



The Pallottine Fathers and Brothers work to further St. Vincent's charism through our ministries in parishes, schools, hospitals, retreat centers, adult education, foreign missions and liturgical celebration.

For help in discerning your call, contact: Fr. Leon Martin, SAC

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Visit our website at www.pallottines.org for past & present issues

### Editor's Desk

Dear Readers,

As the winter of 2016 bears down upon us, I see our world slowly descending into a deeper period of darkness as the sun sets earlier and rises later. It is especially at this time of the year that I am reminded of the importance and value of light in life.

In St. Matthew's Gospel (Mt. 5:16) we are encouraged to let our light shine for all to see. God has given each of us talents and abilities not to be hidden, but to be used for His glory and the benefit of others.

In this issue of our newsletter, we highlight some articles that focus on the many "lights" that the Pallottines are shining and sharing with others around the world.

Our founder, St. Vincent Pallotti, so often said, "We are ALL called to be Apostles for Christ." As apostles I hope that we will take full advantage of the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons to let our personal "light" shine before all who are a part of our lives.

May your Christmas and New Year be filled with light, love and peace.

Fr. Joe Koyickal

## Elisabetta Sanna Porcu Beatified September 17, 2016

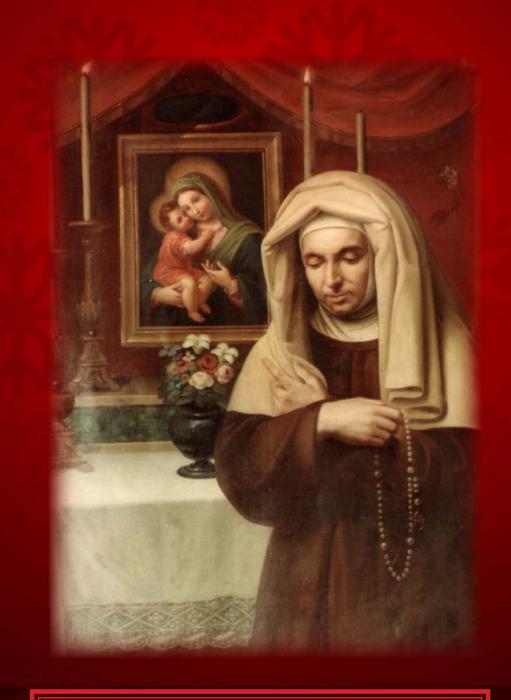
A remarkable woman, born in 1788 into a family of poor farmers who had strong Catholic values, Elisabetta Sanna Porcu suffered much during her lifetime. At three months of age she fell victim to small-pox, resulting in a disability that left her unable to raise her arms. So bad was her condition that she could only move her fingers and wrists. She couldn't comb her hair, wash her face, make the sign of the cross, change her clothes or even bring food to her mouth. This life of suffering, along with her strong Catholic faith, helped her to love the poor and care for them.

On September 13, 1807 she married Antonio Porcu and with him had seven children, the oldest and the youngest of which died shortly after their births. After seventeen years of happy marriage with her husband, Antonio died in 1825, leaving her with the difficult task of providing for and raising her remaining five children.

But Elisabetta knew how to face challenges. Even though she remained illiterate for her entire life, she was taught the basics of catechism from her father's cousin, Father Luigi Sanna, and together with her five children she educated other children of the town in catechism and prepared them for the reception of the sacraments.

In 1829 she met Fr. Giuseppe Valle, who soon became her confessor and spiritual director. Influenced by a Lenten talk, she decided to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr. Valle, who could assist her with her many handicaps. Thinking that she would only be gone a short time she entrusted her children to the care of her mother and brother and enlisted further help from a niece and some neighbors.

After settling things at home Elisabetta and her confessor set out on their pilgrimage, but soon had to abandon the trip due to the fact that Fr. Valle had no visa with which he could enter the Holy Land. Rethinking their plans, they decided to make a pilgrimage to Rome. While there,



Blessed Elisabetta Sanna Porcu April 23, 1788 - February 17, 1857

### Elisabetta Sanna Porcu (continued from Page 4)

Elisabetta became a professed member of the Secular Franciscan Order, devoting herself to follow in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi. She began visiting the sick and comforting them in their homes and in the Hospital for Incurables where she first met St. Vincent Pallotti who took her under his wing and became her spiritual director for 18 years.

During this time in Rome, her physical ailments grew more serious Seeing how ill she was becoming, St. Vincent contacted her brother in Sardinia to inform him that she was unfit to travel by sea and that she would return home as soon as she felt better. Unfortunately for Elisabetta, her ailments only worsened to the point that she was unable to go back home. Deeply saddened that she would no longer see her family and children, she entrusted herself to God's providence. As a devote Catholic she frequently attended several Masses a day and Eucharistic Adoration devotions. She also took care of the altar linens and decorations of the Church of San Salvatore in Ondo.

As she slowly accepted and adjusted to her deteriorating physical condition, she devoted more and more of her time to serving others, especially the sick and the poor. To increase her ability to help them, she knitted items and with gifts given to her by other concerned individuals, she used this meager income to assist the poor and orphans in the two houses that St. Vincent Pallotti had established in Rome. She was often called upon by others for advice, including St. Vincent and many of the early Pallottines.

Elisabetta witnessed the foundation of the Pallotti's Union of Catholic Apostolate (UAC) which Pallotti said in 1839 "was in the Church as a Gospel trumpet to provide for the present and future needs of the world in the matter of religion." He also added that the motivation required for joining the Union was to be the same for all people -- lay, clergy and religious -- the greater glory of God and the salvation of all. "It was felt to be right to form the Union which in view of the actual needs of the Church would have the scope to proclaim the multiplication of the spiritual and temporal means necessary to revive faith and re-enkindle charity among Catholics." Elisabetta liked what she saw and heard about the UAC, and soon became an active member in the organization.

Pallotti often stressed the merits of Elisabetta with regard to the UAC. Fr. Vaccari, one of the early UAC members, had this to say about her: "Our institute has been carried forward up to now by two persons: a poor woman, Elisabetta Sanna, whom you have heard of many times from Fr. Vincent, and the other is Cardinal Lambruschini." When Pallotti died in 1850 she felt alone more than ever, but continued to place her complete trust in God, despite this great personal loss. For 22 years she worked to develop the UAC and foster its ideal to revive faith and rekindle charity among Catholics.

Elisabetta died in 1857 at the age of 68. She was buried in Rome in the Pallottine church of San Salvatore in Onda. She was well-known by many as having lived an exemplary and saintly life.

Due to her known holiness, it was just four months after her death that the process for seeking her canonization was begun both in Rome and in her hometown of Sassari in Sardinia. This was an unusual turn of events since the road to canonization is most often a very complicated procedure which can take decades, if not centuries, to complete because of the many steps involved along the way.

In April of 1880 she was declared a "Servant of God" by Pope Leo XIII, and 134 years later, Pope Francis bestowed on her the title of "Venerable" on January 27, 2014. The next step on the road to her canonization continued with the investigation of a miracle attributed

to Elisabetta that occurred in 2008. A Brazilian girl who had contracted an aggressive arm tumor was suddenly cured of her ailment through the intercession of Elisabetta Sanna.

On January 12, 2016 the Congregation for the Causes of Saints approved the miracle, and on January 21, 2016 Pope Francis gave his approval. Following the pope's approval, Elisabetta Sanna Porcu was declared "Blessed" at her beatification on September 17, 2016. The final step will be her canonization.



### Pallottine Mission in Peru Is Thriving

A synopsis of an article written by Manoel Santana Vieira, SAC - Ayacucho, Peru. that appeared in **SAC AsiaOceania** E-bulletin #227 January 24, 2016

When the Pallottines first arrived in the province of Vilcashuamán, Ayacucho, Peru over two years ago, they faced a desperate situation in which two churches were completely abandoned and the faithful had been without a priest for an extended period of time.

At first, the major barrier to overcome was speaking with the local people in their native language, but with the grace of God (and a little time) great progress was made in this area and communicating is no longer an issue for our missionaries.

It is truly amazing how God has been working through our men. Villages that have never seen a priest before, now have Mass celebrated and the sacraments administered to the people. Patronal feasts are again held regularly in these villages. Parishes that once seemed lifeless spiritually now include many young people among those attending Mass and receiving instructions preparing them for the sacraments and formation of human and religious





values. "We help teens come to God, to know their church and to be better people in the future."

There are also Pallottine Sisters at the mission, who, with their own charism, have given a new face and personal touch to the daily life of the people. Great women of prayer, these sisters are diligent supporters who help in preparing the liturgies, and are fully involved in all activities at the parish. Their main focus is the youth of the parish and through Indian dance they have been attracting a number of young girls to see a new way of "being church, building in them a greater sense of responsibility and giving them a joyful vision of Church."

We are happy to say that within the short time we have been in the area we already have a promising vocation - a young man who will start his religious formation in 2017 at our house in Brazil.

We are grateful to God for helping us accomplish as much as we have in these two years and we look forward to attending to other present and future needs of the people. "We thank all those who pray and support this mission and pray that, through the intercession of our founder, St. Vincent Pallotti, God may bless each of you."

# Pallotti Museum Opens in Mysore, India

On June 29, 2016 a new museum was officially opened at the Pallottine Theological Institute in Prabodnoana, Mysore, India by the Very Rev. Fr. Pedro Camilo Simoes, Provincial of the Assumption of the BVM Province. It was blessed by the Bishop of Mysore, the Most Rev. Thomas Vazhapilly. This project was an initiative undertaken by Fr. Mathew Kanjiramkalayil, the Director of the Pallotti Institute and supported by the community of the Theological Institute. The overall design of the museum was the work of Fr. Royichen Joseph Pindamangalth, a professional artist and member of the Province of the Epiphany of the Lord.

The museum is a unique blending of the history of the Pallottines with artistic works depicting the person and spirituality of St. Vincent Pallotti. As many priests, religious and lay people visit our Major Seminary, it is envisioned that the museum will serve as a dynamic visual expression of the spirit and charism of St. Vincent together with the history of the Pallottines to these visitors and the many students of Theology in our Seminary.

We congratulate all who have worked so hard on this project in honor of our founder, St. Vincent Pallotti.





Gathering for the official opening and blessing of the museum with a view of a portion of the artistic displays found inside.



# **Local News**

## Our Pastors Among the Faithful:

The Pallottine Fathers and Brothers have served here in the Midwest since 1921. Our ministries have included nursing homes, hospitals, schools, social service agencies, as well as foreign missions, and retreat centers.

In this issue of our newsletter we would like to present the Pallottines who presently serve in parish ministries in Wisconsin, Illinois and Texas. With the increasing shortage of priests in so many dioceses in the United States, we are happy to serve wherever God calls us.



Fr. Sergio Lizama, SAC works diligently at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Burlington, WI within the Hispanic ministry.



Fr. James Palakudy, SAC is currently the Pastor at Holy Cross Parish in Auburn, IL.



Fr. Davies Edassery, SAC is pastor of St. Lawrence/Resurrection Parishes in the Hartford/Allenton area of central Wisconsin.

# **Local News**

# Spreading the Light of the Gospel

Fr. Joe Dominic, SAC is awaiting reassignment after being Pastor of Our Risen Savior/Presentations of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes in North Fond du Lac, WI.

Fr. George Nellikunnel, SAC is Pastor at St. John Vianney Parish in Sherman, IL.







Fr. Joy Thachil, SAC has recently been assigned to St. Raymond's Catholic Church in Lubbock, TX.



Fr. Thomas Kuttiyanikal, SAC is pastor of St. Vincent Pallotti Parish (East and West) in Milwaukee,WI.

Fr. Steve Varghese, SAC is part of a pastoral team that ministers to St. Joseph and St. John Nepomuk Parishes in Racine, WI.

# The Cooks Corner

## Enchiladas: A Pot Luck Surprise

by The Pallotti House Chef

During the summer when I go camping with my sister and brother-in-law, the people at the campground often hold an outdoor pot luck brunch.

Linda, one of the campers, likes to bring her pan of wonderful tasting enchiladas.

I liked them so much that I just had to have her recipe to share with you. Hope you enjoy this dish.

#### **What You Will Need:**

2 lbs. lean ground beef

1 medium onion finely chopped

1 Tblsp. chopped garlic

1 packet of Enchilada seasoning.

1 packet of Taco seasoning

1 can Campbell's For Easy Cooking Mexican style tomato soup

1 (8 oz.) Philadelphia Chipotle Pepper Cream Cheese



1 Tblsp. Choluka Hot Sauce

1 (14.5 oz.) can Mexican Tomatoes

1 pkg. (8 oz.). shredded Cheddar or Pepper Jack cheese

1 pkg. (8 oz.) Mexican cheese

8-10 SOFT Taco Shells

9 x 13 baking pan

#### **Here's What You Do:**

Pre-heat oven to 350° F.

Brown beef, onion and garlic in a large frying pan until beef is no longer pink. Be careful not to burn the garlic.

Add the Enchilada and Taco seasoning packets and mix in well. Then add the Choluka hot sauce. Simmer on low heat for 15 minutes so that the flavors get absorbed. Add the cream cheese and blend in well.

Fill Taco shells one at a time with about 1/3 cup of the mix. Roll and place seam down into pan.

When all shells are in the pan, top with the Mexican style Tomato soup. Then sprinkle with the two shredded cheeses.

Bake in oven at 350° F for 35 - 40 minutes or until bubbly. Eat and enjoy.

### A Special Gift you can give your loved ones: A Valid Will!

Unless you have a valid Will or other legal agreements before you die, your property might not go to your intended recipients. Make out your Will now!

> If you would like to include the Pallottines in your Will our legal name is:

The Pallottine Fathers and Brothers, Inc. 5424 W. Bluemound Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53208-3011

Write to us for a free brochure "Making Out a Will."



Return this slip to:

The Pallottines 5424 W. Bluemound Rd. Milwaukee, WI 53208

### Holiday Vigil Lights

Lighting candles is a wonderful holiday tradition. This year join in our Pallottine tradition by lighting a vigil candle for your loved ones. Simply complete, cut off and send this form to us, and we will light a 7 day vigil light for your intentions at the statue of St. Joseph in our house chapel during the holidays.

> Please light a 7 day vigil light for my intention:

I would like of make an offering of: Other \$ \$3 15

(Circle a month and a day to light the 7 day candle.)

Nov. 07 14 21 28 Dec. 05 12 19 26

Jan. 02 09 16 23 30 Feb. 06 13 20 27 15