

In God, I always find myself united with you in all your works

St. Vincent Pallotti



People of God



PALLOTTINES
Winter
2023

Pallottine Retreat Center is Now Open !!!



To book your Retreat, Call us at: *1-262-723-2108*

Or visit our website www.pallottines.org



The Natural Resources Defense Council has updated their Sustainability Scorecard for toilet tissue. A roll of toilet paper lasts but a short time in your bathroom but has a major effect on climate. This single use product is made from forests such as the Canadian boreal, which stores more carbon than any other terrestrial ecosystem. P&G, Kimberly-Clark, and Georgia-Pacific, producers of Charmin, Cottenelle, and Quilted Northern respectively continue to source their paper from virgin forest fiber.

There are two actions we urge you to take. The first is to stock your bathroom with a product from the A+ list: Green Forest (Walmart), Trader Joe's Bath Tissue, or 365 (Whole Foods) or from the A list: Ever Spring (Target), Who Gives a Crap (Online), or Seventh Generation (Walgreens, Walmart, Pick N Save). The second action is to write a letter, which can be mailed or hand delivered to Customer Service at your store, to encourage them to carry one of these A-rated toilet papers, or to thank them if they already do so!

Courtesy: Earth Ministry, St. Therese Congregation, Bluemound Rd, Milwaukee

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always welcome.

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for past and present issues.

Greetings!

Dear Readers,

With all the political turmoil, climate change related fires, military conflicts, and an unhealthy global economy in the world today, I believe even St. Vincent Pallotti would be concerned about all this negativity in the newspapers and social media every day. Well, our newsletter is not going to focus on the negative. I think it's time for some positive, if not uplifting articles for our fall/winter newsletter.

This newsletter will be focusing on some of the positive things that have been happening in our province the past several months. We have welcomed several new members to our Pallottine community here in Milwaukee recently. In August, all the members of our Mother of God province participated in a week's retreat to refresh and recharge themselves. On the international scene, Fr. Jophin in Lusaka, Zambia sent us an update on the progress of the St. Vincent Pallotti Catholic School in Westwood (outside of Lusaka). To top things off, we have a little nostalgia in our Do You Know? article at end of the newsletter.

I hope you will enjoy reading about the positive things that still occur in the world and in our Mother of God Province. Have a safe fall and winter. May the Lord walk with you and your family.

frjoedominicsac

Identity Crisis in Life???

David Whyte, a poet and author, speaks about the ‘conversational’ nature of reality. He tells that “there is not a single element or entity in the world that is not bonded to, flying away from or catalytic with a thousand other elements or realities in the world.” Every ecosystem in the world is the centre of this ‘thousand conversations’ between a thousand elements. At a human level this conversational nature of reality is experienced as a dialogue between ‘what I would like to do and be, and what the world would like me to do, and be.’ He concludes, “one of the essential dynamics of the conversational nature of reality is that ‘whatever you as an individual would like to happen in the world will not happen exactly as you would like it; and equally, whatever the world, the society, the organization, the people you serve in life want you to do will also not occur.” And “what actually occurs is a third frontier, which can be called this ‘conversational reality.’



This conversational nature of reality is acutely present in the world today. As priests and religious, we all live on the face of a ‘thousand conversations’ both inside us and outside us. The real challenges of living in such a world is to be able to create an identity for ourselves; an identity as consecrated persons, with which we can ‘meaningfully live’ at that frontier of constant change and constant conflicts, of both personal and social nature. We are called to be the constants, gracefully rendering meaning to the continuous change that characterizes the world; we are called “to be in the world but not of the world.”

The question is, ‘how can we create an identity as priests and religious which is a meaningful response to the call of God, and at the same time a revelation of God’s enduring love and truth to the world?’

The answer to this question can be found in the way our founder lived his life. St. Vincent asked himself a very basic question, “Who is God and who am I before Him?”

And this gives rise to a continuous conversation in his life between his understanding of himself as a despicable human being, and his deeply mystical experience of God as ‘infinite love.’ This conversation outpours itself into mystical expressions throughout his writings. We can understand the priest in Pallotti as the ‘third frontier’ that emerges out of his eternal yearning to find an identity for his own wretchedness in the infinite love of God that he experienced.

In constantly searching to respond to God’s love, St. Vincent was transformed into another Christ, and found his own being consumed by God’s love. The words of Meister Eckart, the great spiritual teacher, aptly describes the life of Pallotti, “The eye through which I see God is the same eye through which God sees me; my eye and God's eye are one eye, one seeing, one knowing, one love.”

For St. Vincent Pallotti the ideal of Priesthood was Jesus himself – the Apostle of the Eternal Father, the apostle of Eternal Love. And Pallotti tried to constantly model himself after Jesus. Today the priesthood of Pallotti is for us both a model as well as a challenge.

Blaise Pascal speaks about a “God-shaped vacuum” in the heart of each man and woman. Today we can speak about a God-shaped vacuum not in just individuals, but in the world and in human societies. Only the creator can fill this vacuum and heal this emptiness. St. Augustine would say, “Our Hearts are made for you Lord, and they are restless until they find rest in you.” These words have a deeper meaning for our contemporary world, because they are a key to the meaning and joy that we can find in Christ. Commenting on this thought of St. Augustine, Pope Francis identifies 3 types of restlessness in each of us,

1. The Restlessness of Spiritual Seeking
2. The restlessness of Encounter with God
3. The restlessness of Love

St. Vincent Pallotti experienced this restlessness very deeply in his life, and it made him thirst for God. Pallotti was very much aware that God cannot be loved in just words and emotions; real love of God has to flow out of the individual and become the caring, healing, comforting and forgiving presence of God in the world. And this awareness made him a zealous priest, burning with God’s love, and passionately spending himself in service to humanity. Our times are no different from that of Pallotti, especially since the global pandemic of the Coronavirus has filled the life of common people with suffering, fear and a sense of loss. St. Vincent experienced God’s love by becoming a carrier of God’s mercy, healing and comfort to the suffering fellow beings of his time. Our experience of God’s love can be enriched and made real only when we become a medium of God’s love and care for the suffering and needy of the world. In a world conquered by the decay of ephemerality, let us become the sign of God’s everlasting love.

(Courtesy: Fr. Shinson Sebastian SAC, Christ University, Bangalore, India).

The Mother of God Province

The New Members of our Community



Rev. Johny Amaladasan, an Indian priest and educator, was born on 18th May 1981 in Adimalathura, Kerala. He is the son of Amaladasan Louis and Rosily. Rev. Johny's journey into the priesthood began in 1996 when he joined the seminary at Pallottigiri, Kerala. After years of dedicated study and spiritual growth, he made his Final Profession in May 2008 and was ordained as a priest in April 2009. Over the years, he served as an Assistant Parish Priest in various locations, including Mary Queen of Apostles Church in Sangam Vihar, New Delhi, Mount Carmel Church in Mariapuram, Neyyattinkara, Kerala, Catholic Church in Aulia, Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh, and St. Joseph's Church in Ishgarh, Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh.

Rev. Johny has a Bachelor's degree in Education. His dedication to the field of theology led him to pursue a Licentiate in Sacred Theology of Marriage and Family at the John Paul II Institute, Pontifical University of Lateran, Rome, from October 2015 to October 2017. After his studies in Rome, he served as the Principal of Pallotti Hill Public School in Mukkam, Kozhikode, Kerala, from October 2017 to June 2020. Subsequently, he took charge as Principal at St. Vincent Pallotti School in Nagpur, Maharashtra, from July 2020 to May 2023. We wish him all the very best in his new venture in Milwaukee, WI, USA.



Fr. Varghese A. Puthussery (Fr. Pullan) SAC, born in Mambra, Kerala, India. Fr. Pullan is the eldest son of the seven siblings in the Family. Fr. Pullan's two sisters are religious nuns. His brother and the three sisters are happily married. With a burning desire to become a missionary Priest he joined the Pallottines, the Prabhu Prakash Province, India in 1978 and was ordained on May 20, 1989. After the ordination, Fr. Pullan has worked as an Associate Pastor, Pastor, Director of the Animation Center,

Executive Secretary to the Commission for Laity and Family of the Catholic Bishop's Conference of India, Secretary to the Catholic Council of India, Teacher, Rector of the Seminary, Consulter to the Provincial, and Provincial Rector of the Province, President of the UAC, in India.

He has completed a Masters in Pastoral Theology. His motto is “I am among you as one who serves” (Lk. 22: 27). It is the voice of God, that has kept Fr. Pullan moving forward into many unknowns and serve the Church and the Society with great zeal and enthusiasm. He firmly believes in the words of St. Vincent Pallotti: “God never sends you into a situation alone. He goes before you. He stands beside you. He walks behind you. Whatever situation you have right now, face it with confidence of Knowing... God is with you.” We wish him all the very best in his future ministry.

A New Mission

Fr. Joy Thachil SAC, Archbishop ListECKi of Milwaukee Archdiocese appointed Fr. Joy Thachil SAC to be the Administrator of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton on June 20, 2023. I took over the parish administration from Fr. Joe Aufdermauer who has been the pastor of this parish for more than 15 years. Seton Parish was founded on January 4, 1981, in New Berlin, Wisconsin. The original church was dedicated in 1983 with the great “spirit of Seton” under the leadership of Fr. Bernard Sippel.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, New Berlin



The new church that we currently have was blessed in 1999 (and will be celebrating its 25th year). Ever since its inception, the community has grown as “Disciples of Christ” to serve one another and worship together as children of God. Seton is known for its friendliness and service to others, especially with many outreach programs beyond the local community. Presently we have been blessed with more than 1,200 families and have about 35 different ministries, keeping our members engaged throughout major liturgical feasts and seasons.

The Mother of God Province

Fr. Joy with Parishners



On behalf of the entire Seton community, we want to welcome you and thank you for your interest to explore various ministries to follow Jesus and serve others. We hope you will find Seton to be a place of love, service, and spiritual growth as disciples of Jesus Christ. I'm immensely grateful to God for this opportunity and earnestly pray for wisdom, knowledge, and guidance from the Holy Spirit to serve the needs of our parishioners, and thus minister to them faithfully. With God's help, I will be able to fulfill the demands of being their shepherd in the days ahead and many years to come.

Light a Candle for your Departed Souls

Remember your dear ones on November 2nd by lightening a candle in the Pallottine Chapel. We remember them specifically in our Community Prayer.



I offer \$..... to light a
candle in the name of the departed soul of
.....

Return this slip to *Pallottines, 5424 W. Bluemound Rd,
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For giving online, please visit www.pallottine.org

The Annual Retreat for Pallottines in Milwaukee



Mary DeTurris Poust

Taking a break from all activities of parish and other apostolates, Pallottines Fathers and Brothers of Mother of God Province, took a break for the spiritual revival. The retreat was conducted for five days at St. Benedict's Abbey in Bennet Lake, Wisconsin by Mary DeTurris Poust, the author of *The Essential Guide to Catholic Prayer and the Mass*, *Everyday Divine: A Catholic Guide to Active Spirituality* and *Waiting in Joyful Hope: Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas 2022-2023*.

It was an opportunity for the Pallottines to look back into the Charism, *Revive the Faith and Re-kindle Charity*, proposed by St. Vincent Pallotti. Indeed, it was also a time to be together as a community to evaluate and appreciate the apostolates of each and everyone.

Pallottines of Mother of God Province



We, Pallottines, express our sincere gratitude to Mary DeTurris Poust for helping us to meditate upon the Pallottine Charism from the lay man's view point.

Pallottines International

A Short Update on St. Vincent Pallotti Catholic School

Westwood, Lusaka, Zambia

The 2023 academic year started on a good note in January. In the same month on the 22nd, the school celebrated the feast of our patron St. Vincent Pallotti. Since then the year was a year of blessing. The staff and students are well prepared to fight against the pandemic which was always a dramatic experience. With the Grace of God the life in St. Vincent Pallotti Catholic School Westwood, Zambia is going on well with positive vibes. Now the school is blessed with 500 plus students which includes about 300 boys and 200 girls and 20 plus staff serving students to become good citizens of Zambia.



First Tuesday of every month the school has the Holy Eucharist whereby the Catholic children receive Holy Communion and the Catholic students are also given special attention to catechism class in every Tuesday of the week whereby they are well equipped with Catechism of the Catholic Church as they move towards their life ahead. Simultaneously, non-catholic students are given moral education class every Tuesday.

The school also held a variety of co-curriculum activities. As it is said “all work makes Jill dull” the activities like carrier day where learners show their future dreams, chess competition, dance competition, painting and drawing competition, debates, sports, art and designs.

Currently the school is running from preprimary to junior secondary which is grade eight and, nine. We too received the national examination centers certificates for grades seven and nine whereby our students can write their National final exam in our school itself.

There is no compromise to the academic activities. All the academic activities take place with strict discipline. The students have monthly tests, term examinations and annual examinations to test their capacity of intelligence. In the school all the teachers are well qualified with the practicing license from the Teaching Council of Zambia. We too have a well-qualified and experienced government retired Head teacher who also can help with the running of the school. Added to this presence of two Catholic priests working as a principal and bursar and two Catholic nuns who teach different subjects in the class making the face of the school shine bright.



The education of our students starts from the family so we also involve parents in the academic performance of their children and they are well appreciative of the developmental plans of our school and are encouraging us to continue to do the good works.

Challenges are always part of life. We too have different challenges. We need to build the classroom blocks for the secondary section (Grade 10, 11, 12), an administration block for the offices and a school bus for the students to reach school and back home safely. All these things we depend on the Grace of God through generous hands of benefactors whereby the children who pass through our institution will always remember and cherish the moral values as they reach into higher heights and become a good Zambian citizen.

(Courtesy: Fr. Jophin Jose SAC, Principal, St. Vincent Pallotti School, Westwood, Zambia)

Pallottines International

A Church that needs our Concern

Diversity and Variety bring beauty in life. It is true with the Catholic Church as well. Looking at the Catholic Church at large, we realize how blessed we are!. The Catholic churches in United States never had an experience of having Holy Eucharist in thatched chapels. We would never imagine to have a church without an office, without a parochial house, without a gathering hall.

Yes... Indeed, we do have such churches in India. Though India has very well established churches and Christian communities in South India, the Catholic Churches in North East India need to have our concern towards it. The Pallottines in Milwaukee always extended our helpful hands to the Catholic Missions in North East India by Indian Pallottines. Here we present another episode of a Catholic Community of Nagaland in North East India.

The Blessing of Catholic Church, Yangsekyu, Nagaland, India



History of Catholic Community at Yangsekyu

There was a deep desire in the people of Yangsekyu community to receive the Catholic faith during the year 2015-16. Though there were 4-5 families who expressed their desire to receive the Catholic faith, the initial steps to become Catholic, realized only on 09th April 2019.

On 26th February 2020, centre in charge of Sitimi, Fr. Sijo Chacko visited Yangsekyu and had interaction with catechumens of Yangsekyu. People of Yangsekyu expressed their ardent desire to become Catholic and they asked the priest in charge of Sitimi to arrange their reception as soon as possible. On 22nd December 2020, The Bishop of Nagaland visited and had the reception of 7 families with 36 members into the Catholic Church.

Yangsekyu community did not have the church to worship the Lord or have Holy Eucharist for nearly two and half years from 22nd December 2020 (date of reception of Yangsekyu) till 25/06/2023. The Bishop of Nagaland, Most Rev. Bishop James Thoppil, bought land for \$3500 for the construction of the church on 02/03/2022. They got the temporary church made with wood and tin sheet on 06/26/2023.

The Altar of the Church



The Tin sheets for the roof of the church were given by the Bishop. The Community collected \$800 for the wood for construction of the church. The rest of the work was done by the physical support of the Yangsekyu community members. The ground was levelled and paved the separate way to the church. Initially the Yangsekyu community had only 7 families with 36 members. After two years two families left the Catholic Church. So the community was reduced into 5 families with 28 members. But meanwhile two of the community members got married which brought the number up to 7 families with 30 members. On the day of the consecration of the Church, three more families consisting of 8 members joined with the Catholic Community. So the total number of Yangsekyu community has increased to 10 families with 38 members. The church was built by Fr. Yesubabu Duggirala SAC and was blessed by Provincial Fr Joy Palachuvatil SAC on 06/26/2023.

Right now the church has only the physical structure. However there are no statues and religious articles for the use of the community members. We are looking forward to having Bibles, Hymn books, the statues of St. Anthony of Padua, Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

(Courtesy: Fr. Yesubabu Duggirala SAC, Catholic Church, Yangsekyu, Nagaland, India)

The Chef's Corner

Creamy Cheddar Potato Soup



A bowl of soup is often a nice way to wet your appetite for a good meal.

Yes, it's easy to buy a canned soup and heat it up, but there's just something special about a nice homemade soup.

So... this time around, let's try a creamy Cheddar Potato soup.

Here's What You'll Need:

3 cups diced, peeled potatoes
¼ cup chopped sweet onion
½ cup fresh peeled carrots
2 cups cold water
4 tablespoons salted butter
¼ cup all-purpose flour
1 cup frozen peas
2 cups 2% milk
½ teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon ground red pepper

2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
(optional: add freshly fried bacon bits or some fully cooked ham cubes)

Here's What You Do:

In a large saucepan place the water, potatoes, carrots and onions. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat and continue cooking until tender (15-20 minutes. Test with a fork.)

In a separate sauce pan melt the butter and stir in the flour until smooth. Slowly add the milk, salt and pepper and bring to a boil. Keep stirring until mix thickens (about 2 minutes)

Add the cheese and stir until it is all melted and smooth. Next add the cheese mix to the undrained potato mixture. Stir together. Add the frozen peas and heat through.

Serve with bread and butter.

Did You Know???

Many of our childhood memories fade over time. Details may be missing, become inaccurate, or in some cases, events and details are possibly added to make the memory more vivid or exciting. Such is the case with “the tunnel” at the former Holy Cross Catholic Grade School in Milwaukee (now Woodlands School—a PK – 8 charter school).

The many thousands of HC alums will remember the tunnel, which was a dark, narrow, dimly lit basement hallway from the bathrooms on the west side of the school to the small lunchroom on the east side (not to be confused with the tunnel connecting the school to the gymnasium built at a later date). The tunnel had a one or two degree downward slope to the half-way point where there was a large metal door going into the school’s furnace room. Our second grade teacher, Sr. John Mary, would lead us single file from the bathrooms to the small lunchroom each day. We always hoped that the furnace room door would be closed as we passed. On occasion, it was open with foggy visions in our heads of Edgar Allan Poe shoveling “naughty” students into the furnace. I was almost relieved to get to the lunchroom to eat my bologna sandwich and banana in my mom-packed lunch.



The other day I had a chance to visit the Woodlands School to see the famed tunnel. What a disappointment! The “tunnel” was now a cheerful hallway with bright lighting and students work displayed proudly on the walls. The “hallway” was alive with the happy voices of students passing between classes. Go figure!



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