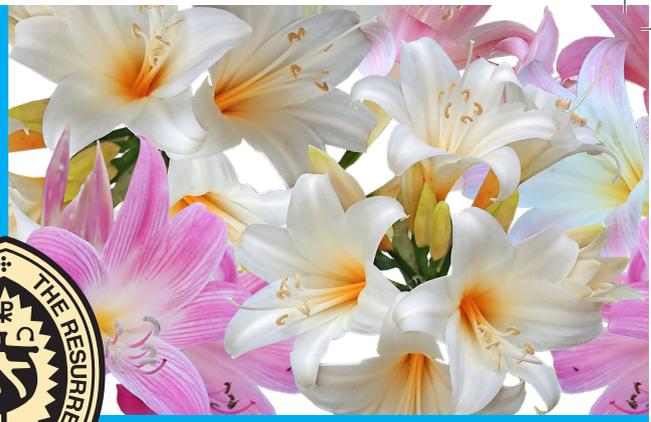


Resurrection

BULLETIN



RESURRECTION BULLETIN • SPRING 2020

Message from the Provincial

JESUS HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD! ALLELUIA!

My friends, this will be my last article as the Provincial Superior of the Ontario Kentucky Province of the Congregation of the Resurrection. My last 6 years in this role have been a time of great privilege and grace. I am grateful to God and to my fellow Resurrectionists for their support during this moment of my journey. No doubt our God will open new doors of blessings in my future.

I am conscious of the fact that our world has been deeply wounded by the Corona Virus. We are anxious, worried and afraid of what will come next and whether or not we will fall victim to this modern-day plague. We cry out to God for help for our world. We pray that our scientists will find a cure. It is within this time of turmoil that we seek to own and claim our faith in a deeper way. Like Thomas, our journey to faith includes doubting, questioning and serious soul searching. Thomas' experience leads us to discover the ongoing invitation of our God to place our faith, hope and trust in Him.

It is the wounds of Jesus that lead us to appreciate in a deeper way the profound love of God for us. His Word not only became flesh and dwelt amongst us. Jesus lived, loved, suffered and died for us. The wounds of God open our eyes of Faith. It seems to me that if we are to nourish our Faith in the Risen Lord, our call will be to touch the wounds of the world. At this moment of time we are invited to touch the wounds of people suffering from the Corona Virus in every country and continent of our world. How many of us see the face of the suffering Jesus in the face of someone we know who is ill and dying? How many of us see the face of the suffering Christ in the unemployed, the divorced, the separated, the addicted, the anguished, or the disenfranchised of our society?

The Resurrection of Jesus does not mean that Jesus will remove all our burdens or sufferings or tragedies or travesties of our world. There can be no Theology and Spirituality of Resurrection without a Theology and Spirituality of the Cross. There can be no sharing in the glory of the Risen Lord without the sharing in the suffering of discipleship. The message of the Resurrection of Jesus is that the promise that Jesus will give us the gift of His Peace and the gift of His Spirit to have the courage to go on in the midst of the wounds and sufferings of our own lives and those of the world around us. It is the gift of faith, hope and peace that gives us the courage to walk through the times of darkness and death towards new life beyond death.

May our voice, like the voice of Thomas, be a profound whisper wheeling up from the depths of our being those sacred and holy words that ring out our belief in the Risen Lord. "MY LORD AND MY GOD." Yes, indeed, Jesus has Risen from the Dead! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Fr. Murray McDermott, CR
Provincial Superior



*Fr. Murray McDermott, CR,
Provincial Superior*

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3. One Mass said each month in each house of the Congregation of the Resurrection for the deceased benefactors.
4. One Mass said annually in November in each house of the Congregation of the Resurrection for the deceased benefactors.

“If the faithful help even one candidate for the priesthood, they will fully share in all the future masses and in all the fruits of sanctity and apostolic works that will be his.” Pope Pius XII.

Contributions to the Congregation may be sent to:

Congregation of the Resurrection
Provincial Office, Treasurer
Resurrection College
265 Westmount Road North
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G7

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Election of Provincial Superior

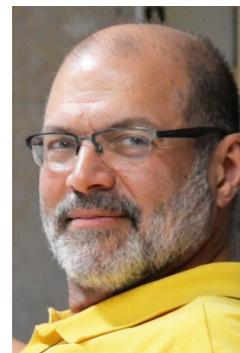
Congratulations to Fr. Tim Uniac, CR, who was elected to the office of Provincial Superior of the Ontario Kentucky Province on February 15th. He succeeds Fr. Murray McDermott, CR, who has served as Provincial Superior for the past six years. Fr. Tim will take office on July 1st for a three year term. Fr. Murray will continue in his present role as Provincial Superior until June 30th. We thank Fr. Murray for his years of dedication and leadership, and wish Fr. Tim God’s blessings as he begins this important role of service to his religious community.



Fr. Tim Uniac, CR

Election of Vicar Provincial

Congratulations, also, to Fr. Joseph deViveiros, CR, who was elected as the new Vicar Provincial, assistant to the Provincial Superior. The election took on a different format because of COVID-19. Instead of the majority of members gathering at Resurrection College in Waterloo for the election, the voting was done via email, phone and drop-off ballot. Fr. Joseph will begin his term of office on July 1st.



Fr. Joseph deViveiros, CR



Bringing Church to the Streets

By Rianne Rops, Outreach Coordinator, St. Mary Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows, Kitchener

Do you remember Ash Wednesday? It feels like a lifetime ago that we gathered together as a Church, bowed our collective head, and received ashes in a spirit of penitence and hope of Eastertide transformation. Little did we know what kind of Lent we would be walking into!

St. Mary's began this year's Lenten season by trying something new: we brought Ash Wednesday to the streets. In addition to our regular Ash Wednesday masses, Fr. Toby Collins, CR, Fr. Dan Lobsinger, CR, and Fr. Joseph de Viveiros, CR, sought to reach out to those who, for many reasons, are not comfortable stepping inside a church: those who are homeless, those who have been hurt by the church, those who have been away from the church for a long time, or those who are curious about the Catholic faith and don't know where to begin. So, they set up a canopy tent on a piece of church property bordering an LRT stop and – from 9am-5pm – offered ashes to each person who passed by.

They met a homeless man who watched from a distance until Fr. Toby asked, "Do you know about receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday?" "Yes. Yes, I do", he said. "Would you like to receive ashes?" "Absolutely!"

They met a man who had been away from the church for many years, and was profoundly grateful to be welcomed back by Fr. Dan.

They met a group of students from St. Louis Adult Learning Centre. Coming off the LRT, they noticed the priests praying at the station and decided to join them in prayer before heading off to class.



Fr. Dan Lobsinger, CR distributing ashes to a passerby.

Over 100 people stopped by on that snowy day to engage with our parish priests, and thousands more were inspired over social media by the way that our church was taking initiative to reach out. We never would have guessed that this small initiative of bringing church to the people would be the first of many ways that we would be called to bring our faith beyond our church walls throughout this unprecedented season of Lent and social distancing. What an unexpected display of Divine foreshadowing!

During this time, then, it is our mission is to take church "to the streets" – or rather, to the phone, the video-chat, the live-stream, or to the grocery store. While we feel keenly the pain of separation from our treasured liturgy and sacraments, we are being called to lean in and discover what graces are available to us during this time. And if we do lean in and cooperate with grace, God will undoubtedly transform this death – this sacrifice of separation – into the most beautiful of resurrections. Easter is still with us, brothers and sisters; our task now is to find it... beyond the church walls, and in the world.

A New Lease

By Fr. Murray McDermott, CR, Provincial Superior

The Ontario-Kentucky Province has entered into a fifteen-year agreement with the Waterloo Catholic District School Board for the use of the former St. Jerome's High School (currently St. Louis Adult Learning) in Kitchener. The current twenty five year lease ends on July 31, 2020.

The lease has been offered to the school board at no cost. Why? The Resurrectionists have been involved in the teaching ministry for the past 155 years. This has changed. Now we are not, for the most part, involved in hands

on teaching, and so we believe that it is important to respond to the Gospel and the needs that exist right before our very eyes.

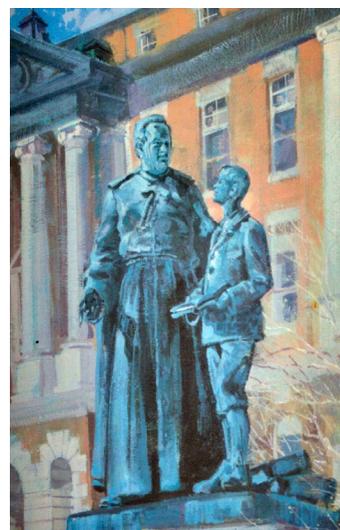
St. Louis School, through their various programs, supports refugees, immigrants, the poor, the jobless, the students with limited skill sets and the linguistically challenged. Among the programs being offered by St. Louis School are English as a second language, core skills in literacy including computers, obtaining the equivalent of a grade 12 education, Hair Styling/Barbering, Culinary/Cooking Skills, and Personal Support Worker. The philosophy of their educational programs is to give their students a hand up or a leg up rather than a hand out. It is about empowering students to be successful in the work place and community.

The WCDSB has no financial options in terms of continuing this educational service because the Provincial Government is pulling all funding to lease the building beyond July 31, 2020. The ministry of St. Louis School, for all practical purposes, provides an educational service to the poorest of the poor in the

KW area, empowering students to develop the necessary language ability and skills to compete in the work place.

We reach out to all people through our pastoral-education ministry but especially join in solidarity with people diminished by unjust structures. (Congregation of the Resurrection Mission Statement)

Supporting this educational opportunity within the former St. Jerome's High School building heightens our legacy profile as our Resurrectionists' ongoing contribution to education within the KW area. Let us celebrate together this gesture of bringing about the Resurrection of Society!



Canonical Visitation

By Very Rev. Paul S. Voisin, CR, Superior General

Earlier this year, I made Canonical Visitations to the Ontario-Kentucky Province and the United States of America Province of the Congregation of the Resurrection.

Article 101 of our Constitutions says that *“The Superior General, either personally or through his delegate, will conduct a Canonical Visitation of each House of the Congregation at least twice during his term of office”, and in Article 102, continues “The purpose of the Canonical Visitation is to offer support for the consecrated life of communities and individual members, and to address abuses. By the Canonical Visitation, the Superior General will strive to reinforce the unity and fruitfulness of the common life and see to it that the members remain faithful to the Charism of the Community. Therefore, he will share with the religious the joy of the achievements of the Congregation, and he will inform them of the Congregation’s needs. He will foster the conviction that they are members of a single, loving Resurrection family and that they are, therefore, to be sensitive to the needs of*



Members of the Resurrection Manor House: (seated) Fr. Pat McKelvie, Fr. Harry Reitzel, Fr. Ray Reitzel, Fr. Pat Aiello, Fr. Fred Scinto, Fr. Chester Chmurzynski, and Deacon Phil Tremblay. (standing) Fr. Florian Stasinski, Brother Ed Hohenadel, Fr. Jim Valk, Brother David Ernst, Fr. Chris Buda, Brother John Cline and Fr. David Mowat (missing) Brother Ed Benson (in Kentucky), Fr. Peter Pigott, and Fathers Ernie Varosi and Edwin Lapinski (in nursing facilities)



Fr. Joseph de Viveiros, CR, Fr. Paul Voisin, CR and Fr. Toby Collins, CR

members of the Congregation in other Provinces and Regions. In individual interviews, the Superior General will call to the attention of the members matters that pertain to the religious, priestly and apostolic life and discipline. The Visitation should take place in an atmosphere of fraternal life and confidence, and lead to spiritual and apostolic growth. The religious will strive to be sincere and open, accepting the Superior General as the father of the entire Congregation”.

Having had the experience of a Canonical Visitation with the Resurrectionists in Australia, Tanzania, Brazil, Bolivia, Poland, Austria, Germany, Slovakia, the Ukraine, and Bulgaria, I know the richness of this experience. Although the daily schedule may be demanding, it is also an inspiring and energizing experience to meet with each member of the Congregation – to ‘take their pulse’ as it were.

My attitude in the personal interviews in the Canonical Visitation reflects some of the words of Pope Francis in *Amoris Laetitia*. On Love in the Family. In paragraph 137, he says, “Take time, quality time. This means being ready to listen patiently and attentively to everything the other person wants to say. It requires the self-discipline of not speaking until the time is right. Instead of offering opinions or advice, we need to be sure that we have heard everything the other person has to say.” He continues in paragraph 138, “Develop the habit of giving real importance to the other person. This means appreciating them and recognizing their right to exist, to think as they do and to be happy. Never downplay what they say or think, even if you need to express your own point of view. Everyone has something to contribute, because they have their life experiences, they look at things from a different standpoint and they have their own concerns, abilities and insights. We ought to be able to acknowledge the other person’s truth, the value of his deepest concerns, and what it is they are trying to communicate, however aggressively. We have to put ourselves in their shoes and try to peer into their hearts, to perceive their deepest concerns and to take them as a point of departure for further dialogue.” We all want to be listened to, because we all have a story, and we all want to be supported and challenged.

I began each Visitation by asking, “How did you get to be a Resurrectionist?” which gave me an idea of their unique call and discernment to join the Congregation. I followed this, inquiring about



Resurrectionists of the USA Province with Fr. Paul Voisin, CR.

(1) their physical health, (2) their prayer life, (3) their Community life, (4) their apostolate, and (5) any concerns they may have about the life of their Province/Region. Following the suggestion of the Spirituality Committee of the 2017 General Chapter, I inquired with each Resurrectionist how they are “living and sharing the Charism of hope of the Congregation”. Finally, I asked them if they had any thing they would like to share with me, or ask me.

I found it humorous that, in Poland, someone asked me how a member of another Province came to know the Resurrectionists, coming from an area where no Resurrectionists laboured. My Secretary General, who accompanied me and translated for me during the Polish Province Visitation, spoke up (before I could), and answered, “Father doesn’t know that. He has not interviewed him yet.” True!

A Visitation not only includes the personal interview with each Resurrectionists, but also included a meeting with Parish groups, and the ‘Apostles of the Resurrection’. I was able to celebrate the Eucharist with the members of the residence at their daily liturgy, pray with them, share meal(s) with them, and also socialize. The Visitation of each House is concluded by a common session with all the members of the House, who may live in different residences. This allowed me an opportunity to be that “father” and support and challenge them in their spiritual life, their Community life, in their apostolate, and in the living and sharing of our Mission and Charism. I believe that it was not only an opportunity of grace for each Resurrectionist, but also for me, calling me to be more engaged and alert to the needs, the joys and struggles, the victories and the disappointments of each Resurrectionist.

St. Mary's Sandwich Project

By Rianne Rops, Outreach Coordinator, St. Mary Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows, Kitchener

Last November, St. Mary's Parish opened its doors to the homeless as an emergency warming centre while the Region of Waterloo worked hard to get their winter overflow shelter ready to go. Once the overflow shelter opened, the parish continued to support our friends by delivering a weekly supply of sandwiches.

The following is an interview with Jacqueline Heidenreich, an active parishioner and a devoted mother, who was invited to be the main coordinator for this project. Jacqueline fully embraced this opportunity, and quickly set out to gather the community – both within our parish and beyond – to serve others simply and with a joyful heart. She would be the first to agree that beautiful things happen when we say “yes” to God!

What are you taking away from this Sandwich Project experience?

“Jesus said if you do this for the least of my brothers then you do this for me (Mt. 25:40). The question I asked of everyone was this: Will you help me feed the hungry? Within 48 hours everything was booked full – both with the Friday groups, then again with the Sunday groups. We all see such pain going on in our world and we want to do something, but we don't know what that something is. A small act of making a sandwich is so simple and yet so big! The truth is this: When you look for the good in people you will find it! These past months just made me smile at how caring our community is.”

What was my favourite thing about the Sandwich Project?

“Getting to meet so many wonderful people and learning about their lives. We got to share some laughs along the way and we got to know each other a bit better. We all have so much more that connects us than we know. Everyone wants to help and you see that hope in their eyes and in how they live.”

What were the effects on our community?

“Good things grow, and this has kept on growing! From when we first opened our doors last November as an emergency warming centre, then onto helping where we can – and this is what we were asked to help with by the Region of Waterloo: feed the hungry. It has been wonderful to start with something so simple as making a sandwich and watching this grow into so much more! Now we have people making the food, people wanting to shop for the food, people delivering the sandwiches, people stopping me to ask “What's next? How can I help?”, and being able to connect with others in our Kitchener-Waterloo family. Now I think people aren't so afraid of the homeless. We know some of these faces. They have become our “outdoor friends”. Just as you say “hi” to your neighbor, I now see people just saying “hi” to whoever walks by. I have to thank St. Mary's staff for letting me come along on this journey. It has been a real joy getting to know each of you who stepped up!”



St. Mary's RCIA group making 100 sandwiches to send to the overflow shelter

Greetings from Tanzania

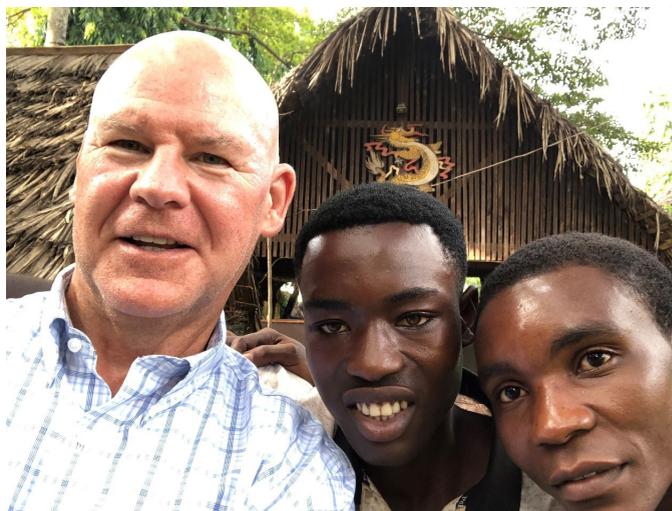
By Fr. Jim Donohue, CR

In previous editions of the Resurrection Bulletin, I wrote about significant spiritual events in the lives of our seminarians: the renewal of vows of our seminarians in August, the initiation into the novitiate for the novices in September, and the perpetual vows of Phillip Justinian in December. In this article I wanted to try to open a window to show you what my experience of East Africa has been like.

One of the things that is so different for me is the close proximity that we have to animals, wild and tame. There is the constant sound of roosters crowing, of cows mooing, and of goats bleating. In the background throughout the day, one also hears the Muslim call to prayer and our dogs howling, as the high pitch over the loud speaker seems to trigger something in them! As I go for my daily walk, I encounter goats and cows almost every day. One of the first people who I met in Tungi was Zubari, who herds the goats for the Blessed Sacrament Sisters who live next door to us. He has to keep pace with the goats and try to keep them together... something that does not look at all easy to me! But, he always has a smile on his face and seems to have everything in hand. He started to come around in the mornings to learn English but his hours changed at work and he had to stop. But, he stops by for “visits” at least once a week. I am always glad to see him. He really makes me laugh because whenever I speak Swahili to him, he cannot stop from laughing at how badly I pronounce words! Then, he will look very serious and say, “God bless you Father.”

I found out more about Zubari over time. It turns out that he was one of the (many) young men that “overwhelm” you when you pull into the market with the van. They are hoping that they will be picked to help carry things; this is how they earn a living. Usually, you end up with the same boy or couple of boys; it is difficult to “abandon” them after they have helped you. A few years ago, the Blessed Sacrament Sisters regularly had Zubari help them at the market. One day, they noticed that he looked terrible. Instead of shopping, they took him to the hospital in Morogoro. After a diagnosis, they found out that he had a rare condition from being infected by a parasite that comes from snails. They could not treat him in Morogoro, so the Blessed Sacrament Sisters drove him to Dar es Salaam and stayed with him at the hospital until he got better. Then, they adopted him. What a story!

The Blessed Sacrament Sisters invited us—Vitalis, Peter, and me—for lunch on New Year’s Day. They had quite a group of Sisters present, as their General Leadership group was conducting a visitation to Tanzania. Altogether, there were probably about 40 of us. The Sisters knew that it was Zubari’s birthday, so after grace, they led us in singing “Happy Birthday” for him. At first, he was smiling, but all of a sudden, he started to cry and he ran out of the room. Sr. Lucia, the house superior, looked at me with that look that said, “You go!” So, I went outside and this poor young man was sobbing uncontrollably. I gave him a hug and told him that everything was fine. I told him that I understood that this was all a bit much, but that people really loved him. He looked at me and said, “It is hard for me because this is so new, being loved.” I have been teaching him English, and one of the things that I taught him is to reflect upon himself and his gifts. So, I said, “What have you learned about yourself?” He started to smile and said, “I am good. I am smart. I am loveable. I am a super cool dude!” Then we laughed and hugged and went back inside. Sr. Lucia told me that they love him and care for him, but that I have brought something to him that they could not. She told me that he never stops talking about me and our English classes. She told me that she did not think that a man had ever done anything positive for him in his life and



Fr. Jim with Zubari and his friend, Steven, who also works for the Blessed Sacrament Sisters

that she thinks that God sent me for Zubari. I told her that I think God sent Zubari for me.

I have never seen as many cows in my life as in Tanzania! There is a Maasai cattle station nearby to us and people are constantly buying and selling cows there, which means that there is a steady stream of cows on the road. Most of the cows are herded by Maasai men, but you see local young men herding cows as well. One Maasai that I encounter frequently is Michael. His English is excellent. He told me that he worked for a German company before he returned to herd cattle. Apparently, his mother speaks excellent English and she taught him outside of school.



I usually run into Julius each day on my walks. He is a local young man who grazes someone's cattle for them. He has about 50 cattle that he is responsible for and he herds them by whistling and throwing stones in the direction that he does not want them to go. So, if he sees some of the cattle veering too far to the right, he will throw a stone ahead of them in that direction, which makes the



Fr. Jim with Julius

cattle turn back. He asked me if I wanted to try and he pointed at two cattle that were moving away. He gave me two stones. I lofted one that hit the back of one of the cows! It turned and just looked at me. Julius was laughing so hard that I thought he would die. So, he started whistling, and I threw another stone ahead of the cattle, and they turned around! Wow it worked!



Clearing the playing field of cows for a game of soccer

With all the cows around, it means that sometimes they are in places in which you don't really want them to be. When I was in Butiama, the novices challenged the altar servers to a game of football (soccer). But, the first thing that the players had to do was to clear the football field of cows!

You can also spot monkeys around Tanzania. I saw more of them when I was in Butiama, but I have also seen them in Morogoro. Fr. Daniel's parish seems to have a regular troop of monkeys that scavenge for food.



Monkeys – a common sight

But, I also see many monkeys in Morogoro, especially in areas with trees and bushes. They do have a strange look on their faces, as if they know more about you than you do about them!

Before I sign off on this article, I want to end with the story of two little boys. I see them frequently on my walks as they walk to school. They have quite a hike, but they take their time meandering more than walking to school. It seems to me that it must be time to go home by the time they get to school! Sometimes I will pass them walking in the opposite direction and then pass them again after I catch up to them on my return trip. They are incredibly friendly and playful, but I wish they had someone who would help them get to school more directly. They move so slowly that I wonder if they ever actually get to school!

I am scheduled to return to the United States on July 1, after 11 months in Tanzania. It has been a blessing in so many ways. The people have been hospitable and generous and kind. I have learned more things about myself; in particular, that as I get older, I can still adapt in ways that I would not have thought possible. I see God's hand in all of this and I am grateful that I have had this incredible opportunity.



Two little boys on their way to school

Supporting Our Missions

The Ontario-Kentucky Province, with the help of generous donors, continues to support the Congregation's missions in Tanzania, Bulgaria and Brazil. The funds sent to these missions play a vital role in assisting in the operation of our charitable activities to promote the Roman Catholic Faith and advance education in these areas.

There are ongoing needs and expenses in all of the countries that we support. In **Brazil**, the Novitiate in Resende has regular expenses such as food, medical and educational supplies. Fuel, repairs and insurance are needed for the Novitiae and Regional Superior's vehicles. Other ongoing expenses are such things as health insurance for the Regional Superior and other Resurrectionists and the annual salary for the office secretary. For the seminary in Curitiba, funds for tuition for the seminarians, salary for the seminary cook, fuel, insurance and maintenance for the seminary vehicles are required.

In the **Bulgarian** mission, it is necessary to travel to the churches under our care in Burgas, Varna, Malko, Tyrnovo, Shumen, Carev Brod and Dobirch. In order to carry out these services, the mission in Bulgaria needs to have funds for travel and vehicle expenses, such as fuel, insurance, licences, taxes, repairs and maintenance.

Our mission in **Tanzania** has recently purchased a pickup truck to support the needs of the Novitiate and Seminary. University tuition and fees for our Seminarians, laptops, bicycles for the seminarians, ongoing Formation expenses, food, etc. are all important needs.

How You Can Help the Missions – Donations in aid of Resurrectionists working in the missions (Brazil, Bulgaria and Tanzania) will be gratefully received. Thank you for your ongoing support. Because of you, our Congregation is able to continue to serve the missions in Brazil, Bulgaria and Tanzania and all of the people in our care.

Apostles of the Resurrection

On March 8th, the Apostles of the Resurrection gathered at St. Francis Church in Kitchener, along with members of the Congregation of the Resurrection. The purpose of the gathering was to choose delegates to attend the conference of Resurrectionist lay associations in Rome that was to be held at the end of June, 2020. At the start of the session, it was announced that because of the coronavirus, the conference will be postponed until at least the Fall.



Discernment regarding the choosing of delegates included participation in the Mass of the Holy Spirit, deliberately chosen in order to help the discernment of those hoping to attend the conference. Fr. Joseph deViveiros, CR presided and preached at the Mass. After Mass, the Apostles were asked to continue their discernment, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, about whether they felt they were being called to attend the conference as a representative of the Apostles. Dee Sproule, one of the Apostles, provided more questions to help the Apostles discern whether they possessed the gifts necessary to be effective delegates. They were asked, through personal reflection and prayer, to examine their hearts, listen to the promptings of the Spirit, think of their brother and sister Apostles, and strive to respond to the call of the Risen Lord. Those who felt called to attend the conference put their names in a basket. The names of Bob Sproule and Wanda Cakebread were drawn, and they will be the delegates for the conference. Dee Sproule and Annabel Quinn were chosen as alternates, in case Bob or Wanda are not able to attend.

The date of the next formation session is uncertain because of the COVID-19 virus. The Apostles were asked to spend time before the next meeting reflecting on their time with the organization of Lay Apostles and to share this at the next meeting in order to help the delegates prepare for the conference. Questions regarding topics that will be discussed at the conference were also given for reflection.

Ed Sikora's Upcoming C.P.E. Course

Ed Sikora continues to study at St. Peter's Seminary in London, Ontario. Fr. Dan Lobsinger, CR and Fr. Murray McDermott, CR attended Ed's year end conference in March. Ed will begin his three-month Clinical Pastoral Education (C.P.E.)



program on May 4th, 2020, through St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton. His clinical placement will be at St. Joseph's Villa in Dundas. He will live at St. Joseph's Parish in Hamilton for the duration of the program.

Fr. Paul Szymanowski, CR

Fr. Paul is completing his two year licentiate in moral theology at Alphonsian Academy (part of the Faculty of Theology of the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome). The topic of his thesis is: Faith, technology and the future: the critical analysis of Christian Transhumanism. The licentiate is a prerequisite for doctoral studies, which Fr. Paul will begin in September, 2020. He has been offered a scholarship for his doctorate, with the opportunity to work with Professor Martin McKeever, CSsR. Professor McKeever is one of the most respected professors at the university, and he will be Fr. Paul's dissertation supervisor. We wish Fr. Paul great success in his studies.



Peregrination of the Triptych in Canada

By Fr. Adam Wroblewicz, CR, Pastor, St. Joseph's Parish, Brantford, Ontario

May 18, 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of St. Pope John Paul II. In order to celebrate this milestone event (only one Polish man in the history of the Catholic Church has held such an honourable and responsible role as the successor of St. Peter at the Holy See), many churches around the world are offering thanksgiving devotions and celebrating Holy Masses. For this reason, three portable altar panels called Triptychs, consisting of a central part and two side wings with the image of Our Lady of Czestochowa (Black Madonna), St. Sister Faustina and St. Pope John Paul II and their relics are travelling across three continents of the globe (Europe, Asia and North America). The hope is that the faithful people of God will receive many of God's favours and blessings.

At the request of the Foundation of St. John Paul II in Rome and with the consent of Bishop Douglas Crosby, Ordinary of the Diocese of Hamilton, and I was asked to take on the role of a custodian and organizer of the peregrination in the Province of Ontario.

From January 1st of this year, on Saturdays and Sundays before the celebration of the Eucharist, and on weekdays after Mass, the faithful recite together the prayer for the intercession of St. John Paul II. On January 5th, his excellency Bishop Matthew Ustrzycki celebrated Mass at St. Joseph's Parish to mark the inception of the Year of St. John Paul II.



Fr. Adam Wroblewicz, CR with Bishop Jozef Dąbrowski at the March 15th celebration

The Triptych arrived at our church on Saturday, March 14th for one week to highlight the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Patron of this faith community. The main celebration occurred on March 15th, with Bishop Jozef Dąbrowski, auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of London, as principal celebrant and homilist. The Litany to St. Joseph was recited before the Eucharist, and a Litany to St. John Paul II was recited after the solemn ceremony. Following this, the parishioners met for a brotherly Agape in the parish hall, for a time of fellowship and refreshment.



Fr. Adam, Bishop Dąbrowski and the faithful of St. Joseph's Parish praying in front of the Triptych

Unfortunately, the visitation of the Triptych was postponed the next day because of the COVID-19 virus, with all of the churches of the Diocese of Hamilton closed by a decree of Bishop Crosby; however, St. Joseph's Parish was able to celebrate this beautiful jubilee and obtain God's graces and blessings for ourselves and for others through the intercession of St. John Paul II.

The Triptych still remains at our church until the end of the pandemic. Once we overcome it, the Triptych will move to the various parishes that showed an interest in hosting it. The Triptych will accompany a walking pilgrimage from Toronto to Midland in the second week of August. According to the schedule, the Triptych will stay in Ontario until September. Afterwards, it will travel to the United States and make its return to the Western part of Canada in the Autumn.

Reflections of A Vocation Director

By Fr. Dan Lobsinger, CR



In September, 2018, I responded to the call to be the Vocation Director of the Ontario-Kentucky Province of the Congregation of the Resurrection. As I have now completed a year and a half of that ministry, I recall the words of Jesus addressed to the Scribes and Pharisees: “Those who say ‘Lord, Lord’ will not enter the Kingdom of God but those who do the will of my Father.” (Mt 7:21) What Jesus was clearly saying is that actions speak louder than words in witnessing what we believe.

When I accepted the call to be a Vocation Director, I knew I could only share with others the call to be a Resurrectionist if I was truly living that out in my own life. Inspiring young men to be a part of our mission and charism would be empty words for me if it were not integrated in my own lived reality.

When I began as a Vocation Director, I learned that young people who feel called to Religious Life are looking for certain values. First, a sense of belonging to a community of trust, hope, honesty and integrity and charity among its members. Second, a commitment to prayer among its members and third, a willingness to sacrifice one’s personal ambitions and needs for the ongoing life of the community. These were the values that our Founders envisioned in 1836 and they challenge us today.

When I accepted the assignment to St. Mary’s Parish and to be the Vocation Director, Frs. Toby, Joseph and I made an intentional commitment to each other to be a public witness to the other members of our Province, to the people of St. Mary’s Parish and to the wider local community of these values of Religious Life. When I respond to God’s call to live those values in my own life, I am doing the will of the Father in His call to me as a Vocation Director, and not simply saying “Lord, Lord” by accompanying young men to discern that which does not truly exist.

Where are they Now?

Brother Ed Benson, CR

With the death of Deacon Brian Karley, CR, Fr. John Lesousky, CR is the last remaining Resurrectionist from the Ontario-Kentucky Province in Kentucky. In order to provide support for Fr. John, Brother Ed Benson, CR has moved to Louisville and is living with the Xaverian Brothers. Brother Ed will support Fr. John and take care of his needs and well-being.

Fr. Edwin Lapinski, CR

Fr. Edwin Lapinski, CR recently moved to Columbia Forest Long Term Care facility, 650 Mountain Maple Avenue, Waterloo. He is in room 1213. Fr. Edwin now resides in the same facility as Fr. Ernie Varosi, CR.

Editorial team for The Resurrection Bulletin:

Fr. Jim Donohue, CR
Fr. Sudie MacDonald, CR
Fr. Phil Reilly, CR
Ms. Patti Tusch
Fr. Paul Voisin, CR



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