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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*

## “Responding to the Needs of the Church”

“St. Gaspar is a great role model for us in the way that he responded to the needs of the Church and the signs of the times,” said Fr. Tom Brenberger, C.P.P.S., who presided at a Mass on the Solemnity of St. Gaspar, October 21 at St. Charles Center in Carthage, Ohio.

So too are the 2020 jubilarians great role models, Fr. Brenberger said at the conclusion of the Mass, as he called forth those who live at St. Charles: Br. Jerry Schulte, C.P.P.S., celebrating 65 years as a religious brother, and Br. Charles McCafferty, C.P.P.S., celebrating 50 years. They were presented with a package of greetings from Precious Blood people around

the world, including Fr. Emanuele Lupi, C.P.P.S., the moderator general.

All 2020 jubilarians, including Frs. Ken Pleiman (50 years); Don Davison and Gene Schnipke (40 years); and Br. Daryl Charron and Fr. David Matz (25 years) of the Kansas City Province, all received such a package. The 2020 jubilarians were denied a large Community celebration of their milestone anniversaries due to the coronavirus.

One 2020 jubilarian, Fr.  
*(Continued on page 134)*



## Greg Evers Receives Order of Acolyte

Greg Evers, C.P.P.S., a candidate in advanced formation with the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, was installed as an acolyte on October 11 in Chicago.

Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S., provincial director, was on hand to preside at the rite, held at the Missionaries' San Felice Formation House.

Fr. Steve Dos Santos, C.P.P.S., director of vocation  
*(Continued on page 134)*



*Greg Evers, C.P.P.S.*

Above, Fr. Tom Brenberger presents gifts to jubilarians Br. Jerry Schulte, left, and Br. Charles McCafferty at the Gaspar Day Mass. Below, the gift book, which was full of messages from the Precious Blood family.

# Greg Evers Receives Order of Acolyte

(Continued from page 133)  
ministry, explained this step on Greg's vocation journey:

## Responding

(Continued from page 133)  
Philip Gilbert, C.P.P.S., died on October 15, just days before the celebration. His funeral was held at St. Charles the day after, on October 22. Fr. Brenberger said he would tuck the well wishes from the Precious Blood family into Fr. Gilbert's casket.

Also honored at the October 21 Mass was Fr. Ken Schroeder, celebrating his 55th ordination anniversary this year, which Fr. Brenberger said was worth a round of applause. Also, it was his birthday.



## 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](mailto: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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"The ministries of acolyte and lector are the successors of the old minor orders. A man must have received them prior to ordination to the diaconate. The ministry of the acolyte is a combination of the ministry of altar server and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

"These steps along the journey represent a gradual deepening of the priesthood candidate's involvement in the celebration of the Mass."

Evers, a native of Maria Stein, Ohio, is in his seventh year of formation with the Precious Blood Community and in his third year of theo-



**Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, left, confers the order of acolyte on Greg Evers as Missionaries look on.**

(Photo by Br. Antonio Sison, C.P.P.S.)

logical studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Aside from taking classes, he volunteers at Casa Catalina, a food pantry in Chicago's Back of the Yards neighborhood. He resides at San Felice Formation House.



## Community Notes

### Assignments

**Br. Tim Hemm, C.P.P.S.**, retirement to St. Charles Center, Carthagen, Ohio, effective October 21, 2020.

**Fr. George (Yuri) Kuzara, C.P.P.S.**, local director, Sorrowful Mother Shrine, Bellevue, Ohio, effective October 21, 2020.

### Address Changes

**Fr. Fred Licciardi, C.P.P.S.**  
25845 N Lago Ln  
Rio Verde AZ 85263-7064

**Br. Tim Hemm, C.P.P.S.**  
St. Charles Center  
2860 US Route 127 Apt 307  
Celina OH 45822-9533

### Business

The IRS mileage rate is 57.5 cents per mile of business use.

# God Calls Every Person to a Vocation

## It's Up to Us to Urge Young People To Follow Their Call

Steve Dos Santos C.P.P.S.

This week is National Vocation Awareness Week. As always, it's a great opportunity to keep the question of vocation in the minds of our people. Please use it as an opportunity to encourage young people to consider a priestly or religious vocation. But also use it as an opportunity to remind them that everyone has a vocation.



C.P.P.S.  
for  
Tomorrow

VOCATION MINISTRY

A friend recently sent me the following text: "I need to introduce you to our son. Not sure he's vocation material but you two could talk *Star Trek* all day long." I should have responded "He may not be called to be a Missionary of the Precious Blood, but he's got a vocation." Everyone has a vocation. Vocation doesn't only mean priesthood or religious life. Every single person is made and called by God to a particular vocation in this life. I would invite you to use this week to raise awareness of the idea that everyone has a vocation.

Vocation is who you are called to be, not what you are called to do. To make this point I often tell the story of a member like Fr. Bill Stang, C.P.P.S, who has had a number of jobs/ministries

over the course of his life as a Missionary of the Precious Blood. For most people, what you do changes as you age, but who you are, the vocation you are called to, remains the same

To be sure the priesthood and religious life are two vocations that are important to the Church, but so are marriage and single life. And every one of us is called by God to one of these four ways of living in the world. When we speak of vocation as a Catholic these are the only four options, and each of us is called to holiness in one of these four states of life. And this means that everyone should prayerfully discern the vocation for which God made them.

I'd like to encourage you to make a point of not just highlighting priestly and religious vocations, but of highlighting the radical idea that everyone has a vocation. Remind the young people of your parish and your family that they have a vocation, and that the central task of their life is the discernment of their vocation.

Awareness of the four vocations is of course essential. But the average person has little to no sense of what it means to discern. I would urge us to discuss more frequently what it means to discern. I would highlight four elements of discernment: prayer, self-knowledge, counsel and action. Although this list is not comprehensive it does cover some of the most essential elements of discernment.

Please, of course, continue to talk with young people about the possibility of priesthood or religious life. But also share with them stories

of how you discerned your vocation. How did prayer play a part in your decision to get married? What did you know about yourself that guided you into religious life? Maybe you had a spiritual director to help you, but maybe you didn't. Who gave you counsel? What actions did you take before making a final decision that helped you move your discernment forward?

National Vocation Awareness Week is an opportunity to raise the question of vocation to the young people of your parish. Let's also use it as a time to invite them to actively discern where God is calling them. Talk about the tools and help them understand how it is that they are called to do more than just stumble into one vocation or another by chance—they can take an active role in finding the way of life that God intends



## Tell Your Own Vocation Story

Fr. Steve says, "Let's take full advantage of this week to talk about and promote vocations, particularly to the priesthood and religious life. When was the last time you told your vocations story? What have been some of the blessings of your life and ministry?"

"Questions like that are great ways to share during National Vocation Awareness Week."



# SJC Forges on with Health Care Classes

## Ivy Tech Classes May Return Next Semester

In nearly every way, the coronavirus has been awful for small colleges. But in one small silver lining for Saint Joseph's College, it has underscored the need for qualified health care workers.

Saint Joseph's College, in Rensselaer, Ind., is going ahead with its health care certification programs this fall, said Beth Graf, SJC's director of communications and development. The college offers certification for certified clinical medical assistants (CCMA); certified nursing assistants (CNA); certified electrocardiogram technicians (CET); and phlebotomists, who specialize in drawing blood.

SJC has a program coordinator who recruits and supervises the certification classes, which are held in the classrooms and laboratories in the Core building on SJC's campus. "In the labs we have hospital beds and all the equipment and supplies that the students need to learn how to do those jobs," Graf said.

They are learning in person this fall, she added. "That's something that didn't shut down during COVID. Most of the instruction has to be in person because it's a lot of hands-on training," she said. "Knowing how to take someone's blood pressure—you've got to be there for that."

Another session of CCMA training got underway on October 20. CNA training will begin this month. Class sizes are

limited to 12 per session, Graf noted. SJC has had some success with the program; of those who took its CCMA session held earlier this year, all have passed their board certification exams and some have already found jobs.

The programs are getting a boost because "there's a lot of funding available right now to help with tuition," Graf said, including Indiana's Next Level Jobs, a grant program that pays for 100% of CCMA classes for any Indiana resident.

SJC keeps in close contact with Franciscan Health Alliance, which operates the hospital in Rensselaer, and local senior care facilities to determine local health care staffing needs, Graf said.

SJC has other initiatives in various planning stages, Graf added. COVID stopped or slowed some of them. For instance, Ivy Tech was using SJC classrooms last winter but that halted with COVID. "We're hoping they will return to campus next semester. We're crossing our fingers," Graf said.

Partnerships with other accredited institutions are in negotiations, but it's too soon to talk about them, she added. For some of them, SJC would provide instructors as well as classrooms.

"Of course, with COVID, expansion is questionable right now," Graf said. "We're waiting to see when COVID will let up, and what the future will look like for higher education."

There have been changes recently to the college's board of trustees. Most notably, Fr. Larry Hemmelgarn, C.P.P.S.,

has completed his term as the chairman of the board, a position he held for three years, having served on the board for over 10 years.

"We're grateful to Fr. Larry who took his place at the helm during a very difficult time," said Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S., provincial director, who also serves on the board. "He worked hard in leading the board to carry on the work of preserving the mission and imagining a future for SJC."

At its meeting in October, the SJC board of trustees elected Michael Van Eekeren to serve as chair; Jeffrey Taylor, vice chair; James Boler, treasurer; and Melinda Beier, secretary.

C.P.P.S. members serving on the board, in addition to Frs. Kirch and Hemmelgarn, are Frs. William O'Donnell, Mark Peres and William Stang.

On campus, work is complete on the Core building project that made it independent of the campus' boiler system. It now has its own heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, connected to the city of Rensselaer's utilities.

SJC's offices are now located in the Core building as well. From there, Graf said, the SJC team is reaching out to its neighbors in Rensselaer. "We're partnering with local groups in the community," she said. "We're working on a program that's in its beta stage, finding the needs in our local community and exploring how we can meet those needs as a college."



# What's Next?

## After Elections, Time for Reconciliation

Vicky Otto, *Companion*

During the pandemic, like many of you, I have had the occasion to binge-watch programs on television. One was a favorite of mine, *West Wing*. A line that the series made famous came from the character of President Bartlett. At the end of a discussion, he would often conclude with, "What's next?" Throughout 2020, I have often asked, "What's next?"—mostly in the sense of disbelief regarding the strange times we have been living in.



Precious  
Blood  
Companions

C.P.P.S. Lay Associates

This question takes on a whole new dimension as we come to the end of this election year. As you are reading this in November, hopefully the elections are done. It has been a long election season, more contentious than ever. How do we move forward from here? What's next?

I'm sure you would agree that we are living in a time when our country is more polarized than ever. While we are already afraid of visiting others because of the pandemic, there is a new fear—visiting others and fearing that the conversation will land on a political topic, with no filters regarding anger or hostility. Many people have gotten into the practice

of describing others based on their political tendencies first—and not in favorable terms if their opinions are different from their own. The art of mocking others if they are on the other end of the political spectrum has become the norm.

We have spoken often about the isolation that has occurred because of the pandemic. This election atmosphere of division has driven an even greater wedge than the pandemic. Once vaccines are developed, the isolation and division that the pandemic caused will end. The divisions that the political system have brought forth are much graver because there is no end in sight. Is there anything next?

Once this election has concluded, as in any election there will be people who gain more votes than the other. The media, political pundits and social commentators will also label the winners and losers of the election. As citizens, we had to make many choices during the election that we expressed through the voting process. After the election is over, we have an even greater choice to make about the polarization erupting throughout our world. Do we continue to be divided, to live in a land expressed in the "us" versus "them," or work toward healing and reconciliation? Who is going to put down their weapons of bitterness, judgmentalism and hostility?

In the midst of these crazy times we seem to have forgotten that there is no existing law

Now is not the time to throw up our hands in resignation. To bring hope and reconciliation to the world begins with each of us.

or rule that requires everyone to think the same and act the same. We have forgotten that civil discourse is an art that allows for a free exchange of ideas with the commitment to listen to each other. How can we get to that point again—or is it a lost cause?

In her novel, *Parable of the Sower*, Octavia Butler wrote, "Consider: Whether you're a human being, an insect, a microbe, or a stone, this verse is true. All that you touch, you change. All that you change, changes you." I hope that our Precious Blood Community may model for the rest of the world what is possible if we are open to change.

As Precious Blood people, this is what propels us as missionaries. My hope for the time after the election is not a dream or fantasy; it is what drives me as a Companion. Now is not the time to throw up our hands in resignation. To bring hope and reconciliation to the world begins with each of us. We begin by honoring the feelings of the person before us. We begin when we acknowledge the hurt expressed, especially if we  
(Continued on page 139)

# BLM, at its Core, is a Call for Us to Listen

Dave Kelly, C.P.P.S.

I know for many the statement "Black Lives Matter" can be controversial or problematic. I often hear the counter response, "All Lives Matter," or among police "Blue Lives Matter." And of course, all are true.

But if we are honest and truly want to understand what is behind the statement that black lives matter, we have to be willing to try to understand what it is like growing up black in America.

PBMR has an arts program. It is not because we are an arts organization, but because the arts allow us to express a part of ourselves that otherwise is left unspoken. At the very core of trauma, healing is being able to speak out loud the pain that you carry. If you are not able to acknowledge your pain or if your pain remains foreign to you, then your pain will continue to injure you as well as others.

Here's a poem for the world to hear:

**Your World**  
by Joseph K.

*Why can't I live in your world?  
A world where children don't die  
on the way to the park?*

*Why can't I live in a place  
Where I don't have to watch  
my back?*

*Where the police are there to  
serve and protect?*

*People ask about the violence  
without understanding.  
Don't you see?  
Can't you understand?  
Your world has what children need;  
my world doesn't.*

*I can't see tomorrow.  
I just can't.  
I am tryin'  
People be tellin' me,  
"You gotta think of your future."  
But I can't see it.  
People want to see it for me  
like it's theirs.*

*You think I don't want to see it?  
You think I like thinking  
about dying?  
Hell no!  
But that's what I know.*

*What I know is that I saw how  
they killed my homie, my friend,  
my best friend!  
I saw how they killed my uncle  
and his brother  
and my mama's father.*

*Killing is in my blood—  
it's my heritage.  
You talk about a job, or going to  
college or a career.  
But you don't know.  
You don't want to know.*

*I can't see tomorrow.*

A long-time youth worker once said that the greatest thing we can offer our children is our time and our attention. No program, no curriculum, no project is as powerful as allowing a child to be heard, to know that he is not alone, and to openly speak of the wounds that (s)he carries. That is equally true for us adults.

Black Lives

Matter is, at its core, a call for us to listen and to try to understand. Black Lives Matter, as a movement or cry, does not mean that all lives don't matter; it means that there are those in our society who have a different experience than those of us who are white, not because of their character, but because of the color of their skin.

I would like to conclude with this quote from Pope Francis' latest encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*:

It is my desire that, in this our time, by acknowledging the dignity of each human person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity. Fraternity between all men and women. "Here we have a splendid secret that shows us how to dream and to turn our life into a wonderful adventure. No one can face life in isolation... We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead. How important it is to dream together... By ourselves, we risk seeing mirages, things that are not there. Dreams, on the other hand, are built together." [6] Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travelers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all. (*Fratelli Tutti*, #8)



**Precious Blood**  
Ministry of Reconciliation



## It's Time for Action on Solar Energy

*Jim Schenk, Amicus*

We have been able, on so many levels, to deny, or at least not take global warming seriously and it is only a small part of the damage that is happening to the Earth at this time. We are attacking all aspects of the Earth that we are dependent on—air, water, soil, etc. Then we have chemicals and nuclear bombs that threaten us.

And now we have the pandemic. For the first time, we are being pushed to really take the Earth seriously.

Pope Francis in *Laudato Si* encourages us to relate to the Earth in a new way. Thomas Berry, Sr. Miriam Therese MacGillis and so many others are urging us to look at the Earth

in a new way. Thomas Berry talks of humans as “the Earth conscious of itself.” We need to realize that we are Earth.

And now, the Earth is speaking to us directly.

The Precious Blood Congregation is now trying to decide what direction to take in the future. If the Congregation is going to be relevant, helping people realize their connection to the Earth, and helping people deal with the pain and suffering they will go through because of our mistreating the rest of the Earth must become a priority.

The problem is, when decisions are made, it is what we feel most capable and committed to that comes to the surface. The Earth crisis, obviously, from what I read, has not been a priority, at least not for a large number of Precious Blood members.

I am an eternal optimist. Even with this optimism, I think our species has around a 20 percent chance of survival for more than 50 to 100 years. You may not believe this, and I hope you are right. But the amount of suffering and struggle people are already having with global warming, (droughts, hurricanes, fires, flooding, and now with the pandemic), it points out the reality that it is going to become worse and worse.

People are going to need a spiritual presence. I believe that Gaspar, if he were present here today, would see this as a primary focus for the Precious

Blood Congregation. And at this time, the Precious Blood is symbolic of the suffering people are going through and will be going through. This, in my estimation, is a primary focus the Precious Blood Congregation should be taking. During this time of suffering, and the even greater suffering that is coming, people are going to need the help spirituality can offer them. It is a mission I'm not aware any other religious congregation is taking. This is a chance for the Precious Blood Congregation to be truly relevant at this time.



## What's Next

*(Continued from page 137)*

inflicted that hurt through our actions. We begin when we can acknowledge our differences in peace and celebrate the wonders of that diversity. How we begin is going to be different for each of us. What we do is not as important as making the commitment that now is the time that we must act.

We are living in uncharted and historic times. I hope that the people who live after us will learn that we helped change each other through the touch of hope and reconciliation, compassion and care. It begins with each of us taking the first step and showing others that it is possible. We are standing at the start of a new day. What's next?



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](mailto:cppscommunications@gmail.com) or to Editor Jean Giesige, 431 E. Second St., Dayton, OH 45402-1764.



# Fr. Siebeneck Was a True Scripture Scholar

*Harry Brown, C.P.P.S.*

Fr. Robert “Bob” Siebeneck was a Putnam County boy, born in Kalida, Ohio, on February 28, 1919. He was ordained December 10, 1944 and died on September 15, 1999.

He started out in a deeply religious community at St. Michael Church in Kalida, founded in 1878, where he received a solid Catholic education in his early years. And he continued his education in all three of our major C.P.P.S. institutions.

After ordination by Bishop Rehring, Fr. Siebeneck’s first assignment was associate pastor at St. Francis de Sales Church in Newark, Ohio, for two years. In 1946, he was appointed as a professor at Saint Joseph’s College for

## *Fair Inheritance Profiles*

Fair Inheritance profiles are biographical sketches of people nominated by members, Companions and others.

The eclectic mix of profile subjects reminds us that it is not only the famous who have had an impact on the Missionaries and Companions of the Precious Blood in the United States. In their own often quiet way, “ordinary” people have also influenced us in a variety of ways.

We give thanks for their legacy, recalling the words of Psalm 16: *Pleasant places were measured out for me; fair to me indeed is my inheritance.*



Fr. Siebeneck, who taught without notes, was an impressive teacher who could hold the attention of his class.

another two years. Having a great love for sacred Scripture, he was then asked to pursue further studies in Scripture in Fribourg, Switzerland, for one year, followed by a year in Rome. In September 1951, he was assigned to St. Charles Seminary as a Scripture professor.

In 1965, he began five years of service to the Community as the third councilor on the provincial board and provincial secretary. Realizing his love for history, he was appointed in 1969 as historian and archivist as well as superior of St. Charles Seminary in that year, responsibilities he held until July of 1975. At that time, he suffered a severe stroke from which he slowly recovered. In 1984, he was assigned as chaplain to the Sisters of the Precious Blood at Salem Heights in Dayton for seven years. In 1991, he retired to St. Charles. What a full life!

I got to know him as a true Scripture scholar—and I mean scholar! He was my prof in the 1950s at St. Mary’s Novitiate and at St. Charles Seminary. Since he did not drive (and never did), Fr. James Kelley, C.P.P.S., the manager of Messenger Press

at the time, would drive Fr. Bob to the novitiate two or three days a week to teach us novices the beauty and value of the Scriptures. He held our attention and was an impressive teacher. He had a Thomistic mind and memory; he used no notes and never distributed printed notes to our class. He was able to write on the chalkboard points one, two, three, plus a, b, c below as needed, just as St. Thomas Aquinas did.

When the class bell rang at the end of class, he would stop at once, even in the middle of a sentence, since he maintained that no one listened after the bell. But most interestingly of all, the next day he would pick up on that same sentence and complete it. Unparalleled and uncanny! He never missed a beat!

As a priest and a person, he was a quiet, humble and saintly man. Yes, he was a big, tall fellow—a genuine role model and Missionary, impressive in his cassock, cross and chain, which he always wore in the classroom. He was my second-best seminary prof, topped only by Fr. Herbert Linenberger, C.P.P.S..

Fr. Bob was a gem.





# In Memoriam

ETERNAL REST GRANT  
UNTO THEM, O LORD

## Fr. William Beuth, C.PP.S.

**August 15, 1932–  
September 29, 2020**

Fr. William Beuth, C.PP.S., 88, died at 1:05 p.m. on Tuesday, September 29, 2020, at his home in La Labor, Guatemala, where he had ministered for many years. He had been in failing health.

He was born on August 15, 1932, in Springdale, Pa., to William and Marcella (Clous) Beuth, Sr. He entered the Congregation in 1946 at Brunnerdale, its high school seminary near Canton, Ohio, and was ordained on May 31, 1959.

Fr. Beuth served as a missionary to Peru and Guatemala for most of his life as a priest.

After his ordination, Fr. Beuth was an associate pastor at St. Joseph Church in Wapakoneta, Ohio; St. James the Less Church in Columbus; and St. Joseph Church, Dayton. In 1962 he traveled to the C.PP.S. mission in Peru, where he served for over 25 years. He ministered first in La Oroya, a mining town far above the tree line in the Andes, then was appointed pastor of the newly established parish of San Francisco de Borja in Lima. He ministered there for 18 years, and was integral in building the parish church and its large school. From 1981–83 he was also director of the Peruvian mission.

Fr. Beuth returned to the U.S. in 1986 to be closer to his ailing mother, and served as associate pastor of St. Anthony

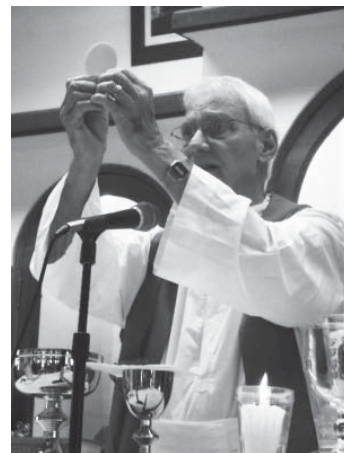
Church in Manteca, Calif.

He returned to Latin America in 1992, becoming part of the C.PP.S. mission in Guatemala. He was appointed pastor of Sangre de Cristo Parish in La Labor, Guatemala and also served as the director of that mission from 2000–2002.

Fr. Beuth served in La Labor for the rest of his life. Earlier this year, he described his arrival in La Labor in September 1992: “I was surprised to see the dirt roads winding up and down many hilly areas where lots of shacks and cliff shanties appeared. I thought, ‘What should I do and where do I begin?’ As though a light went on, I remembered an enlightening phrase from the Puebla Document (from a 1979 conference of Latin American bishops): ‘Always have a preferential option for the poor.’”

From that moment on, he ministered to the spiritual needs of the people, but also worked with them to improve their daily lives. He helped establish a well that provided drinking water in the community, then, working with the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, was instrumental in founding a school and a health clinic, both of which are still flourishing today. Paying attention to all of the people’s priorities, he also built a soccer field in La Labor.

Fr. Beuth brought hundreds if not thousands of people from the U.S. into a sense of familiarity with the La Labor region through his vivid accounts of life there, opening his letters “Dear Mission Friends.” Working with his brother Missionaries in the United



**Fr. William Beuth, C.PP.S.**

States, he established twinning relationships with many U.S. parishes, drawing from them spiritual and monetary support. He personally hosted many groups from the U.S. who toured Sangre de Cristo Parish and its 14 rural chapels. On each night of those mission trips, he sat with his visitors in the community dining room of the parish, helping them process all that they’d seen and heard that day.

He cared passionately about the people he served and never stopped looking for ways to improve their daily lives. In recent years he helped establish a nutrition project at the parish’s chapel in La Laguneta, where children walk for miles to enjoy a hot lunch prepared by volunteers.

For most of his life as a priest, Fr. Beuth was a member of the Cincinnati Province. In January, with the formation of the Missionaries’ new Latin American Province, Fr. Beuth became a member of that province.

Fr. Beuth remained close to his family in the U.S. through-

out his long life. When in the U.S., his second home was with his twin sister, Carolyn, niece Karen and her daughter Brittany, in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

He is survived by a brother, Leonard (Valerie) Beuth, Arroyo Grande, Calif.; and a sister, Mary Anne (Stephen) Surma, Bethel Park, Pa.; numerous nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his twin sister, Carolyn Keller; her husband, Lester Keller; and his sister, Helen Aichner.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on September 30 in the parish. Fr. Rony Diaz, C.P.P.S., presided. Fr. Beuth was buried in Guatemala.

Memorial donations may be made to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood to help continue Fr. Bill's missionary work in Guatemala.



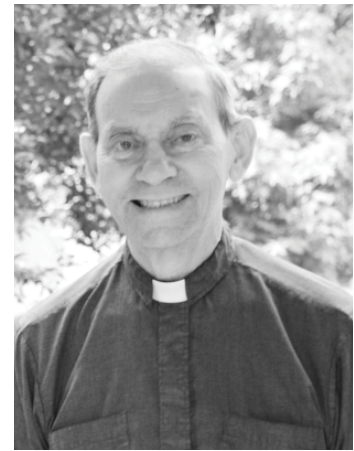
## Fr. Philip Gilbert, C.P.P.S.

February 17, 1930–  
October 15, 2020

Fr. Philip Gilbert, C.P.P.S., 90, died on October 15, 2020 in the infirmary at St. Charles Center in Carthage, Ohio. He had been in failing health.

Fr. Gilbert was born on February 17, 1930, in Chicago, to Philip and Elizabeth (Buffa) Gilbert. He entered the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in 1949 and was ordained on May 28, 1960.

In 1961 Fr. Gilbert was appointed to education ministry at Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Ind., which is sponsored by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. There he spent nearly five decades in ministry as a math professor at the college. During his career there, he served as chairman of the math department and was also



Fr. Philip Gilbert, C.P.P.S.

on the college's faculty athletic committee. He retired from teaching in 2016 and moved to St. Charles in 2017.

Preceded in death by his brother and sister-in-law, Hillary and Carol Gilbert, Fr. Gilbert was the last surviving member of his immediate family.

Fr. Gilbert loved his life as a priest, and he also loved Saint Joseph's College. In fact, it was love at first sight, he once said. His older brother attended the college as well as some of his friends. When he went to visit, "as soon as I saw it, I fell in love."

His parents, Italian immigrants who changed the family name from Gilberti to Gilbert, wanted both their sons to get a college education. They were in favor when Fr. Gilbert enrolled at the college that was to become his home for most of his adult life.

While there, he served with compassion and commitment. "I wasn't brilliant at mathematics, but I was good at it," said the priest, always self-deprecating. His students describe him as a man devoted to both of his vocations, the priesthood and education.

He was a favorite among the faculty and staff as well, (Continued on page 146)

## In Remembrance of Fr. Siegman

Frances Duell, Companion

In the September 2020 issue of the *C.P.P.S. Cincinnati Newsletter* there was an article by Fr. Robert Schreiter, C.P.P.S., about Fr. Edward Siegman, C.P.P.S. There was one thing I would like to add from my personal experience.

Fr. Siegman taught a class at the Sisters of the Precious Blood Motherhouse in Dayton.

Now, let me introduce myself as having been in the convent in Dayton for 13 years. I am now a Companion. In the summer of 1963, I was a canonical novice, and Fr. Siegman taught us a class in Christology. The thing that I remember the most was his remarkable knowledge of the Bible. He often quoted the Bible when he was trying to emphasize a point—book, chapter and verse, off the top of his head. During and after the class was over, my whole class of 33 novices reminisced about his class and how much it meant to us. As canonicals we were forbidden by Canon Law to study secular subjects, only theology. His class was toward our minor in theology. After 57 years, I can still picture him conducting class. I also remember that he was part of a team that translated the Bible from the original languages, which translation became *The New American Bible*.

Rest in the peace and love of the Lord, Fr. Siegman.



# Missionaries Report

NEWS FROM OUR  
MINISTRY SITES

## CCSJ Accreditation Process On Track

*Benjamin Basile, C.P.P.S.*

The day-to-day teaching and learning processes continue, albeit in a highly modified fashion, and the number of people on campus at any given time is reduced, even with the slight increase in enrollment over last year, all by design. Things also continue to happen outside the classroom both in-person and virtually. An on-site visit by a team from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) was the last step in the 10-year accreditation process. The team assured us that we're on track and confirmed that there's no issue of institutional probation.



**CRIMSON  
WAVE**

The team's virtual visit in April noted two concerns about compliance with federal standards: posting information about articulation agreements with other institutions, and credit assignment, including seat time and common learning objectives across all sections of a course. We have updated information in these areas and will provide a report next fall.

The April visit had identified monitoring reports, and at the end of the on-site visit, we still have three

requirements, though slightly different ones. They concern planning for sufficient numbers of faculty; documenting of faculty credentials; and documenting the use of data in strategic planning processes.

The HLC team had very positive sessions with students and external stakeholders. While we have some work to do, it is encouraging to know that the issues identified are all areas that we can address. That's what we will do together over the next year.

Dr. Tina Ebenger, professor of political science, along with her students, conducted a voter registration drive throughout September and October. A socially-distanced gathering was held on October 20, with 31 students attending.

Dr. Ebenger stated, "They are a mixed bunch. Most are new voters, though some are already registered, we wanted to make a full house. There was one who is not a U.S. citizen (can't vote but wanted to come!) and another who specifically said he wasn't going to vote."

Guest speaker was Mara Candelaria Reardon, an Indiana state representative of the 12<sup>th</sup> district. She spoke on the role of new voters and the importance of voting in general. Each new voter received a free boxed lunch provided by the education department.

The CCSJ celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month,



**Social distancing on the CCSJ campus.**

*(Photo by Angela Hughes)*

from mid-September through mid-October, was coordinated by the student club Los Amigos. The club shared information and hosted events and activities to honor the cultures and contributions of both Hispanic and Latino Americans.

On September 1, Fr. Kevin Scalf, C.P.P.S., director of the college's office of mission and ministry, announced that CCSJ welcomes Larry Cubalchini as mission and ministry intern for the 2020-21 academic year.

"Larry is completing two master of arts degrees at Loyola University, Chicago (pastoral studies and divinity). He asked to conduct his yearlong internship at Calumet College because of our mission, our Five Pillars approach to forming students in mission, and the opportunity to serve a diverse population," Fr. Scalf said. "Larry will be coordinating what we might call 'hybrid ministry programming,' face-to-face and



remote initiatives. He will serve as a member of the mission committee."

Under Larry's leadership, Respect Life Month activities included recitation of the Rosary on Wednesdays in the St. Gaspar Chapel and viewing of the movie *Unplanned*. The college family was also invited to subscribe via email to CCSJ Daily Inspirations, inspirational quotes from a variety of authors and speakers.

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Every Wednesday during the month of October we wore pink to raise awareness. Dr. Dionne Jones-Malone, vice president of student engagement and retention, advised us to "Wear as much pink as you want!"

Activities centered around the week of October 19. We honored women and men and their breast cancer journey, writing a name on a pink ribbon of a loved one who has been affected by breast cancer. Ribbons were posted around campus. New blankets, scarves and hats were collected to be delivered to a local chemo center. We decorated pumpkins in the Pink Pumpkin Patch and viewed a scary movie. Five links were provided at the end of the week, to research and learn more about early detection, education and treatment for women and men.

## Shrine Masses Move Inside

*Harry Brown, C.PP.S.*

All Masses during the early months of the pandemic were held in the outside chapel. Normally 250–300 pilgrims would attend each weekend

Mass and 40–60 on weekdays. On October 19, colder temperatures forced us to move inside to the old chapel and cafeteria. This automatically limits the crowds as we practice social distancing and masks as needed. Confessions were also moved inside. For now, for obvious reasons, we cannot provide any food service in the cafeteria. We will survive! Still groups of 50 or less are allowed to visit the shrine, but no huge Sunday bus loads.



The Code of Canon Law states that "the term shrine signifies a Church or other sacred place to which the faithful make pilgrimages for a particular pious reason, with the approval of the local ordinary" (C. 1230). Truly shrines are living monuments of our Catholic faith. Hopefully, the Sorrowful Mother Shrine has been a lighthouse for our pilgrims during these challenging pandemic times—months and months.

And yes, we hope this is true for almost 121 other shrines and places of pilgrimage in the United States. Probably the most significant of all U.S. shrines is the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington D.C., which hosts about one million visitors each year (but certainly less this pandemic year).

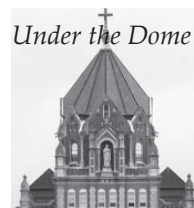
We thank God for Fr. Francis Brunner in founding our shrine back in 1850—the

oldest Marian shrine east of the Mississippi River. We still have a vital purpose in serving the daily pilgrims by our four priests and one brother. We continue to hear so many appreciative remarks from them. For example, recently one man said to me after hearing his confession in the parking lot: "You priests have saved my life." We pray that our shrine, as its special charisma, will bring hope, peace, and healing to all its pilgrims—for years to come.

## St. Charles Changes, Inside and Out

*Charles F. Mullen, C.PP.S.*

How about a little riddle? How can you change something inside and outside at the same moment? Put a new window in your house or building. We have reported on the installation of new win-



dows in the main building at St. Charles Center. Seeing is believing and we have workers here who have be-

gun installing the big windows along the third and second floor hallways in the parking and receiving area we call St. Gaspar's entrance.

These new windows with their dark bronze frames will make the place look really different—maybe like the building is wearing dark framed eyeglasses. I think I will get used to the change and may even see it as decorative.

We continue repointing and cleaning the surface of the bricks in the main building. I believe that Wellman Brothers,

Inc., is getting pretty close to finishing that work.

Even we people change inside and outside. We continue to do that here at St. Charles.

We also have opportunities for working on the inside of ourselves. Ever working on internal renewal. For instance, we enjoyed a day of recollection (retreat day) with Bishop Joseph Binzer who shared with us some thoughts on living the virtue of humility. How nice to have him visit us!

And the day following, we had a special time all day for adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Many parishes in the last years have set a time—some monthly or weekly, maybe even daily—set a time in their churches for such time with our Lord. (Some people may wonder whether that has anything to do with the Lord blessing us with vocations to the priesthood or religious life...)

Inner renewal? We don't all have membership, but there is a Carmelite group that meets on campus periodically. I think it is a special blessing for the people here.

Once a year we have a celebration of the Feast of St. Gaspar del Bufalo, who founded the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in 1815. That was held on October 21. Usually we have an extra number of our members come from the outside to celebrate with us. This year it was different because of—you guessed it—old COVID-19.

Speaking of celebrating, Columbus Day passed very quietly. I don't remember any public mention of his name. Quelle damage! How sad! Not that Christopher is a saint, but nowadays there is a sadness and a perplexing problem with some people lowering

the volume on him and other public important historical figures because of racism or something else.

Fr. Tom Brenberger, C.P.P.S., has taken up residence with us—as our local director! Br. Tim Cahill, C.P.P.S., is our vice-director. Also, Fr. James Gaynor, C.P.P.S., one of our Missionaries who served in South America for many years, is with us while he awaits reassignment.

On the day that I am writing this update, we are still well aware of the death of our dear member Fr. Phil Gilbert, C.P.P.S. His leaving us for heaven was certainly hastened by a fall he took where he broke his hip. (RIP, requiescat in pace!)

Yes, seasons come and go. But God remains the wonderful awesome eternal God! We change, but he endures, the same beautiful powerful loving deity.

There was a notice a few days ago about residents who had cars in the carport that they should move their cars out for a power washing. There was a funny little thought that entered my mind that I would sign up for a car washing also. But, of course, the announcement concerned washing the garage floor. In the end I thought it was nice that someone thinks to clean the garage floor once in a while.

In the area of taking care of things, signs have been posted about a date for flu shots. It's one of the ways that we can take care of ourselves. I wonder how many of us would wish that there was a date for a COVID-19 vaccination?

Another thing that comes up regularly is monthly visit by a masseur or masseuse for

those who have signed up. I'm sure there's a great boost to bodily peace from those who use their skills.

On October 10, it was announced that we would be treated to a parade of vintage Ford Mustang cars moving around our driveways. Sadly, they never came. But those who were out on the front porch were treated to seeing a bunch of nice fire truck (pumpers) who were having one of their usual practice days for testing how long it takes, I guess, to fill their trucks. They use our lake water. I was told by one of the firefighters that our lakes are a main source of emergency water in our area.

I mentioned the front porch. This porch on the front of the main building is a special treasure for many who live here. From the porch you have a fine view of beautiful sunsets as you look out on the really nice large landscaped entrance to our property. One person I know enjoys counting the trucks that in the distance go by on US 127.

We have some Community members who help our great maintenance crew as they do a lot of upkeep on the landscaping. Thanks to you all!

Back to the front porch. Our senior living manager, Teresa, occasionally schedules a day on the porch where you can go and get a sweet treat or some other delicacy. There you can mingle with others who would like to indulge a little. Recently we have had a popcorn appreciation day and there is another one scheduled. But that would depend on the weather, right? And November is upon us!

If it's not done already,  
(Continued on page 146)

# Fr. Philip Gilbert

(Continued from page 142)

presiding at a daily midday mass in a chapel on campus for as long as he was able—even when he had to proclaim the Gospel through a large magnifying glass.

Fr. Gilbert also helped out at parishes in the Gary Diocese and, for his Community, served several terms as district chair and the local C.P.P.S. director at the college. For many years, he was the chaplain of Knights of Columbus Council 1881 in Rensselaer.

He also loved baseball, rooting for the White Sox as a boy; later in life he committed the apostasy of switching his allegiance at least in part to the Cubs. He played baseball in high school and was an excellent point guard on the school's basketball team. "I was a hustler," he said. "I had a knack of seeing who was open and feeding them the ball." A teacher could be said to be a point guard too: seeing

who is open and feeding them what they need. A priest, too.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on October 22 at St. Charles Center, the V. Rev. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S., provincial director, presiding. Fr. William Stang, C.P.P.S., was the

homilist. Due to health restrictions, the funeral was private. Burial followed in the Community cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, Cincinnati Province.



## Condolences from the C.P.P.S.

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

The family of **Fr. William Beuth, C.P.P.S.**, who died on September 29.

The family of **Companion Marci Pynaert** (Orlando), who died September 30.

The family of **Joseph Michael**, who died October 3. He was the husband of Companion Alma Michael (Dayton).

The family of **John Geier**, who died October 10. John was the son-in-law of Companion Annette D'Angelo (Liberty, Mo.).

The family of **Rosella McClurg**, who died October 11. She was the sister of Rita Schemmel of the St. Charles Center staff.

The family of **Fr. Philip Gilbert, C.P.P.S.**, who died on October 15.



## Provincial Director's Calendar

**November 11–12:** CMSM meeting, via Zoom.

**November 17:** Local superiors'

meeting, via Zoom.

**November 17:** Joint provincial council meeting, via Zoom.



## Community Calendar

**November 1–7:** National Vocation Awareness Week.

**November 14:** 5K for Vocations, Coldwater Stadium, Coldwater, Ohio.

**January 25–29, 2021:** Members' retreat at St. Charles Center, Carthagen, Ohio, led by Fr. Page Polk, OFM.

## Dome

(Continued from page 145)

soon the porch furniture on the front porch will be stowed away. And then... the season is changing—which isn't all that bad. Things change. We change. We say, though, God never changes in his great love-ness and power in our regard. Praised be our God with whom we will live in a wonderful eternity that will never wear out!

Finally, congratulations to Br. Tim Cahill, C.P.P.S., who was recently appointed to the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council!



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

**November: Polish Province**



# Days of Praise

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

## Celebrating Birthdays In December

- 2 Br. James Ballmann
- 6 Fr. James McCabe
- 9 Br. Paul Chase  
Greg Evers
- 14 Fr. Robert Schreiter
- 21 Fr. Kenneth Schnipke
- 22 Fr. Charles Mullen
- 29 Fr. Harold Brown  
Fr. Stephen Dos Santos  
Fr. James Smith



*Happy birthday,  
Fr. Jim McCabe*



*Happy anniversary,  
Fr. Matt Jozefiak*

## *Please Pray Every Day for a Missionary of the Precious Blood*

**M**issionaries 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.

## Celebrating Anniversaries In December

- 8 Fr. Andrew O'Reilly
- 12 Fr. Matthew Jozefiak
- 13 Fr. Mark Peres
- 19 Fr. Kenneth Pleiman
- 30 Fr. Thomas Hemm

### DECEMBER PRAYER LIST

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Br. Robert Reuter                            | 17. Fr. Jerome Stack                              |
| 2. Fr. Joseph Rodak                             | 18. Fr. William Stang                             |
| 3. Fr. Kevin Scalf                              | 19. Fr. Jerome Steinbrunner                       |
| 4. Br. Matthew Schaefer                         | 20. Pray for those in formation                   |
| 5. Fr. Louis Schmit                             | 21. Fr. Donald Thieman                            |
| 6. Pray for vocations                           | 22. Fr. Ralph Verdi                               |
| 7. Fr. Eugene Schnipke                          | 23. Fr. Clarence Williams                         |
| 8. Fr. Kenneth Schnipke                         | 24. Fr. Vincent Wirtner                           |
| 9. Fr. Robert Schreiter                         | 25. Fr. Paul Wohlwend                             |
| 10. Fr. Kenneth Schroeder                       | 26. Br. Theophane Woodall                         |
| 11. Br. Jerome Schulte                          | 27. For living and deceased<br>Companions & Amici |
| 12. Br. Jerry Schwieterman                      | 28. Br. Juan Acuña González                       |
| 13. For living and deceased<br>C.P.P.S. members | 29. Fr. Kenneth Alt                               |
| 14. Fr. James Seibert                           | 30. Fr. Angelo Anthony                            |
| 15. Br. Antonio Sison                           | 31. Br. James Ballmann                            |
| 16. Fr. James Smith                             |   |

*Members, mark  
your calendars:*

**January 25–29, 2021**

C.P.P.S. retreat at St. Charles  
Center, Carthage, Ohio,  
led by Fr. Page Polk, OFM.

Look for invitations and  
more information to arrive  
by mail in December.

# National Vocation Awareness Week, November 1–7



*Greg Evers, candidate  
in advanced formation*



**MISSIONARIES OF THE  
PRECIOUS BLOOD**  
[cpps-preciousblood.org](http://cpps-preciousblood.org)

**M***y advice to anyone discerning a vocation to religious life is to not be afraid to ask questions and have conversations about it. If there is still an attraction to it, don't be afraid to give religious life a try. God will let you know if it is right for you or not. It never hurts to try. You will learn more about yourself and the kind of person God calls you to be.*

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