

Society of Saint Pius X



S S P X



in Mission

Foreign Mission Trust **MAGAZINE**



Model of Sanctity

Can there be evolution in the model of holiness? No! The model of sanctity no longer evolves because “the form of all perfection” is Our Lord Jesus Christ, as it states in the ritual for the taking of the habit by religious sisters. Though saints may appear different, they are only different arrangements of the same flowers of the same bouquet, as St. Francis de Sales explains. Thus, the code of sanctity in the Church is as unchanging as the moral code.



Letter from the Publisher



Dear Faithful,

How often, as children, have we not been transported into foreign lands with stories of heroes, both men and women, in the struggle for life against the forces of evil? Whether under the tropics or the African desert, or the busy streets of India, we have dreamed of missionaries like St. Francis Xavier, of holy women like St. Rose of Lima, of great warriors like Hernan Cortés and great statesmen like García Moreno.

Seldom does the dream become reality, and we think we are not quite awake as we are living the awesome drama which unfolds before our own eyes. However, it is perhaps not so uncommon to hear of marvelous accounts, especially in territories where the devil's power is deeply entrenched. Pagan, Muslim, and Hindu countries have had their share of mysterious encounters with God's grace, and we can only adore God's Providence at work. It teaches a lesson in humility as those involved have little to do with such graces and that, at the end of the day, they are only useless servants. Here is one such story among many anonymous others. We hope it will enkindle your imagination along with other detailed articles and stories connected with Hernan Cortés in Mexico and García Moreno in Ecuador.

In the Christmas season, it is our pleasure to offer a broad spectrum of missionary work of many dedicated apostles of Christ, the King of the poor and of the destitute. While we live in our peaceful stable and comfortable Christian country, some vanguard posts and temporary bastions do not enjoy our facilities and are daily struggling with menial issues and lack of manpower. Being all parts of the same Church Militant, let us unite our efforts and prayers, so that all Catholics, pressed under the banner of Tradition, may beg Christ to reign over them.

In Christo,

Fr. Jürgen Wegner
Publisher



S S P X

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FOR THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

God's Special Grace for the Mission

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Facts



Priory of the Most Sacred Heart in Palayamkottai, India

The Mission runs 17 Mass Centers with 3 SSPX priests, 3 heroic helper priests and 2 zealous brothers. It also looks after a school of 70 pupils, works very closely with an orphanage run by the Consoling Sisters of the Sacred Heart and supports a new pious union of 5 sisters: the Reparation Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

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Sr. Maria Michaela (Miss Geetha Maniraj) is a new novice at the Reparation Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Palayamkottai, India. Her brief story of finding Catholic Tradition and her vocation is an edifying narration of God's special grace to the SSPX Indian mission.

Geetha's parents are Christians in name only. Though they were baptized, her father practices the Hindu religion more than the true Faith. Her mother and her brother practice no religion at all. At home she had lived in this modern paganism, fruit of Vatican II. But Geetha was bright and intelligent. After finishing her engineering studies at the highly prominent SRM University, she was hired by a corporate company and began to settle down with a huge salary. All was going well. At the age of 23 she was ready, like every other ordinary Indian girl, to get married and settle down. Although she had everything, she perceived that there was something lacking—an unknown emptiness which she could not decipher. Though she was not paying too much attention to this emptiness, she still could not ignore it. At this point, she heard from a distant relative about a retreat which might help her and perhaps provide a better preparation for her married life.

She came down to Palayamkottai to attend an Ignatian retreat. This was her first experience of traditional Catholic circles and she felt completely lost in the beginning but gave herself totally to the "Ignatian method." She listened attentively to the conferences and meditated assiduously. She soon felt anxious to know (perhaps for the first time) about the basic tenets of the Faith, so new to her and so captivating. She says it was during the retreat that God's grace started to work in her mind and heart.



She also saw the Tridentine Mass for the first time. Her breath was taken away by all that she saw. The mystery of the Holy Sacrifice was all so grand, so beautiful. She made a good confession of her entire life.

After the retreat, she returned to her job and all went on well and smoothly for some time. At home, no one had the least suspicion of what was going on in her soul (except for the distant relative). Her regular contact with the Reparation Sisters and the contemplative nature of the congregation (and more importantly the spirit of reparation as requested by Our Lady of Fatima) gave her a deep and sincere attraction towards them. Their poverty and spirit of detachment easily won her respect.

The stirring request, “At least you try to console me” made a lasting impression on Geetha and she took it as her call to a higher life. She decided to “leave everything” and make reparation for the sins of the world as requested by the Immaculate Heart. Would she be doing wrong? No, decidedly; she was convinced. The grace of God was doing its work, slowly but surely.

She regularly visited the convent on weekends and was thrilled to attend the Latin Mass. When word of her intention to join the convent reached her parents’ ears, they were first surprised and then vexed by the news. They called the girl, scolded her most severely for “her wrong-doing” and threatened her with all sorts of punishments and evils and curses from the gods. Her mother used the usual sentimental and emotional threats to deter her daughter from entering. Geetha, quite humble and respectful before her angry parents, said quietly that she had made her decision and as for giving up her vocation, she would not even think of it. And so, amidst such turmoil, she entered the convent at Palayamkottai on Feb. 2nd, 2018. It is true, the convent is free from all such vain threats and unnecessary pressure, but it has its own trials and disappointments. After spending a year of postulancy, her day of vestition was fixed on May 31st, 2019.

As soon as the family heard about this news, they spared no effort to undermine it. They saw this as their last chance. Truly the ways of God are mysteriously wonderful and wonderfully

**A Note from
Fr. Therasian Xavier**

We have been rather silent about ourselves for a long time, but that does not mean we have ceased to exist. No! It is the excitement caused by several events that deterred us from writing. The last day of the school was a festival for our students. Piercing cries from the crowds of urchins beat against our vexed eardrums for more than an hour. These little ones are giving vent to their pent-up feelings of excitement about the upcoming holidays. But for us, no school means more time with the children and we used this time to preach several retreats as well.

The sisters organized a girls' camp for the children from our mission chapel which was greatly enjoyed by the participants. Later on, I took the boys on a trip to Kerala. It was fascinating. Its surf-beaten shore, its coconut trees and clustered mangrove forests all bespeak the beauty of God's creation. Besides the scenery, they enjoyed swimming in cooler water as the temperature back home refused to go down below 105 degrees Fahrenheit for the whole month!

Toward end of the month, Fr. Coenraad Daniels of Iloilo came to preach a retreat for the Reparation Sisters. He also visited the Southern tip, Manapad, Goa and Chennai. It was his first trip to India, and he saw for himself what he heard about us from others. Did he echo the words of the queen of Sheba? "The report is true which I heard in my own country... I have found that the half has not been told to me..." The other half is, of course, the better half!

In Christo,
Fr. Therasian Xavier



mysterious! Geetha's father, in his usual way, made all kinds of vain threats, while her mother's grief and anger came in waves. They made every attempt until the last moment to have the ceremony stopped or at least "postponed indefinitely."

Geetha's mother, who was more and more obsessed with this affair, became very ill—but still Geetha persevered. Though she took very attentive care of her mother, she never wavered from her decision. Even on the very day, and at the moment of her changing into her habit, her wailing mother persisted. But then the young girl unknowingly followed the instructions of St. Bernard: "To serve both Christ and the world at the same time? But no one can serve two masters. Thy mother desires a thing contrary to thy salvation, and consequently to her own. Choose one of two things: Thou must either fall in with thy mother's wishes or give heed to her salvation and thine own. If thou really love thy mother, leave her; it is to her interest; and do not, by abandoning Christ in order to remain with her, run the risk of making her perish eternally because of thee." On May 31st, 2019 on the feast of the Queenship of Our Lady, Geetha received the habit of the Reparation Sisters and a new name in religion: Sr. Maria Michaela of the Holy Eucharist.

Her joy was complete. She could only praise and thank God in her heart for the providential way in which He had acted towards His future spouse.

Obviously, the trials and painful troubles are not over. They will last as long as we live in this world. Are these crosses not how we can repair the damages of sin—ours and others? And so, there will surely be trouble—or else the devil would no more be what he is—spiteful and revengeful. But we have the Immaculata on our side, and come what may, she will help us through all difficulties.

All is peace and quiet now at the convent. Our dear sisters are enjoying the sweet happiness of God's own. They can now sing their eternal song of gratitude, with an added note, as it were. At the same time, who can express



the feelings of a priest's heart at such moments? He who sees the marvels of God unfurled in front his own eyes—what could he say?

Before closing, let me now thank you one and all for your generosity. It is keeping us alive. I have no idea how these few words can make up for all your generous sacrifices made towards the mission. But please be sure that I am most sincere when I say that you keep us alive. May God's blessings come upon you and remain with you forever.

—Fr. Therasian Xavier



Facts



Reparation Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Fr. Anthony Xavier, a diocesan priest from Tuticorin, inspired by the apparition of Our Lady at Fatima, gathered together pious young women who would consecrate themselves to prayer and penance. After his death in 2008, the indefatigable Rev. Fr. Daniel Couture, no doubt inspired by Our Lady, thought of transforming these young women into religious. After two years of formation under the masterful direction of Rev. Fr. Robert Brucciani, the Reparation Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary were canonically erected by Bishop Alfonso de Galarreta on August 22nd, 2013. Their main apostolate is prayer and penance and their statutes are richly inspired by the message of Fatima!

Mother Superior:
Sr. Maria Felicita

Date of Canonical Erection:
August 22nd, 2013

The SSPX in Africa

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Facts



- South Africa is the southernmost country in Africa
- Currency: South African rand
- Population: 55 million
- South Africa has 11 official languages, among which are Afrikaans and English
- Area is slightly less than twice the size of Texas
- The population is mainly (Protestant) Christian
- A minority of about 7% is Roman Catholic

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Very often the faithful receive information about Africa but mostly from places where the Society is present, in connection with certain commemorations or inaugurations of a chapel or a school. However, Africa is much more than that. It is a very special soil tinged with red, probably as rich as the blood of its children and as the iron it contains. Men have been going through it for millennia, so all dramas, as on other continents, accompany the history of Africa's people.

Africa could have easily been Christianized because there were enough monks and priests in Europe during the Middle Ages who could have traveled to Africa; but it seems that the throes of history or the devil's genius have succeeded in being a sentinel against such a blessing. Islam is absolutely detestable for its role as a barrier between black Africa and Christian Europe. But as the great apostle St. Francis Xavier was able to regret, if there were eminent people interested in transmitting the good of Christianity to all these countries, very often miserable scoundrels were also present only to obtain some miserable material profit. As always, it is easier to destroy than to build!

In spite of all the miseries with which man, depository of the wounds due to original sin is only too accustomed, the Church put immense energy into bringing the treasures of the grace of which she alone is the depository. Tens of thousands of missionaries have given of themselves with incredible generosity—humanly so unbelievable—to win these African souls to God. The expected yield was not always the end result because this land which had remained fallow too long, had to be worked in depth.

Pope Paul VI, during his visit to Uganda, had an interesting analysis of the work of the Church. After having recalled the mission of the Church which is



to be “*unique and the same, everywhere, in any situation, although it is not conducted in the same way because of the circumstances,*” he went on to say that “*The Church, although of itself including the totality or fullness of the means of salvation, does not and cannot always and instantly bring them all into action. Rather, she experiences beginnings and degrees in that action by which she strives to make God’s plan a reality. In fact, there are times when, after a happy beginning, she must again lament a setback, or at least must linger in a certain state of unfinished insufficiency. As for men, groups and peoples concerned, only by degrees does she touch and pervade them, and thus takes them up into full Catholicity.*”

Its clergy is neither united in the preaching of the Faith nor in the teaching of morals because its formation is very diversified!!! Everything is more or less accepted as long as the bishop tolerates it! One can find deep piety united to incredible extravagances.

The role of the Society of Saint Pius X in this context is to help souls who are desirous of a serious Catholic religion and not the religion of tam-tam, (the beating of drums). There is a large filtering to be made, because many are rather visa than faith applicants! And there are few of us priests who have not been taken for a ride! But it is the perpetual fear of the priest not to override a beautiful soul who is really waiting to submit to the Word of God. And there, for our greater happiness, we also have beautiful experiences of generous and deeply Christian souls.

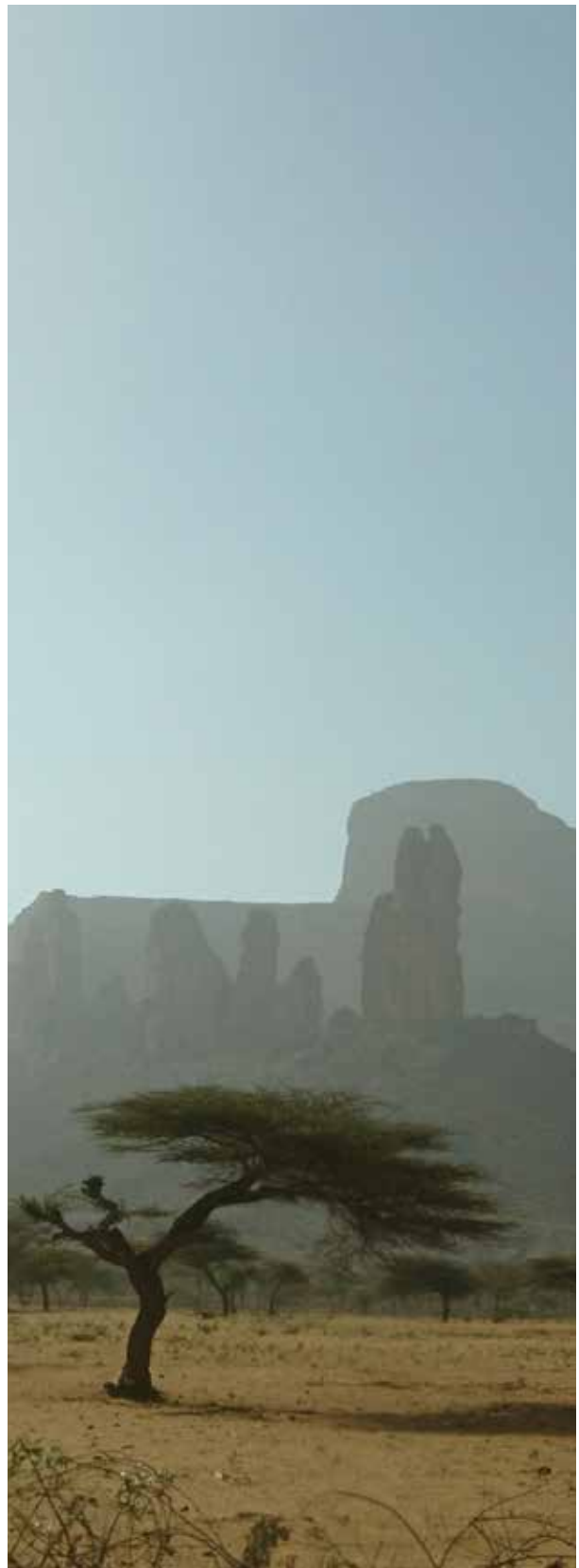
We are trying to create a few islands of Tradition. We also receive requests from several countries that are begging the Society to come to their homes and not abandon them! But alas, it is not possible for us to answer; we are too few and it is dangerous for us to be too dispersed! Here too unfortunate experiences encourage us to be cautious.

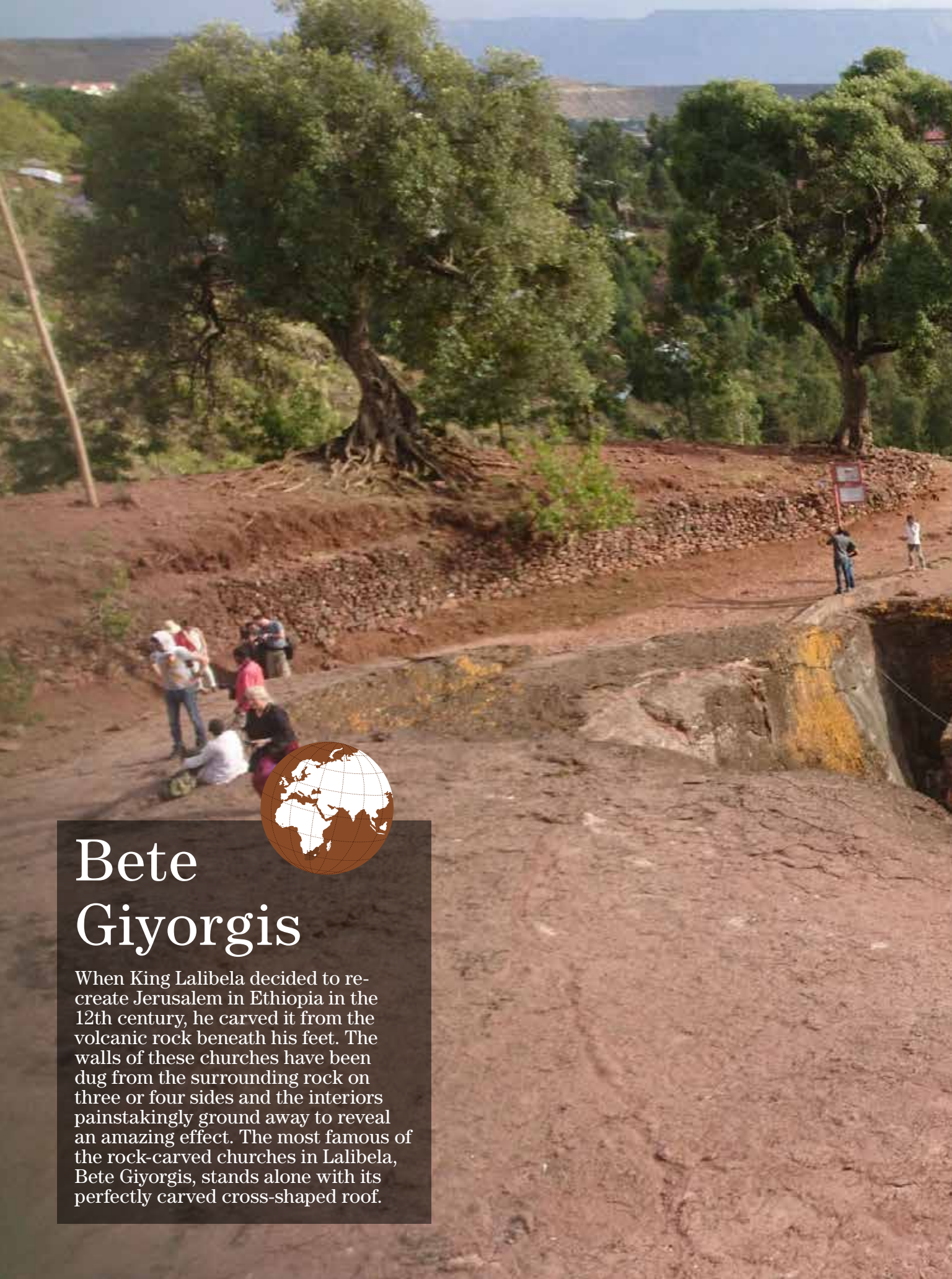
So we will continue our very interesting apostolate bit without dreaming of gigantism, with our feet firmly on the ground and imploring divine guidance. If African vocations increase, it will be the sign to continue with the opening of other places.

We also hope that for divine Providence, it is Africa’s turn, and that its peoples will be able to enjoy more than today the benefits of our very beautiful and most holy Catholic religion.

—Fr. Henry Wuilloud

Johannesburg, October 7, 2019





Bete Giyorgis


When King Lalibela decided to re-create Jerusalem in Ethiopia in the 12th century, he carved it from the volcanic rock beneath his feet. The walls of these churches have been dug from the surrounding rock on three or four sides and the interiors painstakingly ground away to reveal an amazing effect. The most famous of the rock-carved churches in Lalibela, Bete Giyorgis, stands alone with its perfectly carved cross-shaped roof.



Paying the Price of Their Vocation

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Facts



Steps to the Priesthood at Holy Cross

- Year of Spirituality
- Taking of the Cassock
- Tonsure
- Porter
- Lector
- Exorcist
- Acolyte
- Subdeacon
- Deacon
- Priest

❖

Among the priest professors at Holy Cross Seminary, there are two Americans and one Canadian, all three of whom were formed at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary. There are also two Australian priests who were formed here at Holy Cross. One of the striking differences between the seminary experiences of these five priests and that of most of the men studying at Holy Cross today is the great physical distance which separates the “seminary home” of these current students from their natural home. Most seminarians formed in Dillwyn (and, before them, in Winona) took for granted that they could visit family and friends during every academic break without exception. For most seminarians in Goulburn, the ability to visit family and friends is itself very much the exception. Most of them visit their native countries no more than twice during all their years of seminary study. Furthermore, before they can obtain visas to enter Australia to even begin their seminary careers, it is necessary as a legal requirement that they spend one year in a priory of the Society. This not only demands the investment of an additional year of their life in the process of pursuing their vocation, but also, due to the scarcity of priories in mission countries, it nearly always means yet another year spent far away from their homes. Then, if after years of training, they have the grace to be ordained priests, most of them know that only the tiniest fraction of those dear to them (if, indeed, any at all) will be able to attend their ordination and support them on that greatest day of their life.

Experience proves how difficult it usually is for American or Canadian or Australian young men to make that determined choice to leave behind their familiar surroundings to enter a seminary which is only a few hours’ flight



from home. (The author of this article remembers this difficult decision quite clearly.) The God who does not allow even a glass of cool water given in His name to go unrewarded certainly treasures and rewards this painful sacrifice. But when one considers how difficult it is for men blessed with a seminary near at hand to take this decision, one cannot but admire the determination of men willing to pay a far higher price for the privilege of following Our Lord. Perhaps this reflection will serve as an inspiration and encouragement for those men in North America, still undecided, from whom God does not ask so complete a sacrifice.

The year 2019 saw Holy Cross welcome seminarians from a country never before represented at a seminary of the Society. God willing, this year




The Seminary's herd of cattle offers serene photographic opportunities—and an affordable source of meat.

will also see a priest ordained at Holy Cross from a country never before represented among the Society's priestly ranks. Such "firsts" are more frequent within districts where the apostolate is not yet well established relative to their vast geographical extent, *e.g.*, Africa and Asia. So, too, are these "firsts" more frequent within a seminary designed to serve such districts. The generosity which characterizes souls involved in these beginnings is a frequent source of edification for the priests and religious who guide them. This is one of the consolations enjoyed by the staff at Holy Cross.

Farewells and Welcomes

After 10 years of zealous service "down under," Fr. Paul Robinson left behind a very appreciative seminary community to assume his new duties as prior of St. Isidore's Priory near Denver, Colorado. Many prayers accompanied him in gratitude for the fine work he had done in Australia. One week after his departure, the seminarians extended a hearty "G'day!" to Fr. Mark Stafki who joined the seminary staff after assignments in several schools in the United States, most recently in St. Mary's. Further sweetening the welcome providentially offered to this Minnesota native was the rarest of all Goulburn weather events—a snowstorm! This offered Father the opportunity of demonstrating his considerable snowman-building skills to an enthralled audience.

Facts



—The first Catholics that settled in Australia arrived from Great Britain as part of the “First Fleet” that settled Australia in January 1788. Catholics made up 10 percent of the approximately 1,500 people in the First Fleet, and these were mainly Irish convicts.

—During the journey, the First Fleet had met two French ships, which followed them into Sydney Harbor. The French remained for six weeks, visiting with the British. During this time the French chaplains celebrated the first Masses on the Australian continent and performed the first Catholic burial: the chaplain of one of the French ships (Fr. Louis Receveur) died while the ships were in the harbor and was buried in Sydney.

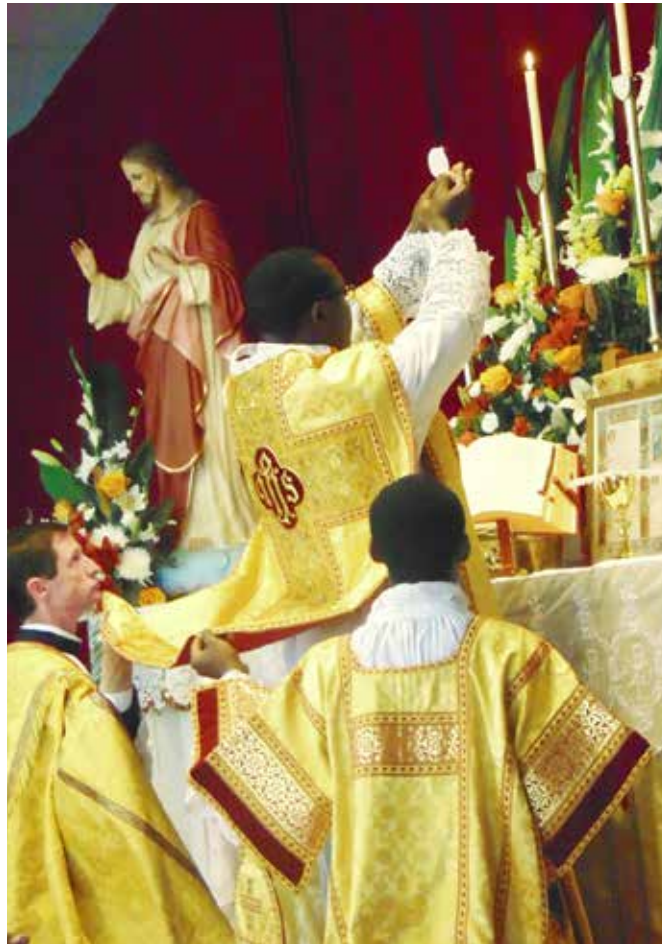
—There were no priests at all in the colony until 1803 and then none again from 1804 until 1820, when two priests (Fr. Therry and Fr. Conolly) arrived with permission of the British government. The Catholic population by that time numbered approximately 10,000 souls.

—The first bishop in Australia was John Bede Polding, an English Benedictine. He arrived in September 1835 as bishop of Sydney.

—Even until the 1930’s most of Australia’s clergy were not born in Australia. The majority of the priests were natives of Ireland.

The Most Pressing Current Need

As has been mentioned in several previous articles, leaking roofs are a perennial problem at Holy Cross. Those sections of the roof which have historically been the worst offenders have now been addressed, but several smaller leaks remain, and these holdouts are joined by others on the occasions of particularly heavy rain. The problem, therefore, is two-fold. There is the question of failure in certain portions of the roof as regards leakage, but there is also the broader problem (not uncommon in the drier regions of the world) of inadequate provision for drainage due to the poor design of the roof itself and of the gutters. Although the impact of these problems on daily seminary life is minimal now that most of the acute leaks have been repaired, the fact remains that, structurally speaking, the inability of the seminary’s main building to shed water effectively is a ticking time bomb. What is needed is a comprehensive examination of the roof to identify all of the damaged areas as well as to improve the design of the roof itself where necessary. The most likely outcome is that the roof will not need to be replaced but merely improved. But every year that this project is delayed raises the probability of the deterioration of structural members—the rotting of wooden trusses and the rusting of the re-enforcing steel. This is why we recommend this project to the generosity of our friends overseas.



The first Mass of the Society’s second Kenyan priest, Fr. John Mwangi.



Three new subdeacons were ordained by Bishop Fellay on the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on August 22, 2019.



The worst snowstorm to hit Goulburn in 30 years—nearly 3 inches!

Will Men be Men?

Not a Walk in the Park, but in the Mountains

The Philippines



Facts

- The Philippines is a Southeast Asian country in the Western Pacific, comprising more than 7,000 islands. It is the second-largest archipelago in the world.
- Population: 103.3 million
- Capital: Manila. Metro Manila, comprising several other conjoined cities, stands at more than 12,877,000 people, making it one of the most populated metropolitan areas in the world.

A problem faced world-wide is the loss of fatherhood, the absence of fathers with its underlying strata, and the loss of manhood altogether. And since the Priesthood carries the powers of remedying this terrible situation, which is far worse in the Philippines than it is in the USA, priests find themselves trying to do what they can with their boys, both in the US and abroad. One difference, however, is that boys on a man-making camp in the US aren't likely to have a gun pointed at them.

And so it was that Fr. Pfeiffer, Br. Aloysius, team-leader Jett Lu and a crew of 11 teen-aged boys under the *aegis* of the Militia Immaculatae Brotherhood, began making their way, full-pack, across the Mountains of South Central Mindanao. The idea was to walk 51 miles in 3 days, distribute Miraculous Medals here and there, camp out wherever Providence provided a dry spot or level ground, and end with a small Mary's Mission in the town of Makilala. Park trails such as are found everywhere in the US and Europe are not so common in the Philippines and so it was on normal roads that the boys made their way, said their rosaries and found the means to cook their food.

One day and about 9 miles into the walk, the boys reached the small town of Arakan, above the Arakan valley, and protected by a military outpost. The lunch spot was designated as the open covered-court gym, and the boys were sent out in two groups for 15 minutes to distribute some Miraculous Medals, each with a banner of Our Lady or a banner of the MI as a sign of their spiritual work. Jovan Adang, 15 years old, was the banner bearer of group one on the North West side of the village. Being the banner bearer, and not actually knocking on doors or speaking to people, he was getting hot continually



standing in the sun. So, naturally, he stepped away from his team just a bit, and off the road, to find a little shade. There, near a tree, suddenly, he felt the barrel of rifle pressed into his back below the nape of his neck and heard the voice of an old man ask: “Where are you all from?” “Gensan,” he replies, turning to look down the barrel of a gun. “What are you doing here?” Jovan replies, “Procession.” The old man grunts: “Fakes!” Jovan moves quickly away towards the crossroads leading back to the center of town and the man disappears.

Meanwhile, Fr. Pfeiffer meets a soldier who puts him through a series of questions as to their doings and so on. It gradually becomes apparent that the strange looks of people that had been met along the road, and their universal disbelief that a priest would be taking a casual walk in the mountains for training boys, betrays the fact that they think the group of young men is actually a group of Communist insurgents coming down out of the mountains for suspicious reasons. In fact, it is well known to the Philippine Military that certain social activist priests are pro-Communist and revolutionary in their apostolate. It is little wonder



Mindanao, Philippines

- Area: 37,660 sq. mi.
- Highest elevation: 9,692 ft.
- Highest point: Mount Apo
- Largest settlement: Davao City, pop. 1,632,991
- Population: 25,537,691
- Population Density: 629 / sq. mi
- Mindanao, still commonly known as Southern Philippines, is the second-largest island in the Philippines. Mindanao and the smaller islands surrounding it make up the island group of the same name. Located in the southern region of the archipelago, as of the 2010 census, the main island was inhabited by 20,281,545 people, while the entire Mindanao island group had an estimated total of 25,537,691 (2018) residents. According to the 2015 Philippine Population Census, Davao City is the most populous city on the island, with a population of 1,632,991 residents.

that the training group of young men under the guidance of a priest is mentally associated with a lawless element.

Alas, the civilized world has become completely feminized, and the ecclesiastical world as well—good men are hard to find. It is so bad that finding real men at all practically means criminality.

But the civilized population around the world is rapidly advancing to its destruction. Its restoration in Christ is its only hope. The restoration of manhood in Christ is one necessary step. In the Philippines the Militia Immaculatae Brotherhood is one attempt at this restoration. With more Jett Lu team leaders, and more teen-aged boys hitting the trails to discover their natural vocations, the restoration of Christ moves forward one mile at a time.

The last days of the trip were without incident, although a few boys needed a ride to avoid over-heating, and finding them when they were dropped in the wrong place too far away introduced a few complications. But all arrived safe and sound in Makilala. There, a beautiful spiritual bouquet was offered to Our Lady in the form of an evening Mary's Mission. Nineteen knights of the MIs from the area renewed their enrollments, 9 new knights were enrolled and some 50 people attended Mary's Mission Mass celebrated in the parish gym of the parish church of Makilala.

This camp represented the first attempt at training young men in their manhood under the spirituality of the Militia Immaculatae, and many more, God-willing, will follow. Ave Maria!





Our Lady of Victories School

Quezon City, Philippines



Dear Friends and benefactors of the Asian Missions,

I have the great pleasure to present our school, named in honor of Our Lady of Victories. It is a beautiful little story much the same as many SSPX schools. A group of dedicated and generous faithful requested permission from the prior to found a school to protect the Faith and virtues of their children. The good prior gave the number 15 as the bare minimum required to form a school. Since this modest foundation, by divine Providence, we have quadrupled in number. The school was officially recognized by the Department of Education 10 years ago this year.

From outward appearances, our school looks like a home and inwardly it is operated like a family. Several of our faculty have tried their vocations and decided to serve the Church and SSPX in our school. It is most necessary to have solid traditional Catholics for the formation of the youth who will be the next generation of priests and parents here in the Philippines. We have been very blessed to have such wonderful and dedicated teachers helping with the sanctification of students and



families as well as forming future vocations and leaders for the Philippines.

What sets our school apart from other schools is that we insist on daily attendance at Holy Mass and the daily recitation of the rosary for our dear teachers and students. It is indispensable to bring them again and again to the fountain of grace and to have Our Lady to guide and protect us.

In the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts,
Fr. P. Fortin

Our Needs

Materially, our school grounds are very nice and adequate for our needs. The facilities only require minor improvements. Yet we lack funds for operational expenses. The school operates on a budget of 10,000 USD per month and we're only able to cover that cost for 11 months this year. Won't you please assist for this one month that is lacking? For our part, we have redoubled our prayers to St. Joseph and will be conducting various fundraisers. We need your generous prayers and sacrifices as well as financial assistance to reach our goal of \$10,000.

Little Victories!

One day one of our young students (age 8) came to me and said "Father! I need to speak to you! It's really important!" I said "Yes of course, I am ready. I will listen!" He said, "I am so sad!" I asked "Why are you not happy, my son?" He then astonished me by saying "My parents don't really know Jesus, because they don't pray to Mama Mary. They never pray the rosary! If they don't know the Mother then how can they know the Son." I said "I see why you are so sad. You are correct. But we can ask Mama Mary to help them to see and to change so that you can pray the holy rosary as a family together one day." The young student mentioned is not Catholic but desires so much to be baptized and to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion.



Mr. Rafael Faustino (now a 3rd year Seminarian at Holy Cross Seminary in Goulburn, Australia) is a graduate of Our Lady of Victories Catholic School and is our first vocation. God willing, many will follow him from OLVCS!





The first time that an SSPX priest celebrated Holy Mass in Hong Kong was in the 1980's at the request of a friend of Archbishop Lefebvre. Presently, we number over 40 faithful with a very dedicated and active Legion of Mary Praesidium!



Despite weeks of civil unrest marked with protests all over the city, our dear parishioners were faithful in attendance at the Holy Mass. We are happy to announce that two of our Legion of Mary members who discovered tradition at Immaculata Mission in Hong Kong have entered into the SSPX novitiate in Davao. May God grant us many more religious vocations!

When Jesus Visits My Soul

“When Jesus visits my soul, I prepare for it, and I find these things most helpful for me when doing so: First, I would examine my conscience for any sins that I need to confess before receiving Our Lord. Then, I would place my heart and mind unto Him, realizing that He is [the one] who saved us from sin, and pray sincere acts of Faith, Hope, and Love. After giving Christ all the adoration and honor He deserves, I shall then leave all doubts behind, climb up the communion rail, and receive Him with an open heart, thinking of Him, and only Him.

“Once I received Our Lord, I would give thanks. I would give Him a moment of prayer, and I shall not be distracted by anything else. I would feel the joy of Him being in me, Him being the only one I want and the only one I need. I

would renew my love and loyalty to Him as my Lord and my God. Then I will be filled with confidence and will give to Him my love for all the days to come.

“Whenever I receive the Holy Eucharist, Our Lord helps me to be good. He makes me feel as if He is my master and I shall be subjected to Him as His servant. He makes me feel as if I am driving down a path and He is the guide who teaches me the way. He inspired me to obey Him, for it makes me resentful of hurting Him. He is my model who shows me the virtues of living. He is my savior who rescues me from the dangers of sin. He is my shepherd who gives me everything that I need, and that I lack nothing.”

—Yuki Kondo, Grade 8, OLVCS



The Heart of a Child

We know that it is especially by the liturgy that the Church brings up the souls of her children in order to make them like unto Jesus...If we let ourselves be guided by her, we shall infallibly come to know the mysteries of Jesus and above all enter into the thoughts and feelings of His divine Heart.

—Dom Marmion, OSB



Catholic Tradition Returns to Ecuador

Republic of Ecuador



- Type of government: Democratic Republic
- Area: 256,370 square kilometers
- Population: 15,223,680
- Capital City: Quito (1.801 million)
- Principal cities: Guayaquil, Quito and Cuenca
- Official languages: Spanish, Quichua, Shuar
- Currency: U.S. Dollar

Ecuador is a country in South America bordering with Colombia on the north and Peru on the south. It is famous for the Galapagos Islands and because the zero parallel runs through its territory, whence its name, “Equator.” Although small, Ecuador has been a bastion of Catholicism. With its many treasures of the Faith, it is a country well-worth visiting; Tradition is forging its path there once again.

The Birth of the SSPX Mission in Ecuador

The story begins with a parishioner from the coastal city of Guayaquil who desired to assist at the Holy Mass of St. Pius V during every day of Holy Week, since the Traditional Mass she attended was not available during the Holy Triduum or Christmas. Her search led her to Argentina, in March of 2015, where she assisted at a Mass at our Buenos Aires priory. She immediately perceived something unexplainably different, supernatural. One might say she perceived the characteristic stamp of Catholicism which was not found at the other Tridentine masses in Guayaquil, (even less at the *Novus Ordo* Masses). In addition, the overall environment, including the attitude and behavior of the faithful at the chapel, reflected a different spirit. During that trip, while attending a pilgrimage to the church of St. Joseph, she introduced herself to Fr. Mario Trejo, District Superior of South America, and asked him if it would be possible for the SSPX to visit Ecuador.

Here’s her account of the meeting she later had later with the Superior General, Bishop Fellay: “On Holy Week of that same year, I had the joy of as-

sisting at all the rites at the seminary of Our Lady Co-Redemptrix in the suburb of La Reja, close to Buenos Aires. On Maundy Thursday, during the Christ Mass, I felt that I was not in this world, due to the sublimity of the liturgy, and I would have wished for all my relatives, friends, acquaintances and compatriots to experience that same joy. At the same time, I felt invaded by a profound indignation upon grasping all that modernism had stolen from us... That same Maundy Thursday, after Mass, I met Bishop Bernard Fellay and begged for the Society to come to Ecuador. He told me that a letter should be drafted, bearing the signature of all those sharing in the request, and sent to the District Superior.”

Upon returning to Guayaquil, she awakened the enthusiasm of her friends, as she told them about the treasure she had found.

Providentially, during that same trip to Buenos Aires she also met Fr. Carlos Ramirez, who was quite eager to visit the Land of García Moreno. So much so, that a few weeks later (in April of 2015), he spent almost three weeks traveling through a great part of Ecuador, saying the Holy Mass and doing apostolic work. This was a prominent factor in leading Fr. Mario Trejo to decide, a year later, to send Fr. Francisco Javier Jimenez to explore the feasibility of starting regular visits of the SSPX to

Ecuador. Fr. Jiménez arrived in Ecuador in June of 2016. His first stop was Quito, and after visiting the city of Cuenca, he arrived in Guayaquil on June 13. Upon his return, he submitted his report to the District Superior, who by then had received a letter bearing the signatures of a larger group of faithful from Guayaquil interested in knowing true Catholic doctrine. Fr. Trejo assigned the priests from the priory of Bogota (Colombia) to visit the faithful in Guayaquil three or four times a year. However, due to the lack of priests in Colombia, 2018, the District Superior re-assigned the task to the priests of the Priory of Christ the King in the city of Santiago, Chile.

This small group of faithful harbored the thought of getting a priory opened in Guayaquil immediately... But very soon they realized that things are not so easy in the present day.

Guayaquil, the First Fruits of Ecuador for Tradition

Guayaquil is the native city of Gabriel García Moreno. Twice president of Ecuador, he is one of the few truly Catholic presidents in the history of democracy. Therefore, the reader should not be surprised to find out that he was assassinated by his adversaries on August 5, 1875. But, before his





Mother Mariana de Jesus Torres died on January 16, 1635. Her tomb was opened 300 years later during a renovation of the church and her body was found to be perfectly intact with no signs of decay. The divinely incorrupt body is now kept in a small chapel in the lower level of the cloistered convent.

death, he had consecrated Ecuador to the Sacred Heart of Jesus...

Guayaquil, a very hot and humid city, is the economic capital of Ecuador. With a population of 2.7 million, it is the country's main seaport, and is considered one of the most important harbors in the world.

The SSPX has come to this great city to assist about 30 souls who want to remain faithful to the tradition of the Church and therefore be able to transmit to their children and relatives the riches of the Traditional Mass and all of her doctrine.

Today, thanks to the support received from the priests who have been visiting the City of Guayaquil, it is the place where the missionary spends most of his time, that is to say, four out of five days every two months, due to the commitment undertaken by the faithful to support his mission, both financially and apostolically.

This nucleus of almost 30 individuals understands very well the plight of the Church today and the need that their country has of a community that is traditional in the fullest sense of the word.

Many of the priests in Guayaquil are not acquainted with the Tradition of the Church, not even the Mass of all times. We had the grace of

inviting a priest of the city of Loja to the Holy Mass, since he wanted to learn to say it, but there was such a lack of knowledge of the liturgical meanings and movements, that it was impossible to have a practice with him. One could see that he was a very pious priest, like the people of Ecuador as a whole, but who regretfully did not have very good instruction in the liturgy.

Our faithful, upon seeing the overwhelming proliferation of Charismatic practices in many parishes, have asked the Society of Saint Pius X for instruction instead of letting themselves be deformed by the new ideas of Protestant origin.

It is also worth noting that in Guayaquil there is a community of dual-rite priests who have helped several of our current faithful to get acquainted with the Mass. However, due to the fact that these priests also say the *Novus Ordo* Mass and their doctrine is not so pure, many of the inhabitants of Guayaquil are approaching the SSPX to get to know the Society and see what the differences are. Sadly, due to the fact that the mission has started recently and that the faithful do not have many resources, we are obliged to say the Mass at a home during the week and at a bookstore on Sundays. But that does not mean we do not give glory to



God. We try to do so as best as we can, taking advantage of the beautiful voices that Our Lord has given our faithful women, since every Sunday we can we sing the Holy Mass surrounded by books and images on sale. Blessed be God! ... in the midst of books and images.

Quito, the Capital, Also Desires the Return of the Mass of all Times

Before describing our apostolate in Quito, it is important to mention that, independently from the arrival of the SSPX in Guayaquil, the United States District started organizing a pilgrimage for the faithful, especially for members of the Third Order to Quito, starting in the year 2016, in order to honor Our Lady of the Good Event of the Purification. This pilgrimage is a novena that takes place in Quito, between January 24 and February 2 of each year. The fourth edition was led by Fr. Adam Purdy in 2019, and gathered 200 pilgrims, including faithful from Canada and Australia.

This pilgrimage honors the apparition of the Most Holy Virgin Mary to the Conceptionist sister Mariana de Jesús Torres y Berriochoa in Quito under the title of *María del Buen Suceso de la Purificación*.

Mother Mariana received important revelations from Our Lady, starting in 1594. These revelations are extremely applicable to the present day as they refer to the crisis of the church in the 20th century. So much so, that Archbishop Lefebvre, in 1988, during the sermon for the consecration of the four bishops, spoke of the prophecy, to highlight the importance of preserving the Catholic priesthood in this tremendous crisis that is affecting the Church.

But, let us talk about Quito, the country's capital. It is quite large, with a population of 3 million. To get to the city from the airport one must travel almost one hour by car. Much of Quito's singularity is due to the prominence of the Andes, whose snowy peaks are visible from the entire city. It also possesses the largest and most preferred historical downtown in Latin America. Built on the foothills of the Pichincha volcano, it is one of the highest capitals in the world, at an altitude of 9,350 feet (2,850 meters) above sea level.

The inhabitants of Quito, just like Ecuadorians in general, are excellently disposed toward eternal truths, and their respect of the priesthood is remarkable to any priest who has lived in more liberal and secularized countries. The priest feels at home upon seeing how people are disposed to prayer and to listening to revealed truth. We have been going to Quito regularly since February of 2018.

A priest of the SSPX, Fr. Gomis, gave a retreat in March of 2018 in the town of Guayllabamba, a town of unique beauty and rich in vegetation. It's an agricultural and touristic center with dry subtropical climate; however, it has several rivers. It's located about 28 miles (45 kilometers) from Quito's historical downtown, that is, almost an hour away, due to mountainous roads, with numerous ups and downs, bridges and curves. The trip provides a visual rest that helps us contemplate the hand of God in each of the turns in the road. On that occasion, some people came from Guayaquil to assist at the retreat given by Fr. Gomis, who traveled from Buenos Aires.

At first, the Holy Mass was said in Guayllabamba and the capital city of

Mission on a Map



Facts

- The summit of Mount Chimborazo, Ecuador's highest mountain, is the point on Earth closest to the sun. Due to the mountain's location along the equatorial bulge, its summit is the farthest point from the Earth's core.
- Ecuador is the only country in the world officially named after a geographical feature. The official name, República del Ecuador, translates as "The Republic of the Equator".
- The national tree of Ecuador is the cinchona tree which produces Quinine, the first drug used to prevent and treat malaria.
- Guinea pig, known as *cuy*, is considered a delicacy in Ecuador, its consumption seen as an ancient tradition.
- Ecuador is one of three countries created in 1830 following the collapse of Gran Colombia. After independence from the Spanish colony, the Viceroyalty of New Granada, the short-lived republic of Gran Colombia (1819-30) was created.
- Ecuador is the world's largest exporter of bananas, accounting for up to 29% of all bananas exported in 2011.
- Ecuador is divided into four main and unique geographic regions: *La Costa* or "the coast," *La Sierra* or "the highlands," *La Amazonía* also known as *El Oriente* or "the east" and *La Región Insular*, the region comprising the Galápagos Islands.



Quito. On Sundays it was said in Guayllabamba, and on Mondays and Tuesdays, at the capital city's historical center. As of September 2018, the Holy Mass was said only in Quito proper, on Sundays in the historical downtown, at a small chapel in a building that used to be a school, with a capacity for 80 faithful; and on Mondays at the private chapel of a bookstore in Quito.

To this day, Holy Mass is said at a small chapel rented from the downtown historic district, but they have told us that it's been sold and the sale is almost closed, so we pray to Our Lord to soften the hearts of the next owner, so he grants us permission to keep renting it.

The number of faithful has been increasing steadily. At the first Masses in Quito last year, we had about 15 faithful. Today, we have almost 60. We pray to God that more people may get to know the Holy Mass of all times so that the seed of Tradition may bear its fruit.

The Future

Ecuador is a country in which the people show very good dispositions toward our holy religion. This fills us with hope that, Lord willing, Tradition might take root firmly in this beautiful Catholic country. However, since the process has barely started, a lot of work and resources is needed in order to have all that is required to celebrate the Mass, mostly in Quito. We trust in the prayers and generous help of many good-hearted souls, so that this may become a reality. The Consecration of Ecuador to the Sacred Heart of Jesus done by President García Moreno must bear abundant fruit in these lands who haven't had access to Tradition till now. In the meantime, the faithful have gotten to work with great enthusiasm waiting for the Good Lord to show His mercy toward so many souls thirsting for the truth and light in the midst of the darkness of this world.

Some Important Messages for the 20th Century

Given by María del Buen Suceso de la Purificación From February 2, 1594 to December 8, 1634

Place

Convent of the Immaculate Conception. First convent of religious sisters in the city of Quito, Ecuador.

Recipient

Mother Mariana de Jesus Torres.

January 21, 1610

Toward the end of the 19th century and almost half of the 20th, what is known today as Colonia, shall then be known as the Republic of Ecuador. Passions will flare up and there will be a total corruption of customs. Satan shall reign almost completely through the Masonic sect.

They will concentrate mainly on children, since this way the general corruption shall remain. A grave misfortune for the children of that time!

...the sacrament of matrimony shall be attacked and terribly profaned...the Catholic spirit shall be contaminated rapidly, and the precious flame of the Faith shall be gradually extinguished...

To this may be added the effects of a secular education, one of the main reasons for a lack of vocations to the priesthood or the religious life.

The sacrament of Holy Orders shall be ridiculed, oppressed and despised. The devil will try to persecute the ministers of the Lord in all possible forms. He shall work with subtle and cruel insight in order to deviate them from the spirit of their vocation and will corrupt many of them. These depraved priests, who shall scandalize the Christian people, shall draw upon all the clergy the hatred of bad Catholics and of the enemies of the Holy Catholic Apostolic and Roman Church...

In these wretched times, unbridled luxury shall make the rest of the population captive to sin, conquering innumerable frivolous souls who shall be lost. Innocence will no longer be found in children, nor modesty in women.

February 2, 1610:

During this period (the 20th century) the Church will find herself attacked by the terrible horde of the Masonic sect, and the poor land of Ecuador shall be in agony because of the corruption of customs, unbridled luxury, an impious press, and secular education. Impure vices, blasphemy and sacrileges will be dominant in those times of depravity and desolation, when he who should speak up, shall remain silent.

February 2, 1634

In order to free man from the bondage to heresies, those destined to the restoration by the merciful love of my Holy Son shall need great willpower, constancy, and courage, and much trust in God. To try the faith and confidence of the just, there shall be times in which all shall seem lost and paralyzed. That will be the happy beginning of the complete restoration.

December 8, 1634

In the 20th century this devotion shall be the source of numerous prodigies in the spiritual realm...as well as in the temporal, for it is the will of God to reserve this invocation and this knowledge of your life for that century, when the corruption of attitudes and behaviors shall be almost general and the precious flame of the Faith shall be almost extinguished.

Society of Saint Pius X



S S P X

The Society of Saint Pius X is an international priestly society of almost 700 priests. Its main purpose is the formation and support of priests.

The goal of the Society of Saint Pius X is to preserve the Catholic Faith in its fullness and purity, not changing, adding to or subtracting from the truth that the Church has always taught, and to diffuse its virtues, especially through the Roman Catholic priesthood. Authentic spiritual life, the sacraments, and the traditional liturgy are its primary means to foster virtue and sanctity and to bring the divine life of grace to souls.

Faithful to the words of Our Lord—“Going therefore, teach ye all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”—the Society of Saint Pius X strives to bring the Gospel and Tradition to souls around the world. As a lifelong missionary, Archbishop Lefebvre passed on this charism to the Society. This magazine aims to both inform souls about the work of the missions and how they can be helped.