

The Baltimore Beacon

The Redemptorists of the Baltimore Province

Volume 4 // Issue 6 // 6.21.2023

Provincial Ponderings



Dear brothers and sisters,

As only God's Providence would have it, this issue of the Beacon goes to print on the first day of summer! School's out! The grill is on with burgers and dogs! And the beaches, the mountains, and all the grounds of picnic and sport shout out this season's invitation: Take a break and relax! Enjoy the great outdoors! Get some extra rest! Have fun at play!

Wherever your summer takes you: from the golf course to the ballpark; from the mountains to the seas (and everywhere in between!); from the summer vacation trip of a lifetime to sitting on your front porch; may the blessings of summer rest, relaxation, and re-creation be the gifts you receive and enjoy as this season of grace officially begins!

Joyce Rupp's words of *A Summer Prayer* echo my hope and prayer for you and for all of us - God's holy and beloved people - as summer comes upon us.

A Summer Prayer

May you breathe in the beauty of summer with its power of transformation.

May this beauty permeate all that feels un-beautiful in you.

May the God of summer give us beauty.

May you seek and find spaces of repose during these summer months.

May these moments refresh and restore the tired places within you.

May the God of summer give us rest.

May you be open to times of celebration and recreation that are so much a part of summer.

May you find happiness in these times of play and leisure.

May the God of summer give us joy.

May your eyes see the wonders of summer's colors. May these colors delight you and entice you into contemplation and joy.

May the God of summer give us inner light.

May you feel energy of summer rains penetrating thirsty gardens, golf courses, lawns, and farmlands.

May these rains remind you that your inner thirst needs quenching.

May your inner self be refreshed, restored, and renewed.

May the God of summer give us what we need for healing.

May you savor fresh produce that comes to your table and enjoy the fruits of summer's bounty.

May you find shelter when the stormy skies of summer threaten your safety.

May the God of summer give us shelter when inner storms threaten our peace of mind and heart.

May you enjoy the unexpected and find surprises of beauty and happiness as you travel the roads on summer vacation.

May the God of summer lead us to amazing discoveries as we travel the inner roads of our soul as well.

(From The Circle of Life, The Heart's Journey Through the Seasons by Joyce Rupp and Macrina Wiederkehr)

Be assured of my prayers that you enjoy a happy, healthy, and wonderful summer season! May our loving God, Creator and maker of every season and every moment, grant you the grace to embrace all the blessings of summer!

Peace, thanks, and best to all!

Fr. John Collins, C.Ss.R. Provincial Superior

Upcoming 2022/2023 Dates

Saturday, July 15, 2023, at 11 a.m. Province Jubilee Celebration: Mass and Luncheon at Sacred Heart of Jesus; Baltimore, MD

Sunday, July 16: McQuain Clovis and classmates from Canada and Mexico profess vows as Redemptorists for the first time, Church of Santísimo Redentor, Mexico City

Tuesday, October 17 - Thursday, October 19, 2023: Province Convocation at San Alfonso Retreat House; Long Branch, NJ

Communications Updates

 Daily Audio Podcasts on the readings of the day may be found at www.redemptorists.net in either Spanish or English.

• Weekly Video reflections on the upcoming Sunday readings (Cycle A) may be

found on Facebook: facebook. com/RedemptoristsBaltimore or YouTube: youtube.com/ BaltRedemptorists or on our web site at www.redemptorists. net These videos are released each Wednesday.

• "Praying with the Icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help" will air on July 15.

Parish Mission Schedule

- June 24-27, 2023: Our Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, Ephrata, PA
- July 15-19, 2023: Our Lady of the Cape Catholic Church, Sandwich, MA
- July 22-26, 2023: St. Pius X Catholic Church, Yarmouth, MA
- Sept. 23-27, 2023: St. Joseph, St. Thomas, and St. John Neumann, Staten Island, NY
- Oct. 21-25, 2023: Sacred Heart, Cornwall, PA
- Nov. 4-8, 2023: St. Joseph in Force, PÁ
- Nov. 25-29, 2023: Immaculate Conception, Stayton, OR
- Dec. 2-6, 2023: Ascension, Hurricane, WV
- Dec. 9-13, 2023: Our Lady of the Angels, Lakewood Ranch, FL
- Dec. 16-19, 2023: St. Jude Catholic Church, Ocala, FL

Annual Student Gathering, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat House, Oconomowoc, WI

After a wait of three years, we were finally able to schedule our student gathering at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat House in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

Due to the Covid virus, our last gathering had been in 2019. So, it was with great joy and camaraderie that 44 of us gathered from May 14-19 to spend these days in prayer, in presentations on preaching, in social time and relaxation.

Sunday May 14th was a travel day as we all made our way to our Retreat House. Our students came from our pre-novitiate house in the Bronx and from our theology houses in Houston and San Antonio. Our Redemptorist priests and brothers involved in formation came from Canada, the United States, and the Caribbean. Members of each of our Conferences Extraordinary Provincial Councils were also in

attendance as we dealt with matters concerning present and future formation for our Redemptorist seminarians.

Each morning we would gather for Morning Prayer and Meditation. A different house from our formation program would be responsible for community prayers and celebration of the Eucharist each day. Breakfast would follow each morning after meditation and

Annual Student Gathering, continued



Redemptorist Spirituality, Moral Theology, Sacred Scripture and Redemptorist History. For our next Student Gathering 2024 we are looking at Redemptorist Spirituality.

The main purpose of our yearly Student

theology he kept reiterating to take advantage of the many different commentaries that are available on google and elsewhere. He kept stressing that they have done all the hard work for you in breaking down the scripture and presenting good information and insight for working on and putting together an effective homily. Another point he stressed was to know your audience. Know what age groups normally come on any given weekend to a particular Mass. To the elderly who normally show up for the Saturday evening Mass, gear your homily to the elderly. For the Sunday morning family Mass, have your homily be appropriate to that age group. And to the Sunday evening "life-teen" Mass, have your homily in touch with where they are in life. Otherwise, your message falls on deaf ears as they have no relationship to what you are preaching to them.

> Our Student Gatherings work on a cycle of topics that we rotate from year to year. This year the topic was Preaching. The other topics that are presented year-to-year are

Gathering is to allow our students to come together now with classes and exams over and to enjoy each other's company. In short time they will be collaborating as Redemptorist priests and brothers in the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ.

It was truly a blessed, grace-filled, and wonderful Gathering week. The energy of 44 Redemptorists celebrating the Eucharist and filling the house with laughter, music, and praise brought a renewed spirit to all.

We ask you to pray for our students as they have now begun their summer pastoral ministry. Our student Dang Nguyen will be ministering at St. Gerard Majella Parish in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Our student Son Lai will be ministering at St. Joseph Church in Dominica, West Indies, and our student Andrew Jones, along with Dominic Do-Tong and John Nguyen, will be making his Novitiate year in Mexico.

Denis J. Sweeney, C.Ss.R.

were delighted to have Monsignor Stephen Bosso, from Pensacola, Florida as our presenter. The topic chosen for this year's gathering was "Preaching." Monsignor Bosso who spent many years in Diocesan seminary as teacher and rector brought a wealth of insight and understanding in offering aids to be an effective preacher. The first and most necessary of all he noted was to be a man of prayer. Nothing can replace this most essential attribute in reflecting on the Word of God. He stressed the critical need for quiet time, to allow the Word of God to enter our heart and soul and let the Word of God speak to us. We must first be illuminated by the Holy Spirit as to the living Word of God before we can ever attempt to preach that Word to others. Monsignor Bosso strongly emphasized, especially to our seminarians of making use of commentaries and what is offered on the internet by scripture scholars as aids in understanding the text and the message being offered in a particular scripture passage. To our students in philosophy and

The spring session for the TMAC program was held at the Mother of Perpetual Help Retreat House in Houston, Texas. There were a total of 21 participants including Frs. Pete Schavitz, Bob Wojtek, and Dominic Pham. Fr. Dominic was chosen to accompany the Extra-Patriam participants in the program since Fr. Thomas Ha was elected to be the Vicar of the Vice-Province. The unit breakdown was eight from Extra-Patriam, eight from Baltimore, one from Canada, and one from Denver. With the permission of their unit's (vice-) provincial, there were four absentees.

Monday was the travel date. Tuesday began with the usual check-in format in three small groups. Frs. Pete, Bob, and Dominic each accompanied one of the groups. The theme for Tuesday afternoon and evening was "The Redemptorist Brother" and the presenter was Br. Jeffrey Rolle. He spoke about the Brothers in light of the recent General Chapter as well as giving some historical perspectives in relation to the Brothers. He also shared some of his own personal history and experiences with the group. Wednesday, the usual free day to get together and go out, has always been a good opportunity for recreation and bonding among the younger confreres. Some went to eat, to the movies, or to NASA.

The Thursday presentation was about the history of the Extra-Patriam Vice-Province. Fr. Dominic Long, the Vice-Provincial was the presenter. He spoke of the Vietnamese reality before the fall of Saigon (1975), after the fall, and the development of the Vietnamese Redemptorist Extra-Patriam Vice-Province.

In the afternoon, we had an evaluation session to look at the various aspects of our time together. In general, there was positive feedback. Various topics that surfaced for future meetings were: Preparation for Leadership – with a focus on preparing new pastors/superiors, Public Speaking, Multi-Cultural Ministry, Liturgy and Music, Marriage Counselling, Conflict Resolution, Work/Life Balance & Wellness, Youth/ Young Adult Ministry, LGBTQ Welcoming/Ministry, and Ministry to Sick/Dying.

At the Thursday Eucharist, we blessed Michael Cunningham and Ako Walker who are completing their five years in the program. Thursday evening, in place of the usual Holy Hour, we celebrated the Reader's Service of Vespers led by Br. Eumir Bautista (Ukranian Rite). Later in the evening, the host community of the Extra-Patriam confreres sponsored a seafood feast in honor of our participants Deacon Nguyen Hai Dang who was ordained May 20 to the priesthood and two confreres celebrating their firstyear anniversary of priesthood ordination. Some lay folks as well as the students returning from the student gathering in Oconomowoc also joined in the festive moment A good time for all!

The next TMAC session will be November 13-17, again in Houston.

Bob Wojtek, C.Ss.R., and Pete Schavitz, C.Ss.R.

Novitiate Students Profess First Vows

This July 16th will be a special day in the life of the North American Conference of the Redemptorists. As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Redeemer, six novices from the conference will profess their first vows: McQuain Clovis from the Baltimore Province, Mark Suezo, Benedict Nicholas, and Gabriel Yun Zhang

Novitiate Students, continued on pg. 6

from the Canadian Province, and Abel Rios Alba and Edwin Rolando Hernández Ávila from the Mexican Province. Their classmate, Hieu Minh Bui of the Extra Patriam Vice-Province will profess his vows during a Mass on July 30th in Houston. The professions will close the first year of a new way of doing novitiate that we hope will endure for a long time.

Back in the spring of 2021 with the Mexican Province having newly joined the North American Conference of the Redemptorists, the superiors of the Congregation's five units in North America (Baltimore, Denver, Extra Patriam, Canada, and Mexico) decided to

Novitiate Students, continued



Mark Suezo, Abel Rios Alba, Gabriel Yun Zhang, Hieu Minh Bui, Father Javier Morán Marín, Father Joaquin Frausto Najera (Provincial of Mexico), Brother Tito Lope Cartagena, Father Matt Allman, Edwin Rolando Hernández, McQuain Clovis, and Benedict Nicholas.

undertake a new project in initial formation. They would establish a joint, English language novitiate in Tlalpizahuac, Mexico, to which all units of the Conference would send their men in initial formation. They chose Father Javier Morán Marín (Mexico) as the novice master, Father Matthew Allman (Baltimore) as his assistant, and Brother Tito Lopez Cartagena (Mexico) as the third member of the formation team. The site of the novitiate would be just outside Mexico City. The Mexican Province's former seminary building in Tlalpizahuac was unoccupied and the building and its extensive grounds were an ideal setting for the new project.

After a year of planning and preparation for both the formation team and the novitiate building, the first crew of novices arrived for orientation in early July 2022. Father Dennis Billy of the Baltimore Province joined them over Zoom to provide the conferences of their initial eight-day retreat, and with the spiritual atmosphere well set, the novitiate community entered into the rhythm of prayer, work, conferences, rest, and recreation that would shape its life for the next twelve months.

Although the Novitiate Board (the Redemptorist unit superiors of North America) had initially said that the novitiate would be an English language program, they quickly agreed that it made practical sense for life in the community to be bilingual. Each week would see three days of community prayer in Spanish and three days in English, with Sundays having a public Mass with the people in Spanish and private community prayers in English. The Monday to Friday conferences in which the novices would receive content on spirituality, prayer, the vows, and Redemptorist apostolic life, etc. would be given primarily in English.

Life throughout the novitiate year was an adventure in intercultural growth. The community not only represented four different Redemptorist units, but its members also had roots in at least eight different cultures, including Mexican, Chinese, St. Lucian, Filipino, Sri Lankan, Vietnamese, Canadian, and American.

Throughout the year we attempted to celebrate and benefit from our variety, while also acknowledging how hard cross-cultural encounters and understanding can truly be.

One greatest gift to the novitiate has been the warm welcome provided by the people of Tlalpizahuac. The local community is incredibly fond of the Redemptorists, and they mourned our diminished presence after the seminary had ceased operation over a decade ago. They have been amazingly hospitable and supportive since the novitiate began. We celebrate a public Mass each Sunday morning, and the congregation has grown so much that we've had to make room for additional seating and add speakers outside the chapel so that the overflowing crowd can hear what is going on inside.

We've taken great advantage of the opportunity to engage in the faith and devotional life of the local Mexican church. The novices joined in all the activities surrounding the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the Posadas (a Christmas Novena), and during Holy Week they helped give a retreat in the Mexican province's church of Our

Novitiate, continued

Lady of Perpetual Help in San Luis Potosí.

As the days of this year's novitiate are winding down, the men are going to help lead a public novena in advance of the Feast of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, and then they will go on their end of the year eight-day retreat. Our former Superior General, Father Michael Brehl will lead them through their retreat. He will also stay on to celebrate with the novices and their families as the men profess their vows for the first time on Sunday, July sixteenth. We praise God for the 16th of this first year of a successful joint novitiate in Mexico, and we look forward to many more! *Matt Allman, C.Ss.R.*

Parish Evangelization Team, Newfoundland Parish Mission



The Baltimore Province Evangelization Team ended its Mission Season in beautiful Newfoundland, the week of May 11 – 18.

We were honored to celebrate a Parish Mission at our own Redemptorist St. Teresa's Parish, staffed by confreres David Louch, Tony Bidgood, Ciro Perez of our Canadian Province, and PIM General Government & Conference of North America Director, Anne Walsh. Spring hadn't happened yet in Newfoundland, but we didn't get to see any of the famous icebergs that often are near its coast. Located in St. John's, the port City, our parish is only one of three now opened. The archdiocese is in bankruptcy proceedings, having had to sell off most of its properties to attempt to meet the costs of payments for the too many abuse cases of the past. The people of our parish purchased the Church and Rectory and administer the parish property as its owners. It was not owned previously by our community.

The Mission was advertised as an archdiocesan Mission, so attendance was terrific. There were approximately 100 attending the Saturday morning Sacrament of the Sick Service, and around 70 returned Sunday afternoon for the Mother of Perpetual Help program, where Jim Wallace gives an introductory presentation on the role of Iconography in our Christian Tradition, and the History of our Redemptorist Icon of Mother of Perpetual Help. He then gives a very detailed "reading" of the Icon itself, sharing its story written in the Icon. With pauses for "gazing" at the Icon, the program moves into singing the Litany of Loretto and a prayer service to Mary of Perpetual Help. Folks come forward at the end to venerate a large copy of the Icon, that already has a special place within the Church and to receive a lovely gift of the Icon and metal bookmark or pin hand-made by a devotee from a former Mission in Sarasota, Florida.

We three preach together at all the weekend Masses, which ordinarily isn't the usual experience for a congregation, and our closing sung invitation to "Come to the Mission" usually brings us lots of smiles.

Parish Mission, continued

Besides presiding and preaching at the morning Mass, we offered 4-5 hours of opportunity, Monday through Wednesday, for folks to meet with us for spiritual direction/ conversation and/or confession. Approximately 250 gathered during the evenings of the Mission proper, Monday through Wednesday.

Considering all the loss for the people of Newfoundland, from the close of all parish parochial schools to the closing of at least seven parishes and their respective church buildings, Anne and the Redemptorists chose the theme of "Becoming a People of Hope in a Time of Loss," one of the four themes we presently offer. Night one addressed the issue of "Grief" naming its various stages. Night two reflects on grief as a spiritual practice. The Eucharistic Ritual that closes night three celebrates how grief becomes integrated into our life as a Community of Faith, empowering us to be "missionary disciples" to bring healing mercy, compassion and hope-filled love to our wounded and hurting sisters and brothers, as well as to suffering creation.

We left Newfoundland gratified that so many spoke to us at the evening socials after the formal Mission service sharing how important it was to them to have their grief addressed and honored. The rituals of each evening, whether it was approaching the Sacrament of the Eucharist up close in the Monstrance, having the cross placed on their person, assuring them of God's unconditional love, or a candle-lit procession and guided meditation welcoming God the Spirit to console and heal them,

had a profound effect on all those gathered physically, as well as the many who participated via "livestreaming." Phil's wizardry with technology complemented the presentations with powerful and moving visuals and videos, and the music ministry with choir and cantors every night validated people's hurting hearts, and gave permission to express grief and sorrow, faith, and hope.

From Kansas to Newfoundland, in the course of 10 Parish Missions, we continue to be amazed at the powerful grace of God in the life of God's People through the instrument of the Parish Mission, and are so grateful to share in the ministry.

Francis Gargani, C.Ss.R., together with Phil Dabney, C.SsR., and Jim Wallace, C.Ss.R.





The Tutoring Program was launched by the **Redemptorist Partners** in Mission under the leadership of the former Parish Priest Fr. John Olenick, on March 19, 2022. The goal of this initiative is to provide educational support, mentorship, and guidance to children from disadvantaged backgrounds, empowering them to overcome barriers and achieve academic success. It involves recruiting dedicated volunteer tutors,

PIM, St. Lucia,, continued on pg. 9

securing suitable learning spaces, and developing a comprehensive curriculum tailored to the children's needs. The program focuses on core subjects, such as Mathematics, Science, English, and life skills. The children gain valuable knowledge and skills in areas such as critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and teamwork. These skills are essential for their personal growth and future success. Throughout the duration of this initiative, we witnessed substantial positive changes in the lives of the children, and it is evident that this worthwhile initiative should continue due to its significant impact.

"Being a tutor in the Redemptorists Community's Tutoring Program has not only allowed me to make a positive impact on the lives of these children but has also taught me invaluable lessons about empathy, resilience, and the power of education. Witnessing the students' progress and witnessing their increased confidence and enthusiasm for learning has been incredibly fulfilling," says Mr. Marwan Tohme, a tutor. The impact on the children has been encouraging. There has been academic progress, increased confidence, enhanced learning skills, and emotional development. The community has also been impacted. They are empowered with access to educational resources and opportunities they may otherwise not have, they are able to break barriers and the cycle of poverty, and they are becoming socially integrated with children from all different backgrounds fostering empathy, understanding, and cultural exchange.

"The Tutoring Program is an excellent initiative that served our under-privileged children in the residing communities of the South of the island," says Mrs. Kimberly Harrow, a tutor. "Its main focus was to enhance their learning skills according to their grade and to encourage proper social interactions through classroom activities and games. Prayer was an integral part of the classroom setting as well and it was wonderful to see the children excited about that too."

This program has and will continue to have impact by the fostering of equal opportunities for children and by nurturing and supporting them long-term, unlocking their potential and enabling them to become active contributors to society.

"The program has taught me different skills and different techniques in order to get my schoolwork done," says Ciarra Antoine, student (G-9). "It also taught me to be closer to God and how He is an important part of my life."

The 14-month initiative to tutor less fortunate children has had a significant and positive impact on the children involved, the community, and society at large. The improved academic performance, increased confidence, expanded skill-set, and raised aspirations, clearly demonstrated the value and effectiveness of this initiative. By continuing this program, we can continue to transform lives, breaking the cycle of poverty, and building a brighter future for these children and their communities.

Dr. Morella Joseph (Manager) and Mr. Joel Bernard (Tutor)

When in Rome... Family is at the heart of an Italian's life and is one of the most essential characteristics of Italian culture and traditions. So, my first experience upon arriving in Rome was to visit my family, my Redemptorist family.

When in Rome...PIM

On the Feast of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity on Sunday, June 4, 2023, members of the Hispanic community's Partners in Mission (PIM) group of the Church of Saint Alphonsus Maria De Liguori in Rome, the Shrine of our Mother of Perpetual Help, the place of the original icon, graciously extended their warm welcome, inviting me to participate in their PIM gathering. Fr. Cristian Bueno, General Secretariat for Evangelization, facilitates this group. Fr. Augustin Cantu Drauaillet, the new chaplain of the

Rome PIM, continued



Spanish community, was also in attendance.

We took the opportunity of this time together to get to know the story of one another from different parts of the world, to share in dialogue, and to pray together. While this gathering demonstrated the global nature and depth of diversity of our communities and our shared mission, it was also an opportunity to consider other missionary possibilities as we continue to strive to be one missionary body and a living memory of our Redeemer.

This joyful experience of unity and expression of shared mission continued as we participated in the Feast Day Sunday Mass for the Hispanic community. This gathering of community at table for the Eucharist continued after Mass as the PIM group and other community members gathered together again at table, sharing various ethnic food specialties.

Jim Henson's song, "I'm Going to Go Back There Someday," has the lyric, "There's not a word yet, for old friends who've just met." I have come to know that "word" to be Redemptorist Charism,

with all of its graces as given to us by the Holy Trinity. My deepest gratitude to my Redemptorist Family in Rome for your gracious welcome and hospitality; thank you PIM members of the Hispanic community of the Shrine, Fr. Augustin and Fr. Cristian.

Lucy Burich-McNamara, Lay Missionary of the Most Holy Redeemer

Updates from the Redemptoristine Nuns of New York



We had the pleasure of hosting Redemptoristine Sisters Gabrielle Fox and Lucy Conway from Dublin, Ireland for a two-day meeting on future planning in the monastery in Beacon.

The week before their arrival, Sr. Mary Louisa Olmo, OSsR, visited for a week before transferring to Dublin. While here, we took her to Esopus, where the former Mount St Alphonsus property is now being used by the Bruderhof as their high school. Our first stop was the cemetery. Gathered around our sisters and confreres buried there, we sang the Salve Regina. We were graciously welcomed into the Mount Chapel and were awe-struck, again, by the beautiful stain-glass, mosaics and murals. We then went over to our old Mother of Perpetual Help

Redemptoristines, continued

Monastery, which is now being used for the younger children. We finished the visit with a trip down to the landing on the mighty Hudson River, which has been completely restored.

Our local pastor, diocesan priest Fr. Richard Smith, has been giving the Carmelites and ourselves input every Sunday on the Parables of Jesus. He is an excellent teacher and begins our hour together with music and a poem. All this leads to deep sharing enriching us all.

Scripture scholar Sister of St. Ursula, Carol Perry gave the women religious of the Archdiocese of New York hourlong ZOOM lectures on 'A New Kind of Fasting.' A gifted teacher, Sr. Carol guided us through the Lenten journey bringing the Bible stories to life.

We were blessed by a visit by Sr Paula's friend, Auburn Sister of Mercy, Michelle Gorman. She shared with us and the Carmelites her various ministries from teacher to chaplain of California's State Senate to spiritual guide and Coordinator for her community. Sr. Michelle has been ministering for over 50 years but you can still hear the Irish lilt in her voice.

We are always happy to welcome Redemptorists when they come to our area. We had a great time catching up with Fr. Kevin MacDonald when he was in the neighborhood. We keep in our prayer all his parish missions as he travels around the country spreading the unconditional love of the Redeemer.

As we mark the first anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine, we continue to pray for all those who suffer the effects of war. And not only there, but across the world, as well as those who are traumatized by gun violence, the working poor living in poverty, people afflicted with addiction and those rebuilding their lives after natural disasters.

Sr. Moira gave a ZOOM presentation, 'Introducing Blessed





received and was followed by many questions and answers. Because of the miracle of Zoom, not only were there folks from Long Island, but Redemptorists from Brooklyn and a few people in Arizona!

Sisters Moira, Mary Jane and M. Paz worked on the mailing for our Perpetual Help novena. The letter announces our first in-person Mass in honor of Our Lady since Covid began. We are delighted to have as celebrant Fr. John Olenick for the feast day, June 27, 2023. He has been newly elected to the Province Council. We hold all our Redemptorists, from the new Provincial, John Collins, to the men in formation, to the elder missionary priests and brothers in our daily prayer. The Solemnity of Our Mother of Perpetual Help is also the 10th Anniversary of our living among the Carmelites. It has been ten years of mutual blessing and enrichment.

If you want to know more about our community, visit our website: RedNunsNY.org

Moira Quinn, O.Ss.R.

Worden Declared an Oblate of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer



From let to right: Fr. John McKenna, Fr. Michael Houston, Fr. Patrick Woods, Fr. Hever Sanchez, Robert Worden, Norma Worden, Fr. James O'Blaney; Fr. Alistair Elias, Maia Worden, Peter Worden and Fr. Eric Hoog.

On Thursday, May 18, by the authority of the Redemptorist Superior General Father Roger Gomes, C.Ss.R., with the recommendation of the Provincial Superior of the Baltimore Province Very Reverend John Collins, C.Ss.R., Dr. Robert Worden was declared an Oblate of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer. Being declared an oblate is given to those men and women who have assisted the Redemptorists in their mission of proclaiming plentiful Redemption. Robert and his wife Norma are longtime members of our parish community and 6:45 a.m. daily Mass goers. Robert has devoted many hours to writing and lecturing on the history of Saint Mary's Parish and on the vital role that the Redemptorists have played in building up the Catholic Church in Anne Arundel County. I think it is a fair statement to make that no person knows more about the history of Saint Mary's Parish and the Redemptorists who have served here since 1853.

God bless you, Robert and Norma! We are so grateful for all you have and continue to do for Saint Mary's and the Redemptorists.

Deacon Leroy Moore is an oblate of the Redemptorist as was the late Henry Roberts.

Patrick Woods, C.Ss.R.

Updates from St. Gerard, Lima, OH



St. Gerard held its 43rd Parish Festival June 2-4, 2023. Summer does not begin with Memorial Day in Lima; it starts with the St. Gerard Festival. We had another successful turnout, with the weather being hot for this time of the year. Plenty of rides and games entertained the young and the old for two and a half days. Of course, we had our famous chicken wings, other food, drinks, and live

St. Gerard, continued

entertainment from local bands. We are so blessed to have many volunteers in booths, such as the cake wheel, bingo, pot of gold, and food and drink tents.

We especially thank our core team Andrea Patton, Kelly Stolly, Steve Shutt, and Lisa and Jason Davis, who worked to organize this event month in advance.

The funds raised are used to support the parish and its school.

Mike Sergi, C.Ss.R., and Dan Hall, C.Ss.R.



Jubilee Celebration Mass, July 15, 2023

On the Anniversary of the Year you made your sacred pledge to God, may His Blessings be yours and may your splendid work in His service be rewarded with happiness and peace.

2023 Jubilarians

Profession of Vows

75 Years John Hennessy

70 Years John Devin Richard Knappik James O'Blaney William Spillane

60 Years Gordon Cannoles Edward Lynch Kevin Moley Ordination

70 Years

John Hennessy

65 Years John Devin Richard Knappik James O'Blaney William Spillane

50 Years Charles Hergenroeder Eric Hoog J. Francis Jones John Murray, I

> 40 Years James Cascione Vang Cong Tran

25 Years Michael Houston



You are cordially invited to the

Jubilee Celebration Mass

honoring our 2023 Jubilarians on Saturday, July 15, 2023 at 11:00 AM Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church 600 South Conkling Street Baltimore, Maryland

A luncheon reception will immediately follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

Voices of Vision and Hope

The Great Work of Our Time: Healing Our Planet



A day of contemplative inquiry and dialogue on the state of our planet, offering global perspectives informed by United Nations initiatives. Possibilities for engagement inspired by the 'Laudato Si' action platform, and wisdom of Geologian Thomas Berry for an empowering ecological spirituality.

WHEN: Saturday, October 7, 2023 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 pm

WHERE: Redemptorist Provincial Residence 3112 7th Street NE, Washington D.C. 20017



Sr. Kathleen Deignan, CND. A Sister of the Congregation of Notre Dame A Sister and Professor Emerita of Religious Studies, Director of Deignan Institute for Earth and Spirit at Iona University, New Rochelle.



Bro. Kevin Cawley, CFC. A member of Edmund Rice Christian Brothers and Director of the Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue at Iona University in New York who serves as main representative for Edmund Rice International at the United Nations.

RSVP: **By September 29th** to Fr. Francis Gargani, C.Ss.R. francescogcssr@yahoo.com or 718-644-5127 (in person and live stream)



Redemptorists of the Baltimore Province Holy Redeemer 3112 7th St NE Washington, DC 20017