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CINCINNATI C.P.P.S. NEWSLETTER

*In Christ, through the
shedding of his blood,
we have redemption and
forgiveness of our sins.*

Ephesians 1: 7a

Entrusted with a Ministry of Service

Fr. Jeffrey Kirch Takes on Role of Provincial Director

Jean Giesige, editor

There are two parts to every call: the call itself, and then the response.

Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S., knows that. When the vote tally was shown on the screen at the 2018 assembly during the election of the provincial director, he realized that his Community had called him to a new leadership position as provincial director.

Then Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn, C.P.P.S., who had served as provincial director since 2010, asked Fr. Kirch if he accepted the election.

"There was a time lag in my mind. I was looking at the numbers, and then I suddenly

heard Larry ask if I was willing to accept it," he said. "I didn't interpret it as a rhetorical question. I paused for what seemed like a couple of seconds. I was actually thinking about the question."

He said yes, and that three-letter word set into motion a series of events that will unfold for him in the coming months and years. He described it this way in an article in the upcoming issue of *C.P.P.S. Today*, the deadline for which was upon him almost immediately after his election:

"What began as a simple trip to the United States for some meetings and vacation time became a life-changing trip. I arrived at the electoral assembly in May expecting to enjoy time with my fellow Missionaries. By the end of the assembly I was trying to rebook airline tickets, figure out where to live, and wrap my head around the fact that my brothers have entrusted me with a ministry of service to them and the wider Precious Blood family."

He'll spend much of July wrapping up unfinished projects in Rome, where he serves



Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, outside St. Joseph Parish in downtown Dayton.

as the Congregation's secretary general. He wants to make life as easy as possible for his successor.

It was a rewarding ministry, which he took on in 2014. "My work as secretary general was very fulfilling. It gave me a good view of the international nature of the C.P.P.S.," he said. "I was able to see how we minister in all these different countries in very different ways, yet always motivated by the same spirit. I saw among our Missionaries the same traits, to varying degrees, as those I'd seen in the U.S."

From focusing on the worldwide Community, with its 16 units in more than 20 countries, he'll now have to be focused on one province—or, rather, two. He knows he likely
(Continued on page 110)

**C.P.P.S. celebrates
the ordination of
Fr. Matthew Keller,
Deacon Eduardo
Fredy Campos.
See page 101.**



Community Notes

Assignment

Fr. Jayababu Nuthulapati, C.P.P.S., parochial vicar, Whiting Robertsdale Cluster (St. John the Baptist, Whiting, Ind.), effective July 1, 2018.

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Cincinnati C.P.P.S. Newsletter

This newsletter is published monthly by the Cincinnati Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. It is sent to all incorporated members, Companions, Amici and friends of the province upon request. Your input is welcome. Deadline for submissions is the tenth of every month. Email submissions to cppscommunications@gmail.com or mail to C.P.P.S. Cincinnati Newsletter, 431 E. Second St., Dayton, OH 45402-1764, or fax to 937-228-6878

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Business

The mileage rate is \$.545 or 54.5 cents per mile.

**Work is underway
on the 2018 C.P.P.S.
Address Book/
Directory.
Please send changes to
mission@
cpps-preciousblood.org
by September 7.**

Precious Blood Files Available

Files from the Precious Blood Study Weeks, held in 1958, 1960 and 1968, are now available in digital format, thanks to the efforts of Fr. Jerry Stack, C.P.P.S., editor of the C.P.P.S. Resource Series.

Fr. Stack writes, "These study weeks were among the first efforts in the American Province to explore the spirituality of the Blood of Christ. They are part of the common

heritage of both provinces, and as we begin to move toward a new creation, I believe that it is important we be aware of the legacy that has been given to us."

The complete files are available on the Cincinnati Province website, cpps-preciousblood.org/resources-on-our-spirituality.



Fr. Matthew Keller Ordained in Maria Stein

He Thanks Family, Missionaries, for Fostering Vocation

Fr. Matthew Keller, C.P.P.S., was ordained to the priesthood on June 9, 2018, in his home parish of St. John the Baptist in Maria Stein, Ohio. Bishop Joseph Charron, C.P.P.S., a fellow Missionary of the Precious Blood, presided.

In his homily, the bishop commented on the location of the ordination. "Maria Stein has such a wonderful place in the history of our Community," he told the congregation, which had filled the country church to capacity. "After the Missionaries of the Precious Blood came to the United States (in 1844), our Precious Blood fathers, brothers and sisters worked and ministered here. By being ordained here, Matt, you are building on a very powerful tradition of the Precious Blood and the ministry of the Precious Blood."

Bishop Charron told Fr. Keller to be fearless in his new role as a priest and to put all his faith in the God who called him. "God said to Jeremiah, 'To whomever I send you, you will go. Have no fear.' Matthew, on your ordination day, have no fear. Keep close to God, and God will stay close to you," he said. "You are a Missionary of the Precious Blood. You have been chosen to spread the merits of the Precious Blood as part of this Community. . . . With a shepherd's care, you are to be with the people in good times and difficult times—truly be in their midst as a strong but gentle leader, a true shepherd."

Fr. Keller, 29, served as a deacon at Dayton's Region Seven parishes, Emmanuel,



Above, Fr. Matt Keller at his first Mass. Below, making an entrance at a reception after Mass in Maria Stein. (Photos by Jean Giesige)

Holy Trinity and St. Joseph. He will continue to serve there as associate pastor. Fr. Angelo Anthony, C.P.P.S., is the pastor.

Throughout his years of formation with the Missionaries, he also served at St. Michael Church in Kalida, Ohio, and the Church of the Resurrection in Cincinnati. He is a graduate of Marion Local High School in Maria Stein; St. Xavier University in Chicago; and the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where he earned a master of divinity degree.

Fr. Keller, the son of Paul and Carol Keller of Maria Stein, presided at his first Mass at St. John the Baptist on June 10. In his homily, he credited his parents and family members for fostering his religious vocation. (Continued on page 109)

Fredy Campos Ordained a Deacon



Fredy Campos is ordained to the diaconate in Bogotá.

Eduardo Fredy Campos, C.P.P.S., was ordained a transitional deacon on June 2 in Bogotá, Colombia. The ceremony was held in Nuestra Señora de los Alpes (Our Lady of the Alps) Parish, where Missionaries of the Precious Blood of the Colombian mission are in ministry.

Fredy is Peruvian and grew up knowing the Missionaries in ministry in his hometown of La Oroya, Peru.

Presiding was Bishop José (Continued on page 114)

New Creation, New Leadership

Jean Giesige, editor

The Missionaries of the Precious Blood of the Cincinnati Province spent their 2018 assembly thinking about the future: they talked about what they hope to create and become with the Missionaries of the Kansas City Province, and they elected new leadership that they hope will help them get there.

Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S., was elected provincial director. Serving with him on the provincial council will be Fr. Kenneth Schnipke, C.P.P.S., vice provincial director; and Fr. Ben Berinti, C.P.P.S.; Fr. Steve Dos Santos, C.P.P.S.; Fr. Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.; Br. Juan Acuña, C.P.P.S.; and Br. Tom Bohman, C.P.P.S.

"I'm humbled by the call to service," said Fr. Kirch. "I see my role as supporting our members and Companions in their service to the people of God. I'm also looking forward to working with all the members of the province as we move into this new adventure, this new phase of our life, with the Missionaries of the Precious Blood of the Kansas City Province."

Also at the assembly, the province talked about the new creation, which is the ongoing process for it and the Kansas City Province to become one province in the U.S. Members and Companions heard presentations on Tuesday of the assembly, including by Fr. David Kalert, OMI, who was instrumental in the process when five provinces of Oblates

formed one unit, the U.S. Province of the Oblates.

The Oblates had to work through many issues, including differences in policies regarding vacations, stipends and retirement. They had to sort through financial issues.

"Really, there are a lot of details that go into becoming a new province," he said. "But those are administrative things. The key is to stay focused on your ministry."

As with the Missionaries, he said, the Oblates "didn't want a merger—we wanted to be something new. That was very important for us."

After Fr. Kalert's presentation, Missionaries and Companions held small-group discussions in which they talked about their hopes and fears for the new creation. Group leaders gave reports on those discussions.

The new creation presentation also included a talk by former moderator general Fr. Barry Fischer, C.P.P.S., on the history of the C.P.P.S., its spiritual development in recent decades, and its many collaborative efforts over the years that have helped shape and define it as a worldwide community.

The charism of the Community "is alive, it reflows, it takes new forms," he said. "We talk about being creative-



Above, Br. Jerry Schulte congratulates Fr. Jeffrey Kirch after his election as provincial director. Below, Fr. Joe Nassal leads a small-group discussion during the new creation presentation. (Photos by Jean Giesige)

ly faithful to our charism. We want to capture the holiness of St. Gaspar, but let it take forms in response to the needs of today. We're also growing in our appreciation of being an international congregation, growing in our connectedness. We are no longer thinking just within the confines of our provincial structures. . . . We say, 'WE are in India. WE are in Chile. WE are in Poland.' We're family! We're in this together. I like to imagine Missionaries of the Precious Blood as Missionaries without borders. We had to think broader than just where I am located, where I am."

Fr. Kalert, along with Fr.

Larry Hemmelgarn, C.P.P.S., and Fr. Joseph Nassal, C.P.P.S., provincial directors of the Cincinnati and Kansas City Provinces, respectively, took questions about the new creation on Wednesday of the assembly.

Fr. Hemmelgarn said later that the assembly had offered a good opportunity for honest discussion, which creates the foundation for a promising future: "This (new creation) could radically change us, if we really enter into it and put everything on the line," he said. "That doesn't mean we're going to leave all the ministries that we're currently doing. But it does mean that we'll go into the future responding to a vision that we have, that we've developed together."

Fr. Kirch had been asked to write a summary of the new creation presentation. He listed five points that he heard in Tuesday's discussion:

- In its discussion, each small group spoke of moving forward in hope, with the belief that the process is a positive step.
- Every group spoke in some way about the ambiguity of the process, yet every group has faith in the process.
- One of the fears is that there will be nothing new about the new creation. How do we discern the shape of the new creation, to ensure that it is not simply a merger?
- There is a focus on the three pillars of the Community: mission, community life and spirituality.
- Almost all of the groups spoke about a willingness to leave behind ministries, ways of living, ways of thought, etc., in order to respond to the needs of the Church today.

Also at the assembly, 24

Companions made their covenants with the Community, including six new covenants. The covenants were received during a Tuesday evening liturgy.

Fr. Kirch preached the homily at the closing liturgy on Friday, May 25. "Over the past week, we had the chance to think about our future in North America and how we can be even more effective in our parishes and ministry sites, but also minister to people we have not encountered yet," he said in his homily. "The entire week was devoted to reflecting on our future and electing

our brothers who can help shepherd us toward that. But we don't do it alone. We are standing on the shoulders of the people who have served this Community before us. Our future is built on the sturdy foundation of the past decades.

"We are people who are possessed: possessed with the love of God. Let us recommit ourselves to having the fire of the charism of the Precious Blood burn in our hearts so that we can go out and amaze those we meet with what we know the world needs: the love of God that we proclaim."



Jubilarians Honored, Leadership Installed During Feast of the Precious Blood Liturgy

Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn, C.P.P.S., having completed two terms as provincial director, installs the new council during the celebration of the Feast of the Precious Blood at St.

Charles Center, Carthage, Ohio, on July 2. From left are members of the newly elected council: Brs. Tom Bohman and Juan Acuña; and Frs. Steve Dos Santos, Ken Schnipke, Jeffrey

Kirch (who presided at the Mass), Ben Berinti and Tim McFarland.

Below, the jubilarians who were present for the celebration, from left, seated, Frs. James McCabe, Leonard Kostka and Tom Beischel; standing, Frs. Clarence Williams, Yuri Kuzara, Don Thieman, Rick Friebe, Joe Uecker, Tom Hemm; Br. Tim Hemm; Frs. Mike Volkmer, Vince Hoying and Dennis Schaab.



What Do I Do Now?

Retirement Resets the Rules and Leads to a Time of Contemplation, Perhaps Reinvention

(Editor's note: Following is the text of a homily preached by Fr. James Franck, C.P.P.S., during the May 22 liturgy at the provincial assembly.)

James Franck, C.P.P.S.

Those of you who know me, know that I enjoy riding my bicycle. Over the years, I've traveled 75,000 miles on different bikes.

Six weeks ago, I had a flat tire on my bike so I took it to the shop and had them replace both tires. Then I had a flat tire on my car, so I took it in so they could look at that one tire, and ended up replacing all four. Then Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn called to tell me, "Jim, as of July 1, you are officially retired."

Retirement is scary. I'd always had my identity based on the things I did: teacher, pastor, senior associate. Now what? I'm retired. What do I do?

In lots of ways, it's similar to the questions that we as a Community are looking at. What do we do now? How do we carry on? What's expected of me? How does it look? What do I do?

In Luke 4: 17-21, we hear that Jesus opened the scroll of the prophet Isaiah and read, "The spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. . ." It says that when Jesus opened the scroll, all the people looked intently at him. They were expecting something, and he delivered, but maybe not in the way that

everyone expected. In a lot of ways, that's what St. Gaspar did. There were no rules for him to follow; he had to make his own rules. He had to figure it out. He had to ask himself, "What are people expecting of me as a priest?" How did he figure it out?

When you no longer have anything by which you can be identified, what do you do? I think I'm going to spend the first six months looking out the window. That's the way Jesus did it. That's the way St. Gaspar did it: by being present to who people were at that moment. We need to do the same thing. We learn that by rolling out the scriptures for ourselves.

If you are a priest, like me, and you have to preach every Sunday, you start looking at the Sunday readings on Monday. What does this say to me? What do I see in myself that I like, that I feel good about today? Where did that happen, and what was it about? What was a waste of time? Where was I left empty?

Somehow (during the discussion on the new creation), as I looked at the questions we were struggling with, I had this revelation: If we walk out of here after these discussions and that's the end of it, that would be a waste. But if we go forward each day, and look at what's really going on in our lives, and try to see where God is calling me, whatever it is, toward that which gives me joy, toward that which gives me peace, then we can say at the end of the day, "I'm glad I took



Fr. Jim Franck at the assembly.

the time for that." And that has to come from inside us.

That's why Gaspar was successful. He understood that he had to listen to God speaking to him. God speaks to all of us. We each need to look carefully at who we are. What gives us joy? What drives us from the inside? What is useless? What is a waste of time?

Being retired is a fearful thing. It's also a calling. A call to stop, look out the window, see what's going on, go on to the next day, follow Jesus, have your heart open to listening and receiving what so many people want to receive, which is love. It's who Jesus is. It's who Gaspar is. It's who we are. Even if you're retired.



Amici Reunion Planned for 2019

According to Amicus and Companion Bob Kaiser, an Amici reunion is in the works for August or September 2019. Stay tuned for more details.

Room for All at the Community Table

Body and Blood of Christ Unite Us, Lead Us Forward

(Editor's note: Following is an abridged version of the homily preached by Fr. John Wolf, C.P.P.S., associate director of Companions, during the May 23 liturgy at the Cincinnati Province assembly.)

John Wolf, C.P.P.S.

I have often made the connection between what we do together here at the sacred liturgy with my mother and the big farmhouse kitchen on our place east of Minster. She loved that kitchen where she worked her magic: preparing meals, canning vegetables and fruit, baking bread and the best apple pies.

There was no granite countertop or nice wooden cabinets, but there was a big kitchen table. The kitchen was where she would entertain family and friends. Next to the window was an old rocking chair. Mom would sometimes sit there, rocking the little ones. Dad would sit there in the evenings, listening to the weather forecast on the radio, hoping for a good day to cut the hay. Later, when my grandmother could no longer stay in her own home, Mom took her in, and that rocking chair was her place.

What my mother was creating in her kitchen around the big table was more than meals. For her, creating food was about creating family and community, and a place where

we always felt safe and secure.

Things are taking a new turn in our provincial assemblies this year. Our time together has been about envisioning, re-imagining as a missionary congregation needed for our times. It's not so much about what we will "do" together, but how we will BE together: members and Companions talking about a common mission.

I imagine that over the next months and years, we will find ourselves coming together around many tables, for dialogue and sharing, for community building, and yes, for meals too.

But it is this table of Eucharist...of remembering, and thanksgiving, and communion in the Body and Blood of Christ that will best unite us, and lead us forward to a new creation, reminding us that we all come with the same outer garment. We all wear Christ, and that's what draws us together: our baptism in Christ.

The mystery we remember and celebrate here is one of "dying and rising," a life given so something new can be born in us. There is nothing static about the presence of the Risen Christ. His Spirit is living, active and moving within us.

As people of the Precious Blood—professed members and those in formation, Companions and those in discernment—we are people of covenant in the Blood of Christ. We may not be sprinkled with blood as in the days of Moses, but we all carry a mark within us, as our hearts and lives



Fr. John Wolf (far left) greets Companions as they renew their covenants.

(Photo by Jean Giesige)

are stained with the Blood of Christ.

Having so many of our lay Companions here at this liturgy gives us a truer picture of our Congregation as we move into the future: priests, deacons, brothers, lay associates, those in formation, not to forget a small but strong presence of our Precious Blood volunteers. All of us being transformed for a common mission, Gaspar's vision of a thousand tongues, proclaiming the truth of Christ's Precious Blood, witnesses of the Good News, what God has always desired, that no one, NO ONE, ever feels that he or she is beyond being loved, cared for, and saved! No exceptions!

Companions, whether a long time, or more recent in your relationship with our Congregation, entering your first covenant or renewing, my hope is that when you come to this hallowed place, and mingle with those of us who have professed our lives in this Community as followers of Gaspar, that you feel most welcome to
(Continued on page 109)

Building, Grounds Committee Formed

Committee Will Review the Needs of Province Properties

Tom Doorley

At its March meeting, the provincial council formed a building and grounds committee to serve the province.

Members of the committee are Tom Doorley, controller for the Cincinnati Province and committee chair; Br. Joe Fisher, C.P.P.S., provincial treasurer; Amy Day, St. Charles Center facility director; Br. Nick Renner, C.P.P.S.; Fr. Dennis Chriszt, C.P.P.S.; Mike Hemmelgarn, head of maintenance at St. Charles Center; Fr. Scott Kramer, C.P.P.S.; and Brad Garmann, principal and founder of Garmann/Miller Architects and Engineers of Minster, Ohio.

The Cincinnati Province has a number of facilities that require long-term strategic planning for their maintenance in order to effectively address the financial costs involved. The purpose of this committee is fourfold:

1. To identify the maintenance needs of the buildings and the grounds for which the province is responsible.
2. Compile a calendar/schedule for when repairs/improvements are expected to be needed for those who work on the budgets for each of the locations.
3. Provide a rough estimate on cost for each project.
4. Provide guidance and leadership on major projects.

The building and grounds committee held its first meeting

at St. Charles Center on May 25.

Members introduced themselves and reviewed the purpose of the committee. They discussed that the committee would be advisors to the Provincial Council concerning any major projects. It will maintain a master "living" document of all projects within the Cincinnati Province. This document will provide provincial council members a quick overview of current and historical projects, their cost and timeline of proj-

ects completed.

The sites that represent major assets in the province include St. Charles Center, the Sorrowful Mother Shrine and the Drexel House in Chicago. The assets include buildings, grounds (farmland), parking lots, sidewalks, shrines, etc.

The committee will also study the window project at St. Charles Center.

If you have any suggestions for the committee, please contact me at provfinance@cpps-preciousblood.org.

Settling in at St. James the Less U.S. Assignment is a Way of Paying Back

Antonio Baus, C.P.P.S.

For those of you who don't know me, let me introduce myself. I was born in Santiago, Chile, into a family of Spanish immigrants. Both of my parents were born in a small medieval town near Barcelona. They went with their respective families to work and make a living in Chile, at the end of the Spanish



Fr. Baus

Civil War on my mother's side, and in the early 1950s on my father's side. My parents didn't know each other until they met in Chile. Later, they were married there. I am the oldest of four brothers. I also have four nieces and three nephews, all grown now. My parents are still alive and, thanks be to God, they are in good health.

On July 1, I celebrated the 32nd anniversary of my ordination. I tell you, time has really gone fast. During my time in ministry in Chile, I had the joy of serving my religious community as a parochial vicar and pastor at three different parishes, rural and in the inner city. I have also served as rector of an upper middle class school in Santiago with 850 students. I served at the school for two terms, split by six years when I was formator of seminarians.

Some years back, my religious community in Chile has asked me to serve as director, and later on, as you know, I served on the provincial council here in the United States. Being part of the council for the past four years, I came to realize there was a need for a bilingual priest at St. James the Less in Columbus. The chances of finding somebody in the U.S. (Continued on page 107)

Time for Discussion Among Members Only

The Conversation Is Different With Companions Present

Matthew Keller, C.PP.S.

The subtitle to an article by Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn, C.PP.S., in the May issue of the *Cincinnati C.PP.S. Newsletter* was "A New Creation Will Require Honesty, Engagement." I wholeheartedly believe that if the new creation is going to work, honest communication needs to happen among the incorporated members.

I think that every incorporated member hopes that the new creation will revitalize our community life and attract young men to join our community. In order for this to happen, I believe that the incorporated members and possibly those men in formation from both provinces need to have a conversation about our hopes, dreams, and fears for the new creation.

As a Community, we have

had some good, hope-filled conversations about the new creation. These conversations took place at our meeting in Techny, Ill., and at our recent provincial assembly. The problem that I have with both of these conversations is that Companions were a part of the conversation. Do not get me wrong, I like the Companions and think they add a lot to our Community life, but when they are a part of the conversation, they change the level of the incorporated members' honesty and our sharing.

The reality of the new creation is that it is likely to have a much greater impact on the incorporated members than it will on Companions. We flirt with line of saying that a Companion is equal to an incorporated member. But at the end of the day, we are not. An incorporated member's commitment and a Companion's commitment to the Community is not the same. An incorporated member has committed his whole life to the Community

and a Companion is in a one-year to three-year commitment to the Community.

Therefore, I propose our next conversation on the new creation includes only incorporated members and those men in formation.



We offer *The Forum* for *Newsletter* readers to share their views on topics related to faith. The opinions printed here are those of individuals and are not necessarily shared by the province. We invite others to respond to these essays, or write on topics of their own, but we ask that all submissions share a tone of respect for the Church, for our Community, and for each other. Submissions should be limited to 1,000 words.

Send submissions to cppscommunications@gmail.com or to Editor Jean Giesige, 431 E. Second St., Dayton, OH 45402-1764.

Settling in at St. James the Less

(Continued from page 106)

were scarce, so I decided it was time to volunteer. You see, I am at a point in my life where I know I am not a spring chicken anymore—but I'm also not an old rooster yet, to say the least, so why not take up this challenge in my life?

St. James the Less celebrated its 70th anniversary in

2017. Both the Chilean Vicariate of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood and St. James the Less were founded in the very same year, 1947. It is a historical connection that was not lost on me. To come this far from my country and lend a hand as best I can, is a small gesture of a payback for the work of the dozens of Mission-

aries from the U.S. who spent a good part of their younger years serving the Chilean Church.

As I begin this new journey in my life, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the warm welcome I have already received from you.



Our Brokenness Brings Us Together

Even Jesus Bore The Marks of His Crucifixion

Dave Kelly, C.P.P.S.

To be honest, the title of this article was going to be "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly," a take-off of the old Clint Eastwood film. It was what I was feeling at the time. Frankly, there are times when the joy of this work is eclipsed by the pain and disappointment. There are days that are very good and filled with amazement and joy. Other days are a challenge to see through the darkness to the other side.

June 2 was one of those good days. Cardinal Blase Cupich of the Archdiocese of Chicago came into the juvenile detention center to celebrate the confirmation and first communion of six young men. His pastoral style and generosity of time spoke of his dedication to those who so often have been judged unworthy of our care or concern. The glow on the faces of their mothers and fathers spoke of their pride and joy. The cardinal saw what so few others claim to see: children of God.

As he did the last time, he gave each of the six young men a cross. The cardinal explained to the young men that these crosses had been blessed by

Pope Francis and were his gift to them on this special day.

June 6 was a bad day. Olu, one of the youth who is at the center each day, was shot three times. He survived because a police officer arrived on the scene before the ambulance could get there and put a tourniquet around his leg. The main artery was severed and without the officer's quick thinking, Olu would have bled to death. Today, however, Olu has to try to deal with the aftermath, the trauma that he carries.

As I spoke to Olu, he told me that he didn't want to go home. The shooting happened right in front of his house. We spoke about fear mixed with anger. He looked at me, holding back the tears, and talked about the flashbacks he was having. He said that he couldn't sleep because of the nightmares. My heart broke looking at him with the multiple gunshot wounds that marked his body.

The after-the-storm, as Shelly Rambo calls it, is the trauma that remains. I can see this on faces of the youth and the staff who try to accompany them, even as they carry their own hurt and trauma. There is high tension in the air and it can look ugly at times.

Bryan Stevenson, lawyer and author, says, "You can't effectively fight abusive power, poverty, inequality, illness, oppression or injustice and not be broken by it." He goes on to say that being broken is what makes us human. He says that our brokenness is the

source of our common humanity. Our shared vulnerability and imperfection nurture and sustain our capacity for compassion. While he may not use the terminology, he is speaking of the spirituality that holds the ministry of reconciliation. To embrace the hope of a new creation, even as you hold the pain and suffering.

Certainly, it is evident to mothers who have lost children to homicide or incarceration. While they come from different backgrounds and life experiences, the brokenness that they experience brings them together in a way that I don't think could happen otherwise. It is precisely in their woundedness that they find a common bond.

Embracing the brokenness within our own lives opens up the possibility of embracing those who suffer around us. When we deny our own pain, we deny a part of our humanity, and we embark on a road that does not allow us to see the humanity of others.

Perhaps that is why Jesus returned bearing the marks of the crucifixion. He knew that without the marks, he would be seen as a ghost or somehow untouchable.

Jesus came to share in our humanity. His suffering and death allowed him to be fully human and allowed us to have an intimate relationship with our God.

While I long for more good days than bad, I do recognize that my suffering and pain allow me to share more fully in the humanity of my brothers and sisters. For that, I am grateful.



Precious Blood
Ministry of Reconciliation



Salt and Light Series offered at St. Charles

Series to Explore Catholic Social Teaching

Colleen Kammer

Our Church has a rich treasure of teachings about how to build a just society and live holy lives amid societal challenges and crises. These teachings are based on the life and words of Jesus Christ, who identified himself with “the least of these,” the hungry and the stranger (Matthew 25: 45).

Catholic social teaching is an essential element of our faith, inseparable from our understanding of human life and dignity. Each person, created in the image of God, is precious and deserving of respect, dignity and the ability to live his or her calling to the fullest extent possible.

In 1891, Pope Leo XIII wrote *Rerum novarum*, about the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Since that time, numerous other papal, Vatican and bishops’ documents have been written. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ *Communities of Salt and Light: Reflections on the Social Mission of the Church* provides a roadmap for how Catholic social teaching and mission can be integrated into parish and family life, so that our faith communities can be salt and light for building up God’s kingdom on earth.

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati’s Catholic social action office will present a five-part series, “Salt and Light: A Transformative Journey into Catholic Social Teaching,” beginning Thursday, September 13, 6:30–9 p.m. at St. Charles Center in

Carthagen, Ohio. The series continues on September 20 and 27, October 4 and 11. Cost is \$25, which includes light refreshments, all materials and admission to the Archdiocese’ “Distinguished Speaker” musical event at Maria Stein Shrine on September 20.

The deadline for registration is August 30. To register, contact Tom Kueterman with the St. Marys Deanery at 419-925-5022 or smdeanery@bright.net. The first 10 people receive free registration. A flyer describing the series is available at stmarysdeanery.com.

For those who don’t live

near St. Charles, inquire with your diocese to see if a Salt and Light program is available for your parish, or explore the numerous books written about Catholic social teaching. As missionary disciples, our responsibility to the Catholic social mission must be nurtured and strengthened in our spiritual lives. We can then have greater courage to reach out and to build relationships of love and justice.

(Colleen Kammer is the coordinator of peace, justice and ecology for the Cincinnati Province.)



Fr. Matt Keller

(Continued from page 101)

He also thanked the Missionaries, who minister at the parish and at nearby St. Charles Center, for encouraging him on his path.

In his first homily as a priest, Fr. Keller said, “On a weekend like this, the temptation is to say ‘It’s all about me.’ . . . Last year before I was ordained a deacon, Fr. Dennis Chriszt, C.P.P.S. (the director of advanced formation), gave me some words of wisdom. He said, ‘It’s not all about you. It’s about how God is working through you.’ I am just an instrument through whom God is working.

“God called me to the priesthood. But God calls each and every one of us. He doesn’t call each and every one of us to do the same thing. He calls us to do a variety of different things, on different paths and in the various stages of our lives.

“When each of us responds to our call, we create a beautiful picture of what our Church is.”



Room for All

(Continued from page 105)
the table. You should feel most welcome at the Eucharist, to be sure, but also at all the tables where we assemble as Community: meeting rooms, mission houses, renewal centers, hotels, backyard barbecues and places of quiet retreat. If you think you come as visitors, think that way no longer. Our relationship goes deeper.

The commitment you make in your covenant gives us renewed hope that there can be something new on the horizon for all of us. May the Word and sacrament and covenant that we celebrate together draw us all near in the Blood of Christ.



Entrusted with a Ministry of Service

(Continued from page 99)

will be the last provincial director of the Cincinnati Province, as the new creation province moves forward. It's a bright prospect for him.

"We're moving forward in hope," he said. "We don't necessarily know exactly how all the pieces will fit together. But we know, in faith, that we're called to discern how we can best be Missionaries of the Precious Blood and Companions moving into these next decades. What it looks like and what it means, I don't know. But I foresee a reinvigoration of our mission. With the resources we have in our spirituality, our richly diverse people, and our supportive community life, I think we have a bright future in North America."

Meanwhile, he knows there is a great deal to do within the Cincinnati Province, work that cannot wait. "I see the responsibility of the provincial director and the council in two main areas, both vitally important. We have to do everything we can to ensure that the new creation process is positive and keeps moving forward. But we have a responsibility as a leadership team, even inside the new creation process, to be proactive in the growth of the province, and by that I don't just mean vocations. We have to continue to do our best to embody our spirituality throughout all of our ministry sites.

"There are so many things that the provincial director has to react to, that often leadership doesn't get to be proactive. But we have to be proactive, and not just react. While the new

creation process is going on, that doesn't mean everything else is on hold. We need to think about new ways of ministering, new ideas, new places—while at the same time tending to the responsibilities that we have now."

That also applies to the units in Latin America that are now part of the Cincinnati Province but may become a province of their own. The relationship between north and south is important, though, and must be sustained. "During my time as secretary general I interacted with the units in Latin America," he said. "I look forward to growing those relationships over the next few years."

All those responsibilities will be his as he takes on a role that can be hard to explain to anyone outside of a religious community. "It just doesn't compare to any corporate job—it doesn't translate to CEO," he said. "It's a very multi-dimensional position, just like being a pastor is multi-dimensional. But people understand what a pastor does—and while a pastor is also a leader, this position is different from being a pastor."

"Leadership is a vital ministry in the Church. I see it as a service: service to the province, service to the Church, to the people of God. Leadership for me is really about looking at



Fr. Jeffrey Kirch takes the oath of fidelity during his installation as provincial director on July 2.

"Leadership for me is really about looking at how I can do my best to help others do their best."

— Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S.

how I can do my best to help others do their best."

Right now, he needs to lead himself back to Dayton and get set up for life there. He'll be living at the former C.P.P.S. formation house on the grounds of Precious Blood Parish in Dayton. It's a homecoming of sorts, since when he was in initial formation, he lived with members and candidates in the parish rectory. He plans to retrieve furniture from Schwieterman House on the campus of Saint Joseph's College, where he spent his undergrad years and is a former member of the faculty and administration.

Of course, he'll be coming from a place where history is layered as far down as anyone can dig. He'll miss living in Rome, he said, though he was prepared to say goodbye to the Eternal City in 2019, at the end of this term of the general
(Continued on page 114)



Missionaries Report

NEWS FROM OUR
MISSION HOUSES

Pilgrimages Enliven Parish Life

Angelo Anthony, C.P.P.S.

It has been seven years since the parishes of Emmanuel, St. Joseph and Holy Trinity were joined together in a pastoral region under one pastor.

*In Our
Parishes*



strengthen their witness and voice. Since the inauguration of our pastoral region, we have seen several groups grow and thrive through their collaborative efforts.

Once such group has been the health ministries commission of our pastoral region. What was once a group that focused on offering blood pressure checks and conversations on personal health during coffee and donuts has grown to sponsor blood drives, talks on living wills, Lenten pilgrimages and, most recently, a Heritage Day.

Several years ago, the commission came up with the idea of sponsoring a Lenten pilgrimage that connected the health of the body with the spiritual journey. The most likely time to sponsor this project was in Lent because most of us are willing to do something special during this season.

For the last three years, we

One of the joys of seeing this community of faith grow has been through the various committees in the parishes that have pooled their efforts to

have participated in a “pilgrimage” to different parts of the world. A map charting our journey is displayed in church with a total mileage goal. Each Sunday a different geographic location is featured with a description of the site and, if possible, a photo. As we make our pilgrimage, parishioners are invited to keep track of their exercise activity for the week and to drop their totals into the display basket. Fifteen minutes of exercise equals one mile. In our first year, which happened to be the bicentennial of the C.P.P.S., we journeyed through Italy and visited various sights important to St. Gaspar. A spiritual message is assigned to each week, giving us something to reflect upon as we exercise.

Last year we highlighted the various missions of the province in Central and South America with a pilgrimage goal of 8,816 miles. We increased participation by earning miles either through physical exercise or spiritual activities. For example, daily Mass, the rosary, Stations of the Cross or the sacrament of reconciliation each equaled five miles. Adding the spiritual miles really increased our numbers!

This year we expanded our pilgrimage to include both the Lenten and Easter season. We highlighted the Precious Blood ministry sites in Africa with a total pilgrimage goal of 14,774. The commission researches each site then shares information on how the congregations dedicated to the Precious Blood are responding to the cry and

call of the Blood. I’m happy to report that this year we exceeded our goal with a total of 16,881 miles! The beauty of this project is that it is something everyone can participate in and grow in mind, body and spirit.

Another project the health ministries commission sponsored was a Heritage Day on April 7. Since all three of our parishes have a rich tradition dating back to 1837, the commission wanted to encourage parishioners to be aware of their family histories, not only from the standpoint of medical history but also to learn about one’s ancestors using Catholic Sacramental records. Baptism, marriage and death registers are a rich source of information for collecting one’s family history.

The main speaker was Sarah Patterson, archivist for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. Sarah noted that sacramental records are available to researchers from the archdiocese and can provide information that civil records often lack. Several families from our parishes were highlighted with Sarah presenting information related to these founding families. Each parish and the Knights of Columbus set up a table of artifacts; several ethnic organizations from the German, Italian and Irish culture also offered information. Sarah was excited to be a part of our day and hoped the idea would spread to other parishes so that more people would become aware of the rich historical resources within their local diocese.

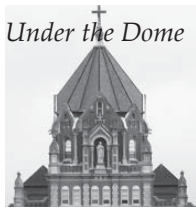
Let us know if you would

like any further information on either of these projects. The health ministries commission would be happy to share its notes.

New Residents At St. Charles

Joseph Hinders, C.P.P.S.

July is memorable for many reasons. It's the midpoint of the year, we celebrate Independence Day and the Feast of the Precious Blood. At our May assembly, we elected a



new provincial council. Its members pledged their service during our celebration of the

Feast of the Precious Blood on July 2. Jubilarians also celebrated their anniversaries, led by Fr. Leonard Kostka, C.P.P.S., and his 78 years of service! The Kansas City and Cincinnati Provinces celebrated jubilees together, getting a feel for the new creation.

July is also the occasion for changes and new assignments. C.P.P.S. Frs. Jim Sloan and Jim Franck came to St. Charles on July 1, as did Br. Tim Cahill, C.P.P.S. Fr. Frankline Rayappa, C.P.P.S., began his pastorate at St. Augustine Church in Minster, Ohio; and Fr. Antonio Baus, C.P.P.S., began as pastor at St. James the Less Church, Columbus. Fr. Matt Keller, C.P.P.S., newly ordained, is in ministry at Region Seven parishes in downtown Dayton.

Moving into Saint Charles Senior Center were Jay and Lois Hogenkamp and Patricia Sampson. Pat's aunt, Maurita Bergman, has been a Saint Charles resident since 2012.

Nearly five inches of rainfall in June spurred on the corn and soybean crops, which Br. Nick Renner, C.P.P.S., calls exceptional. He has kept the edges of the creeks and lagoons mowed, and done extra repairs on our silos and barns. A large crane (cherry picker) from Bruns Construction made this possible. A 4-H club from north central California visited us at the end of June. The kids got a VIP tour from Fr. Tom Hemm, C.P.P.S., and Br. Nick. They were amazed how green everything was!

Bishop Joseph Binzer traditionally presides at a "farm mass" each summer for the northern deanery. This year it was celebrated at the farm of Doug and Sarah Franck. They live in the shadow of St. Charles and recently decided to become C.P.P.S. Companions.

Many Reasons For a Shrine Visit

Maureen McDonnell

Pope Francis has been directing the Catholic Church to promote and value popular religiosity, which every year sees millions of pilgrims flocking to shrines to entrust themselves and their loved ones to the Virgin Mary and the saints. Such time-honored grassroots devotion, Francis said, is a genuine form of spreading the faith.



"In the shrines, in fact, our people live a deep spirituality, that of the piety that through

centuries has reflected the faith with simple but very meaningful devotions." Francis said.

The Missionaries of the Precious Blood have been serving pilgrims here at the Sorrowful Mother Shrine since 1850. Over a period of a couple of months, I asked various pilgrims what was of interest to them at this shrine. Here are their responses:

When Bishop Daniel Thomas of the Diocese of Toledo was asked what he enjoyed about coming to the shrine, he responded, "What a blessing!"

Three sisters came for the weekday Mass. "It's so beautiful and so peaceful. I love the priests. I love the church. It's small and personal. I love the outdoor Stations of the Cross where you can go to each one and pray."

"I had my brother from Kentucky bring me to see the plaque that I had put up. I live about an hour away and can't get around anymore by myself."

A gentleman stated, "I love to go to confession here. I live about five miles away and like to come here because it is available every day."

A young mother said, "I want to instill and build a faith foundation at a young age for my children. It's not easy with three little ones ages five and under. I like to answer their questions and talk to them about the saints whose statues are here. Also, to tell them the different names of the Mary statues."

Another mother revealed, "I like to let my children run and skip along the paths and get their energy out in this setting instead of going to a park. It provides a better environment with beautiful scenery and faith-filled images."

"I like to bird watch."

Two sisters who came for a visit responded, "I feel very close to Mary here. It is peaceful and one can reflect on one's life. It is beautiful! Mary leads us to Jesus and I feel that and do not doubt it. Nature makes you realize that there is a God."

"I enjoy the flowers and learn from the various arrangements. I like to take pictures and show them to my brother who owns a landscaping business. This helps him with ideas too!"

"I come every day to Mass at 11 a.m. It is the perfect time and it is something I feel I need to be close to Jesus in an intimate way. It helps me to have his mind and thoughts."

Several stated that they remember coming to the shrine as a child with their parents and relatives. Coming from near and far they would spend the day praying and picnicking. Many would stop by on the way to Lake Erie.

One commented that she searched the internet for a shrine that would make a good day trip for her and her husband to celebrate their 47th wedding anniversary. They wanted to spend the whole day together. They were happy to be able to go to daily Mass and to receive a ride on the golf cart to see the grottoes in the far end of the woods.

Various groups will come to the shrine to take wedding, prom, or family pictures. Some become engaged at one of the grottoes.

An elderly couple who drives here from Akron replied, "We have a Mass said here every year on the anniversary of our daughter's death and have since 2012. We also come for other visits. We put a plaque out in the memorial walkway

in her memory. We'll celebrate 57 years of marriage soon!"

One lady was sitting alone in the chapel one day, writing in a journal. She said she likes to come on the days she has a long lunch and sit with Jesus. It helps her put her life in perspective.

I've noticed that some of the locals like to put on their tennis shoes and walk briskly around the paths. I asked one why she chooses to come here and she said that it is exercise for the body, mind, and spirit.

(Maureen McDonnell is a lay resident of the Mary Lay Center at the Sorrowful Mother Shrine.)

Purple Tie Event Raises \$100,000

Tim Hemm, C.P.P.S.

It seems that the dog days of summer have arrived early here at Saint Joseph's College! We have already had our share of days over 90 degrees. Thankfully, we've also received some very welcome rains. The crops look good. As a result of these last showers, the mosquitoes have made their appearance. Some of them are growing as quickly as the crops.



In 1911 iron workers from Iowa erected the college water tower, which has served us well since. In June, the status of the water tower was changed from being a very important



Fr. Barry Fischer, left, and Br. Tim Hemm at SJC's Purple Tie event.

part of the daily life of the campus to becoming an iconic landmark. We are now on city water! There are some tweaks to be made on the water system, but as of now, the water that comes out of our faucets comes from the city of Rensselaer. Many thanks to the physical plant guys for their hard and often-times muddy work with this project.

The Phoenix team continues to work on preparations to move SJC ahead in partnership with Marian University. Team members have taken part in multiple meetings in Indianapolis. A lot of our SJC business has been conducted via conference calls. With all the work that we've been doing here, there is still no bank settlement. We hope and pray that it will come soon.

Meanwhile, Bill Hogan continues to visit with alumni across the country and beyond to keep the fires of hope burning. On June 9, Bill and his Purple Tie committee presented our first annual Purple Tie Dinner at the nearby Farmhouse Restaurant. Mike Ditka, coach of the 1985 Super Bowl champion Chicago Bears, was the guest speaker. He shared many memories from his time spent here in Rensselaer when

the Bears trained on our campus.

In addition to a good meal, there were both silent and live auctions that increased the funds raised to \$100,000. These funds will be used to renovate Schwietermann House, which will be the residence hall for the first group of on-campus students. Those who took part in this event celebrated a very enjoyable evening, and it was quickly determined that it should be an annual event.

And so we continue to move ahead day by day, hoping to move on soon to phase two. We are looking forward to the time when we can gather alumni and friends together again in the chapel to thank God for all the blessings we continue to receive. St. Joseph, pray for us!

Have a great rest of the summer.

Entrusted

(Continued from page 110)

council. "Living in the city of Rome is an adventure in and of itself," he said. "It's a chaotic city, but for someone who enjoys history, it was a wonderful place to be for four years."

Now it's time to think about the present and the future. As provincial, he'll not only lead the province but get to know it and everyone in it on a deeper level than he can now imagine. "One of the statutory requirements for the provincial director is to meet with each members at least once during his term. I look forward to that," he said. It's all part of having said yes to what was definitely not a rhetorical question.



Condolences from the C.P.P.S.

The prayers and sympathy of the Precious Blood family are extended to:

The family of Companion **Eileen Kohls** (Putnam County, Ohio), who died May 22.

The family of **Lois Clous**, who died May 24. Lois is survived by her husband Francis. She was the aunt of Fr. Bill Beuth, C.P.P.S.

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the family of **Fr. John Bensman**, who died on May 25. Fr. Bensman was a long-time resident of St. Charles Center.

The family of **Ivory Foster**, who died May 31. Mrs. Foster was the mother and mother-in-law of Companions Walter and Louise Napier (Cleveland Western Reserve).

The family of **Susan D. (Miller) Rollyson**, who died June 4. Susan was the sister of Companion Ron Miller (Marywood, Ohio).

The Italian Province and the family of **Fr. Evaldo Biasini**,

C.P.P.S., who died on June 11.

The Teutonic Province and the family of **Fr. Michael Rohde, C.P.P.S.**, who died on June 17.

The family of Amicus **John Wanner**, who died on June 27. Survivors include his son, Companion Tim Wanner (Carthegena, Ohio) and his brother, Amicus Tom Wanner.

The family of **John Glenski**, who was a Companion inquirer (Liberty, Mo.). Mr. Glenski died on July 10. Survivors include his wife, Mary Ann, also a Companion inquirer.

Fredy

(Continued from page 101)

Daniel Falla, the bishop of Soacha, Colombia, and an old friend of the Congregation.

A reception followed, with a meal prepared by parishioners. All enjoyed the festivities.



Community Calendar

August 15: Anniversary of the founding of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

August 18: Temporary incorporation of Gregory Evers, 2 p.m. liturgy at St. Charles Center, Carthegena, Ohio.

August 27: First day of traditional undergraduate classes,

Calumet College of St. Joseph, Whiting, Ind.

August 30: "Salt and Light" series registration deadline. See page 109 for details.

September 6: First day of classes, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago.

The C.P.P.S. major superiors request that all members and lay associates pray each month for a different unit of the Congregation.

July: Teutonic Province

August: Italian Province

Days of Praise

Celebrating Special Days
With C.P.P.S. Members

Celebrating Birthdays In August

- 2 Fr. George Kuzara
- 3 Br. Jerome Schulte
- 9 Fr. Angelmiro Granados
- 11 Fr. Miguel Soto Macias
- 12 Oscar Eduardo Quiroz Narajo
- 15 Fr. William Beuth
- 17 Fr. Jeffrey Keyes
Fr. James Gaynor
- 19 Fr. Joseph Brown
Fr. Robert Kunisch
- 22 Fr. William Hoyng
- 24 Fr. Scott Kramer
- 29 Fr. Felipe Caal Coy
- 30 Eduardo Fredy Campos Toribio
- 31 Br. Timothy Hemm

Celebrating Birthdays In September

- 1 Fr. Arnoldo Tun Hor
- 3 Fr. José Luis Gatica Barreno
- 6 Fr. Jerome Stack
- 7 Fr. Claudio Varas Arriagada
- 9 Fr. Victor Navichoc Menchú
- 10 Fr. Eugene Schnipke
- 11 Fr. Barry Fischer
- 18 Jeovanny Campos
- 19 Fr. Robert Conway
- 20 Fr. Andrew O'Reilly
- 21 Fr. Ralph Verdi
Fr. Mark Hoyng
- 22 Fr. Thomas Hemm
- 27 Fr. Wilfredo Garcia Cuya



*Happy birthday,
Fr. Bill Beuth*



*Happy birthday,
Fr. Jerry Stack*

Celebrating Anniversaries In August

- 13 Br. Antonio Sison
- 15 Br. Juan Acuña González
Br. Joseph Fisher
Br. James Ballmann
Br. Benjamin Basile
Br. Timothy Hemm
Br. Paul Chase
Br. Nicholas Renner
Br. Theophane Woodall
Br. Jerome Schulte
Fr. Joseph Brown
- 16 Fr. Angelmiro Granados
Fr. Donald Davison
- 19 Br. Brian Boyle
- 29 Br. Matthew Schaefer

Celebrating Anniversaries In September

- 8 Br. Daniel Eisenman
Fr. Leonard Kostka
- 13 Br. Charles McCafferty
Br. Robert Reuter
- 18 Fr. James Miller



*Happy birthday,
Br. Tim Hemm*



Please pray for Gregory John Evers
who will be temporarily incorporated on
August 18, 2018. He's shown here with Fr.
Keith Branson, C.P.P.S., one of his formators.

Please Pray Every Day for a Missionary of the Precious Blood

Missionaries of the Precious Blood of the Cincinnati Province are in ministries of prayer, preaching, teaching, parish work and other apostolates, following their call to serve God's people. Please support them in prayer each day, lifting them up for God's blessing.

Prayer suggestion: O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name), act in him, speak in him and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own dispositions and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul, take over his entire personality and life. Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving, pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always. Amen.

AUGUST PRAYER LIST

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Br. Gregory Frantz | 17. Fr. John Herber |
| 2. Fr. Rick Friebe | 18. Fr. Antonio José Hernandez Vásquez |
| 3. Fr. Diego Gallardo | 19. Pray for those in formation |
| 4. Fr. Wilfredo Garcia Cuya | 20. Fredy Enrique Herrera Maestre |
| 5. Pray for vocations | 21. Fr. Joseph Hinders |
| 6. Fr. José Luis Gatica Barreno | 22. Fr. David Hoying |
| 7. Fr. James Gaynor | 23. Fr. John Hoying |
| 8. Fr. Philip Gilbert | 24. Fr. Mark Hoying |
| 9. Carlos Eduardo Gomez | 25. Fr. William Hoyng |
| 10. Fr. Jorge Gomez Villegas | 26. For living and deceased Companions and Amici |
| 11. Fr. Juan Gonzalez | 27. Br. Joseph Mary Hrezo |
| 12. For living and deceased C.P.P.S. members | 28. Nairo Idrobo Jacanamejoy |
| 13. Fr. Angelmiro Granados Acevedo | 29. Fr. Humberto Jana |
| 14. Fr. Thomas Hemm | 30. Hector Javier González |
| 15. Br. Timothy Hemm | 31. Fr. Matthew Jozefiak |
| 16. Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn | |

SEPTEMBER PRAYER LIST

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Fr. Edgar Jutte | 17. Fr. Frederick Lang |
| 2. Pray for vocations | 18. Fr. Noé Lemus |
| 3. Fr. John Kalicky | 19. Jhón Jairo León Cubillos |
| 4. Fr. Matthew Keller | 20. Juan Lep Putul |
| 5. Fr. David Kelly | 21. Efrén Leyton Molina |
| 6. Fr. Jeffrey Keyes | 22. Fr. Fred Licciardi |
| 7. Fr. Dennis Kinderman | 23. For living and deceased Companions |
| 8. Fr. Jeffrey Kirch | 24. Br. Santos Mateo |
| 9. For living and deceased C.P.P.S. members. | 25. Fr. James McCabe |
| 10. Fr. Timothy Knepper | 26. Br. Charles McCafferty |
| 11. Fr. Leonard Kostka | 27. Fr. Timothy McFarland |
| 12. Fr. Scott Kramer | 28. Mario Alberto Membreño Granados |
| 13. Fr. Ernest Krantz | 29. Fr. John Mencsik |
| 14. Fr. Robert Kunisch | 30. For living and deceased Amici |
| 15. Fr. George Kuzara | |
| 16. Pray for those in formation | |

Acta of the 2018 Provincial Assembly Cincinnati Province, Missionaries of the Precious Blood

May 21–25, 2018
St. Charles Center, Carthage, Ohio

Monday, May 21, 2018

The 2018 assembly of the Cincinnati Province opened on Monday evening, May 21, with Evening Prayer in Assumption Chapel at St. Charles Center, Carthage, Ohio. Fr. Dennis Chriszt, C.P.P.S., presided.

During the Evening Prayer, Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn, C.P.P.S., provincial director, gave his state of the province address. He thanked all for their help and support over his two terms as provincial director. "It has been a privilege to serve as provincial director," he said. "A lot of water has passed under the bridge and you have been patient with me and truly have been my brothers and sisters. I have learned a lot and pray that we advance our mission and ministry together."

Fr. Hemmelgarn reported on:

- The New Creation initiative, confirming that Br. Juan Acuña, C.P.P.S., has been appointed New Creation coordinator.
- Saint Joseph's College and the progress of the Phoenix Team to bring new life to the college.
- Calumet College of St. Joseph, which also suffered from the aftermath of the suspension of operations at Saint Joseph's College. Fr. Hemmelgarn reported on the efforts of CCJS's new president, Dr. Amy McCormack, to shore up the college.
- The Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation (PBMR) and the Sorrowful Mother Shrine. Both of these ministries, sponsored and staffed by the Missionaries, are flourishing.
- Latin American missions and vicariate, which are continuing their conversations about becoming one province.
- Provincial administration, and his recom-

mendations to the next provincial director and his council.

The full text of Fr. Hemmelgarn's report is Exhibit One.

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

The first full day of the assembly was dedicated to the new creation initiative.

The day began with Morning Prayer, where Fr. Joseph Nassal, C.P.P.S., provincial director of the Kansas City Province, was the presider. Fr. Hemmelgarn then opened the morning session with announcements and introductions.

Fr. Nassal introduced the morning's speaker, Fr. David Kalert, OMI, who was instrumental in the process when five provinces of Oblates formed one unit, the U.S. Province of the Oblates. The Oblates in the U.S. became one province in 1999, Fr. Kalert said.

As with the C.P.P.S., the Oblate's five provinces had shared various ministries over the years. There had been talk of combining the provinces for years, but it was in 1994 when they began to get serious, he said. "We thought about going from five provinces to three or two, but we decided on one because our declining numbers were indicating that if we went down to three provinces, we'd probably have to do the process again," he said.

They had to work through many issues, including differences in policies regarding vacations, stipends and retirement. They had to sort through financial issues.

"Really, there are a lot of details that go into becoming a new province," he said. "But those are administrative things. The key is to stay focused on your ministry."

As with the Missionaries, he said, the Oblates "didn't want a merger—we wanted to be something new. That was very important for us."

The hope among the members was that the new entity would bring new life to the congregation. Among the fears were that members would be assigned to places they didn't want to go. "The people in the north never wanted to be assigned to Texas. And the people in Texas thought they'd

Exhibits from the assembly are on the province's website, cpps-preciousblood.org, in the members' section.

die if they had to go to Minnesota,” Fr. Kalert said. “The big fear was that they’d get a letter or phone call telling them to pack up and move. We had to reassure them that ‘that’s not the way we do things now, so why would we do that as a new province? Obviously, you’re not going to be forced into a new ministry.’”

He told the Missionaries to take their time in the conversation, and proceed with caution, but added that “you don’t have to wait until you have dotted every i and crossed every t, because if you wait for all the details to be in place, it will never happen.”

The Oblates chose Washington DC as the location of their new provincial office, and that was another fear. “There were people who thought it would be too centralized, that they’d never see the provincial—though some were happy about that,” he said. Indeed, there was a lot of travel, as the new leadership traveled around the country to meet with and reassure the members in all five former provinces.

They also operated five area offices in their former provinces. These were mostly in major ministry sites, such as their shrine in Belleville, Ill., and their school of theology in San Antonio. Over the years, the identity of those “areas” have blended into that of the U.S. province.

“Faith and confidence are the keys,” Fr. Kalert said. “It’s not about dying, it’s about living. As we hear again and again in the Easter liturgies, ‘Do not be afraid.’ Do your best and go with the flow. You’re on a good path, it looks to me.”

After Fr. Kalert’s presentation, the assembly was divided into 13 small groups which discussed the message they’d heard and came up with questions about the New Creation.

After that discussion, Fr. Hemmelgarn introduced Fr. Barry Fischer, C.P.P.S., a member of the province and a former moderator general who now serves on the New Creation Commission. Fr. Fischer traced the Missionaries’ efforts over the last 40 years to define and promote their common identity throughout the worldwide Community.

Often incorporating groundbreaking work by Fr. Robert Schreiter, C.P.P.S., this included discussions around the three pillars of the community (mission, community, spirituality); exploration of the C.P.P.S. identity as a society of apostolic life; and developing the profile of a Missionary.

Through all those efforts and more, he said, the Community rediscovered its charism. “We had this whole renewal of our spirituality as we discovered our identity as a society of apostolic life,” he said.

“We’re a society, but we are missionaries! We are the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, and every one of us is a missionary. We’re called to be missionaries wherever we are present.”

That charism flows like a river through the history of the Community, he said. “Our heritage is something we can box up and pass from generation to generation. You can’t box a charism. It’s alive, it reflows, it takes new forms. We talk about being creatively faithful to our charism. We want to capture the holiness of St. Gaspar, but let it take forms in response to the needs of today. We’re also growing in our appreciation of being an international congregation, growing in our connectedness. We are no longer thinking just within the confines of our provincial structures. . . We say, ‘WE are in India. WE are in Chile. WE are in Poland.’ We’re family! We’re in this together. I like to imagine Missionaries of the Precious Blood as Missionaries without borders. We had to think broader than just where I am located, where I am.”

He also spoke of the many collaborations of the North American provinces over the years, including the Province of the Pacific, who were the first to promote the idea of one province in the U.S. or possibly North America. Although it was not fulfilled at that time, it can be now with the New Creation, he said.

“This isn’t something that’s happened in a vacuum. This is something that’s been building. We’ve been growing in awareness and now it’s time to intentionally pursue this goal of a new creation,” he said.

Fr. Fischer’s presentation is Exhibit Two.

After he concluded, Fr. Hemmelgarn remarked that collaboration between the U.S. provinces began in 1971, only six years after the American Province first separated into three provinces. “We’ve done so many things together over the years,” he said.

Small groups then reconvened to talk about their own experiences with interprovincial efforts. After lunch, they reported on their discussions. Notes were taken and will be compiled by Fr. Steve Dos Santos, C.P.P.S., provincial secretary.

Frs. Hemmelgarn and Nassal reported on the new creation process. Fr. Hemmelgarn said, “The way things work is that everything from the New Creation Commission goes to both provincial councils, then out to the members at large. The two councils have met together twice. It’s cumbersome to arrange, but we are committed to it. The New Creation Commission gets its marching orders from the councils.”

Fr. Nassal added that a priority is to encourage

members and Companions in the two provinces to get to know each other. "Some of our members in Kansas City have not had the opportunity to get to know people in the Cincinnati Province, and vice versa. Part of my problem is I've been involved in (interprovincial efforts) for a long time, so I tend to know people in both provinces. But I know that's not the case for everybody."

The New Creation Commission is working on proposals to help with this. "We're trying to come up with ways that we can get to know each other," Fr. Hemmelgarn said. "If Cincinnati has all these meetings about the New Creation, and Kansas City has all these meetings, it does us no good. What we want is for all of us together to look into the future and decide what do we want to be together? In order to achieve that, we have to start building some of these relationships."

Work is already being done by subcommittees on finance and governance, they added.

The provincial directors said the goal is that by the 2019 provincial assemblies, there is a proposal in place that can be affirmed by members in both provinces then presented to the major superiors meeting later in that year. A formal vote would have to be taken in both provinces before the proposal could be presented for approval to the major superiors.

Fr. William Nordenbrock, C.P.P.S., moderator general, who was present at the assembly, added that "the decisional authority resides in the meeting of major superiors. The vote to be taken in the assemblies of the two provinces is a vote to make a request to form a new unit or province together. The place where the actual decision gets made is the meeting of the major superiors."

Later in the afternoon, Companion Director Vicky Otto led a meeting for Companions in Assumption chapel. After dinner, Fr. Hemmelgarn presided at a Mass where 24 Companions made or renewed their covenants. Mass was followed by a social in the Gaspar Room.

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

The day opened with Morning Prayer, with Br. Joseph Fisher, C.P.P.S., as presider.

Fr. Hemmelgarn opened the morning session with announcements.

He then asked Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S., secretary general, to present his synopsis of Tuesday's small group reports.

Fr. Kirch said that he perceived "good sharing, good discussion" on Tuesday. "Almost all the groups used up all the time allowed for discussion.



Six Companions made their first covenant at the 2018 assembly. They are Mary Ann Bibat of Whiting, Ind. (upper right); Pat Timmerman of Minster, Ohio (far right); and (front row, L-R) Dottie Dickman and Diane Timmerman of Minster, Ohio; and Frances Duell and Frances Smith of Dayton. With them are Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn, provincial director, and Vicky Otto, director of Companions.

That's a good sign that there's energy around the new creation, although of course we have concerns and questions about the process."

He listed five points that he heard "over and over, not in any particular order:"

- Every group spoke about moving forward in hope. I didn't hear any group say, "Don't do this. We shouldn't even try." We all have our fears, our reservations about what this new creation will look like. But all groups spoke of moving forward in hope, that this process is a positive process and that it is done in hope. We're not sure of the outcome. We don't know what the final product will be, but we have hope. The question is, what is that hope? With that, we go back to something (Fr. Nordenbrock) wrote about recently. He highlighted two aspects of reconfiguring process: viability and vitality.

Those are the two words that we need to keep in our minds and on our lips. What we do during the next two years is all about that. This will bring a new spark, a new love for the charism, a new impetus to go out as Missionaries. It's also about viability. We're not doing this to close up shop. Instead, ideally, when we put our energy into this, we will create a new viability

in North America. If we speak more clearly about our mission, that attracts vocations. It's the communities who have a clear identity, who know what their mission is, that attract vocations.

- Every group spoke in some way about the ambiguity of the process. We don't know where the provincial office will be located. We don't know what the monthly allowance is going to be. We all recognize ambiguity is there. We can't wait until all the i's are dotted and t's are crossed. I don't like ambiguity—I've been wearing same shoes for 20 years and when the company went out of business, I bought 20 pairs online—but if you're in parish ministry or education ministry, we don't know what's going to happen from day to day. We don't know who's going to walk in that door. But we deal with it.

We have faith in the process. We rely on each other as brothers and sisters. We know it's going to get messy. We know that toes are going to be stepped on. Every group recognized the ambiguity in the process. With that, ambiguity arises often because we want to concentrate on the micro, not the macro. We get bogged down in the details and ignore the overarching process. But the overarching process is how we become better Missionaries in the United States of America. As we move forward over the next couple of years, don't get bogged down in the micro. Keep our eyes on the macro, and we'll be okay.

- The third point is related: one of the fears that some of us articulated is what exactly is going to be new about this new creation? What's the difference between a merger and a new creation? Is it just combining the provincial councils? Here is where we have to think hard about the process. It's something for the New Creation Commission and the councils to think about: how do we discern the shape of this "new creation?" It's a question I do not have the answer to. How do we avoid the pitfall of just merging?

Another way to put it: as we look at the process, what are the key parts that assure we are open to new possibilities, new ways of living, new ways of ministry, new ways to articulate our spirituality? If we stay open to various ways to live out our spirituality, then the newness is there. The

vitality has a chance to enliven us. If we just go forward in the process thinking of a merger, there's nothing new there. How do we ensure in the process we are open to the newness? We have to stay focused on our mission. The newness in many ways is not really new, it's going back to our roots, the mission of the Church in North America. How do we remain faithful to Gaspar's vision in a changed reality? That will allow the newness to come in. In the new creation process, the newness isn't really something brand new. It's not a revolution. It's a re-engagement, a re-invigoration of our mission.

- The fourth point: focusing on the three pillars: mission, community life, spirituality. In formation, the three pillars are constantly coming up. That's who we are. I can also tell you that at general council meetings, everything they talk about involves those three pillars. How can we do our mission better, how do we remain faithful to our mission, how to live out our spirituality, how do we share community life more authentically?
- The fifth point is also very important: almost all of the groups spoke about a willingness to leave behind ministries, ways of living, ways of thought, etc., in order to respond to the needs of the Church today. As all of you in parochial ministry know, the Church in North America is at a different point than the Church in other places in the world. Hopefully, the process of new creation will allow us to respond better—even though we're all doing good work now—to the needs of the Church in the 21st century. Are we willing to change the way we do things in order to respond to the needs that are presenting themselves today? I heard from all groups that there's a willingness to leave behind certain ways in order to stay faithful to the Gospel.

It all goes back to vitality and viability. How do we become more faithful to our call as Missionaries? Being more faithful will ensure that we're around for another 200 years.

After Fr. Kirch's presentation, Fr. Kalert answered questions from the assembly. He said, "I'm impressed with the direction you have taken. A lot has been done already. There's an old proverb, 'May you live in a time of change.' Our entire lives have been a time of change. That's nothing new

for us in the Church. We continue to move on and adjust."

Frs. Hemmelgarn and Nassal also took questions from the assembly. They said that the information presented during the Cincinnati Province assembly would also be presented at the Kansas City Province's assembly in June.

Part of the discussion was also about the dialogue going on concurrently in the Latin American units. Fr. Joseph Deardorff, C.P.P.S., brought up the point that Latin American members were not invited to the September 2017 meeting in Techny, Ill., when the two provinces decided to pursue a new creation together. "The New Creation commission has had two meetings, and we have received no information at all," he said. "Are we included or are we not included? What is our relationship with the possible new creation and with the process?"

Fr. Hemmelgarn responded that likewise, the conversation in Latin America has been going on without much official input from North America. "There are so many different dimensions to this, with all of this going on simultaneously. We need to engage with each other about the effect that our conversation (about the New Creation) is having on you (in Latin America), and what effect your conversation (in Latin America) is having on us (in North America)."

As the session concluded so that Mass could be celebrated, Fr. Hemmelgarn thanked all present for their participation. He told members they should review the covenants they had made in Techny, revise them if necessary, and prepare to present them again at the closing liturgy on Friday.

Fr. Ken Schroeder, C.P.P.S., presided at Mass on Wednesday morning.

ELECTION OF THE PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR

The afternoon session began at 1 p.m. with a brief message and blessing from Fr. Leonard Kostka, C.P.P.S., who at age 104 is the oldest living Missionary of the Precious Blood. "We are here because way back 2,000 years ago, Jesus said 'Go out and teach the nations.' So here we are. Was it just a wish, or was it a real command? We have that great invitation from Jesus. We have camaraderie and friendship among ourselves. And now we have to get out there and work on it," Fr. Kostka said.

Voting for provincial director began following Fr. Kostka's blessing. Fr. Hemmelgarn introduced Fr. Dos Santos in his role as provincial secretary. Fr. Dos Santos began by reading Provincial Statute 98: "All Definitely Incorporated Members have active



Fr. Antonio Baus, left, receives the "good egg award" from Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn. The award is given each year to a member for selfless service to the Community.

and deliberative voice in a Provincial Assembly. Others may attend as observers, with the right to speak if recognized by the Assembly."

Observers attending the electoral assembly were recognized and approved by the members.

Provincial Statute 104 states: "The voting must be by secret ballot. If anyone of the electors is in the residence in which the elections take place, but cannot be present at the election because of infirmity his written note shall be sought by the tellers." A teller was assigned to Merlini Hall. Tellers and marshals were assigned. Tellers were to distribute and collect the ballots. Marshals were to record anyone leaving or entering during the balloting.

Provincial Statute 99 states: "For conducting elections and business, a quorum is had if those present at the Assembly constitute a majority of the total membership assigned within the geographical boundaries of the Cincinnati Province."

Fr. Dos Santos informed the assembly that there are 139 definitively incorporated members of the province, but that 52 lived outside the geographic boundary of the Province leaving 87 as the number used to calculate a quorum. The number needed to achieve a quorum was determined to be 44. Fr. Dos Santos asked the members to remain in the hall while voting took place and asked marshals to take their places at the doors to the assembly hall.

Fr. Dos Santos determined that 90 members were present. Since 44 members were needed for a quorum, a quorum was achieved. He displayed a list of six members whose names were surfaced during a straw ballot: Frs. Angelo Anthony, Abel

Cruz, Tom Hemm, Jeff Kirch, Tim McFarland and Ken Schnipke. All six had agreed to serve if elected.

Ballots were distributed. While they were counted by Fr. Dos Santos and Cindy Sipes and Rachael Pope of the provincial office staff, Fr. Antonio Baus, C.PP.S., gave his report on his time as a provincial council member. It had been very interesting, he said, but very difficult: not only because of the time required for travel and preparation, but keeping up with the discussion, which was mostly about matters that were not familiar to him or relevant to members in Latin America.

He was asked if he had a recommendation about a possible role for Latin American members on the council in the future. Fr. Baus replied, "With the conditions we have right now, I would not recommend it. It was very difficult."

Fr. Baus' report is Exhibit Three.

First Ballot Results

There were 106 votes cast on the first ballot, including all validly received absentee ballots and those cast from Merlini Hall. The results were as follows:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	14
Fr. Abel Cruz	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	12
Fr. Jeff Kirch	38
Fr. Tim McFarland	4
Fr. Ken Schnipke	37

The required number was not received. Frs. Hemm and McFarland asked that their names be removed.

A second ballot was conducted. While votes were counted, Vicky Otto, director of Companions, gave her report. "The best way to summarize this past year for Companions is, we are dreaming with our eyes wide open. We have been working to better embody Precious Blood spirituality and to really help and be part of this Community," she said. Her report is Exhibit Four.

Second Ballot Results

There were 90 ballots cast in the second round of voting. The results were:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	7
Fr. Jeff Kirch	46
Fr. Ken Schnipke	37

Fr. Kirch attained the required number of 46 votes needed for election. Fr. Hemmelgarn asked him if he would accept the election. He responded yes.

ELECTION OF VICE PROVINCIAL

After a break, Fr. Dos Santos repeated the roll call so that voting could resume. There were 87 members present and a quorum was achieved.

Fr. Dos Santos read a list of all members who had indicated they were willing to serve.

First Ballot Results

The results of the first ballot were as follows:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	8
Fr. Antonio Baus	1
Fr. Ben Berinti	14
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	1
Fr. Steve Dos Santos	9
Fr. Barry Fischer	5
Fr. Tom Hemm	1
Fr. Tim McFarland	6
Fr. Mark Peres	1
Fr. Kevin Scalf	2
Fr. Gene Schnipke	3
Fr. Ken Schnipke	23
Fr. Jerry Stack	3
Fr. Bill Stang	2
Fr. Vince Wirtner	4
Invalid	4

A total of 83 valid votes were cast. Since 42 were required for election, no one received the required number of votes. A second ballot was necessary.

Frs. Gene Schnipke, Kevin Scalf, Bill Stang and Jerry Stack requested their names be removed.

Second Ballot Results

The results of the second ballot for vice provincial director were as follows:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	5
Fr. Ben Berinti	24
Fr. Steve Dos Santos	7
Fr. Barry Fischer	4
Fr. Tom Hemm	1
Fr. Tim McFarland	7
Fr. Ken Schnipke	34
Fr. Vince Wirtner	5
Invalid	1

A total of 87 votes were cast. Since 44 were required for election, no one received the required number of votes and a third ballot was necessary.

Fr. Berinti requested that his name be removed.

During the counting of the ballots, Dr. Amy McCormack, president of Calumet College of St.

Joseph, was introduced to the assembly.

Third Ballot Results

The results of the third ballot for vice provincial director were as follows:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	7
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	1
Fr. Steve Dos Santos	9
Fr. Barry Fischer	7
Fr. Tom Hemm	1
Fr. Tim McFarland	7
Fr. Mark Peres	1
Fr. Ken Schnipke	50
Fr. Vince Wirtner	6

A simple majority of votes was needed. Fr. Schnipke received a simple majority. Fr. Hemmelgarn asked Fr. Schnipke if he accepted the position, and he said yes.

After the election of the vice provincial director, the assembly concluded for the day.

Thursday, May 24, 2018

The day opened with Morning Prayer, with Fr. Thomas Brenberger, C.PP.S., as presider.

Fr. Hemmelgarn opened the morning session with announcements.

ELECTION OF THE FIRST COUNCILOR

At 9:20 a.m., Fr. Dos Santos called the roll to resume elections. He announced that with 82 members present, a quorum was achieved. He also told members that the councilor positions were open to any member of the province, and that members do not need to be present to be elected.

While the first-ballot votes were being tallied, Colleen Kammer, the coordinator of peace, justice and ecology for the Cincinnati Province, gave her report. Kammer, who divides her working week between the Missionaries and the Sisters of the Precious Blood, updated members on a number of initiatives on which she is working.

"My role for the province is to enhance the peace and justice efforts already ongoing," she said. "I'm a resource who can answer questions and connect you with people who can help you in your ministry."

Her report is Exhibit Five.

Fr. Scott Kramer, C.PP.S., rector of the Sorrowful Mother Shrine, also gave his report. He told the members, "Many graces are happening at the shrine, which is a wonderful place of ministry and renewal. Staffing is going to be an issue we'll

have to look at. There are also many needs with the infrastructure of the shrine. We (the Missionaries) own the shrine, it's our property—and many repairs are needed. We're trying to find out how the shrine can continue its 168 years of being a place where people meet the Lord. Every day, people come to the shrine and the holiness of the place really touches their hearts."

His report is Exhibit Six

First Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos then gave the results of the first ballot. With 81 valid ballots cast, the results were as follows:

Br. Juan Acuña	1
Fr. Angelo Anthony	7
Fr. Antonio Baus	1
Fr. Ben Berinti	24
Br. Brian Boyle	1
Br. Tom Brenberger	1
Fr. Joe Brown	1
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	2
Fr. Joseph Deardorff	1
Fr. Steve Dos Santos	11
Br. Joe Fisher	4
Fr. Leon Flaherty	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	7
Fr. Denny Kinderman	1
Fr. Scott Kramer	1
Fr. Fred Licciardi	1
Fr. Tim McFarland	5
Fr. Bill O'Donnell	1
Fr. Mark Peres	1
Fr. Jim Seibert	2
Br. Jerry Schwieterman	1
Fr. Jerry Stack	3
Fr. Vince Wirtner	3

With 81 votes cast, 41 were required for election. No one received the required amount, and a second ballot was necessary.

Removing their names were Brs. Juan Acuña and Brian Boyle and Frs. Tom Brenberger, Joe Brown, Joe Deardorff, Denny Kinderman, Scott Kramer, Fred Licciardi, Bill O'Donnell and Jim Seibert.

A second round of voting was conducted. While ballots were being counted, Br. Joseph Fisher, C.PP.S., gave the treasurer's report. He said that the finance committee for the new creation has already met and will meet again at St. Charles in July. "This is where the i's and the t's get involved," he said. "We realize that it's going to be ambiguous for a while. If you have strong opinions about the new

creation, I would appreciate hearing about it.”
The treasurer’s report is Exhibit Seven.

Second Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos then gave the results of the second ballot:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	7
Fr. Antonio Baus	1
Fr. Ben Berinti	47
Fr. Steve Dos Santos	17
Br. Joe Fisher	3
Fr. Tom Hemm	5
Fr. Tim McFarland	2
Fr. Vince Wirtner	2

With 84 votes cast, 43 votes were required for election. Fr. Ben Berinti was elected first councilor. Fr. Hemmelgarn asked if he would accept the election, and Fr. Berinti said yes.

ELECTION OF THE SECOND COUNCILOR

The assembly returned from a short break at 10:44 a.m. and voting resumed. Fr. Dos Santos called the role and a quorum was achieved.

While ballots were being counted for the second councilor, Fr. Barry Fischer, in his role as rector of Saint Joseph’s College, gave his report. He said that the Phoenix Team, which is responsible for re-envisioning a future for SJC, is considering a plan to create a two-year institution. “That could get us back to our roots of serving the underserved. That’s our mission, traditionally,” he said. “We’ve researched numerous possibilities and studied what’s happening in higher education these days, especially small liberal arts colleges like SJC. The trend for the future is two-year colleges.”

He added that Marian University is interested in partnering with SJC. Discussion of this is ongoing.

Fr. Fischer’s report is Exhibit Eight.

First Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos reported on the results of the first ballot:

Br. Juan Acuña	1
Fr. Angelo Anthony	6
Fr. Antonio Baus	3
Br. Tom Bohman	1
Br. Brian Boyle	1
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	1
Fr. Tom Brenberger	1
Fr. Steve Dos Santos	27

Fr. Barry Fischer	3
Br. Joe Fisher	4
Fr. Tom Hemm	9
Fr. Dave Kelly	3
Fr. Tim McFarland	13
Fr. Mark Peres	1
Fr. Ken Pleiman	1
Br. Rob Reuter	1
Br. Matt Schaefer	1
Br. Jerry Schwieterman	1
Fr. James Smith	1
Fr. Jerry Stack	1
Fr. Bill Stang	3
Fr. Vince Wirtner	2

A total of 85 votes were cast, and 43 were necessary for election. Since no one received the required number of votes, a second ballot was necessary.

Requesting that their names be removed were Brs. Juan Acuña, Brian Boyle, Rob Reuter, Matt Schaefer and Jerry Schwieterman, and Frs. Tom Brenberger, Ken Pleiman and Jerry Stack.

During the counting of the ballots, the conversation continued about SJC with members asking many questions about the college’s debt (the C.P.P.S. is not responsible for the debt, said Fr. Hemmelgarn), the board (there are currently 12 board members), and other topics.

Second Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos announced the results of the second ballot:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	5
Fr. Antonio Baus	1
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	2
Fr. Steve Dos Santos	42
Fr. Barry Fischer	3
Br. Joe Fisher	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	7
Fr. Dave Kelly	3
Fr. Tim McFarland	16
Fr. Mark Peres	1
Fr. Bill Stang	3
Fr. Vince Wirtner	2

A total of 86 votes were cast. With 44 necessary for election, a third ballot was necessary.

Withdrawing their names from the ballots were Frs. Dave Kelly, Antonio Baus and Bill Stang and Br. Tom Bohman.

While the ballots were being counted, the discussion continued about the college. Other topics discussed included the severance package for

the SJC faculty and staff, and the Waugh property.

Third Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos announced the results of the third ballot, which required a simple majority:

Br. Juan Acuña	1
Fr. Angelo Anthony	2
Br. Tom Bohman	1
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	2
Fr. Steve Dos Santos	52
Fr. Barry Fischer	1
Br. Joe Fisher	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	4
Fr. Dave Kelly	1
Fr. Tim McFarland	18
Fr. Mark Peres	1
Fr. Vince Wirtner	1

Votes cast totaled 85, with a simple majority required. Fr. Steve Dos Santos was elected second councilor. Fr. Hemmelgarn asked if he would accept the election, and Fr. Dos Santos responded yes.

ELECTION OF THE THIRD COUNCILOR

After a lunch break, voting resumed for the third councilor. Fr. Dos Santos took the roll call, and with 79 members present, a quorum was achieved.

While the first ballot was being counted for the third councilor, Mark Giesige, director of mission advancement, gave his report. "All of our donors support our various ministries, but most of them do it because of their interactions with you, the members," he said. "I can't tell you how many times people talk about the impact our priests and brothers have had on their lives. Thank you for what you're doing. The relationship piece with our donors is because of what you do."

The mission advancement report is Exhibit Nine.

Fr. Joseph Deardorff, C.P.P.S., also gave his report on the discussion among Latin American units to form their own province. "I want to dispel the narrative that the Latin American province is an idea that is being foisted on us from above," he said.

During a question-and-answer session, Fr. Jim Franck, C.P.P.S., asked, "Here in the U.S. we are two provinces that all speak English and are in the same country, and we are having difficulties. You people are all very different, with different policies and different concerns. Are you overcoming all of those difficulties or are you looking past them?"

Fr. Deardorff responded that he was interested in what Fr. Kalert had said on Tuesday about the Oblates establishing "areas" when their units were combined. The current proposal has the director of each unit as part of the new council. "We want to respect the culture and what is going on in each country," he said. "For example, it's cheaper to live in Guatemala than in Brazil. When we talk about an allowance, it should change from one country to another. Each country has different laws and policies dealing with, for instance, health insurance and pensions. We need to look at every unit and see what the needs are, then give them a certain autonomy. But it's autonomy in relation to a province."

Fr. Deardorff's report is Exhibit Ten.

First Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos then announced the results of the balloting for third councilor:

Br. Juan Acuña	7
Fr. Angelo Anthony	8
Br. Jim Ballmann	1
Fr. Antonio Baus	3
Br. Tom Bohman	4
Br. Brian Boyle	2
Br. Joe Fisher	3
Fr. Rick Friebe	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	9
Fr. Mark Hoving	1
Fr. Dave Kelly	1
Fr. Tim McFarland	27
Fr. Charles Mullen	1
Fr. Mark Peres	2
Br. Nick Renner	1
Br. Rob Reuter	3
Fr. Kevin Scalf	4
Br. Ton Sison	1
Fr. Vince Wirtner	2
Invalid	1

A total of 81 valid votes were cast, with 41 needed for election. A second ballot was required.

Withdrawing their names were Brs. Juan Acuña, Brian Boyle, Rob Reuter and Antonio Sison, and Frs. Rick Friebe, Mark Hoving, Charles Mullen and Kevin Scalf.

While ballots were being counted, Amy Day, facilities manager at St. Charles, gave her report. "We're always trying to maintain the building," she said. "There's an endless supply of building here."

The province has appointed a building committee, and they will be studying the proposed St. Charles window replacement project, she said. Her report is Exhibit Eleven.

Second Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos then announced the results of the voting:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	8
Br. Jim Ballmann	2
Fr. Antonio Baus	1
Br. Tom Bohman	8
Br. Joe Fisher	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	10
Fr. Dave Kelly	3
Fr. Scott Kramer	1
Fr. Tim McFarland	41
Fr. Mark Peres	2
Br. Nick Renner	1
Fr. Vince Wirtner	5

A total of 83 ballots were cast, with 42 votes required for election. No one received the required number of votes, and a third ballot was necessary.

Asking that their names be removed were Br. Nick Renner and Frs. Antonio Baus and Scott Kramer.

Br. Matt Schaefer gave his report on formation. "The formation committee is working on policies. It's a slow process," he said, but progress is being made. The formation report is Exhibit Twelve.

Third Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos then announced the results of the voting:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	6
Br. Tom Bohman	6
Fr. Barry Fischer	1
Br. Joe Fisher	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	12
Br. Tim Hemm	1
Fr. Dave Kelly	2
Fr. Tim McFarland	47
Fr. Mark Peres	2
Fr. Vince Wirtner	5

A total of 83 votes was cast. On the third ballot, a simple majority was needed. Fr. McFarland received the most votes. Fr. Hemmelgarn asked Fr. McFarland if he would accept the election, and he said yes.

ELECTION OF THE FOURTH COUNCILOR

After a brief break, voting resumed at 2:37 p.m. Fr. Dos Santos took roll call and determined that with 76 members in the assembly hall, a quorum was achieved.

First Ballot Results

The results of the first ballot were as follows:

Br. Juan Acuña	23
Fr. Angelo Anthony	2
Br. Jim Ballmann	4
Br. Ben Basile	2
Br. Tom Bohman	9
Br. Brian Boyle	1
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	2
Fr. Barry Fischer	1
Br. Joe Fisher	6
Br. Greg Frantz	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	14
Fr. Dave Kelly	1
Br. Nick Renner	4
Fr. Kevin Scalf	1
Br. Jerry Schwieterman	1
Br. Antonio Sison	2
Fr. Vince Wirtner	4
Invalid	1

A total of 78 votes were cast, with 39 needed for election. No one received the required number of votes and a second ballot was required.

Removing their names were Brs. Antonio Sison, Brian Boyle, Ben Basile, Tom Bohman and Joe Fisher, and Fr. Kevin Scalf.

Second Ballot Results

The results of the second ballot were as follows:

Br. Juan Acuña	52
Fr. Angelo Anthony	2
Br. Jim Ballmann	1
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	1
Fr. Barry Fischer	2
Br. Greg Frantz	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	16
Br. Nick Renner	4
Br. Ton Sison	1

A total of 80 votes were cast, with 41 votes needed for election. Br. Juan Acuña was elected. Fr. Hemmelgarn asked Br. Juan Acuña if he would accept the election, and he said yes.

After the election of the fourth councilor, there was an appreciation of the current provincial director, Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn, and council: Frs. Ken Schnipke, Steve Dos Santos, Antonio Baus; Br. Joe Fisher; and Frs. Tony Fortman and Tom Hemm.

The assembly then adjourned to celebrate Mass, with Fr. Steve Dos Santos, C.P.P.S., presiding.

Friday, May 25, 2018

The day began with Morning Prayer, with Fr. Barry Fischer presiding.

Fr. Hemmelgarn opened the assembly with announcements.

THE ELECTION OF THE FIFTH COUNCILOR

Fr. Dos Santos called the roll for the election of the fifth councilor at 9:17 a.m. With 68 members present, a quorum was achieved. The results of the first ballot were as follows:

First Ballot Results

Fr. Angelo Anthony	7
Br. Tom Bohman	9
Br. Brian Boyle	2
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	3
Fr. Barry Fischer	6
Br. Joe Fisher	2
Fr. Tony Fortman	1
Fr. Tom Hemm	15
Fr. Joe Hinders	1
Fr. Mark Hoying	1
Fr. Andy O'Reilly	1
Fr. Mark Peres	6
Br. Nick Renner	3
Fr. Kevin Scalf	2
Fr. Jim Seibert	1
Br. Ton Sison	1
Fr. Jerry Stack	1
Fr. Bill Stang	2
Fr. Vince Wirtner	4

A total of 68 votes were cast, with 35 needed for election. A second ballot was required.

Removing their names were Brs. Brian Boyle, Joe Fisher and Antonio Sison and Frs. Tony Fortman, Joseph Hinders, Tom Hemm, Andy O'Reilly, Kevin Scalf and Bill Stang.

During the counting of the second ballot, Jean Giesige, director of communications, gave her report. She told the members, "Your often quiet, humble service to the people of God inspires many people, and they love you for it. This Congregation is often chided for hiding its light under a bushel basket, but that is also part of its charm. People can sense the genuine, humble attitude of service that lives within our members."

The communications report is Exhibit Thirteen.

Second Ballot Results

Fr. Dos Santos then announced the results of the second ballot:



Br. Rob Reuter, right, congratulates Br. Tom Bohman after his election.

Fr. Angelo Anthony	15
Br. Tom Bohman	22
Fr. Dennis Chriszt	1
Fr. Barry Fischer	13
Fr. Mark Hoying	1
Fr. Mark Peres	8
Br. Nick Renner	4
Fr. Jim Seibert	1
Fr. Jerry Stack	1
Fr. Vince Wirtner	3
Invalid	1

A total of 69 votes were cast, with 35 required for election. No one received the required number of votes so a third ballot was required.

During the counting of the ballots, Fr. Dos Santos gave the vocations report. He told the members that a new candidate, Marcos Palacios, would be entering initial formation in the fall. The vocations report is Exhibit Fourteen.

Third Ballot Results

The results of the third ballot were as follows:

Fr. Angelo Anthony	17
Br. Tom Bohman	38
Fr. Barry Fisher	12
Fr. Mark Hoying	2
Fr. Vince Wirtner	1

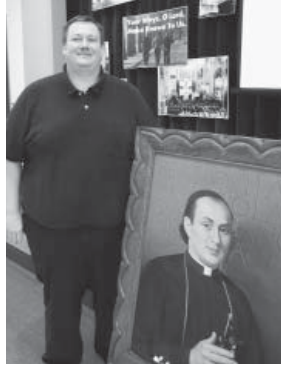
A total of 70 votes were cast. On the third ballot, a simple majority was required. Br. Tom Bohman received the most votes. Fr. Hemmelgarn asked Br. Tom if he accepted the election and he said yes.

Fr. Nordenbrock addressed the assembly: "I've been in communications with the general council. We are very excited about the possibility of working with the new provincial team and we promise our support to them."

The assembly closed with a Mass with Fr. Hemmelgarn presiding and Fr. Kirch as homilist.

A Season of Celebrations

We are thankful for the time to be together as a Community; for people who step forward to serve; for those who were ordained; for those honored for their years of ministry.



Clockwise from upper left: Fr. Matt Keller greets parishioners after his first Mass; Fr. Jeffrey Kirch with a portrait of St. Gaspar after Fr. Kirch's election as provincial director; Latin American members attending the assembly; sign of peace at the Feast of the Precious Blood celebration.

And now may the Lord be kind and faithful to you. 2 Sam 2: 6

Missionaries of the Precious Blood
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