PEOPLE OF GOD NEWSLETTER

LAITY, RELIGIOUS AND CLERGY LIVING THE VISION OF ST. VINCENT PALLOTTI



Society of the Catholic Apostolate Spring 2010



The Pallottines

The Pallottine Horizon Travelers invite you to join them on a trip to

"The Land of Enchantment" New Mexico, USA

Join the Pallottine Horizon 2010 Trip for 9 days/8 nights May 16-24, 2010 as we celebrate our Tenth Anniversary Trip to "The Land of Enchantment," New Mexico, USA and share a surprise or two. Some of the sights are a guided tour of Santa Fe including the St. Francis Cathedral, enjoy the breathtaking view of the Sandia Mountain while riding on the Sandia Peak Tramways, visit Old Town Albuquerque, see native Southwestern culture & crafts and so much more.



Price per person: based on double occupancy-\$705.00. Add

\$240.00 for single occupancy.

A \$75.00 per person deposit is required to secure reservations, which are on a first come, first served basis.

Make checks payable to: Caritas Christi, UAC

Mail deposit to: Betty Reichertz 123 N. 65th St. Milwaukee, WI 53213

For more Information contact: Betty Reichertz 414-258-4117 or Fr. Leon Martin, SAC 414 258-0653 ext.149

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Cover Photo:

Flowers are a sure sign of spring and the beginning of new life.

People of God Newletter

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Fr. Leon Martin, SAC, editor.

Our Newsletter is also available on our website at www.pallottines.org

W.F.I. Production

Rector General Approves Results of Provincal Elections

by The Members of the Mother of God Province

With the approval of our Rector General and his Council in Rome we proudly announce the re-election of our current Provincial Administration for a third term in office beginning April 2010.

Though the faces remain the same, our provincial team will be setting new goals for our province and expanding our horizons over the next three years. Recent decisions and proposals from our Provincial Assembly this past Fall will affect all members of our province.

A revised contract with our Pallottines in India that would allow some members of the Indian province to remain in the United States and become permanent members of the Mother of God Province is presently being discussed in India. If the new proposal is approved, Fr. Leon, Fr. Joe and Bro. Jim will be working hard to implement the agreement between our two provinces.

Since our province has also made a firm commitment to help our Pallottines in the missions in Zambia, the provincial team will continue to explore new ways to generate more funds for these missions. At this time the financial help that we have already given has allowed them to build several rental homes, distribute hundreds of food baskets to families dealing with HIV/AIDS, and provide for the education of many of the orphans in the area.

We, the members of the province, wish our new leadership team well and pray that with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and our founder, St. Vincent Pallotti, they will inspire us and all whom they come in contact with to be true apostles for Christ.



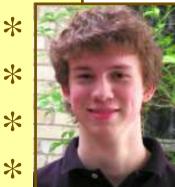
Fr. Leon Martin, SAC



Fr. Joe Koyickal, SAC Vice-Provincial



Bro. Jim Scarpace, SAC Consultor



Jan Haupt

Pallotti House: New Home for German Volunteer

by "Deac"

In Germany there is a law that requires all young men to give at least nine months of service to their country when they reach the age of 19. Usually this results in the young man serving in the military for the specified time. However, the option to do civil service at

home or in a foreign country for one year is possible if the request is approved by the government.

With the cooperation of our Pallottines in Odernheim, Germany through their government-approved volunteer program directed by Stephen Hartmann, we Pallottines here in Milwaukee are happy to welcome to our community, a German young man, Jan (pronounced YAN) Haupt. He is the eldest of three children and comes from Eltville Am Rhein, a smalll town about 40 miles west of Frankfurt. While most of his friends remained in Germany to fulfill their service duty, Jan was approved to come to the United States and work as a volunteer at the Aurora Health Care Clinic on 6th and National in Milwaukee.

Jan considers coming to the United States as a volunteer a great opportunity to not only serve his country, but also to better understand the American people and to gain a better command of the English language. It was an opportunity he just couldn't resist taking.

Jan is interested in knowing, seeing and doing all that he can during his stay in Milwaukee and has already found several adults and friends his age who are helping him take in the sites, sounds and people of Wisconsin. We welcome you, Jan, and hope that your stay with us turns out to be one of the great adventures of your life!

Pallottines Welcome New Postulant to Our Province

by Fr. Davies Edassery SAC

Over the past year or so Stephen Weber has been coming to visit Pallotti House in Milwaukee through a "Come and See" program, in which we invite young and middle-aged men to live with us for a few days and get a taste of our Pallottine spirituality and way of life.



Stephen Weber

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From Detroit, Michigan, Stephen, 42, first came in contact with the Pallottines through Fr. James Joseph, an Indian Pallottine working in the Detroit area, who eventually put him in touch with us in Milwaukee. For 11 years Stephen worked as a Detroit Public Library Senior Clerk, and served for many years as the Diocesan Pastoral Council Rep for the Renaissance Deanery. In his spare time he has a tremendous love for researching family genealogies.

Feeling a call to the priesthood, Stephen made inquires with the Detroit Diocese and with us in an attempt to discern where his vocation may be. We are happy that he has decided to give the Pallottines a closer look at this time.

Starting in January, Stephen began attending Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee for one year to complete his undergraduate studies, and Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corners once a week for a class in Human Spiritual Formation. Outside of school he is also learning more about our founder, St. Vincent Pallotti, and the Pallottines -- our community life, work, prayer life, and ministries -- at Pallotti House.

Thanks, Stephen, for "giving us a try." May St. Vincent guide you in your schooling, prayer life, and community living with the Pallottines.

Delegature Changes Hands

New Roles for the German and Indian Pallottines in Canada

by Fr. Bruce Schute, SAC

On Dec 3, 2009, the feast of Francis Xavier, patron of India, the official transfer from the German Delegature to the Indian Province was completed.

When the invitation arrived in my mailbox last November, I was very excited. An historic event was about to take place in the Pallottine family and in the area I had recently spent nearly seven years. I was going back to Calgary and St. Cecilia parish for a visit and would represent the Mother of God province



With the stroke of a pen by Fr. Susayan Sathyanesan and Fr. Prostman, the SAC in western Canada is now officially administered and led by the Indian Province.

of Milwaukee at the significant transfer from one province to another. From December First to the Third, Pallottines from the Union of the Catholic Apostolate, both non-ordained and priests from Alberta and other places in Canada, met at the Providence Renewal Centre in Edmonton.

In Canada over the past few years the number of German Pallottine priests and brothers from the Sacred Heart Province, Germany had been decreasing. More priests from the Bangalore Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Indian province had arrived in Alberta, Canada, so the change in personnel and administration was logical.

At the contractual signing ceremony several speakers gave their thoughts. Retired Archbishop MacNeil, quoting the apostolic letter "Duc in Altum," said, "Remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence." Fr. Gottfried Seifert awakened many memories as he recited the names of over fifty-five Pallottines who worked in Canada from the mid 1940's till the present.

In the early days of the Pallottines in Canada, German priests were interred in Canada during World War II and then released to work in the mission areas of Swan River, Manitoba. I listened intently to the names of German priests who were later part of the Milwaukee province: Frs. August Soemer and Joseph Burggraf along with some American born priests, Frs. Edward Tobijanski and Richard Storch. I knew these men and others that worked for a time in that difficult mission area. My own time in Canada was during the arrival of the first Indian Pallottines, Frs. Patrick Furtado and John Reddy Duggimpodi.

The Pallottines in Canada come with a long line of dedicated priests and brothers, and now continue with new enthusiasm with the Union of Catholic Apostolate.

A Look at the World

Our Changing Climate by Fr. Bruce Schute, SAC

Just before the new year, a Milwaukee Journal editorial columnist, Patrick McIlheran, wrote an article that severely criticized the views of Al Gore and the other scientists for vastly over stating the effects of global warming. In the view of McIlheran they manipulated data, coerced scientific journals into excluding contrary findings and exaggerated their findings to produce the desired political result. Further



on McIlheran continued, "They join the list of stranger activists who, saying the climate cause trumps all else, would impose on us the end of **childbearing**, of **air travel**, of **carnivorous diets** (**meat eating.**) These fringe causes seem to be the central aim of such campaigns; the climate is merely the opportunity to demand we all at last fall into line."

I state here, unequivocally, I am not taking sides on the controversy of climate change, in this article – What I am interested in is the way McIlheran invokes the thought of Thomas Jefferson to counter the way the scientists with Gore in the lead speak of replacing civilization's core of greed.

McIlheran says ... Western civilization already has a central organizing principle. It isn't greed or growth. It is, rather, that the most important things are individual humans, in whom rights inhere. Or, as Thomas Jefferson put it, it's self-evident that all men "are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." Jefferson, a Deist (the view that God has set the universe in motion but does not interfere with how it runs), gave us a phrase that rings in our ears throughout our American history. However we are also Christians-Catholics who can speak about our relationship with God, especially through our redeemer Jesus Christ.

Pope Benedict XVI in his World Day of Peace message of 2008 made clear that human beings "are of supreme worth vis-à-vis creation as a whole." He explained that respecting the environment does not mean considering "material or animal nature more important than man." Some critics of the Pope said this amounted to an attack on the theory that man-made carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions are creating global warming. In fact Benedict explains that we must not selfishly consider nature "to be at the complete disposal of our own interests," and we must preserve the earth for future generations." Further on in this document the pope did say that we need to commit "our finest intellectual energies" to the moral and just resolution of environmental concerns and "not let ourselves be discouraged by mistakes and misunderstandings" of the past. Reading the Pope's entire message is very stimulating as are all the annual messages on this day.

Some remarks by Archbishop Celestino Migliore are apropos: "Every Catholic can do something about climate change by adopting a life of **voluntary simplicity**. "It comes down to "working less, wanting less, spending less," thus reducing the impact each person has on the environment."

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And Now You Know!

Excerpts from the book: Like An Evangelical Trumpet: A History of the Mother of God Province of the Society of the Catholic Apostolate, by Steven M. Avella.

Question # 23: What New Direction Did the Mother of God Province Take After Fr. Harold Liebl Became Provincial?



Fr. Harold Liebl (circa 1963)

[Fr.] Harold Liebl assumed the reins of the Province in the summer of 1962. Like [Fr. Mark] La Joie before him, he was American-born (June 21, 1922) and native of Milwaukee. His entry into Pallottine life was quite by happenstance. As a young boy he attended St. Boniface and St. John de Nepomuc grade schools in the city. Manifesting a desire to become a priest in grade school, he was urged by his pastor to make application for the archdiocesan St. Francis Seminary in the spring of 1936.

A summer stint on a family farm in nearby Luxemberg delayed his application, and upon his return he found it impossible to be admitted to St. Francis. Assuring him that there probably would be space at midyear owing to student departures, diocesan authorities urged him

to enter another seminary during the interim. Aided by his pastor, Liebl then scoured the diocesan newspaper The Catholic Herald-Citizen and discovered the ad for the Pallottine College at Holy Cross. Although he knew nothing about the Pallottines, he made application and was immediately accepted and entered in September of 1936. What began as a temporary arrangement ended up becoming a lifelong vocation. In 1942, with his classmates. Robert Albers and Francis Hueller, he entered the Jessup novitiate and learned the rudiments of Pallottine life from Adolph Goldschmidt. Afterwards he studied at The Catholic University until his ordination in 1948. He was then sent to Madison to reside in the small cottage on the property on which the Queen of Apostles Seminary was being built. Here he was to commute to the University of Wisconsin to study science. This plan was cut short when he discovered that his credits from The Catholic University were non-transferable. He then entered Marquette University where he studied science for a year. By this time, the new minor seminary was ready for operation, and Liebl joined its staff as a science teacher. In 1956, he was appointed Rector and gradually fell away from his science studies as he become more immersed in administration. He remained as Rector of the growing seminary until his appointment as Provincial. Liebl's years as Provincial, 1962 - 1975, were tumultuous

ones for the Mother of God Province. An array of issues lay before the new Provincial and his consultors ... [such as] major issues related to the two educational operations of the Province: Queen of Apostles Seminary and Pius XI High School, not to mention the need to adopt community life and juridical structure to the demands of Vatican II. During his years the vocational picture steadily worsened, imperiling the long-term prospects of the community...

By contrast with the more easygoing La Joie, Liebl's leadership was forceful and direct. Indicative of the change was one of his first circular letters to his confreres, in which he "revoked all privileges, favors and special conditions granted by my predecessors to individual members and to houses" in order to "become aware of particular conditions existing in the Province." If in the face of difficulties and challenges, La Joie might have been willing to dodge or waffle, Liebl would go forward with the energy of a freight locomotive. Liebl also had had significantly more experience in dealing with administrative issues that his predecessor. His correspondence was always clear and crisp, his meetings were much better organized, and the reactions he provoked in the Province were much more distinct. Few were neutral in their feeling about "Harry" Liebl.

... From the very beginning of his term, Liebl knew that things had to change... Hanging in the balance was the very future of the Province, for he believed that a clear and purposeful set of aims would be attractive to young men. For Liebl, a deeper appreciation of Pallotti and his goals would provide the spiritual impetus for change, while his own no-nonsense style of leadership would propel things forward. To this end, he began gathering the priests of the Province together for joint meetings early in his term ... Liebl pressed ahead. In urging his confreres to recruit more actively for new members he said, quoting from a speech by the Viatiorian Provincial:

"Tell them [prospective candidates] the religious life is a hard life, a dedicated life, a committed life, a sacrificial life. All this is of the very essence of the religious life. It is not a life with sacrifice, it is a life of sacrifice. Youth can know the meaning of love. Youth is ready for the call."

For youth to respond to this call, they had to know what they were being called to and in this Liebl set to work to help define a new vision for the Province. What emerged and what he himself presented to the Province in early 1966 was a comprehensive program that called for the complete review of existing Province activities, and individual and collective study of the pertinent documents related to the renewal of religious life and Pallottine spirituality, and finally some strategic planning for the future in the light of the demands of renewal. Liebl secured the approval of the Provincial Council for this plan on February 1, 1966 and the next day announced it to all in a circular letter.

Next Time: What did Liebl say in his circular and where did it lead the Province?

If you want to learn more about the Pallottines of the Mother of God Province, the book Like an Evangelical Trumpet is available in a 335 page soft-cover edition, complete with 33 pages of nostalgic pictures and photographs, for \$19.95 plus \$3.50 postage and handling.

To receive your copy, send your name, address and payment to:

Lent: A Time to Experience Change and God's Mercy

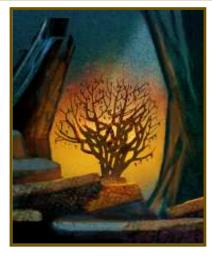
by Fr. Greg Serwa, SAC

Usually at the beginning of the Lenten season, we are accustomed to hearing the words: "Repent and do penance." And so year after year the theme for Lent takes on a harsh, somber tone as we attempt to deny ourselves things, and change our ways of thinking and acting toward others. We certainly know that we are not perfect and could use a little "sprucing up" in the ways we conduct ourselves in life, but that usually means changing, and we don't like to change. It's hard to do!

This Lenten season I would like to have us think about the other side of the coin, namely, God's mercy. If only we could come to know and believe what those two words entail.

Mercy, simply stated, involves someone accepting, loving and truly caring about us even though we neither deserve it nor could ever be truly worthy of the other person's love. Yet in spite of our own unworthiness and faults, the other person still takes us to him or herself.

Ponder for a minute what that means in terms of God! Even though I am imperfect, often fail in doing what is good and right; even though I keep try-



ing to improve, but fall short in my efforts; even though I am filled with good intentions which bear little fruit, God wants ME for Himself. He loves ME in spite of myself and my shortcomings. That is His mercy to ME and all of us.

If God then loves us so much, Lent can be our way of showing our appreciation for His love. Giving up things, trying to be a better person, loving others, going out of our way to help someone in need, caring of the sick become expressions of our desire to remain close to God.

AND even if we aren't perfect in our attempts to change and repent, God will look upon our efforts with a broad smile --Why? Because we are at least trying to be better in our so imperfect a human way. This Lent think about how much God loves you and act accordingly. Then all you do during Lent won't be work, it will become your "thank you" to God for his mercy and love.

Finding the God Who Seeks You

Journeying with St. Vincent Pallotti, The Prophet of Communion

Fr. Vensus George, SAC, Pallottine from the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Province in India, has written a book of reflections based on the thoughts of our founder, St. Vincent Pallotti. We would like to share some of these reflections to help you on your spiritual journey.

Reflection: Not Paying Back in the Same Coin

I will try to hold everyone in great esteem. And if they do evil to me, I will suppose that they believe they are doing me a great good, and ... I will try to commend them to God. St. Vincent Pallotti

St. Vincent Pallotti held every human person with great respect. For, he believed that the human person is the image of God. As the image of God, the human person is capable of representing the nature, the being, and the perfection of God. Thus, every person has a dignity that God gives him by creating him as His image. Therefore, St. Vincent wished to do nothing that would, in any way, bring disrespect to the human person. Hence, even when someone ill-treated him or did him an evil, he always resisted the temptation to retaliate the evil action done to him. For, in retaliating to the other who has hurt him, he offends God, in whose image the other is created.

Thus, for St. Vincent, "paying back in the same coin" is not a response of a true Christian to an evildoer. Instead he attempted to see the hand of God in the evil act done to him, believing that God would bring some great good through the evil he has experienced. This mind-set of seeing the hand of God in the evil done to him helped St. Vincent to understand the person who has harmed him. It gave him an enlightened mind that would not pass a judgement on the act of the evildoer. It assisted him to treat the one who hurt him

kindly. Finally, it helped him to commend the evildoer to God's protection. All these attitudes helped St. Vincent to treat his neighbor with respect.

Questions for our Reflection

- 1) Am I able to respect and treat kindly the person who has done me harm?
- 2) Do I retaliate toward the one who has ill-treated me?
- 3) Do I have the mind-set to see the hand of God in the evils I experience in my daily life through the unjust actions of others?
- 4) Do I commend the evildoer to God's protection by praying for him?

Love your enemies! Pray for those who persecute you! In this way you will be acting as true sons of your Father in heaven. For he gives sunlight to both the evil and the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust too. (Mt.5:44-45)

Ask Father

When is the Christmas Season Officially Over?

Dear Father,

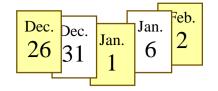
I know I should probably have sent this question to you before Christmas, but anyway, here goes: Just when does the Christmas Season end? If you listen to the radio, the Christmas songs stop Dec. 26th. If you drive around town, people are throwing out their trees and taking down decorations before New Year's Day. What does the Church say about the end of the Christmas Season?

Signed, Just Curious

Dear Just Curious,

I guess it is hard sometimes to figure out just when to stop celebrating Christmas. If I had my way, I wish we would celebrate it all year long since Christmas is not just a special day, it is more an inner attitude that we could all benefit from if we carried it around in our hearts the whole year long.

For some people Christmas is just a few more days of vacation and not having to go to work. For others it's a great excuse to party, party, party. For many it's a "Garfield the Cat" kind of thing, namely, give me presents, lots and lots of presents! For a growing number of people it's the old "separation of Church and State" issue that comes up



year after year. (Seems ridiculous to me to want to have the Christmas holiday without Christ, the reason we celebrate the day in the first place.)

As far as people taking down the decorations and throwing out the tree, well, there can be practical, fire-safety and other understandable reasons why they do what they do when they do it. (Don't ask me to repeat that!). I also know that some families keep their trees up until the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (Feb. 2). I would bet that you too probably have some 'tradition' in your family as to when the tree comes down.

But to answer your question: for the Roman Catholic Church, the official end of the Christmas Season is the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which occurs early in January. (The date varies depending on what day of the week Christmas falls, etc.) Normally, the churches will stay decorated until the day after that feast (even though many of the poinsettia plants should have been thrown out earlier.) Christmas has always been a high point in my year. I get a little "down" when the decorations finally disappear. Well, so much for Christmas --- P.S. Lent and Easter are just around the corner!

Beef Chunks over Noodles

by the Pallotti House Chef

There are times when I just don't want pork or chicken. I want beef! With a little experimentation I came up with a simple, yet extremely tasty recipe for beef chunks (or as is often found printed on the package --- beef stew meat.) My recipe for beef chunks in brown gravy was getting "old" as far as I was concerned, so I thought I'd try a "variation on a theme." Instead of brown gravy I substituted tomato juice as my base, and created a most satisfying beef dish to serve my family and friends.

I am happy and proud to pass this one onto you:

What You'll Need:

3 - 5 lbs. beef stew meat in chunks46 oz. can 100% Tomato Juice(2) 4 oz. cans mushrooms stems and pieces.

1 medium onion chopped into small pieces.

16 oz. bag of Extra Wide Egg Noodles.

Salt and pepper

Here's What You Do:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Brown stew meat in a large skillet on top of stove together with the chopped onion. Salt and pepper to taste. As



browning nears completion, stir in the two cans of mushroom pieces. Cook a few minutes longer.

Place meat, onion, mushrooms and any juices in pan into a medium or large covered roasting pan.

Add all the tomato juice and stir mixture together. Cover pan and place in oven for 3 hours. Each hour during cooking time, check the juice level in the roaster. Juice will thicken over time, but add a little water if juice seems to be getting too thick or too low in pan. After checking, stir the meat mixture, and place back in oven.

Approximately 20 minutes before meat is finished cooking, begin boiling water for the noodles. Follow package directions so that noodles will be done when the meat is finished cooking. Serve meat over the noodles. Delicious! They will be back for seconds!

Pallottine Gift Memorials: Jan. 2008 thru Jan. 2010

In Memory of the Deceased

Fr. Bob Albers, SAC Robert & Ann McCormick Fr. Bob Albers, SAC Nancy P. Miska

Fr. Bob Albers, SAC

Linda S. Gadow Sopkowicz

George Aronson

Marge Pinahs

Arnold Baierl - 11/2009

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Grace Marchese

Mary Kosino

Grace Marchese

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Steve & Dolores Gaveras

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Sr. Geraldine Martin, O.P.

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Roger Woppert
Jim & Jean Rebholz
Marie Zainer
Ms Helen Dupor

In Honor of the Living
50th Wedding Anniversary
Jim & Lucille Hornung

Jim & Lucille Hornung
Jim & Jean Rebholz
Birthday

Betty Lorbeske Marie Schoewe

Sr. Verda Kraemer, FSPA (90th) John, Barb & Christopher Hansen

Family
The Jeffrey Donohue Family
Suzy Spencer

Health
Olga Hegedus
Ms. Mary Sewalk
Tracy Shenkel

Ms. Mary Sewalk

Rosemary Martin Marie Schoewe

Successful Operation

Mary Margaret Hanson

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Boucher

Lenten & Easter Vigil Lights

The season of Lent offers us yet another opportunity to reflect on our lives, work on our shortcomings, and be touched by God's mercy. This can be a time for praying for family and friends who may be struggling with sin and evil. It can be a time for remembering those who have died. Why not light a vigil light for them or yourself this Lent or Easter? Just fill out this slip and sent it to us in the envelope included in this

newsletter. We will light a 7 day vigil light for your intentions at the statue of St. Joseph in our house chapel.

| Please light a vigil light for the following special intentions: | |
|--|--|
| | |

(circle a Month & a Monday you would like us to light your vigil light.)

Feb.01 08 15 22 Mar.01 08 15 22 29 Apr. 05 12 19 26

May 03 10 17 24 31

Jun.07 14 21 28

I would like to make a donation of: \$3 \$5 \$7 \$10 other \$