sleep, and every day they had to drag it out so that they would have a place to live."

The many projects that the Tijuana Mission Outreach Club carries out are not cheap, and fund raising is not always so easy. To help cut costs, the students on the Damien campus recycle all cans and bottles, and two classroom collections a year help out a lot. In addition to this, the club has a carne asada lunch for the faculty and

(Continued on page 9)



Fr. Travers concelebrates Mass with priests from local T.J. parish in one of the churches newly constructed by the members (in left photo) of the Damien Tijuana Mission Outreach Club.



Damien High School Tijuana Project—(continued)

(Continued from page 8)

students every year. It's a lot of work for the club, but the money is needed, so it is well worth it.

The main source of income for the club, however, comes from parish collections. This year alone, over \$78,000 came from seven parishes local to the school. This income only pays part of the estimated \$120,000 project that the club has planned for this summer. St. Paul's in Chino Hills gave \$26,112.99, Holy Name of Mary in San Dimas donated \$15,299.56, Our Lady of Assumption in Claremont came through with \$1,159.38, and St. Madeline's gave \$4,319.50. Holy In-



Members of the Damien Tijuana Mission Outreach Club (above left) busily work on their latest project, a multi-purpose community center. At right above is the completed project, a source of satisfaction to the workers and a source of pride for the local community.

nocents Church in Victorville gave \$10,425.56, St. Dennis in Diamond Bar gave \$15,875.23, while St. Joseph's Upland gave \$13,524.64 to the cause.

So, when that time comes

around when we think of how we can make life easier or better, we must first look at others, such as those suffering in Mexico, and see how we can improve their lives before our own.

Pat "Patsy" Argue in the Emerald Isle

Pat "Patsy" Argue now resides at the "College View" nursing home which overlooks St. Patrick's College in Cavan. With many of Patsy's family in and around the area he gets plenty of visitors including Jerry White and Harry O'Gara from Tanagh, Cootehill, who visit him usually twice a week. His sister Mary calls to see him every evening.

He still takes a keen interest in American Football and Baseball. Recently Mary organized a Mass for Patsy and the extended family at her home in Cavan. The Mass was celebrated by Jerry, and Patsy assisted where he could. He looks forward to visits from Province members who will be visiting Ireland over the summer months.

Patrick Laghezza, SS.CC. VA Chaplain

I am presently in my 2nd term as secretary for our VA Catholic Chaplains. We are planning for the fall a new conference in Washington, D.C. for about 80 chaplains from the VA. This conference will feature VA professional speakers who will address trauma, spiritual and religious care. We are scheduled to visit the new Archbishop to the military, Timothy Paul Broglio.



St. Paul the Apostle—Chino Hills



Kenny McCabe, SS.CC. (left) and Pat O'Hagan, SS.CC. (right) pose with parishioner Josie Dum Dum, Secular Branch, at recent annual Candlelight Pavilion supper-show fundraising event. St. Paul's is a thriving parish with 6,500 registered families. Recently, they had 400 1st graders receive the Sacrament of first Reconciliation with 400 3rd graders receiving their First Communion. Also recently almost 300 received the Sacrament of Confirmation. In addition to the usual pastoral/sacramental duties—7 weekend Masses, daily Masses, funerals, weddings, baptisms, regularly scheduled confessions, RCIA—there are 51 different groups in the parish that meet regularly.

Notes from St. Louis—Cathedral City

Mike Maher, SS.CC. (pastor) happily announced recently that the parish debt had been paid off. Furthermore, the parish has done some significant re-furbishing in the church: a new floor, new doors, new pews, and a new paint job. Also, the hall has been refurbished both upstairs and downstairs. The statue of St. Jude has been moved, making way for a statue of the Sacred Heart in the church.

And perhaps most significantly, the number of masses at the church has been increased by two.



Fr. Pat Coyle, SS.CC. (2nd from right) entertains some visitors (from left): Peter Dennis, SS.CC. with Mrs. and Mr. Jerry Schlesinger, all three of whom regularly visit Pat in his desert domicile.

Reflections: From where I Stand

Is it me or ARE THERE MORE BOOKS BEING WRITTEN NOW ON THE WHOLE CONCEPT OF AGING? The most recent one I saw was by Joan Chittister,



Fr. Peter Dennis, SS.CC.

O.S.B.: *The Gift of Years*. It is a blueprint for “growing old gracefully.” It gives me pause to look back in reflection, reverie and recovery. A recent news item in the *Irish Times* caught my attention. It told of the unwelcome but inevitable “Final Solution” facing the *Irish Christian Brothers*. Typical of the graying, dwindling and dying of priesthood and religious life, the CBS, as they were known to us, have a plan in place to face the future.

In my home town, Lismore, Co. Waterford, all that remains of a once magnificent adventure of National and Secondary Education is a limestone plaque, in English and Gaelic: *Christian Brothers, Lismore, 1851—1999*. Part of my morning prayer/meditation is given to filling in gaps represented by that dash. For me, it was the years 1945 to 1955. Names, faces, achievements and disappointments flit before me in nostalgic recollection...all beautifully summed up by a few lines from the poem, *Ulysses*: “we are a part of all that we have met, yet all experience is but an arch, where through gleams that untravelled world.” I still freely quote poetry learned during those years, aggressively taught by the likes of Bro. Murphy, a “Village Schoolmaster” type, whose most unforgettable impression on me is that of a black-robed, furtive figure, hurriedly crossing the schoolyard with steaming

bucket of cocoa and legendary hot-cross buns...for the needy, the cold and the hungry. Maybe that was the most important lesson. Picasso claims that “it takes a long time to grow young.” Maybe it takes the

same time to grow wise. Myriad images such as these crowd my mind and search for understanding and clarification. How do I understand Pearse’s poem, “The Fool”? “I have squandered the splendid years the Lord God gave to my youth, in attempting impossible things, deeming them alone worth the toil.” He concludes: “Not men shall judge me, but God.”

In August, 1955, by train and bus, I made the fateful journey from Lismore to Tanagh House, there to engage in another “voyage into the unknown.” The Cootehill enterprise had barely started. The pioneers, charter members have long gone to their Eternal rewards. They took the Lord at His word: “Launch out into the deep...!” The history of that holy hill embraces the silent witness of a thousand men, deeds, hopes, dreams, and other works of the Kingdom. The pass-

ing of Bro. Bernard, Joe McGeady and the inevitable “last cow standing,” this special chapter in the story of the Congregation came to a close. The Paschal Mystery had found one more of its expressions. Flan Markham, of happy academic memory, would caution us with a sober fact: “80% of all Orders/

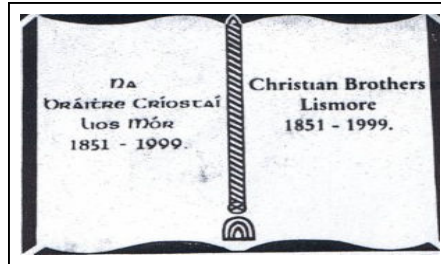
Congregations that ever existed, NO LONGER exist. Do you remember Martyred Oscar Romero’s “take” on this same theme?

Likewise on to Jaffrey Center, Washington, Winona, Bishop

Amat or Alemany...In attempting to cope with these eventualities, we, as a group, have gone on a “search to succeed” missions.

Are we “driving the bus” or am I/we taking refuge in the forever-useful “crutch”: “It’s the work of the Holy Spirit.”

Parallel reading: *The American Jesuits: A History*, by Raymond A. Scroth, S.J.



SS.CC. fathers in 1963 at the still relatively new Pomona Catholic Boys' High School that had been moved from the old Pomona Catholic High School on Holt Avenue, Pomona to the formerly Bonita High School campus in La Verne. It wasn't until 1969 that it was renamed Damien High School. (Back row, L. to R.): Peter Dennis, Mike Shanahan, Pat Argue, Paul Deyo, Pat Travers, and Dominic Crewe. (Front row, L. to R.): Brendan Comiskey, Denny Hagerty, Fred Furey, Jerome Lane, & Pat Laghezza. Through the years sixty SS.CC. brothers served here.



The SS.CC. Spirit Alive & Well in Bagong Silang, Philippines

The [SS.CC.](#) parish in Bagong Silang, situated on the outskirts of Metro Manila, is currently staffed by 3 brothers and 4 sisters of the Congregation. We are a Community In Mission, according to the criteria established at the 1994 General Chapter of the brothers. As a Community In Mission we work very closely with one another to serve the people of Bagong Silang.



Fr. Martin O'Loghlen, SS.CC.

The sisters are inserted in the midst of the people, living in two small houses just like the ones occupied by the people. For a long time they were crowded into one house, but since the sisters who are in formation come and work with our community here, they needed additional space for them. The brothers live in a building that is attached to the church, a significant upgrade from the accommodations of the sisters. They too welcome the brothers who are in formation to come and experience their life and ministry. At the moment, Damiano Tonegutti, a member of the Spanish Province, is doing his pastoral year with the community in Bagong Silang.

Our community prays together, eats together and works together daily, while attempting "to live simply and minister humbly". We strive to keep in mind the innate dignity of the people whom we are privileged to serve, especially by working **with** them rather than trying to impose our programs and ideas.

Since we are ministering in a parish we provide all of the normal parish services, such as mass and the sacraments. But what is different is the numbers. The number of baptisms and first communions far exceed what you might have in most countries. For example from Sunday Dec. 23 to Tuesday of Jan. 1, we baptized 260 babies. There are so many children for first communion that we have to divide them into 10 sections. There are between 90 and 100 children in each sec-

tion.

There are unique problems and joys associated with ministering to the poor. What do you do when someone has no Birth Certificate or Baptismal Certificate? It is a common problem. What do you do about the child that you have helped send to school on scholarship, but who is unable to study because he or she is hungry everyday? How do you deal with the very sick individual who can't get to the state run hospital, which has a charity ward, simply because he does not have the equivalent of the \$1.50 that he needs for transportation? Just place yourself in the role of the mother who is struggling to put rice on the table twice a day in order to feed her 5 children. One of the children gets diarrhea. Now, do you continue to feed the other 4 and not get the necessary medicine for the sick one? Or, do you get the medicine for the sick child and let the others go hungry? You do not have enough money to do both.

This, unfortunately, is not a hypothetical case. The mother actually

continued to feed the 4 healthy ones and hoped that the sick child would get better. Unfortunately, he died of dehydration at the informed parish staff. If your solution to the problems was to throw money at them I believe you would be unsuccessful. You would in fact create a people who became dependent on your generosity and who were unable to help themselves. Our response to the loss of the little boy who died from dehydration was to establish a pharmacy where medication can be purchased very cheaply. People who are extremely poor can get medicines for free. The pharmacy is staffed by a group of volunteers and actually makes a small profit. These funds are used to help transport people to hospital who do not have the fare.

The idea of saving money is foreign to the poor. Of course, most of the time they don't have money to save. But, even when they do, their tendency is to spend it. Preparing for a future emergency is not something that they think about. Because of the

(Continued on page 12)

Special Children Grow in Bagong Silang

By Martin O'Loghlen, SS.CC.

Arvyn, 10 years old, cannot speak. When he first entered the Center he was shouting and running around, he could not be calm for one minute. Now, eight months later, after taking class every day in the Center, he helps arranging the chairs, he takes what he is told seriously, and he always greets you with a smile. The Center is a tiny school for PWD children located in the Parish of Bagong Silang (Philippines), run by the sisters and brothers SSCC.

AMPAPP Inclusive Educational Center has been running since June 2007, therefore is less than 1 year old. It started in a very interesting way. A woman of the parish, very generous with the poor people of the neighborhood, decided to open a "school" for disabled young people in her own house. Very soon the very small house was filled with 20 disabled young people plus some volunteer teachers. Of course, the house was too small for such a crowd, and very little activities

could be performed. Informed about the situation, SSCC sister Monique Darveau visited the house and was deeply touched by what she saw. Before being sent to Bagong Silang, Sister Monique taught for several years in a school for deaf children and since then her passion is teaching disabled children. Moved by the situation, she proposed to move the "school" to the Parish and the Parish readily accepted it.

Currently, the Center is running from 9am to 11am every morning, Monday through Friday. SSCC sisters Monique and Emiliana are leading the team of the Center, which is formed by five teachers and three volunteers (a parishioner and two SSCC temporary vows religious). The teachers and the volunteers lead different activities with an educational purpose. Of course a lot of activities are exciting and fun. In November the Center celebrated its existence with a special mass of thanksgiving. The children with the

(Continued on page 12)

Special Children Growing in Bagong Silang

(Continued from page 11)

teachers prepared a dance that was performed at the 8am Sunday mass together with all the parishioners. On the same day, the sisters, the novices and the teachers ran a “baratillo”, a small market outside the Parish in order to raise funds for the Center.

On Christmas, the Center prepared a party that naturally included a joyful gift-giving, a delicious snack including a cake, in the form of a large gingerbread house, donated by a school in Manila. Then the children and the teachers played games, danced, and

played a concert involving the parents of the children. In March, the Center visited the zoo of Manila and earlier this year the children enjoyed a trip to a Luna Park. All the teachers, volunteers and parents end up really tired after all these activities, but acknowledging the enjoyment of the children is worth all the work.

On March 15 the program officially ended its course with a joyful party with all the parents, siblings and friends of the PWD children. The program will start again with the daily classes in June. In the meanwhile the

children will get together once a week on Fridays. The teachers also planned to undergo very-much-needed formation courses. A team will also keep exploring the neighborhood seeking new candidates for the Center for the next course. Finally, the team of the Center is developing the project that will provide medical assistance for the PWD who most need it, including not only the children of the Center, but also the ones from the neighborhood.

The team believes that in spite of the lack of professional formation and the modest tools that are used, the Center is really benefiting the children. All of them enjoy greatly going to the classes. Some of them are so eager to come to the Center that they arrive half an hour before the school starts. Most of them do very little in their houses, and the ones who cannot operate can't do anything at all and are totally dependent on their families. In the school the children are encouraged to exercise their abilities, and they are healthily proud of that. The team believe that it is possible for them to grow in their own special way, each one at his or her own rhythm. After just one year we can see the improvement in some of them in the way they relate to people. And yet all the teachers and volunteers are learning to enjoy the special gifts that each child has, together with their kindness and friendliness.

Secular Branch—National Leadership Conference



Members of the Secular Branch (from left): Raquel Cano, National Coordinator, Stephanie Reh (Community Leader, Holy Name of Mary), Dora Gomes (Eastern Province Sector Coordinator), Fe Wong (Community Leader, St. Paul), Fr. Bill Petrie (Provincial, Eastern U.S.A. Province), Aileen Kupihea (National Co-coord., Hawaii-Pacific Sector Co.), Lenie Papa (Community Leader, St. Edwards).

During this past weekend (May 30 & 31), the 7th annual Sacred Heart Conference was held in Madonna Hall at Santa Teresita Medical Center, Duarte, California. Among the featured speakers were SS.CC. fathers Stan Kolasa, Pat Crowley and Mike Barry. Fr. Donal McCarthy, SS.CC. Provincial U.S.A. West, was the main celebrant at the Commissioning Mass on Friday evening.

Back again by popular demand, the *Secular Branch* will be presenting Jeremy Stanbary in the one-man play *Alessandro*, a drama that brings to life the true and fascinating story of the early 20th Century virgin-martyr, St. Maria Goretti, a young Italian teenager, brutally murdered by an acquaintance of the family for refusing—out of love of God and her purity—to give in to his sexual advances. The play is written from the perspective of Alessandro her murderer, who experienced a dramatic conversion in prison and later testified for the cause of Maria's canonization.

Counting the Milestones: “Précis of My Journey

(Continued from page 7)

Reverse culture shock is worse than the initial culture shock of living in the Third World. I could not really appreciate the material concerns people had after ministering to people who lived at, or even below, survival level. The boys in Lock Up were a breath of fresh air; plain and simple and brutally honest. No BS (or ngumba in Swahili) for them! A touch of burn-out after seven

years in stir was the catalyst for moving back into Parish work in Srulleen. In 2000 I came to the US for Tom's 25th and it became a case of Veni, Vidi, Velcro – I came, I saw, I stuck around!!

So that is the précis of my journey – and as it continues I am sure that the Lord has many more surprises for me up his sleeve. I heard him howl with laughter the other day as I was telling people of my plans for the future!

SS.CC. Spirit in Philippines

(Continued from page 11)

prevalence of this kind of thinking we had a real problem establishing a Savings and Loan program. But once we got started the people began to see the benefits of the program and it has really taken off.

There are now 272 individuals in 34 groups, who save regularly and are able to borrow as needed. Keep in mind, this is micro finance, so the amounts involved are small, but even small amounts can make a difference to the lives of the poor. The whole program is modeled after the one established by Nobel Prize winner Mahmoud Younis in Banladesh. However, we have made adaptations to the culture of the Philippines.

“To Dispel Ignorance, We Must all Say Our Truth”

By Joan Chittister, O.S.B.

The quality of life as we know it has changed radically in our lifetime. When I was a young woman, the world—my world—was an exercise in answers. We had absolute answers for everything: who was going to heaven and who was not. The number of planets and how they went together. The age of the earth and how it developed. But now things have changed. Now, it seems, life is more an exercise in questions than a catalogue of certainties. It is the unending process of an expanding universe and its expanding knowledge with it. Nothing, it seems, is not now open to question.

But it is not the atmosphere of uncertainty that is plaguing the modern world. Most people, apparently, deal with ambiguity much better than earlier societies ever thought was possible. They grow up knowing that they don't know what they'll be doing ten years from now, or where they'll be living, or what new things they will be forced to deal with as life goes on. And that's all right with them.

As Toffler wrote once, “The poor of the future will not be those who cannot read and write but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn.” It is the openness to living into a future without canned answers that will really count.

More important, perhaps, than the openness of the citizens of such a culture to new ideas, may well be the openness of the institutions of such a culture to their continuing development.

For years, for instance, plans for the hybrid car had been on the drawing board, but powerful oil lobbies and automobile companies had been able to block not only their development but even their consideration.

For years science had the tools to determine and compare the intellectual acuity of females and males but, instead, continued to rely on old and untested assumptions about both their supposed similarities and their determinative differences.

For years we have known that we were on the brink of either physical or ecological disaster, and those whose businesses could well be affected by it—like cigarette companies and car companies—ridiculed the data that warned us of the danger in order to maintain the profit margins to which they had become accustomed, whatever the harm to young smokers or the air quality index of a region.

For years, tribal leaders of all ilks and organizations were both the first and last word on everything.

For years we have concentrated on the development of technology, but we have yet to adapt that technology to our own electoral system in such a way that we can face an election in this country with confidence.

Eight hundred thousand children in Africa will die of malaria every single year, though we now have medicines to cure malaria that cost 55¢ a dose and mosquito nets that cost \$1.00 each and indoor insecticides that cost \$10.00 a year.

And all these things occur because those who stood to profit from the present operational assumptions refused to allow any alternatives to be raised and considered.

Closed-mindedness is a terrible thing. It stops thought. It blocks thought. It freezes thought. It demands obedience to ignorance. It preaches the past in the name of sanctity. It insults thinking people by refusing to allow them to think. It assumes that only some of us have the right to think at all.

Governments do it; churches do it; schools do it; corporations do it; parents do it; ideologues of all stripes and motives do it.

Perhaps never in the history of the world have we needed to take so seriously again the corporal work of mercy to “instruct the ignorant.” But this time, it may be more important that the institutions of society take instruction more earnestly than the people we are all so arrogantly inclined to treat as ignorant.

A Daily Thought for Our Two Weeks Together

Sunday, June 1: Telling people they ought not explore new ideas because that is either a kind of political treason or spiritual heresy only proves how really vulnerable such ideas are to good thinking.

Monday, June 2: When we consider yesterday's answers more important than today's questions, we fail both the past and the future. In the first place, the past was for its own time; in the second place, it is meant to prepare us to face the future.

Tuesday, June 3: It's not the availability of new information that endangers us. It's being unprepared to deal with it that can lead to our spiritual and psychological downfall. As Benjamin Franklin once put it, “Being ignorant is not such a shame as being unwilling to learn.”

Wednesday, June 4: Once people thought that non-Caucasians were not quite human. Now we discover that Caucasians are actually a minority race on the planet. Apparently God did not

consider Caucasians the norm of the world at all. How do you suppose we arrived at such ignorance?

Thursday, June 5: Once we sent missionaries to save other people from damnation. Now we enculturate Christianity into other societies rather than set out to change them into ours. As a result of our finally being able to see the values in other cultures, we are not nearly as ignorant as we used to be, even about our own. Other people are teaching us a great deal, however reluctant we are to learn.

Friday, June 6: Never refuse to ask a question however unwelcome the question may be. In the end, it may be the only thing that saves us from our own ignorance.

Monday, June 9: If an idea be of God—like love and goodness and openness and respect and tolerance and compassion—it will thrive in the most godless environment. As Bono says, “To be one, to be united is a great thing. But to respect the right to be

different is maybe even greater.”

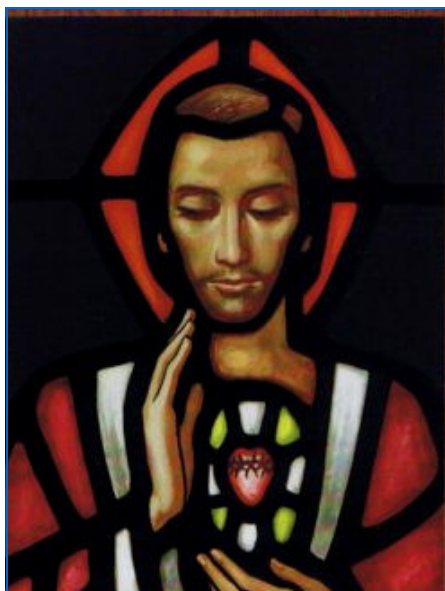
Tuesday, June 10: To be growing, it is imperative to keep asking the forbidden questions. Elbert Hubbard wrote, “The recipe for perpetual ignorance is to be satisfied with your opinions and content with your knowledge.”

Wednesday, June 11: What is true will hold up to scrutiny—however much untruth is around us.

Thursday, June 12: When we suppress thought, we give it currency. “The wisest thing to do with a fool,” Woodrow Wilson wrote, “is to encourage him to hire a hall and discourse to his fellow citizens. Nothing chills nonsense like exposure to air.”

Friday, June 13: “You shall know the truth,” the Evangelist John writes, “and the truth shall make you free.” Spiritual freedom is not gotten by chaining the mind—no matter who does it or for what good reasons.

Materials this page quoted from *Monastic Way* by Joan Chittister, O.S.B.



Vivat Cor Jesu et Maria per infinita saecula saeculorum! Amen!

SS.CC. Throughout the World

AFRICA
Mozambique
Zaire

AMERICAS
Argentina
Bahamas
Bolivia
Brazil
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Ecuador
Mexico
Paraguay
Peru
Puerto Rico
United States

ASIA
Japan
India
Indonesia
Philippines
Singapore

EUROPE
Austria
Belgium
England
France
Germany
Holland
Ireland
Italy
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Spain
Ukraine

PACIFIC
Australia
Cook Islands
Hawaii
New Zealand



Birthdays—U.S.A. Western Province

Jerry Holland	February 28th
Pat Crowley	March 13th
Peadar Cronin	March 23rd
Pat Laghezza	March 29th
Pat Coyle	April 18th
Tom Mullen	April 30th
Mike Barry	May 9th
Pat O'Hagan	May 18th
John Roche	May 19th
Mike Brooks	June 3rd
Pat Travers	June 13th

Donal McCarthy	June 21st
Paul Murtagh	June 29th
Ken McCabe	July 8th
Brian Guerrini	July 23rd
Pat Argue	August 15th
Vince Fallon	October 4th
Martin O'Loughlen	October 29th
Pater Dennis	December 9th
Bill Moore	September 18th
Rich Danyluk	December 23rd
Mike Maher	December 27th



Above photo—SS.CC. (U.S.A. West) community meeting during Visitation with Javier and Felipe (from left): Pat Crowley, Pat Laghezza, Javier Alvarez-Ossorio, Peadar Cronin, Donal McCarthy, Michael Brooks, Ken McCabe, Pat Travers, Bill Moore, John Roche (partly hidden), Mike Maher, Felipe Lazcano, and Paul Murtagh.

Helpful Websites

Listed below are some websites containing info, articles, reflections, meditations, prayers

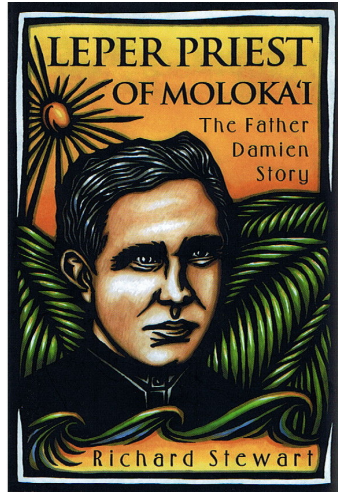
- <http://www/ssccpicpus.com>
- <http://pray-as-you-go.org>
- <http://www.thinkingfaith.org>
- <http://www.benetvision.org>
- http://www.jesuit.org.uk/godtalk/godtalk_current.htm
- <http://www.cacradicalgrace.org>
- <http://www.catholic.org>
- <http://www.johnodonoehue.com>
- <http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html>



Photo at right—**Current General Council** (L. to R.): Radek Ziezo, Richard McNally (Vicar General), Javier Alvarez-Ossorio (Superior General), Eduardo Perez-Cotapos,

Some Books and Media Information

Leper Priest of Molokai traces the life of Father Damien from his boyhood in rural Belgium to his death at the leper settlement after sixteen years of remarkable accomplishments. It analyzes much new information about Damien and his years in Hawai'i, giving a fuller understanding of the extent of Damien's work at the settlement and the tensions underlying his relations with Church bureaucrats. It is the story of one humble man with faith in God and in himself, who faced gargantuan challenges and triumphed." (quoted from the book cover)

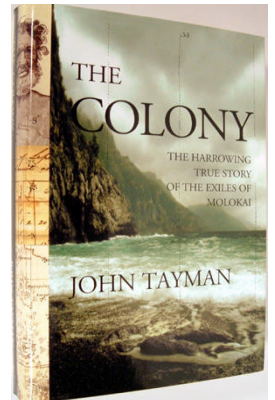


Richard Stewart is a semi-retired professor of The Medical College of Wisconsin who continues as an active teacher. His interest in the influence of medicine and disease in the lives of famous people led him to a fifteen-year investigation into the life and career of Father Damien De Veuster. Brendan Comiskey claims it's the best he's read on Fr. Damien.

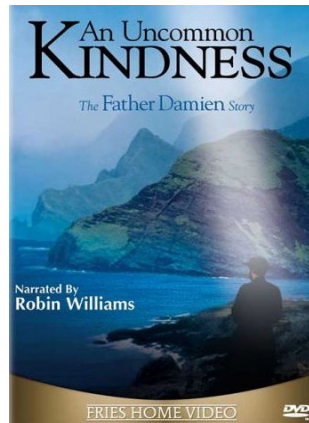
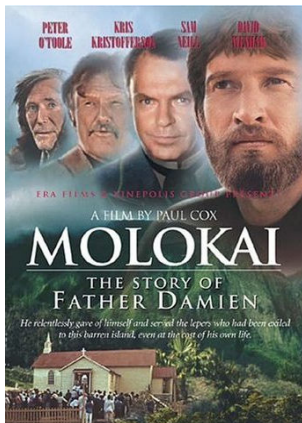
The Colony reveals the untold story of the infamous American leprosy settlement on the Hawaiian island of Molokai and of the exceptional people who managed to survive under the most horrific circumstances.

In 1866, twelve men and women and one small child were put aboard a leaky schooner and cast away to an island prison. Two weeks later a dozen others were exiled, then forty more, and then a hundred. Tracked by bounty hunters and torn from their families, the luckless were loaded into shipboard cattle stalls and abandoned in a lawless place where brutality held sway. Here for the first time, John Tayman reveals the complete history of this fascinating and troubling spot and its inhabitants. Using rare historical documents, letters, government reports, newspaper accounts, and hundred of interviews, he tells the story of unsuspecting people tumbled into a situation beyond imagination. It is a fantastic epic of manhunts, thrilling escapes, shipwrecks and tidal waves, murder and mutiny, bizarre medical experiments, and tragic, irreversible error.

The Colony brings to life the unforgettable individuals ...includes a young Catholic priest who volunteered to live among the exiles and in his sacrifice found both death and certain sainthood; a brilliant German scientist, coolly calculating, who undertook one of the most unsettling cases of human experimentation in history; and the tuberculosis-stricken writer Robert Louis Stevenson, who wiled his way in, fell close to death, then emerged to sketch a stunning portrait of the colony, transforming it for a time into the most famous place in the world.

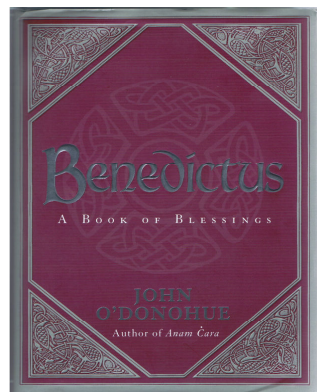


Some Videos on Fr. Damien



John O'Donohue's Last Book

“There is a quiet light that shines in every heart. Though it is always secretly there, it draws no attention to itself. It is what illuminates our minds to see beauty, our desire to seek possibility and our hearts to love life... This shy inner light is what enables us to recognize and receive our very presence here as a blessing.”

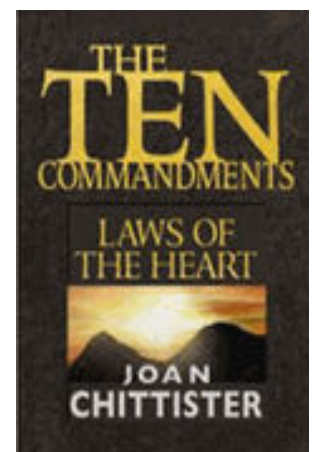


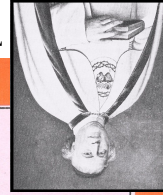
Vintage Joan Chittister, O.S.B.

An honest inquiry into what it means to be born in the image and likeness of God in a world that too often looks just the opposite.

"Are the Ten Commandments just a set of rules or are they a way of life? How does each one call us to reflect on our life and values? What does it mean to love God and our neighbor in a world where violence, greed, and fear threaten our lives, our values, our hearts? Joan Chittister answers these and other questions.

Each chapter focuses on what each one of the commandments means for us today. The final two shed light on the two Great Commandments, "Love God with all your heart, and your neighbor as yourself."





A copy of the vows, in his own handwriting (together with translation) of "The Good Father."

*Le vingt quatre jour de Decembre
 a deux heures trois quarts de l'apres
 midi j'ai fait les vœux de
 Marie Joseph dans les
 intentions de l'obéissance
 pureté et de la sainteté
 de la virginité comme
 l'annoncé de l'annoncé de
 Marie et moi. Au nom du
 Père et du Fils et du
 Saint Esprit Amen.*

fr. Marie Joseph

In the year 1800 December 24, 11:45 p.m.,
 I, Brother Marie Joseph, make a vow
 of Poverty, Chastity, and Obedience,
 enlightened by the Holy Spirit that I
 might labor all the more zealously for
 the love of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus
 and Mary in whose service I purpose to
 live and die. In the name of the Father,
 and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
 Amen.

**Congregation of the Sacred
 Hearts**
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