

SCJ NEWS

a newsletter of the U.S. Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart

April 2012
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Pictured with Pope John Paul II just before their departure for the Philippines is the first group of SCJs who began the congregation's mission in the country.

SCJ mission grows in the Philippines

During the past year we have featured stories in the *SCJ News* and on our province website about SCJs teaching in the Philippines, international students studying in the Philippines, and now, the elevation of the district to regional status.

As noted in the cover article, the U.S. Province has strong links to the SCJ presence in the Philippines. The first group of SCJs who went to the Philippines prepared for their mission at Sacred Heart Monastery in Hales Corners. The U.S. Province continues to assist the region with short-term personnel assignments, as well as technical and financial support.

By the time this *SCJ News* is printed, Fr. Tom Cassidy, SCJ, will have returned from the regional inauguration and Br. Long Nguyen, SCJ, will be back from his assignment. But the U.S. presence will continue with Fr. Johnny Klingler (see page 4), teaching ESL this spring, as well as with Fr. Wayne Jenkins, SCJ, who continues to assist the new region with records and archives management.

In this *SCJ News* we share a bit of the history of the Philippine mission.

Philippine Region inaugurated on anniversary of founder's birth

In 1989 a group of eight SCJs began preparations for the first SCJ mission in the Philippines. Ranging in age from 28 to 52, they included men from Argentina, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Indonesia and Great Britain.

For most, the first step in the process was becoming fluent in English. One of the two official languages of the Philippines, English would be the common tongue of the missionaries. In 1988 seven of the eight came to the U.S. Province to study in Sacred Heart School of Theology's ESL program. The eighth, who already spoke English, joined them later.

The SCJs came to the U.S. Province to learn a common language, but more importantly, they came together to develop a sense of community and shared goals for the new mission.

After months of preparation, the group arrived in the Philippines on May 17, 1989.

"Since the beginning we chose as our home one of the poorest and least developed islands, the island of Mindanao," said a member of that first group. "Following the example set by our founder, Fr. Leo Dehon, the SCJs from the start have been involved in different so-

cial projects favoring the poor, the sick and the oppressed."

In 1994 the SCJs established a formation program. The first

Philippine novitiate class professed vows in 1999 and

soon after, the Philippine

mission became the Philippine District.

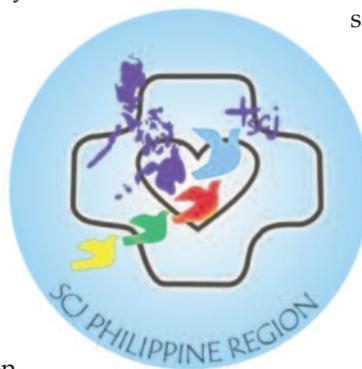
Now in 2012, that district becomes a region. A ceremony marking the occasion was held on March 14, the commemoration of the founder's birth.

Among those installed in the new regional council? Fr. John Karl Cabaluna, SCJ, a member of that first Filipino profession class.

Rapid growth

Eight SCJs came to Mindanao less than 25 years ago. Now as the district becomes a region, that ini-

During the regional inauguration ceremony six men were accepted for postulancy.



1st superior of mission remembered

Among the SCJs who began the congregation's mission in the Philippines was Fr. Jerry Sheehy, SCJ, of the British Irish Province. He was the mission's first superior. Sadly, he died just days before the March 14 regional inauguration ceremony. Diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer three weeks prior, Fr. Jerry died March 9 in Irvine, Scotland. He was born in 1957, professed in 1976 and ordained in 1982.

Fr. Jerry had a great love of Asia. After many years in the Philippines, he spent time in Vietnam, and recently, went to China to explore possibilities for SCJ ministry there.

"Personally, I have found the Filipinos to be a delightful people, very friendly and welcoming with a tremendous sense of fun and a touching sense of humility," said Fr. Jerry after ten years in the country. "But they do face many difficulties, including the scourge of poverty, which only seems



Fr. Jerry Sheehy at a 2011 conference

to get worse, corruption and political instability. In the south there is an uncertain and volatile situation threatening peace and good order. The problems are so immense that there is always the temptation to become discouraged.

"Yet, it is my conviction that it is our presence that is more important to the people than anything we might ever do for them or give them. It is through this kind of presence that they experience something of the presence and compassion of God.

"But no matter what we share with the poor, they give us so much more. Through the sharing of our lives with them we get a new understanding of the gospel, of who Jesus is and of His mission. In their simplicity and hospitality, in their friendship and warmth, we begin to see the things that really matter, things more beautiful than merely possessing beautiful things."

tial eight has grown to include 55 professed SCJs. Seven of its 23 priests are Filipinos.

What was just a fledgling formation program in 1994 has evolved into a hub for SCJ studies in Asia. Joining Filipinos in the novitiate are novices from Vietnam and India. Last year, two Vietnamese SCJs who did their formation in the Philippines were ordained.

"Manila has become kind of a 'Rome' in Asia for theological studies," said Fr. Francis Pupkowski, SCJ. A member of that first group of eight missionaries, Fr. Francis now serves as the new region's first major superior.

Home to several internationally

well-respected universities, Manila is a theological education center in Asia, not just for SCJs, but for the Church as a whole.

"We encourage SCJs from all over the world to do advanced studies, or take a sabbatical in Manila," said Fr. Jose Benedito de Moraes Machado, SCJ, the out-going district superior. It is an opportunity for study, but also to learn about another reality of the congregation."

Focus on Mindanao

As noted, the SCJs began their ministry in the Philippines on the island of Mindanao, one of the most challenging areas of the country.

"Those who are going to the Philippines should know that the place is not easy, it is not comfortable or poetic," said Fr. Antonio Panteghini, SCJ, prior to the missionaries' arrival in 1989. Fr. Antonio was superior general when the Philippine mission was initiated.

Mindanao is an island with a culture and history quite different from the rest of the country. It is the only area of the Philippines with a significant Muslim presence. Although not necessarily related to this presence, Mindanao is also an area plagued by violence and unrest.

The instability of the region hit close to home in October, 2001. After almost 10 years of missionary work in Mindanao, Fr. Giuseppe (Beppe) Pierantoni, SCJ, was kidnapped and held in captivity for 172 days.

"We have had to leave some places in Mindanao because of security reasons, but on the other hand, we want to expand to other places in the Philippines," said Fr. Francis.

The location of SCJ ministry on Mindanao has changed but the original goals brought with that first group in 1989 are the same: to focus on "the poor, the sick and the oppressed."

Pastoral ministry is always a part of that focus, but equally so is finding ways to help the people of Mindanao meet their basic needs. In Dimataling it means helping fishermen purchase nets so that they can feed and support their families. In Kumalarang it involves setting up a fund to help the poor buy medicine. In many areas, the focus is on education.

"In the Philippines the most important dream of every parent is that his or her child gets a good education," said Fr. Bene. "Education is valued higher in the Philippines than anywhere else I have ever been; it is valued on all societal levels.

"Even in the poorest of areas, places where the people practically live in boxes next to trash dumps, the students will come to school well scrubbed in clean clothes with no dirt under their nails."

In the more remote areas of Mindanao it is very difficult for young people to get to a school. To address this, the SCJs sponsor a boarding house for students from the Higaonon and Subanen tribes. Currently, they assist 40 students with shelter, food and other needs so that they can attend school on a regular basis. The house is a simple one, where the students not only help to prepare the meals, but often grow the vegetables that are a staple of their diet.

In 1999, Fr. Eduardo Agüero, SCJ, began the Kasanag Daughters Foundation. Kasanag is home to 26 girls and young women, age 11-24, who have been victims of sexual abuse. The foundation not only provides its residents with a safe haven, but psychological assistance and educational opportunities, including college.

Besides these residential programs, the SCJs also have a youth initiative. Begun in 1992, its focus is on giving children and teens an education in their Christian faith. It has also been a way of introducing young people from more "comfortable" economic backgrounds to the realities of those who are less advantaged.

And Christian formation isn't just for the young. The Philippines is home to an extensive Lay Dehonian movement. Based in Cagayan de Oro, the Lay Dehonians are often young professionals "living out the spiritual-

Students cleaning fish at Cagayan de Oro.



Fr. Sutopo during Ash Wednesday services at a chapel outside of Cagayan de Oro.

ity of Fr. Dehon," said Fr. Francis. Besides meeting for prayer and reflection, Lay Dehonians are very active in community outreach, including programs that focus on health, hygiene, nutrition, responsible parenthood, adult formation and moral issues.

Parish ministry widespread

Currently the SCJs are in four parishes in the Philippines. However, in many areas, a parish isn't simply a single church and its community. Parishes on Mindanao generally have many small, remote chapels or mission communities attached to them. St. Isidore the Farmer parish in Dumalinao has 90 mission chapels ministered to by SCJs as well as over 100 lay ministers and 150 catechists. The parishes also rely on Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC), small, chapel-based faith groups. St. Isidore has 370 BEC leaders attached to it.

Dedicated to Dehonian religious life

The SCJs went to the Philippines to serve the poor. But more so, they went to serve the poor as a religious community, as Dehonians committed not only to ministry but to each other

in religious life.

"As an international community we give priority to community life," said Fr. Francis. "We have monthly meetings, yearly assemblies, vacations together. All projects are community projects.

"In everything we do, we try to give a Dehonian flavor. We center our lives in prayer and adoration. Very often the people tell us that they see our charism lived in how we do things and how we interact."

Members of the new regional administration are enthusiastic about the future of the SCJ presence in the Philippines. They note their expanding ministries, as well as growing vo-

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cation and formation programs. There is an increased focus on collaboration among all of the Asian SCJ entities.

"Not only are we hosting students and novices from other entities but we have sent two of our Filipino theologians to Indonesia to learn about another SCJ reality," said Fr. Francis.

There has also been collaboration with SCJ entities outside of Asia, especially with the German and U.S. Provinces. "With the help of the U.S. Province we have established a fund raising office that has much promise in helping us to meet our goal of becoming self-sufficient," said Fr. Francis.

In the future SCJs hope to expand interreligious dialogue, especially between Christians and Muslims. "This is not always easy," said Fr. Francis, "but we have some very nice examples of collaboration, working together to help the poor."

"We also hope to implement more social programs on the parish level," said Fr. Bene, who invited a religious sister from his native Brazil to speak at a clergy meeting in the Philippines about a project her community operates. Based in parishes, it focuses on helping malnourished children.

"There is just so much that we hope to do," said Fr. Bene. "Translating texts into local languages, more programs for the poor. There are many needs..."

"But no matter what we do, it will always be based in who we are as Dehonian religious."

Read more

Both the province website and our general website in Rome have more articles about the Philippines and the SCJ presence there.

Fr. Tom Cassidy kept a journal during his visit to the country for its inauguration as a region. The journal can be found in the "News" section of the province website. Go to: www.sacredheartusa.org and click on the "News" tab at the top of the homepage, second from the left. News story listings are on the right side of the News page.

ESL in the Philippines; a reunion 50 years in the making in Korea

Fr. Johnny Klingler, SCJ, is next in the line-up from the U.S. Province to visit the Philippines. He left on April 3 and will be in the region through the end of May.

As have several members of the U.S. Province before him, Fr. Johnny is in the Philippines on a two-fold mission. Several years ago the region extended an invitation to SCJs in the U.S. Province to spend time with students in the country to give them a better sense of the wider congregation.

"They said that they were looking for 'older' SCJs to come and be a presence to the young people," said Fr. Johnny. "They want the students to learn about the congregation through stories of our experiences."

"Right away, I thought 'I'm perfect for this!'" Fr. Johnny has been provincial superior, mission secretary and served on the General Council. "I've been able to travel to and experience much of the congregation."

"'Visiting uncles,' is how it was described to me," said Fr. Frank Wit-touck, SCJ, one of the first members of the U.S. Province to accept the Philippine invitation.

"They asked us to share stories about ourselves and our vocation."

The second task of the "visiting uncles" is to help students with their English. For many in the Philippine formation program English is a second (or third, or fourth...) language. English assistance can be informal through casual conversations, community prayer and presentations. However, some SCJs do more formal instruction in the classroom. As did

Fr. Bernie Rosinski, SCJ, last year, Fr. Johnny will put his education and prior teaching skills to work in the Philippine ESL program.

"I have undergraduate and graduate degrees in communication arts," said Fr. Johnny. "I taught English composition, public speaking and other communication arts classes at Kilroe Seminary." Fr. Johnny will assist the resident ESL teacher with a six-week session.

A chance to visit an old friend

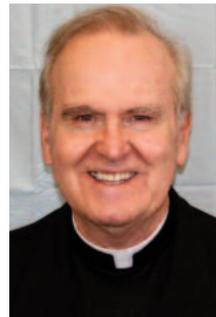
Since he will "be in the neighborhood," Fr. Johnny will make a side trip on his way home from the Philippines to visit a friend in Korea, one whom he came to know over 50 years ago when he was a young serviceman.

"I was a chaplain's assistant and met this Maryknoll priest from Boston who had been a missionary to the country for some time," said Fr. Johnny. "This was 1958, five years after the conflict ended and Korea was still in the process of rebuilding. There were so many poor. I often smuggled goods from the post to give to the missionaries, to the orphans."

Fr. Johnny and the Maryknoll priest became good friends and continue to correspond. However, the last time they saw each other was 28 years ago when Fr. Johnny was on sabbatical in Cambridge, Mass. and the Maryknoll priest was on a home visit in Boston, Mass.

"He is in his 80s now and still very healthy and very busy," said Fr. Klingler.

Fr. Johnny returns to the United States on June 6.



Fr. Johnny Klingler

Youngest of province elders turns 90

On March 27, Br. Gabe Kersting, SCJ, became the province's youngest 90-year-old. He follows Fr. Don Barnd, SCJ, who celebrated his 90th birthday on January 19, and Fr. Leonard Tadyszak, SCJ, who turned 90 on January 5.

Br. Gabe may be the youngest in age but he falls right in the middle when it comes to profession (first vows in 1949). Fr. Don is the youngster with the SCJs, celebrating a mere 60th anniversary with the community this year, while Fr. Leonard has more years in vows than anyone else in the province. This is his 68th year as an SCJ.

After devoting their lives to the Priests of the Sacred Heart, all three men are retired. Fr. Leonard and Fr. Don are members of the Sacred Heart Community in Franklin, Wis. (with residence at the Congregational Home in suburban Milwaukee), and Br. Gabe is a member of the Pinellas Park community in Florida, where he continues to enjoy taking in a few spring training games each year.

Youngest to eldest, let's take a quick look at the elder statesmen of the U.S. Province. Besides sharing the same age, all three also share a similar item on their curriculum vitae: a missionary assignment to South Africa.

From Merchant Marines to South African missions

Originally from Pittsburgh, Pa., Br. Gabe worked in the Merchant Marines for several years before fol-

lowing his vocation with the Priests of the Sacred Heart. He made his first profession when he was 26.

Br. Gabe often served as a support person to others. His first assignments in the province's seminaries and parishes were as a cook or in maintenance. In 1959, he moved to province administration, again as a support person, serving as provincial secretary.

It was when he was provincial secretary that Br. Gabe began thinking of the missions. He went to the airport to pick up a missionary from South Africa who was home for meetings. "He told me what he was doing in South Africa and it really stayed on my mind," said Br. Gabe. "He told me to come down and try it [missionary life] and by the end of that car ride I was ready to go!" In 1973, he was on his way to South Africa.

"My greatest pride and joy was the church I painted," said Br. Gabe. He and an assistant re-painted the inside of St. Mary's Church in De Aar. With hundreds of intricately designed tin tiles on its ceiling, needing two or three coats of paint each, the job was not an easy one. "We were on scaffolds at least 30 feet high for hours at a time."

After 20 years overseas, Br. Gabe returned to the United States. He spent two years with the novitiate community in Chicago, and in 1997, joined the Pinellas Park community.

Ordained at 56 on mother's 81st birthday

Fr. Don is originally from Morris, Minn., and entered the SCJs after six years in the Navy. Initially, he served the province as a brother. He ministered at St. Joseph's Indian School in South Dakota, the novitiate at Ste. Marie, Ill., Divine Heart Seminary in Donaldson, Ind., and Immaculate

Heart of Mary Seminary in Lenox, Mass., before volunteering for the missions in South Africa in 1968.

As a brother, Fr. Don said that he used the skills that he learned from his father. Mr.

Barnd was an engineer and he taught his son at an early age how to use mathematics for a variety of projects. "I remember one time, my father, grandfather and I were going to paint the house," said Fr. Don. "I knew then how to square numbers so he had me figure out how much paint we needed for the project. I didn't get it right the first time, but after he showed me my mistake I never forgot how to do it again."

Fr. Don returned to the United States in 1970, and said that he noticed a change in himself after South Africa. "I wanted to go back to school," he said. Challenged by other SCJs, he began to think about the priesthood. He entered Sacred Heart School of Theology in 1975, and on his mother's 81st birthday in 1978, he was ordained to the priesthood. Years later in his retirement, he returned to school again and earned his bachelor's in religious studies from Cardinal Stritch University in suburban Milwaukee and a Master's of Divinity degree from SHST.

As a priest he served at the Kateri Indian Center in Sioux Falls, S.D., at St. Martin Church in Murdo, S.D., and as a "help-out" priest in parishes too numerous to list.

Tiny ad led to vocation

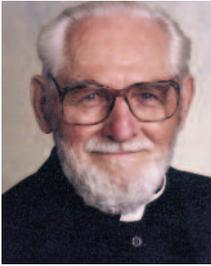
A Milwaukee native, Fr. Leonard learned of the Priests of the Sacred Heart through an advertisement in a religious magazine. "It was so small I could barely see it," he said of the ad. "But I felt like I was called to serve



Br. Gabe Kersting



Fr. Don Barnd enjoying a good laugh



Fr. Leonard Tadzyszak

the Sacred Heart and so I contacted them.

It was while he was chopping logs with the CCCs (Civilian Conservation Corps — a program that put young men to

work during the Depression) when he started to think about a vocation.

"After seeing that ad I just wrote to them [the Priests of the Sacred Heart] and told them I wanted to join," he said. Soon after, he received a letter from Fr. John Emonts, SCJ, saying that the priest he had written to, Fr. Henry Hogeback, SCJ, had just died in a car accident. "But he added that I was still welcome to come to Hales Corners — I guess they didn't have much of an admissions process then."

At 19 he was considered a "PG" or post-graduate student, so he was placed in an intensive two-year Latin program at Divine Heart Seminary. He completed his studies at Sacred Heart Monastery and was ordained to the priesthood in 1952. And then, like many newly ordained at the time, his first assignment was back at the seminary.

"They needed teachers, so that's where we went," said Fr. "Tady," as he is often called. His first assignment was as a Latin teacher at Divine Heart. When asked if he was a little nervous in his first year of teaching he said "yes" with little hesitation.

"I didn't know Latin all that well myself," he admitted. "All I had were those two years at Donaldson and a little later on. But I stayed about two days ahead of the class so I could figure out what they were going to ask. After seven years, I actually got to know the language pretty well!"

In 1961 he left for De Aar, South Africa. He stayed for four years before returning to the U.S. Province to once again serve in education and formation.

After many years in education, Fr. Tady became a "pinch-hitter" of sorts — filling in at parishes when others were on vacation, or serving as a fill-in until a permanent SCJ was assigned to a location.

He retired in 1992 and alternated his time between the retirement communities in Florida and Wisconsin before finally settling in Wisconsin last year.

Visiting artist helps students celebrate identity through art

Vermillion, S.D., artist Susan Heggstad recently conducted workshops for St. Joseph's Indian School students as part of the South



Susan Heggstad

Dakota Arts Councils Artists in Schools & Communities program. Through exercises in book-making and drawing, students

explored art as a means to develop and celebrate their identities. By swapping pieces of their drawings, they saw how they and their work can be influenced by people and events around them.

"Each student created a drawing of a person or figure with a clear top, middle and bottom," said Susan. "Once the drawings were complete, they were cut into three pieces. Students kept one piece of their drawing and swapped the other two with class members."

After constructing the front and

back covers for their work from cardboard and fabric, students put the new pieces in place with the remaining section of their original.

"The project was a variation of an 'exquisite corpse,' which is a technique of collaborative art invented by the Surrealists," said Heggstad.

Heggstad uses art as a means of communication and discovery in the classroom. She believes visual art can enable students to explore the ways that family, religion, gender, ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomic status and other cultural influences help shape their sense of self.

Susan received her MFA in printmaking from the State University at Buffalo, New York (SUNY) in 2002, and her BFA from the University of South Dakota. Her work has been showcased at the Washington Pavilion of Arts and Sciences in Sioux Falls, the Haydon Art Center in Lincoln, Neb., North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D., as well as numerous other venues. In addition, she is the recipient of several awards, including a South Dakota Arts Council Artist Grant in 2007.

The program was sponsored by St. Joseph's Indian School, with support provided by the South Dakota Arts Council and funds from the State of South Dakota, through the Department of Tourism and State Development, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



A student from Susan Heggstad's class shows off her completed work.



Sacred Heart School of Theology

Milwaukee archdiocesan priest named to lead Sacred Heart

For the first time in its history, the president-rector's office at Sacred Heart School of Theology will be held by someone other than a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

Msgr. Ross Shecterle, a priest with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, has been named as the next president-rector of the seminary, which is an apostolate of the U.S. Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart. Fr. Thomas Cassidy, SCJ, provincial superior, in consultation with the Provincial Council, made the selection on March 28.

Msgr. Shecterle will become the seminary's 19th rector. He replaces Fr. Jan de Jong, SCJ, president-rector since 2008, who is retiring at the age of 74.

"To say that this is a significant moment for Sacred Heart School of Theology and the Priests of the Sacred Heart is an understatement," said Fr. Cassidy.

Fr. Cassidy commented on the decision to open the role beyond the Priests of the Sacred Heart. "We decided that the mission of our seminary is more important to us than the need to keep a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart in the rector's office. This was a difficult decision, but one we felt necessary to best serve the Church.

"At this moment in history, the most appropriate candidate for presi-

dent-rector of Sacred Heart School of Theology is a priest from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. However, we must keep in mind that this does not close the door to the possibility of a member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart returning to the office at a future time.

"More importantly, it does not mean that the identity of the Priests of the Sacred Heart leaves the seminary. The charism of our founder, Fr. Leo John Dehon, will continue to be the foundation for all that is done here at Sacred Heart School of Theology."

Significant measures have already been set in place to ensure that the charism and spirituality of the SCJ founder continues to be integral to the identity of Sacred Heart School of Theology.

"I look forward to Msgr. Shecterle's service to an apostolate that is close to my heart, having been a former rector myself," said Fr. Cassidy. "I look forward to working with him as he continues to advance the goals of the seminary, including its strong collaborative relationship with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, and the spirituality of our founder, Fr. Leo John Dehon.

Msgr. Shecterle previously served as rector of the American College of the Immaculate Conception in Louvain, Belgium, which closed last June. He was dean of students at St. Francis de Sales Seminary in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee from 2000 to 2002 and vice rector from 2002 to 2003. Students from St. Francis de Sales now do their academic training at SHST.

A licensed Ph.D. therapist, he has served on the formation faculty of the Pontifical North American College in Rome as director of counseling services, and as an invited professor in pastoral psychology at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas-Angelicum, Rome.

Msgr. Shecterle earned his license in sacred theology (S.T.L.) graduating, magna cum laude, in 1994 at the Catholic University of Louvain. He

earned his master's in 1995 and his doctorate in pastoral counseling in 2000, both from Loyola College in Baltimore, Md.

He earned his master of divinity with honors from St. Francis de Sales Seminary and was ordained to the priesthood in 1986.

Msgr. Shecterle served as associate pastor of Immaculate Conception

Parish in Burlington, Wis., from 1986 to 1990, and continued as assistant vocation director, director of the high school seminary program and director of college recruitment for the Milwaukee Archdiocese in the early 1990s.

A published theologian, Msgr. Shecterle is also a highly-sought speaker for academic and pastoral talks in the United States and internationally.

Transition efforts will get underway immediately; Msgr. Shecterle officially begins his term on July 1, 2012.

With approximately 140 students, Sacred Heart School of Theology is North America's largest Catholic seminary focused on preparing men over 30 for priesthood.



Msgr. Ross Shecterle

SCJ NEWS

Mission Education

The next Mission Education gathering has been set for April 8-9, 2013, at St. Joseph's Indian School in Chamberlain, S.D.

Mission Education is a time for employees and other collaborators in SCJ ministry to come together to learn about Fr. Leo John Dehon, founder of the Priests of the Sacred Heart, and the religious community that now carries on his dreams. It is also a time for co-workers from across the country to get to know one another and learn how they are a part of the worldwide mission of the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

SCJ jumps on a bike to help raise funds

On March 31, St. Martin of Tours parish in Franklin, Wis., was the site

of the second annual "Pedal for the Food Pantry." This year's event raised approximately \$7,300 for the parish food pantry and brought in numerous bags of groceries valued close to \$3,000.

Over 100 participants filled the parish gymnasium pedaling for up to four hours on stationary bicycle trainers.

Members of St. Martin of Tours' youth group did everything from filling bottles to pumping tires and handing out snacks. Fr. Bob Naglich, SCJ, associate pastor, was also on hand, and even pedaled a few miles in the last hour of the event.

St. Martin of Tours is ministered to by the Priests of the Sacred Heart. Fr. Yvon Sheehy, SCJ, is the pastor and Fr. Thi Pham, SCJ, is an associate, along with Fr. Bob. St. Martin of Tours is also home to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's Vietnamese community.

New district in Africa

This *SCJ News* begins with the story of the newly inaugurated Philippine Region. We end it with news of the most recent SCJ mission venture: Angola. The first four SCJ missionaries arrived in the country in 2004. Now eight years later, the efforts of these few have resulted in the congregation establishing a district in the country.

There are currently 11 SCJs working in three locations in Angola: Viana,



Fr. Bob Naglich pedals a few miles at a parish fund-raiser.

Luau and Luena. There is already one temporarily professed member, and one Angolan in the novitiate. In the formation program in Viana there are 11 young people at the pre-university level and philosophy.

Angola is only beginning to rebuild itself after its 1974 – 2002 civil war. Creating an SCJ presence in the country will require much work. "But it is felt that there is enough energy to pull together and create a Dehonian community," said a member of the general administration. One of the missionaries' success stories in Angola is an economic venture to help finance their work. The SCJ community imported a container full of religious goods from Portugal and set up shop in Viana. Having sold only half its contents, the community already recuperated the cost of the container twofold.

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