

Fall Issue 2003

Companions of the Cross



Inside

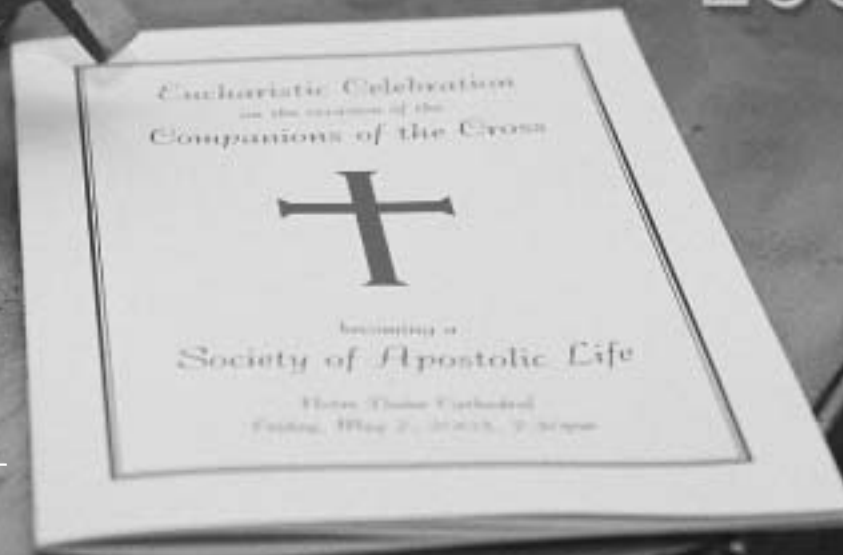
School of Evangelization
CCs in Ministry Around the World



COMPANIONS OF THE CROSS

2004

SPECIAL
SOUVENIR
EDITION
CALENDAR
COMMEMORATING
OUR ESTABLISHMENT



Commemorative
Edition

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WHAT'S INSIDE

Welcome New Applicants	1
Fr. Tim Devine Inspired by St. John Bosco's Vision	2
La Pieta Prayer Group: What this Painting Means to us	2
St. John (Don) Bosco's Prophecy of the two Columns	4
Companions Proclaim Christ on Three Continents	6
How to Make a Bequest to the Companions	12
Companions of the Cross Households	16
School of Evangelization	18
Reflection	20
Community News & Notes	21

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The Companions of the Cross is a quarterly publication designed to encourage spiritual growth and to share about God's movement within a new community of Catholic priests, and candidates for the priesthood. The Companions' ministries are made possible by the prayerful generosity of its supporters, to whom we are most grateful.

The editorial team welcomes your comments and inquiries.

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Companions of the Cross



Companions of the Cross

Welcome New Applicants



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Vancouver, BC



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Glencoe, NB



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Toronto, ON



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Fr. Tim Devine Inspired by St. John Bosco's Vision



Fr. Tim Devine with hosts George and Shirley Nedaborski.

On May 28, 2003, 60 members of the La Pieta prayer group were on hand to present Fr. Tim Devine with a belated Ordination gift. The La Pieta prayer group meets every Wednesday evening in the home of George and Shirley Nedaborski of St. Maurice parish in Ottawa. The reason the gift took a while in coming was because the prayer group had commissioned Gatineau artist Carole Harvey Lalonde to paint an original oil painting depicting the famous dream of St. John Bosco. It took about six months to complete!

Before his presbyteral ordination in Nov. 2002, Deacon Tim was asked by members of the prayer group what he wanted as an Ordination gift. He had told them he had always liked the image of St. John Bosco's famous dream. He had hoped for some kind of simple print or lithograph to hang in his office or bedroom. He never

expected a 4' x 3' original oil painting! In fact, the painting is so big, the prayer group also presented Fr. Tim with a smaller lithograph version that would be more portable. With Fr. Tim assigned to Halifax this past summer, having this smaller version to cart with him when he moved proved to be a blessing. The larger image is now proudly displayed in the chapel of our Companions of the Cross #58 Primrose residence in Ottawa, where many of our seminarians and formation personnel appreciate it on a daily basis. It is truly an awesome piece of work, very "inspired" you might say! The colours are quite vivid. On behalf of Fr. Tim, the Companions of the Cross would like to once again thank the La Pieta prayer group for their generosity and thoughtfulness. Your gift will be admired and treasured for many years to come. Keep up the wonderful ministry of praise and intercession! ☺

La Pieta Prayer Group: What This Painting Means To Us

by Shirley Nedaborski,
Lucette McReynolds, and Carole Harvey

We believe this is a spiritual painting that God – the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit, and the Blessed Mother Mary wanted for these times:

- 1 to be used to evangelize in the continuing war between good and evil,



Fr. Tim and the La Pieta Prayer Group pose with the painting.

- 2 to aid in the triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This is a Marian painting as well as a Papal prophecy. (Mother Mary is said to be appearing all over the world calling us back home to her son Jesus and this prophecy says how it will be done – through the Church, through Mother Mary and the Eucharist.),
- 3 to remind us that the Roman Catholic Church is fully with the Holy Father as given in Matthew 16:18-19,
- 4 to tell us that the chains that hold the ships to the pillars are many Rosaries, and
- 5 to tell us that the anchor of the Church is the Eucharist, our unswerving, our only salvation.

This painting, we believe, is a prophecy of an eventual society tied solidly to the aspirations of the Church, and it is the current direction that our Father in Heaven is leading us with all the mighty arms that He has given us:

- 1 His only Son, Jesus, our Lord and our Saviour, in the Eucharist,
- 2 the Holy Spirit, our Advocate, the wind in our sails,
- 3 the Blessed Mother Mary, our pillar throughout the life of the Church,
- 4 all the Saints, our faithful and active defenders of the Church, and finally,
- 5 the tireless Holy Father, Pope John Paul II , our captain, our current spiritual leader on earth.

This is why the painting belongs to the Companions of the Cross. They have all said “Yes” to the “arms” sent from heaven by the Father and their community’s spiritual vision reflects all that is in this painting. The LaPieta Prayer Group is so blessed to be the Blessed Mother’s helpers in all this, may we never fail her.

Thank you Lord for giving us the Companions of the Cross and choosing us to be your servants.....Praise God, Praise be His Holy Name, and may God bless you all,

AMEN ☪

FEATURE

St. John (Don) Bosco's Prophecy of the Two Columns

Most of the prophecies associated with Don Bosco came to him during dreams. It is clear that Don Bosco's experiences were more than the sort of dreams most of us have when asleep.

Most of his dreams were concerned with the direction both he and his order, the Salesians, were to take in the future, and in particular with the boys who lived at his oratory in Turin. He would often speak to them just before they went to bed.

On 30 May 1862 Don Bosco at his "Good Night" talk told his boys, and the young clerics he was training, about a dream he had dreamt a few nights previously: he actually described it as a parable or allegory. In the case of Don Bosco's dream it is difficult to know just how significant each point is. After some preliminary remarks he went on to describe what he had seen:

"Try to picture yourselves with me on the seashore, or, better still, on an outlying cliff with no other land in sight. The vast expanse of water is covered with a formidable array of ships in battle formation, prows fitted with sharp spear-like beaks capable of breaking through any defence. All are heavily armed with cannons, incendiary bombs, and firearms of all sorts - even books - and are heading toward one stately ship, mightier than them all. As they try to close in, they try to ram it, set it afire, and cripple it as much as possible.

"This stately vessel is shielded by a flotilla escort. Winds and waves are with the enemy. In the midst of this endless sea, two solid columns, a short distance apart, soar high into the sky: one is surmounted by a statue of the Immaculate Virgin at whose feet a large inscription reads: 'Help of Christians'; the other, far loftier and sturdier, supports a Communion Host of proportionate size and bears beneath it the inscription: 'Salvation of Believers'.

"The flagship commander - the Roman Pontiff - seeing the enemy's fury and his auxiliary ships very grave predicament, summons his captains to a conference. However, as they discuss their strategy, a furious storm breaks out and they must return to their ships. When the storm abates, the Pope again summons his captains as the flagship keeps on its course. But the storm rages again. Standing at the helm, the Pope strains every muscle to steer his ship between the two columns from whose summits hang many anchors and strong hooks linked to chains.

"The entire enemy fleet closes in to intercept and sink the flagship at all costs. They bombard it with everything they have: books and pamphlets, incendiary bombs, firearms, cannons. The battle rages ever more furious. Beaked prows ram the flagship again and again, but to no avail, as, unscathed and undaunted, it keeps on its course. At times a formidable ram splinters a gaping hole into its hull, but, immediately, a breeze from the two columns instantly seals the gash.

"Meanwhile, enemy cannons blow up, firearms and beaks fall to pieces, ships crack up and sink to the bottom. In blind fury the enemy takes to hand-to-hand combat, cursing and blaspheming. Suddenly the Pope falls, seriously wounded. He is instantly helped up but, struck down a second time, dies. A shout of victory rises from the enemy and wild rejoicing sweeps their ships. But no sooner is



Artist Carole Harvey Lalonde

the Pope dead than another takes his place. The captains of the auxiliary ships elected him so quickly that the news of the Pope's death coincides with that of his successor's election. The enemy's self-assurance wanes.

"Breaking through all resistance, the new Pope steers his ship safely between the two columns and moors it to the two columns; first to the one surmounted by the Host, and then to the other, topped by the statue of the Virgin. At this point something unexpected happens. The enemy ships panic and disperse, colliding with and scuttling each other. Some auxiliary ships which had gallantly fought alongside their flagship are the first to tie up at the two columns.

"Many others, which had fearfully kept far away from the fight, stand still, cautiously waiting until the wrecked enemy ships vanish under the waves. Then, they too head for the two columns, tie up at the swinging hooks, and ride safe and tranquil beside their flagship. A great calm now covers the sea."

Magnificat Mission



"His ministry is nothing short of anointed. When he teaches, all ears are tuned in. When he does music, the attendees enter in with great enthusiasm. He is the best combination of teacher, musician and worship leader I have seen. He is thoroughly Catholic and is extremely competent at what he does. I can't recommend him highly enough."

Rev. Robert Bedard
(Founder: Companions of the Cross)

Marcel Dion is an evangelist and teacher also anointed to lead worship. His ministry is a unique blend of proclamation of the Gospel and worship of Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament. With conviction, insight and humour, Marcel teaches about the "treasures of the Church" based on Scripture, the documents of Vatican II and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Marcel's competence on guitar, fine voice and many years experience forming and leading choirs and bands also make him eminently suitable to train and exhort musicians and singers. He is a former Catholic school teacher with over 20 years of experience in evangelization and music ministry.

For further information and/or to inquire about hosting a Magnificat Mission, retreat or seminar contact:

Marcel Dion
@ King's Grant
127 Day's Corner Rd.
Lower Greenwich, NB, E5K 4J8
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magnific@nbnet.nb.ca

At this point Don Bosco asked one of the priests present for his views. He replied that he thought that the flagship symbolized the Church headed by the Pope, with the ships representing mankind and the sea as an image of the world. The ships defending the flagship he equated with the laity and the attackers with those trying to destroy the Church, while the two columns represented devotion to Mary and the Eucharist.

He did not mention the death of the Pope and neither did Don Bosco in his reply, in which he agreed with what the priest had said, while adding that the enemy ships symbolized persecutions:

"Very grave trials await the Church. What we have suffered so far is almost nothing compared to what is going to happen. The enemies of the Church are symbolized by the ships which strive their utmost to sink the flagship. Only two things can save us in such a grave hour: devotion to Mary and frequent Communion. Let us do our very best to use these two means and have others use them everywhere."

Those who had written down the dream were convinced that it was a genuine vision and prophecy, although Don Bosco's immediate aim was probably to encourage his boys to pray more fervently for the Church and the Pope, as well as to indicate the importance of devotion to Mary and the Blessed Sacrament.

We may be living part way through Don Bosco's vision, but as in all genuine prophecy before its fulfilment, there is quite a degree of uncertainty and ambiguity, and it would be foolish to attempt to come to definite conclusions at this stage. The important point is the way in which the end of the vision points to what would seem to be the world-wide triumph of the Church, a triumph which will be recognized by all, but one which is only gained after much suffering.

The emphasis on the role of Mary, Help of Christians, and the Blessed Sacrament, are also significant especially with regard to the message given at Fatima when Mary promised a period of peace for the world following troubled times, paralleled by the "great calm" of Don Bosco's dream. ☺

Sources: E. M. Brown, Ed., *Dreams, Visions and Prophecies of Don Bosco*, (Don Bosco Publications, New Rochelle, 1986); *Sexton, Dominic Savio, Schoolboy Saint*.



To Order A Print

Full colour prints of Carole Harvey's inspirational painting (11" x 14") are available from our Main Office (#236 Breezehill, Ottawa – behind St. Mary's church) at a cost of \$10.00 each (plus \$2.00 shipping and handling if you wish it mailed to you). Call us at (613) 798-9327 or email us at comprows@cyberus.ca to order.

Special thanks to Shirley Nedaborski and the La Pieta prayer group for donating these prints to the Companions of the Cross and allowing us to sell them for fundraising purposes!



Companions Proclaim Christ on Three Continents

Mission to Lithuania

by Fr. Francis Donnelly

When Ralph Martin's Renewal Ministries invited me to accompany them to Lithuania for a 10 day Mission I was delighted to say "YES" because I felt that the Lord was pleased to let me pay back an old debt. In Toronto back in 1971, I founded my first Prayer Group in a little Lithuanian Daycare center and there received prayer for my new Life in the Spirit on Pentecost Sunday. Later I had a flat in the home of a Lithuanian couple, Vince and Lucy Kolycius; out of whose home that first prayer group emerged. The only disappointment was that Vince could not make this trip due to Lucy's grave illness. But the Lord's sovereign touch was revealed a week into the mission when the nun who greeted us at breakfast in her retreat house turned out to be none other than Sr. Igne, she who ran that daycare center back in Toronto in 1971! She is back in Lithuania as General of her Community. We ran into her again, by chance, at Mass in the capital city of Vilnius on our last day of the mission. Hello, Lord!

So, on May 16th I flew to Detroit for the overnight trip to Amsterdam with the lay members of the team and there we met up with Fr. Ben St. Croix for the flight to Vilnius, the capital city. Then it was another four hours drive to the Baltic city of Kleipeda with our young hosts from the Evangelization Center of Kaunas who had organized our whole itinerary, GOD BLESS THEM. Next morning we had discussions with parish group members

and prayed over each of them in teams before celebrating Sunday Mass, during which I preached the homily on a Jesus who is alive and who loves in the power of the Holy Spirit. This was a whole new experience – waiting sentence by sentence for an interpreter to translate the words out of my mouth! That afternoon we had a major meal in a slick city restaurant dotted with TV screens playing the raunchiest MTV stuff I have ever witnessed. Was it for this the Iron Curtain was abolished? That evening we had Mass again at the massive new parish church hosting us, and Fr. Ben did the preaching for the Youth Mass.

Early next morning we started a 2 1/2 hour drive to another city for a two-day retreat for the 70 or so priests of the diocese. It was a modified Life in the Spirit seminar given by Peter, Fr. Ben and me – with the essential interpreters. Again we formed teams with our lay members and did prayer counseling for all the individual priests who desired it. This was most precious and informative for us, for it revealed most acutely the burdens and hang-ups of the priests. Question and answer sessions also helped. The first evening Ben and I drove to the city of Kaunas for a meeting the next morning with their Diocesan Synod Committee responsible for the life and ministry of priests. They are especially concerned about burnout hazards and were immensely pleased with what we were able to share from our ministry experience and our Companion spirituality. We drove back to the other city to complete our talks and ministry with the priests on retreat there. This also was wonderfully effective, as we prayed over some 50 of

them for new Life in the Spirit. Then we supped and left town to drive the two hours back to Kaunas with the whole team, setting up house in the Retreat center where Sr. Igne showed up a few days later. Yes, we did a lot of driving!

Thursday we gave a day of retreat for priests and seminarians at the seminary in a lovely town called Mariampole. Again, what a privilege to teach and to pray with them. A special treat was to listen to one of the young priests share his life/ministry changing experience of Holy Spirit "baptism", not knowing how the others would take it but encouraged by our presence and ministry. If our mission could launch even a few apostles for Lithuania it would be more than worthwhile. That evening we were back in Kaunas for Mass with young people. Fr. Ben did the preaching, complete with altar call, and practically



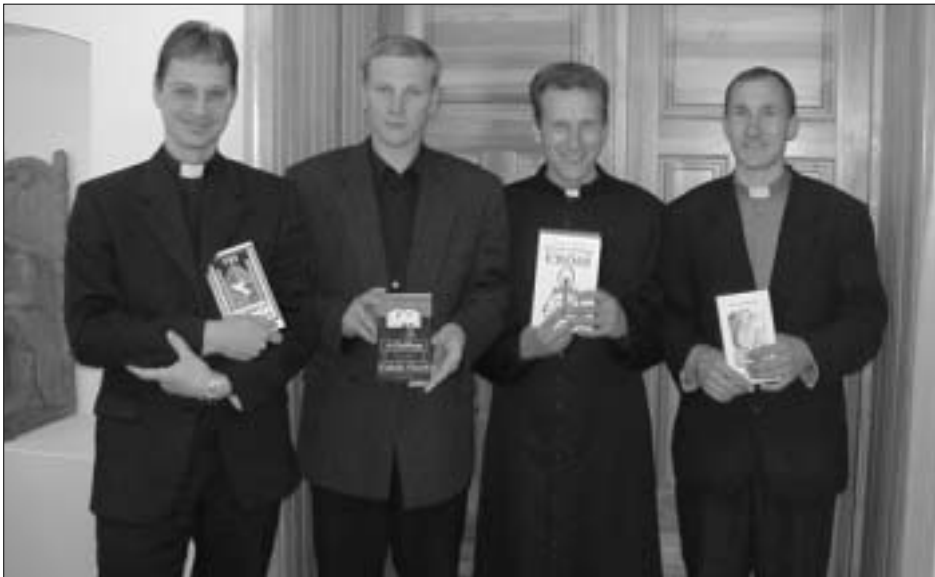
Fr. Ben St. Croix and Fr. Francis Donnelly in Mariampole Vilnius.



Frs. Francis and Ben with Renewal Ministries Team.



Fr. Francis attends outdoor prayer meeting.



Lithuanian priests and seminarians with gift of CC books.

half the church responded. We then repaired to the youth center for more teaching and prayer ministry. Friday we had a morning tour of Kaunas and lunch before driving to another town where the whole parish church turned out for an hour of teaching while teams prayed over individuals hungry for healing and blessing, followed by Mass and preaching. After supper we went to the local prayer group in a private house for more praise, teaching, and ministry.

Early Saturday we drove the two hours again to Mariampole where Fr. Ben and I directed a day of renewal for prayer groups and people from the region, praying over people in two general sessions before leaving the lay team at 3 pm to drive the two-plus hours to the capital city of Vilnius in time to celebrate the evening liturgy for the priests and seminarians of

the seminary. I told them I would preach one minute for each 100 miles I had travelled to get to Lithuania, thinking of 3,000 instead of the 5,000 it really was. That was an anointed talk divinely laid out by the Sunday readings. The 28-year-old acting rector and 30-year-old spiritual director were delighted to hear me proclaiming mysteries to the seminarians they were so eager to have them understand.

Our last assignment was with a group of the priests of Vilnius gathered with the Cardinal. Again the issue was the life and ministry of priests, with special concern for priestly fraternity. It was another very fruitful session, beyond our expectations. The priests of Vilnius were supposed to be so difficult! The Cardinal summed up the situation of Lithuania saying that the family system had been destroyed. This is understandable. As we also learned, thou-

sands were killed in the war, 200,000 and more of the leading citizens killed or deported, so many priests and people depressed and compromised by the Communist years, men overcome by the comforting addiction of alcohol, and women degraded by abortion particularly. Divorce is rampant. The grasp of the Catholic doctrines is so flimsy. Spiritual deception is pervasive. Communist elements are still so involved in the social structures. There are mainly the old warrior priests holding their forts and the young modern priests on whom the whole burden of coping with the new realities falls. They have the gaping wounds of the Communist era and now the dysfunction and deception of materialistic capitalism to confront. I came back convinced that we have to be so much more radical in proclaiming and living the gospel of a Kingdom that is NOT OF THIS WORLD. Those people lived and died through 50 years of miserable oppression after the horrors of a world war. Now their children live and act as if European Union is heaven and self-gratification of material and sexual nature is all there is in life. And we in the West have had a 40-year head start on them. Is that what all those millions of forefathers of ours sacrificed their lives for? You can imagine that the retreat I gave in Edmonton the weekend after I got back was one of the strongest calls to a transformed mindset – read CONVERSION – I have conducted. ☺

.....
Fr. Francis Donnelly conducts missions and retreats for the Companions as well as being a part of the academic formation program.

FEATURE

Mission to Africa

by Nick Simoni

This past July Fr. Scott McCaig and I made our way over to Africa. We landed in Kampala, the capital of Uganda, which is almost directly on the equator. After arriving, we headed directly to the Papal Nuncio's residence to meet the rest of the team. We were joining Renewal Ministries (based in Ann Arbor, Michigan) in this mission to Africa. Peter Herbeck was heading a team, which preached the gospel to about 365 priests from all over Uganda, the Sudan, and Tanzania. Lloyd and Nancy Greenhaw headed our team of six in which we had various missionary experiences.

Our first day we ministered to condemned prisoners at Kampala's main prison. It was amazing how much faith these men had. I sensed no hostility or anger in the ten meter by thirty-meter prison room. In fact, many of the prisoners entered into praise and worship led by a worship team of fellow prisoners (named the Angels). We ministered to these men in an open room without security protection. After feeling some initial fears, I felt a real peace enter the room. Many of the prisoners gave their lives to the Lord Jesus and some received healing – both bodily and spiritual.

Before leaving for Africa, a bible verse was deeply impressed upon me in prayer; on a continual basis I read: "*Fear not little flock, it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom*" (Lk. 12:32). One might ask what kingdom the Father wants to give us?



Dancers at Mass.

Well, I began to see what I believe God the Father is speaking about here in Africa. Many people were healed of physical illnesses. One girl of about 8 years of age was miraculously healed of Polio. Many received relief from headaches, tumors, and back pains. For Ugandan peoples, faith is a normal part of life. The miraculous happens and they know there is power beyond what is seen. Another aspect of the Father's kingdom is deliverance from evil. I saw demonic manifestations of various sorts. At each rally, there was a deliverance tent set up where people could receive deliverance from demonic influence.

The majority of our first week was spent at Namugongo, Kampala where St. Charles Lwanga and his Companions were martyred. This was very special for Fr. Scott because he was ordained on the feast day of St. Charles Lwanga and Companions. This was the highlight for both of us. We saw faith in the hearts of these people like nowhere else ever before. Some walked for miles with little food and water to get to the rally. They

even slept outside without shelter. A couple of the days there was a procession of the Blessed Sacrament. People were shouting "Hosanna" and running just to touch or get near Jesus in the Eucharist. Women threw down expensive veils for Jesus to walk over (the priest carrying the Blessed Sacrament). Men even put out their shoes. One day I was in the shrine of the martyrs with Lloyd and Fr. Scott entered with people flocking to get near him. People threw themselves prostrate to the ground in the presence our Lord Jesus. It was awesome!

Our second destination was Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (on the coast of the Indian Ocean) with Tom Edwards as our leader. We spent one week in Tanga, which is five hours north of Dar es Salaam, and one week in Dar. Again, many people responded to the proclamation of the Gospel. Tanga is a predominantly Muslim city. We had around 500-800 people attending each of the five days. What touched me deeply was the childlike faith of these people and the reverence they had for God. From the



Companions Proclaim Christ on Three Continents

youngest to the oldest, each would pray with eyes closed and devout in prayer. Many wanted the ministry team to pray over them with just a touch on the head.

After ministering in Tanga, we went back to Dar es Salaam. There I witnessed 13 Muslims testify to giving their lives to Jesus as Lord and Saviour. One woman was miraculously healed of a tumour in her stomach and another received healing of a back injury. It would take pages to describe the many blessings Fr. Scott and I received on our mission. There were many, many healing and conversion stories. I received a special love for the youth. In both Tanga and Dar es Salaam, they set up times for me to speak to the youth. One young man told me he had received hope again. Thanks be to God!

Africa, in a special way, is mission territory right now. Suffering from a lack of economic and material resources, it is ripe for the labourers of the harvest (Jn 4:35). Jesus was sent first of all to preach the gospel to the poor. We must do the same. My friends, we must not be afraid of going deeper in our proclamation of the Gospel. The name of Jesus Christ is the only one by which it has been decreed that we can be saved (Ac 4:12). The people of Africa love you so much. In due time we may be receiving more missionaries from Africa to our land. We have so much to learn from their simplicity of life, faith, and community living. On the other hand, if God calls you to Africa, go for it!

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you who faithfully prayed for Fr. Scott and I. Thank you for your financial support and encouragement. May God richly bless you in all your endeavors and plans. Thank you Holy Spirit for all your marvelous works! Mary, Star of the New Evangelization, pray for us. ☺

Nick Simoni is undertaking his parish internship year at St. Thomas Aquinas parish in Halifax.



*Top to bottom:
Fr. Scott McCaig preaches at Martyrs Shrine, Uganda;
Girl who was healed of polio;
Nick Simoni witnesses inside Ruaga Cathedral.*



FEATURE

Mission to Japan

by Fr. John Vandenakker

I traveled to Japan this past August to be the main speaker at the Kansai Regional Catholic Charismatic Conference held in Osaka. It was a most blessed journey. About 350 people attended the conference, which featured abundant praise and even dancing in the aisles! There were talks, Masses, confessions, healing prayer ministry and prayer for the baptism in the Holy Spirit. It was a truly anointed weekend as the Lord poured out many graces upon his people in Japan. Catholics in this prosperous nation of 127 million make up only 1% of the population. The church there is facing the same challenges we face here in the West. Above all what is needed most is a mighty renewal of the faith. I had been to Japan two years previously conducting a priests' retreat and a day of renewal for the laity. I was honoured to be invited back a second time!

The following is an excerpt from a thank-you letter I received from one of the conference organizers: "Hi Fr. John! I hope you have had a safe trip back to Canada. I thank you very much for your coming to Japan to give us talks and to share your insight with us at the conference. I've heard so many good remarks about this year's conference. Yesterday we had our prayer meeting in Nagoya, and most of the members went to the conference. We felt the praise and worship was powerful there and even the testimonies from the



Fr. John gives talk at conference.

attendees were wonderful. In the prophetic words given to our group, the Lord really wants us to have more faith in him to be ready for being led to the higher level of the supernatural realm in our lives so that in many ways He can use us to be witnesses of Him to the world. He even said he is stretching us to the extent that we will do things we think beyond our capability, not by our own strength but by the power of His Spirit.

"Mr. Kobayashi asked me to give you his best regards. He said after the conference they had the National CCR committee meeting at the retreat house where you

stayed in Kobe and all the committee members said that the conference was the best one they have ever had. Many people said that they want to come to the conference like this year's again if there is one like that next year. You know why? Because it was really a Catholic Charismatic conference where many gifts of the Spirit were exercised and manifested. So please pray for us. We may ask you for your help again. Please keep it in your mind.

"Please take care and let's keep in touch."
In Jesus - Shinsuke Akimoto



Companions Proclaim Christ on Three Continents

*Top to bottom:
Fr. John Vandenkaker with missionary at Kobe
Retreat House;
Music ministry leading praise and worship;
Fr. John and Sisters in chapel.*





FEATURE

by Ken Gorman

How to make a BEQUEST to the Companions

The following sample bequest language is intended to assist our donors or their attorneys when making a bequest to the Companions of the Cross. We must state that the language provided is strictly a resource and that the Companions of the Cross is not providing legal advice. The legal name, as noted in the language is "The Companions of the Cross."



Forms of Bequests

1. Specific bequest.

A. Sum of money.

"I give to The Companions of the Cross the sum of (amount)..."

B. Particular property(ies) such as real estate, stocks, bonds, jewellery, works of art, or other items. Unless the property is useful to The Companions of the Cross, it will be sold, and the proceeds, less any appraisals and selling costs, applied per the terms of the bequest.

"I give to The Companions of the Cross (description of property)..."

2. Rest and residue of estate. The Companions of the Cross is given all or a percentage of what remains of the estate after paying debts, taxes, expenses, and other bequests.

"I give to The Companions of the Cross all (or stated percentage) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate..."



3. Contingent bequest. This gift takes place only if the Testator is not survived by certain individuals.

“If (name/s of primary beneficiary/ies) do/es not survive me, or shall die within ninety (90) days from the date of my death, or as a result of a common disaster, then I give to The Companions of the Cross (describe amount of cash, property or percentage of residual estate)...”

4. Charitable remainder trust. A designated portion of the estate property is used to fund the trust, which then pays the net income to the beneficiary(ies) identified in the donor's will. When the trust terminates (at the death of the beneficiary(ies) or at the end of a term of years), the trust principal is distributed to the Charity. **“I direct that my executor raise out of the capital of my estate the sum of \$_____ to be held and invested by my trustee and to pay to (name of spouse or other individual/s) all of the net income which accrues there from during (his, her, their) natural lifetime(s). Upon the death of _____, such trust fund shall be distributed to The Companions of the Cross. I appoint (name of person or institution) as trustee of this trust.”**



Purposes of Bequests

Whatever the form of the bequest, it may be designated for unrestricted uses, for a restricted use, or to establish an endowment. Below are “purpose” clauses that can be added to any of the examples of bequest language listed above under “Forms of Bequest.”

1. Unrestricted use

“...to be used for the general purposes of The Companions of the Cross.” [May also add, “... at the discretion of the Executive Council.”]

2. Restricted use

“...to be used for (detailed description of what the donor wants the bequest to accomplish).”

Examples:

“...to be used for seminarian formation.”

“...to be used to provide scholarships for students from Ontario.”

“...to be used for the purchase of a seminary residence.”

“...to be used in support of religious programs for young people.”

3. Establish an endowment

“This gift may be merged with any of the investment assets of The Companions of the Cross, but it shall be entered in The Companions of the Cross’ books and records as the (Name) ENDOWMENT FUND. The income from the endowment shall be used to... (support seminarian formation, provide scholarships for students who have financial need, purchase or build a seminary residence, purchase or build a teaching and evangelization centre, etc.)”

Before providing specific language for an endowment, the donor should check with appropriate officials of The Companions of the Cross to make sure that the proposed endowment is consistent with the mission of the Charity and that the amount of the bequest would be sufficient for the endowment.



Power to Vary Provision

It is recommended that the following paragraph be added if the bequest is either for a restricted use or to establish an endowment.

“If, in the opinion of the Executive Council of The Companions of the Cross, it should become impossible, inadvisable, or impractical to use this gift for the specified purpose(s), then the Council may in their discretion use the gift to the best advantage of The Companions of the Cross, keeping in mind the original wishes of the donor. In any such alternative application, the support provided by this bequest shall be clearly identified with the name of (Name).”

If you have any questions about these matters please do not hesitate to contact:

Ken Gorman
Director of Resource Development
Companions of the Cross
199 Bayswater Avenue,
Ottawa, ON
K1Y 2G5
Phone: (613) 728-3175
Fax: (613) 725-1590



Only \$35.00 per person
includes catered lunch,
coffee breaks

To register please send
your name, address, and
phone number, along
with a cheque payable to
Companions of the Cross
for the number of tickets
you require.

Mail it to:
Companions
of the Cross,
#199 Bayswater Ave,
Ottawa, ON, K1Y 2G5

**For further info please
call Mary Lauzon
at (613) 297-0899
or Linda O'Donnell
at (613) 728-3175**

The Companions of the Cross Present:

“God’s Plan for the Gift of Human Sexuality” Mini-Conference

**Feb. 6th & 7th, 2004
Tudor Hall, 3750 Bowesville Rd., Ottawa**

Friday Feb. 6th:

7:30 p.m. - Opening Mass, Praise & Worship, with all the
priests and seminarians of the Companions of the Cross.
Homily: “Blessed are the Pure of Heart (Mt. 5:8)”
– the spirituality of chastity and its purpose in Christian life.
9:00 p.m. - Coffee & Dessert Social

Saturday Feb. 7th:

8:30 a.m. - Rosary & Morning Praise & Worship
9:15 a.m. - Break
9:30 a.m. - Talk #1 - “Pope John Paul II’s Theology of the
Body” – understanding how & why we are created as male
and female, in God’s image, and what the gift of human
sexuality is all about.
10:30 a.m. - Break
11:00 a.m. - Talk #2 - “Same Sex Attraction: Church
Teaching & Pastoral Outreach”
12:00 noon - Catered Sit-Down Lunch
2:00 p.m. - Talk #3 - “Marital Love: Total, Faithful,
& Open to Life.”
3:00 p.m. - Break
3:30 p.m. - Mass of the Day, Praise & Worship. Homily:
“God’s Plan for Single Catholics” - wisdom for the journey.
Post Communion prayer of consecration for all to be
empowered to live God’s call according to their state in life.
7:30 p.m. - Saturday Evening Youth Fest: An evening of
Christian Drama, Song, and Celebration. In conjunction with
Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO) & National Evangelization
Training (NET). For Youth of All Ages (13 up).
Talks: “The Dating Game or Christian Courtship?” +
“Celibacy: For Those Called to Love with an
Undivided Heart.”

Note: this evening event is free of charge and open to all.

Pilgrimage to Spain: Land of Saints & Mystics

.....
April 17th-29th, 2004 (13 Days)
with Fr. John Vandenakker
of the Companions of the Cross

**Madrid
Avila
Segovia
Zaragoza
Barcelona
Mallorca**

A Spiritual Journey to the Birthplace of St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Ignatius of Loyola, Blessed Junipero Serra, St. Dominic, Eduardo Bonnín, and many renowned Marian shrines!

A wonderful opportunity to enjoy great fellowship and to deepen your appreciation of the Church, Our Blessed Lady, and the Saints. Daily Mass & Rosary.

Cost: \$3399.00 cdn per person
(dbl. occupancy).

Includes: all transportation,
accommodation, tours, breakfast &
dinner daily, and all taxes, service
charges, and tipping!
(Travel Insurance extra).

Travel Agency:
International Heritage Tours.

.....
For Further Information Please Contact:
Gail Goshko at (613) 744-1418

Info Meeting:
Sun. Jan. 18th, 2:30 p.m.
St. Mary's Hall (100 Young St., Ottawa)

To view the complete itinerary
please visit our web site at

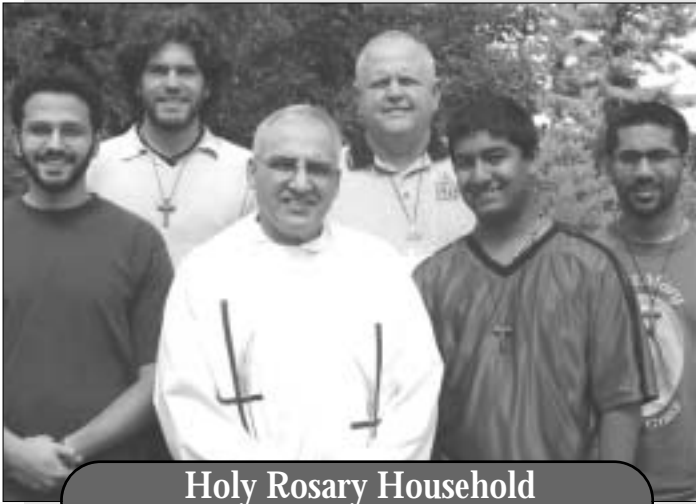
www.companionscross.ca

and click the
"Upcoming Events"
section





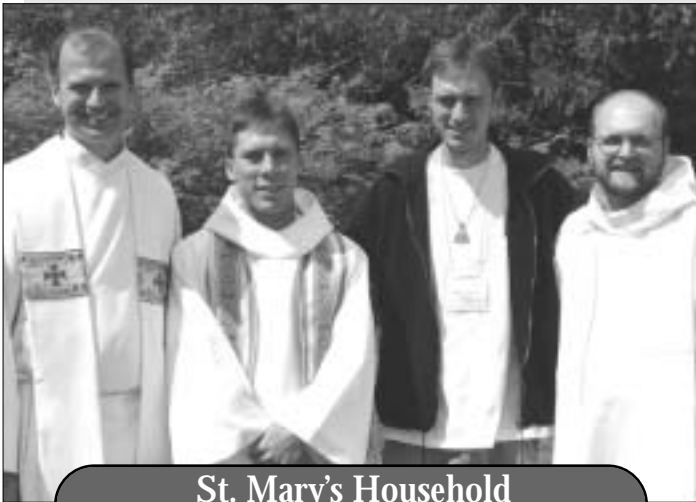
Companions of the Cross
H O U S E H O L D S



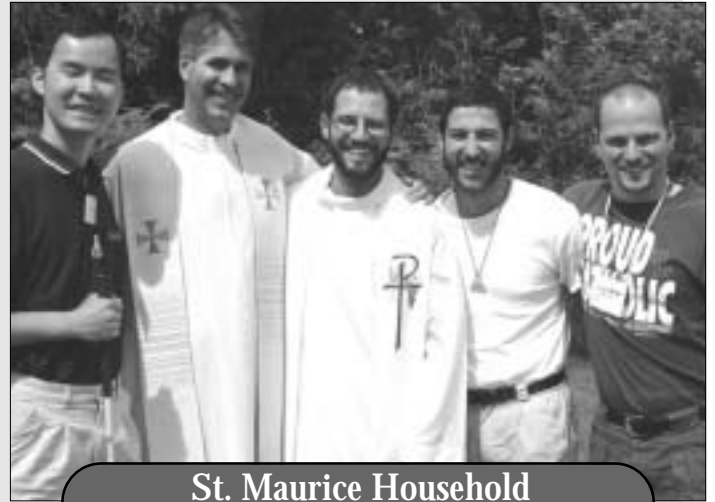
Holy Rosary Household
Ottawa, Ontario



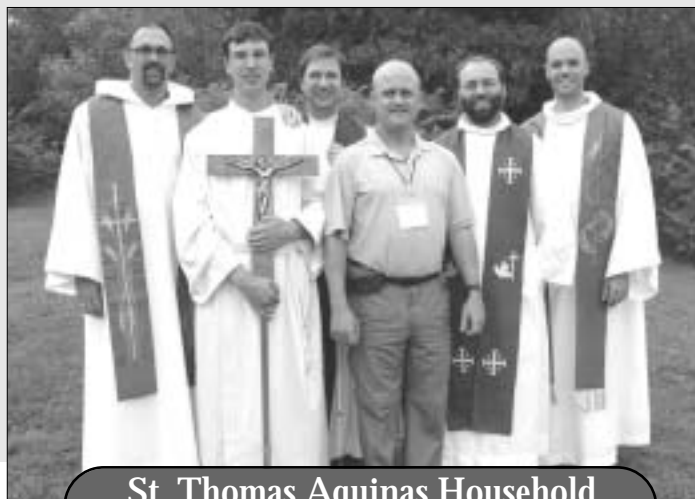
Queen of Peace Household
Houston, Texas



St. Mary's Household
Ottawa, Ontario



St. Maurice Household
Ottawa, Ontario



St. Thomas Aquinas Household
Halifax, Nova Scotia



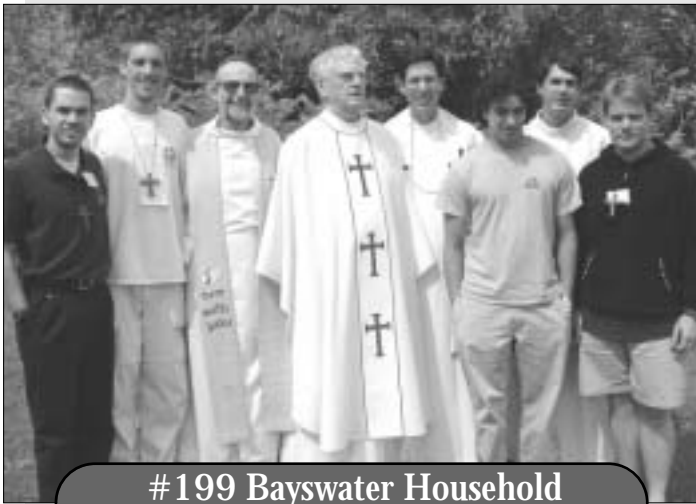
Companions of the Cross
H O U S E H O L D S



#58 Primrose Household
 Ottawa, Ontario



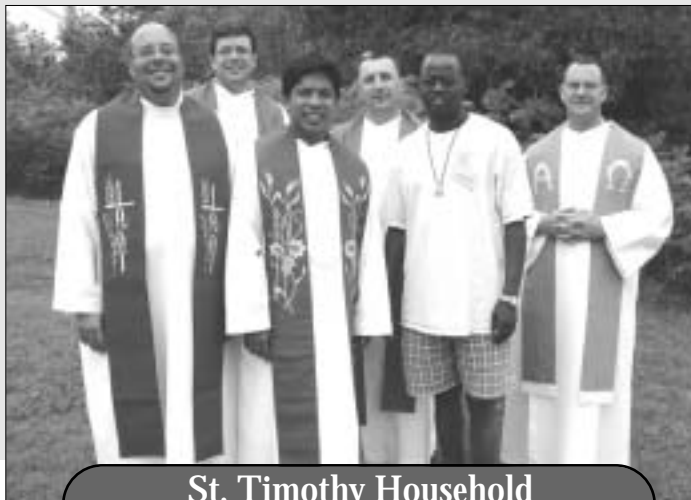
#126 Young Household
 Ottawa, Ontario



#199 Bayswater Household
 Ottawa, Ontario



New Applicants Household
 at Assumption Farm



St. Timothy Household
 Toronto, Ontario



SCHOOL OF EVANGELIZATION

by Fr. Terry Donahue

The School of Evangelization is a week of teachings, prayer and practical workshops to equip Catholics to share their faith in Jesus Christ. Each day began with praise & worship followed by a teaching on the *Theology* of Evangelization, addressing the following topics: The Great Commission, The Kerygma, Salvation by Grace through Faith, Jesus Christ as Lord, and the Church as Missionary Communion. Next, a Companions seminarian described an aspect of the *Spirituality* of an Evangelist: Prayer – the Soul of the Apostolate, Developing an Evangelical Heart, the Eucharist, Mary – Star of the New Evangelization, and Intercession.

After celebrating Mass and sharing lunch together, we considered the role of the Holy Spirit in *Empowerment* for evangelization through the use of charisms and prayer ministry. The bulk of the afternoon was spent in workshops on practical techniques for preparing a testimony, presenting the basic Gospel message, and dealing with common objections. Other workshops (some optional in the evenings) explored evangelization using various media (drama & music) and in various settings (in the home, at the workplace, and door-to-door). Each day concluded with a Holy Hour of prayer and Rosary before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

On Saturday, we put it all into practice by doing it! Some visited homes door-to-door, while others carried a cross through the streets of Ottawa. Some shared with people on the streets, while others ministered in retirement homes. All were supported by intercessors praying before our Lord in the Eucharist. What a joy and blessing for us all!

In the future, we plan to run the School of



School of Evangelization participants.

Evangelization at least once every year, including locations outside of Ottawa, as we are able. If you are interested in receiving news of upcoming Lay Formation events, please contact Mary Lauzon at 613-728-3175.

Candia Fletcher of Niagara Falls, Ontario attended the School and describes two “Evangelization Encounters” that followed:

The first encounter was with a lady who recently lost her daughter to cancer and I was scheduled to visit her. (I’m a visiting nurse for U.O.N.) The visit started as usual and then the lady expressed her grief and asked me if I knew anything about the Eucharist. It was an open opportunity for me to talk about the Eucharist. We talked for 2 hours! The Lord was definitely at work. When I got into my car it dawned on me. I just evangelized. It seemed that all the classes I attended came to life and opened my heart and soul.

The second encounter was with another lady who was baptized in a United Church but hadn’t been to Church in a long time. She expressed a desire to join the Catholic Church and asked me about how to enter the Catholic faith. Again it gave me the opportunity to evangelize! Was I nervous? – Not really. I felt natural and sensed that the Holy Spirit guided me in what I was to say (and not to say!) I did feel more confident to share my faith and to invite others into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

If you are interested in hosting a School of Evangelization at your parish please contact Fr. Terry Donahue, head of the Lay Formation Program for the Companions of the Cross. He can be reached by contacting the office at (613)798-9327.

The first School of Evangelization, put on by the Companions of the Cross was held in Ottawa June 22nd to 29th at St. Mary's parish. Following are two testimonials of participants that took part in the full week-long school.

The Power of the Cross

by Susie Pereira

I had the opportunity to attend the School of Evangelization held by the Companions of the Cross in Ottawa. As we arrived on Sunday, we began our week by receiving the Sacrament of Confession. For where there is unity, there the Holy Spirit dwells.

I was very enriched by the tools of evangelization they equipped us with and with the teachings of the Church. Remaining in prayer, with adoration through the week, it prepared our hearts for the mission of the Church we are to carry forward to evangelize with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The day had arrived to bring these tools and teachings of evangelization to action. The Companions of the Cross sent us out to the streets of Ottawa. I was excited to participate in the Cross Walk.

As we proceeded throughout the streets of Ottawa carrying a two foot cross, we stopped at Parliament Hill, interceded for our government, and we followed that by walking through the market and returning to St. Mary's parish.

Throughout the Cross Walk the scripture that had been engraved upon my heart was John 12:32 *"And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself."*

Truly, brothers and sisters in Christ I personally experienced that everyone who laid their eyes upon the cross, were being drawn unto him and healed.

"The Power of the Cross has become a more deeper, intimate understanding in my life."

Coming back home, I have had the opportunity to use the tools of evangelization and Church teachings with close friends and family members. I feel more confident in approaching others by using my own personal testimony when introducing them to Jesus Christ and by living the gospel in my everyday life.



Learning about evangelization.

The Pilgrimage to Ottawa

by Nicole Saldanha

"I have called you by name – you are mine" (Is 43:1).

My journey began with this verse. The Father wanted me to go to St. Mary's, but I had to sing at a prayer convention from June 27-29. I was in a quandary. Our faith is a choice, right? So I chose the Father's will.

The week started beautifully, leading me to Jesus. On Wednesday, I developed a mild rash on my hands, which became worse by the next morning. I offered it to the Lord, and attended the day's talks.

As Father Scott spoke, I had the weirdest sensation of my spirit being out of myself. At the break, Brother Nick prayed over me. The Lord prepared me for this: He had revealed that Nick would pray over me. Mike Minifie came up for his talk on Mama Mary. I sat between Suzie and Alvin, prayer warriors. I strained to listen to Mike, but the wooziness got too strong and I became afraid. I turned to Alvin and said, "Something's happening to me!" He told me it was the Holy Spirit, and Suzie and he prayed over me. I opened my heart to God's love.

That beautiful Thursday, Jesus healed each destructive event in my life. He helped me to forgive, especially *myself*. Often we forget to do that. I also saw Mother Mary praying beside me.

Throughout that day I felt drunk in the Holy Spirit. And my rash disappeared completely! I left on Friday in time for the convention with my prayer group. And the Lord took care of everything!



FEATURE

by Fr. Galen Bank

Reflection

During my first two years as a priest at St. Maurice Parish, I have sought answers to many core issues in the priesthood that many parishioners have also questioned. The following is a summary of what I have experienced and realized throughout my quest. It is based on the homily I gave on Holy Thursday, 2003.

As a priest, my most important task is to be a man of prayer. Pope John Paul II has said that without prayer I cannot attain the holiness and wisdom needed to successfully pastor the parish entrusted to my care.

In many ways priests are often expected to be counselors, psychoanalysts or psychiatrists. However, in truth, we are none of these things. Instead, we are called to help people recognize Christ within themselves and invite them to make room for Him in their hearts.

As priests, we are expected to make room for humanity to enter our hearts. An image that comes to mind is a roadway running through our hearts. On that roadway some people stop momentarily and say hello. Some people do not stop at all. Some people stop to pour out their troubles and concerns. Some may affirm us for something we said or did. Some may be angry or critical of the church or us. At any rate, the roadway is expected to be open for humanity to enter in. However, by opening our hearts in this capacity we take the risk of having them trampled upon or even torn apart. Why would anyone want to do this? Why would I want to open my heart and take the risk? To me, love is the answer.

Obviously there can be a cost to this loving. However, the benefits far outweigh any cost that I have experienced. When I walk into a room filled with hopelessness because of some type of crisis, I notice time and again that suddenly there is a glimmer of hope and sense of relief. This hope enkindled has nothing to do with Galen Samuel Bank entering the room. It is not Galen they are relieved to see, but rather, Jesus Christ in me. By virtue of my priesthood, I have become “another Christ” to others. This gives me great joy, to know that when someone calls or requests a priest, they are really calling for Christ.

As priests, we are to be men of faith and love. It would be scandalous and shocking to know that a priest has lost his faith and belief in the mercy, goodness and power of God. It would be equally shocking to know that he has lost his love for God.

Is the priesthood set apart from other vocations? Yes, it truly is. But this does not mean that the priesthood is above others in supremacy or is a more privileged vocation. It's not that the priesthood is sacred and all other vocations are ordinary or mundane. Instead, this vocation is set apart by Christ's unique priesthood within the priest. It is through him that I become “another Christ” helping other vocations fulfil their own unique royal priesthood given to them at baptism.

This vocation to be “another Christ” in the priesthood is also why celibacy exists. Celibacy is not a command imposed on me or something I give to the Church: it is an invitation that I receive from God. It can be compared to a woman receiving a marriage proposal from her future husband. Just as the woman is free to accept or reject such a proposal, I was free to accept or reject the proposal from God.

This definitely stands in contrast to the misunderstanding of celibacy in the world.

Does celibacy become a difficult part of my life to live? Yes! However, it becomes difficult and burdensome when I fall out of love with God. Once my passion for God ceases to burn, then my passion burns for the creature. Once again, it is similar to the love between a husband and wife. When a husband loves his wife passionately and intensely, he has no problem with fidelity. However, it is the husband who does not “care” for his bride and the priest who does not “care” for God and the church that will find it hard to be faithful.

It is wonderful and exciting to be a priest and I am eternally grateful for this gift He has entrusted to me. However, I would be lying if I said I have never questioned why I entered the priesthood or said to myself as I slipped into bed at night, “What did I get myself into?” In these moments I bring to mind my ordination day when I said I would leave all to follow the Lord. This means laying down my life for the church and her members and patterning my life on Jesus, the high priest who hung on the cross. From this, God provides consolation to help me see that what I have embraced is worthwhile.

In my daily vocation at St. Maurice, there is no greater honour than to do what Christ did: to offer the holy sacrifice of the Mass; to forgive sins; to be a vessel of compassion and mercy; to preach the Gospel; to lay down my life for my brothers and sisters and to shepherd God's holy people. Glory be to Jesus Christ who multiplied himself in the priesthood for us! ☪

Fr. Galen Bank is the pastor at St. Maurice parish. He was ordained in June, 2001.



COMMUNITY NEWS & NOTES

by Fr. John Vandenaeker

Companions' Annual Reflection Days

Every year all the priests and seminarians of the Companions of the Cross get together in late August to partake of some "reflection days." We gather at Camp Red Pine, which is located on Golden Lake near Eganville, Ont. The camp is fairly rustic, but it is beautifully situated. Here we pray together, recreate, and receive instruction and exhortation of various kinds. This year Dr. Len Gignac, a psychologist based in Wilno, Ont., taught us about what "stress" is and how to handle it – from both a psychological and a spiritual point of view (he will be writing an article about this topic for our next newsletter). It was great meeting all the new applicants to the community, seeing the guys from out of town (Halifax, Toronto, and Houston), and celebrating the reception into temporary commitment of five new men: Rachad Khadij; Mike Lees; Simon Lobo; Barry Phillips; and Chris Vonesch. Please remember to keep all our priests and seminarians in your prayers!

National Marriage Day Rally

A crowd of 6,000-8,000 people gathered in Ottawa on August 22nd to participate in an interfaith National Marriage Day Rally in support of the traditional concept of marriage. Christians from many denominations, as well as some Muslims and others, joined to stage a peaceful and respectful protest of the Federal Government of Canada's plan to proceed with introducing legislation that would recognize same sex unions as "marriages". It began with a prayerful silent gathering on the lawn in front of the Supreme Court building, continued with a march down Wellington Street to Parliament Hill, and ended on the lawn in front of the Peace Tower. Here a variety of pastors, religious leaders, and politicians made speeches urging the federal government to reconsider its position on this important matter. The sun shone brightly on all that had gathered. Many parishioners from St. Mary's, St. Maurice's, and elsewhere, along with their pastors, and other Companions'

priests and seminarians, came out to be a part of this amazing rally. Let us pray that our government gets "convicted" by the Holy Spirit to do the right thing and not be swayed by a misunderstanding of what "tolerance" entails in a pluralistic society. As Christians, we know that the battle belongs to the Lord. *"For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens"* (Eph 6:12).

New 2004 CC Calendars

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see an ad about our new 2004 Companions of the Cross calendars that have just gone on sale. We want to remind our readers that all who have made donations to the Companions (in the last twelve months) of at least \$50.00 or more, will receive a complimentary copy of this calendar free in the mail sometime this fall (as a 'thank-you' gift). In previous years we had said that anyone donating \$20.00 or more
Continued on page 22



Top: Dr. Len Gignac teaching
Right: Companions showing their support for the rally



would receive one. However, our Director of Resource Development, Mr. Ken Gorman, has recently informed us that Revenue Canada guidelines stipulate that any "gift" from a charitable institution to a donor must not exceed in value ten per cent of the original donation. Since our calendars cost us approximately \$5.00 to produce, this means that the minimum donation(s) to the community in the past year must total \$50.00 or more in order to qualify. So we hope you understand our situation! Many thanks to Dale Balkovec of our CC Office for compiling this year's edition – which contains magnificent full colour photos of our May 2-3-4 historic "Establishment" celebrations, as well as to the ladies at Brushworks for the lovely layout design. This calendar is truly a worthy "souvenir" of our community's big year!

CC Video & DVD Feedback Wanted

Plans for a souvenir video and DVD of our May 2nd Establishment Mass held at Notre Dame Basilica continue in development. An announcement containing all the relevant details of how to order these items will appear in our next newsletter. We thank you for your patience. In the meantime, you can assist us in this matter by calling or emailing us at our CC Office to say you are interested in obtaining such a souvenir when it becomes available (this in no way commits you to buying it). Such an expression of interest on behalf of our readers will help us ascertain how many copies we should order (and of what format: videotape or DVD). We are planning on selling these items at cost, which we project should be around \$15.00. Please drop us a line today!

Receipts & Thank You Letters Apology

The following is an excerpt from a letter sent out recently to all CC donors:
"Dear Benefactor – We must apologize profusely for our lack of recognition to

you, our most valued donor, for any and all gifts you have made this year. During this past spring, we installed a new administrative database, and unforeseen events have caused inexcusable delays in mailing you back thank yous for your donation, and providing you with a tax receipt for income tax purposes. We continue to try and become more donor-focused, listening to your preferences and concerns. For this reason, we need to hear from any individual who would prefer to receive only one tax receipt, totaling a year's contributions, in January of the subsequent tax year. With our new computer system, we are able to recognize and thank our donors on an ongoing basis, but we realize that some individuals prefer to receive only one receipt. If you would prefer a single receipt, and you are not already part of our Pre-Authorized Payment Plan, we would ask that you contact us at 728-3175 or by e-mail at compcross@cyberus.ca and we will change your record for future donations. I again wish to apologize for this terrible delay and to thank you for your continued prayers and support of the Companions of the Cross."

Sincerely, Ken Gorman - Director of Resource Development

Fr. Francis Frankovich Honoured in Ottawa

On Sunday August 24th Fr. Francis Frankovich was prayed over and honoured at the 11:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's parish, where he was the former pastor (before he was transferred to Houston). Later that same day over 300 people gathered at the Lone Star Ranch to partake of a Texas-style BBQ and family fun day also in his honour. A 'country-good time' was had by all. The weather was perfect and the bugs weren't biting.

This year Fr. Francis celebrates his 35th anniversary of ordination. He says if there are any more festivities for him he is going to collapse! All that dancing he did back in Houston on May 31st has left him still tuckered out. People love you Fr. Francis!



Lots of families in attendance.



Fr. Francis and friends.

Thank You to Knight's Council 12296

The Companions of the Cross would like to thank their namesake Knights of Columbus Council 12296 at St. Maurice Parish for all the hard work they did in sending out Companions' promotional material to all the English speaking Knight's Councils in Ontario. This means that close to 500 Councils now know more about us! Thank you, brothers, for all the good work you do for the Church and us!

Condolences to Fr. Fernando & Family

The father of Fr. Fernando Suarez passed away in early July back in the Philippines. He had been ill with a brain tumor. Fr. Fernando journeyed back home to help celebrate the funeral Mass. Our condolences go out to Fr. Fernando, his mother, and the rest of his family and relatives. Let us remember Mr. Suarez in our prayers. Fr. Fernando's parents were here in Ottawa just a year and half ago celebrating Fr. Fernando's ordination.

Fr. Fernando Reaches Out

Fr. Fernando writes: "Seven years ago, I received a vision in my prayer of Jesus pouring out many graces and blessings upon me, and as soon as I received the graces that were coming from Jesus, I saw multitudes of poor children begging for help. That image remained in my heart for quite a while and I did not know what it meant until I had an unexpected encounter with the poor when I visited the Philippines. During my two week visit, in the summer of 1997, at least ten poor children began approaching me out of nowhere, asking me for support, especially in their studies. Even though I knew I did not have enough resources at that time, I promised them that I would send



Fr. Fernando and his parents at his Ordination dinner.

them financial support as soon as I returned to Canada. To be faithful to my promise, trusting in the Lord, I began sending them financial support from my own savings. I remember during my first year as a seminarian with the Companions of the Cross, I walked every day from 199 Bayswater Avenue to Saint Paul University and I sent the money I saved by walking each day, and gave it to the kids. Before the Christmas and summer holidays, I always prayed that there would be different prayer groups that would invite me to give a talk, recollection or retreat, so that the stipends that I received would be used to support the children. God was so faithful because every summer and Christmas I was fully booked from different prayer groups, especially in the Filipino community, and thus I was able to accumulate enough money to help support the poor children in the Philippines from their generous offerings.

grow. We are currently sponsoring 100 children with three of them now ready to graduate from university this coming year. We are also sponsoring six senior citizens in the Philippines that are very poor and failed to receive any benefits from the government. Last year I also opened up a computer center in the public school in Butong, Taal, Batangas, to give an opportunity for over 800 students to have first hand experience on a computer. As well, we also built and renovated two homes for poor families who lost their homes during the typhoon season, and we donated a fishing boat to a poor family who had seven children.

"In the future, if the good Lord permits, we desire to begin a housing project to shelter many of these poor families who have no place to live. Currently, I am arranging our first housing project for this summer, and I hope some of our seminarians will be able to be involved to give them an opportunity to work and live directly with the poor.

In return, the children who have benefited from this foundation, have been asked to pray for all the seminarians and priests of the Companions of the Cross. They also make an effort to go to Church each Sunday and they frequently write us letters, thanking us for the blessings they have received and letting us know that they are always praying for us. For all the people who have supported this cause in many direct and indirect ways, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Continued on page 24



Companions in Ministry Report

The following is a partial list of just some of the more major “extra-curricular” ministry Companions’ priests have been engaged in this past year. This list does not reflect the great ministry happening in our own Companions’ parishes. It simply gives you an idea of how the community is responding to the wider call for evangelization in the Church today. This year’s winner of the most “on-the-go” CC priest award is a virtual tie: Fr. Allan MacDonald and Fr. Francis Donnelly. Fr. Allan is taking a break this year from his hectic schedule by being assigned to formation work with our first year applicants at Assumption Farm. This leaves the field wide open again for Fr. Francis this coming year!

Fr. Roger Vandenakker: Gave two talks and presided and preached at the closing Mass of the annual Lift Jesus Higher Youth Rally in Toronto attended by 1500 youth (March 28); was chaplain at a week-long Nazareth Catholic Family Camp held in the Laurentians north of Montreal the week of Aug. 2nd-8th; was chaplain on a contemplative retreat near Pakenham, ON the weekend of Aug. 8-10th; attended and spoke at the annual Hidden Treasures Youth Conference in Midland, ON the weekend of Aug. 15-17.

Fr. Rick Jaworski: Conducted a Scripture Course at the Ottawa Lay School of Theology (Monday evenings 13 Jan - 17 Mar); conducted a Scripture Course at the Catholic Bible Institute in Winnipeg MB (Aug 5 - 10).

Fr. Bob Bedard: Spoke at the annual regional Charismatic Conference in Regina, Saskatchewan (Sept. 27-29, 2002); gave a talk to the Women of Bethany in Ottawa on March 1; presented two papers at the IPF Symposium held at Mt. St. Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, Maryland (Mar.14-16); spoke to the Witnesses for Christ Youth Group in

Cornwall, Ontario on April 11th (with Fr. Mark Goring); gave several talks at a Charismatic Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia (June 11-15); gave a talk at “Soulfest” in Cobden, Ontario (Logosland) on June 29th.

Fr. Ed Wade: spoke at the Diocese of Lafayette, Louisiana Catholic Charismatic Conference (July 25-27); will speak at the Southern Regional Conference of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in New Orleans, Louisiana (March 26-28, 2004).

Fr. Allan MacDonald: served as Chaplain to NET for their training days (Sept. 26-29, 2002); participated in the Vocations Fair at Franciscan University of Steubenville (Oct. 5-9, 2002); conducted a parish mission at Canadian Martyrs Parish in Combermere, ON (Oct. 25-27, 2002); helped out at a Pro-life Conference in Toronto (Nov. 23-27, 2002); conducted a parish mission at Our Lady of Sorrows in Petawawa, ON (Nov. 30 - Dec. 1, 2002); conducted a parish mission at St. Lawrence O’Toole Parish in Barry’s Bay, ON (Dec. 14-16); led a parish mission at St. Anthony’s, Apple Hill, ON; celebrated the Life Teen Mass once a month at Annunciation Parish, Ottawa (Jan-June, 2003); led a parish mission at Holy Family Parish, Hanover, ON (March 15-19); helped out with PR at the Lift Jesus Higher Rally, Toronto (Mar. 29); preached at St. Timothy’s parish, Toronto for Vocations Sunday (May 11); spoke at the Ottawa Diocesan CWL Convention, St. Clare’s, Dwyer Hill, ON (May 24); served as Chaplain to the NET wrap-up week (June 2-5); did PR work at the Colebrook Society meeting in Chicago, IL, (June 6-9).

Fr. John Vandenakker: conducted a retreat for the St. Vincent de Paul Society at Camp Brebeuf, Guelph, ON (Sept. 29th, 2002); led a parish mission at Our Lady of Lourdes, Kingston, ON (Nov. 18-20, 2002); led a parish mission at St. Philip’s, Richmond, ON (Dec. 9-11, 2002); spoke at a Youth Retreat, St. Ann’s

parish, Dallas, Texas (Mar. 7-9); led a parish mission at St. Patrick’s of the Island, Pincourt, Quebec (Mar. 17-19); spoke at a Charismatic Conference in Lethbridge, Alberta (April 25-27); spoke at a Charismatic Conference in Osaka, Japan (Aug. 16-18).

Fr. Francis Donnelly: did counselling and a monthly Mass at the Ottawa Regional Detention Centre (Sept-Aug); gave weekly reflection on the Scriptures on CHRI radio (Tuesdays); conducted a parish mission in Calgary, Alberta (Oct. 5-9, 2002); gave a talk about the Healing Ministry during a diocesan Mass in Calgary, AB (Oct. 11, 2002); gave his personal testimony at a prayer breakfast in Calgary, AB (Oct. 12, 2002); conducted a diocesan retreat in Peterborough, ON (Oct. 26-27, 2002); conducted a diocesan charismatic retreat in Montreal, PQ (Feb. 14-16); led a parish mission for St. Luke’s & St. David’s parish in Montreal, PQ (Mar. 22-26); conducted a diocesan retreat in Saskatoon, Sask (Mar. 28-30); participated with Renewal Ministries in missionary outreach activities (with Fr. Ben St. Croix) in Lithuania (May 16-27); led a diocesan retreat in Edmonton, AB (May 30-June 1); led a charismatic retreat in Saranac Lake, NY (July 4-6); spoke at a charismatic conference in Grand Falls, NFLD (Aug. 1-3).

Fr. Yves Marchildon: In mid October 2002 served as chaplain on a pilgrimage to Medjugorje with a group from Ottawa (Deacon Tim Devine was assistant chaplain). Served as a spiritual director on a Cursillo weekend in Halifax (March 6-9) – wherein 22.7% of the candidates on the weekend were from his parish! ☺

Fr. John Vandenakker teaches theology and serves as Academic Director for the Companions of the Cross. He also oversees the community's fundraising and public relations efforts.



The Companions of the Cross Present ***“To Jesus, through Mary”***

A Marian Day celebrating the close of the
‘Year of the Rosary’

Sat. Nov. 1st, 2003 – at St. Mary’s Church
100 Young St., Ottawa, Ontario

- 8:00 a.m. Doors open
- 8:30 a.m. Praise and Worship
- 9:00 a.m. Mass (Homily: The Rosary:
Weapon of the Saints)
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Talk: Our Lady: Queen, Mother,
and Model
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch Break
- 1:00 p.m. Praise and Worship
- 1:15 p.m. Talk: Marian Apparitions Today
– What’s the Message?
- 2:15 p.m. Break
- 2:30 p.m. Talk: To Jesus through Mary
As Companions of the Cross –
A New Prayer of Consecration
- 3:30 p.m. A Living Rosary Celebration with Prayer
of Consecration

Everyone Welcome!

**No registration required – Free will offering will be taken up
For further information contact: Mary Lauzon (613) 297-0899**

101 Inspirational Stories of the Rosary

will be on sale at the Marian Day.

\$20.00 (tax included)

This book by Sr. Patricia Proctor was just published this year (2003). It is a “knock-your-socks-off” collection of true stories that will inspire both new and veteran prayers of the rosary.

Makes a wonderful gift.

Available while supplies last.

