

SCJ NEWS

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

August 2013

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Welcome and congratulations!

Province welcomes two new members and celebrates the beginning of new novitiate year

During an Adoration service August 14, the Priests of the Sacred Heart welcomed Justin Krenke to the novitiate. A candidate for the past three years, Justin, 22, has been a member of the Dehon Formation Community in Chicago, attending St. Xavier University.

"I learned about the SCJs from a vocational website," said Justin. "After I visited the community on a 'Come and See' weekend I became

very interested and decided that this is the community for me."

During his candidacy Justin has done everything from volunteer work with Sacred Heart Southern Missions to playing Fr. Leo Dehon, the congregation's founder, in a presentation during this year's Mission Education program in South Dakota.

Each time that he has taken on a new task with the community Justin says that it has helped him to learn



ABOVE: Justin Krenke gives a reflection during his Entrance to the Novitiate ceremony. BELOW: Newly professed SCJs with their novice master, Fr. John Czynski.



View more photos at
www.scjusa.smugmug.com



The newly professed SCJs receive the Rule of Life from Fr. Stephen Huffstetter, newly elected provincial superior. Juancho and James are the first men he received into the community.

more about himself and ministry. After serving with SHSM last year he said that he came to the realization that “ministry isn’t just about going and helping people and then when you’re done, moving on the next project. Ministry is about making connections with people, talking with them, and learning about and from them. It’s about showing people that you truly do care about their situation and you want to be able to help as much as you can, even if it’s just listening.”

This past summer Justin helped with the ESL program at Sacred Heart School of Theology.

Now, he heads back to Chicago with novice master Fr. John Czynyski, to begin his novitiate year.



Justin Krenke receives congrats from his niece.

“As I have come to learn more and more about the SCJs, how they live, the work they do throughout the country and around the world, and as I have come to grow not only on a spiritual level but on a personal level, I felt that the time was right to learn more and come to a fuller understanding of what it would mean for me to become an SCJ,” said Justin about entering the novitiate. “I am looking forward to the year ahead and I hope to learn all I can to prepare to take my first vows.”

Welcome!

The Priests of the Sacred Heart welcomed two new members to the community on August 15 when James Nguyen and Juan Carlos Castañeda Rojas (“Juancho”) professed their first vows during a morning liturgy at Sacred Heart School of Theology.

The two SCJs reflect the changing face of the congregation, a religious community that is increasingly more international, even within the U.S. Province itself. Juancho is originally from Colombia and James was born in Vietnam, though he and his family have been in the United States since James was four.

Juancho has the longest history with the Priests of the Sacred Heart. He came to the United States in 2006 to study English and eventually found his vocation with the congregation.

“Since the very first day I arrived here, I felt welcome,” said Juancho, 31. “Somebody said to me once that it does not matter where you are or what you do; if you are happy then that is where you belong. Well I am REALLY happy with the Priests of the Sacred Heart so it is here where I feel that I belong!”

“I identify myself with the charism and foundations of the community.”

Now fluent in English, during the novitiate year Juancho said that he learned another language:

“I am learning a new language, one that I now call DLH (Dehonian Language of the Heart). Thank you Fr. Byron [Haaland], you made me realize that in your sharing. ‘I speak Dehonian’ were the words Fr. Byron spoke that had a huge impact on me. While ESL taught me how to speak English and communicate, DLH taught me to identify myself as a Dehonian.

“English, as any other language, has many rules; grammar and correct pronunciation make it a hard language to learn. But I learned that the Dehonian Language of the Heart has only one rule which is called ‘Generosity.’

“You might ask, ‘That’s it?’ Well, DLH is taught from one heart to another; it is a language that is translated through actions as well. It is fairly easy and there is always a place for everyone. We are all called to this learning adventure.

“I am very happy to realize that I have many teachers who can teach me every day not just a new word in English but also a new word in the language of Fr. Dehon, the Language of the Heart, through their experiences and their examples of how they live.

A quick fit

James, 24, entered candidacy only two years ago but immediately felt at



James shares the sign of peace with Juancho's family and other guests.

home and applied for novitiate as soon as possible.

"What drew me to the Priests of the Sacred Heart is the charism and spirituality in Fr. Leo Dehon's writings," he said. "Every SCJ that I have met shows such passion and hospitality in his ministry. They express the mission of being prophets of love and servants of reconciliation in their daily lives. I was inspired by Fr. Dehon saying that going out to the world with a Bible is not just enough as we should also be carrying a newspaper – or now an iPad!"

During the novitiate year novices visit each of the province's communities to learn about its ministries and meet its members. James said that one of the most significant visits for him was with the retired priests and brothers in Florida. He wrote that "those who know me, know that I love apples, from apple pies to Applebee's to the Apple iPad. But I never reflected upon apples until I ran across Zechariah 2:8 during the novitiate, '... whoever touches you touches the apple of God's eye.'

"It was a simple, but profound statement. It made me think of when we were visiting the SCJ retirement home in Pinellas Park, FL. Of the many wonderful people we met during our novitiate trips was Br. Gabriel Kersting. Although he has Alzheimer's disease and cannot remember much from the past, just seeing his mere presence and his joy-

ful witness to religious life was so graceful. At 91, Br. Gabriel experiences and sees things for the first time, like a child, on a daily basis. 'I think of heaven a lot. And I believe I am close to it each day, but I feel like a kid again,' he says.

"One of my favorite memories of him was when we were walking down the pier at St. Petersburg's and we saw a boy with Downs Syndrome. He pulled me aside and said, 'Look into those eyes, how can you not see the grace of God in it?' Looking back at that moment today at the end of the novitiate and after being shown to see the world through the lens of our founder, Fr. Leo Dehon, I realized each one of us are all apples of God's eyes."

The newly minted SCJs return to the Chicago Formation Community to continue their studies in theology.



The Kasanag Daughters Foundation's new home

Foundation rebuilds after the floods

Two years ago, the river running through Cagayan de Oro, a Philippine city on the island of Mindanao, burst its boundaries in the midst of epic rains. People were swept away in the raging waters; homes and businesses were damaged, including that of the Kasanag Daughters Foundation. The foundation, begun and operated by the Priests of the Sacred Heart, helps young women rebuild their lives after being the victims of sexual abuse.

Flood waters at Kasanag reached the second floor. Fortunately, no one was killed. However, the water damage was extensive.

This wasn't the first time the foundation's home was at risk from high waters. There was a fear that Kasanag would continue to be at risk. Perhaps next time its residents would not escape unharmed.

The foundation decided to seek higher ground. With the help of good friends in the Philippines and around the world a property was found and funds were raised to build a new structure. Special help was provided by the Episcopal Conference of Italy, but also by individual SCJ provinces and regions. With this combined effort, a new house for the Kasanag Daughters is already completed.

On Sunday, August 4, the house was blessed. Sixteen of the young women living at Kasanag were present, together with members of the board of directors, the program's social worker, the director of the house, house mothers and many SCJs, the spiritual force behind this work.

Fr. John van den Hengel, SCJ vicar general, presided at the Mass. He was in the Philippines to direct a retreat for fellow SCJs. In the Eucharist he reflected on the miracle of generosity that allowed the new building to become a reality. He reminded the young women: "You have been given a miracle. It is up to you now to show to others what you do with the miracle."

The SCJ NEWS is published by the U.S. Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart (SCJs). Articles, photos and suggestions are always welcome. Editorial offices are located at P.O. Box 289, Hales Corners, WI 53130-0289 (414) 427-4266. Email: marygorski@sbcglobal.net Mary Gorski, editor. Postage prepaid.





New administration installed



On August 1, Fr. Stephen Huffstetter, SCJ, was installed as the 14th provincial superior of the U.S. Province. He was elected to the position in early June. The Provincial Council includes SCJs Fr. Ed Kilianski, Fr. Byron Haaland, Br. Duane Lemke, Fr. Jack Kurps and Fr. Christianus Hendrik.

At the end of the installation Fr. Steve reflected on words that had been on his mind all summer:

“Ecce Venio.” Translated as “Behold, I come to do your will O God,” the scriptural reference was a favorite of the founder’s, Fr. Leo John Dehon.

The words appear in his last blog post for St. Joseph’s Indian School, the South Dakota school which he directed until his election. He wrote:

“My last events were a Mass Saturday evening and a social afterward in the Rec Center. I’ve had a host of farewells these past couple of weeks, and shed more than a few tears. The tears are both sadness at parting and joy from all that we’ve experienced and accomplished together. I felt a sense of joy for a last celebration, hug, or memory with people I’ve shared so much with.

“We wrapped up shortly before 10 p.m.. The sky outside was still a warm red and purple, lingering colors from a gorgeous sunset over the Missouri River. I will miss those spectacular sunsets. The fountain in front of the Akta Lakota Museum and Cultural Center was still running, and the sound of water very soothing.

“Our SCJ founder, Leo John Dehon had a favorite scripture – Ecce Venio – Behold, I come to do your will O God. In the quiet of the night, alone in the parking lot with just me and the Creator, I felt a deep sense of peace.”



Always the answer

At the installation Mass, held in the chapel at Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake, Fr. Steve again reflected on “Ecce Venio” during his concluding remarks. Looking at the future, and noting the challenges that he and the province are sure to face, Fr. Steve said that “We don’t know all the questions before us, but we do know the answer to each of them — ‘Ecce Venio; Behold I Come.’”



Fr. Steve shares a few closing comments.

It is the starting point for the new administration as it begins its three-year mandate.

“Behold, I come to do your will O God.”

Number 13

Fr. Tom Cassidy, the 13th provincial superior, is now on sabbatical after serving two six-year terms. During his sabbatical he will spend time in many of the areas for which he had responsibility when he was on General Council. During much of 2014 he will be in Asia, visiting and ministering in India, the Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia.

Positions announced

The day after its installation the new council had its first meeting. During it, Fr. Ed Kilianski, SCJ, was named vice provincial superior, Dn. David Nagel, SCJ, was reappointed as provincial treasurer and Fr. Terry Langley, SCJ, was reappointed as provincial secretary.

PHOTOS LEFT PAGE - TOP: Fr. Ed Kilianski, vice provincial and Fr. Stephen Huffstetter, the newly elected provincial superior. MIDDLE LEFT: Fr. Tom Cassidy, out-going provincial, gives the homily. BOTTOM LEFT: The new administration makes the profession of faith. More pictures are on the province photo site: www.scjsa.smugmug.com.



SCJs pose for a photo following the inauguration. Fr. Rino Venturin, SCJ, the first district superior of Vietnam, is an alumnus of one of the first classes of Sacred Heart School of Theology’s ESL program.

“May the SCJs leave a trace of love and reparation in this land”

From the concluding prayer at the inauguration Mass of the District of Vietnam

District of Vietnam inaugurated!

On August 12, the Priests of the Sacred Heart officially established the District of Vietnam, the congregation’s newest entity.

Over 140 SCJs and guests were crammed into the community chapel to take part in the ceremony. Many had been there in April for the blessing of the SCJs’ first community house in the country.

Some guests sought space on the rooftop balcony but heavy rains forced everyone inside.

The community took a quick route toward the establishment of a district in Vietnam. It was only a dozen years ago, in 2001, that the SCJs sent its first Vietnamese candidates to the Philippines for formation and further study.

Fr. Jerry Sheehy of the British-Irish

Province was one of the first SCJs to serve in the country. When he arrived, dioceses were overflowing with candidates for the priesthood. Numbers exceeded the limitations imposed by the Vietnamese government. In 2003, SCJ delegates at the General Chapter decided to officially begin a congregational presence in Vietnam. Now, only ten years later, a district has been established.

The mission was blessed from the beginning with a number of candidates. In 2005, the first SCJ community was established in Ho Chi Minh City. The SCJs lived in a hotel in the city because the Vietnamese government did not permit foreign nationals of non-approved religious communities to live with the

Vietnamese. However, under a quirk of law, non-Vietnamese could live under the same roof with Vietnamese citizens if the roof was on top of a hotel. And so, the first SCJ presence in Vietnam was based out of a hotel.

Now, the Priests of the Sacred Heart is a community fully recognized and approved by the Vietnamese government so international SCJs can live with their Vietnamese brothers and candidates at the community house.

Fr. Jerry Sheehy and Fr. Halim Suriady (Indonesian Province) were the first SCJs to live in Ho Chi Minh. In 2008, Fr. Yan Waleng, also from the Indonesian Province, joined them.

Prior to Fr. Jerry's arrival in 2001, the congregation had a connection to Vietnam through the Franco-European Province.

A number of SCJ candidates went to France for their formation and studies. Many of these candidates were members of the *Fraternite Apostolique*, an association founded in 1988 by Fr. Vincent Nguyen Cao Dungm SCJ. Its aim is to give young Catholic students Christian formation. The association is an autonomous association; Fr. Vincent provides the formation. Such an association is the only type of involvement by religious communities in the field of education that is permitted in Vietnam.

From this effort a number of vocations became candidates for the Franco European Province. During the General Chapter of 2009, an agreement was reached to unify the congregational presence in Vietnam so that there would be only one Vietnam project. Because that agreement only took effect in 2010 there still two Vietnamese novices in the Franco European novitiate in Brussels and three candidates studying French and theology in Metz and Paris.

With the inauguration of the District, Fr. Vincent will now be a member of the Vietnam District.

Fr. John van den Hengel, SCJ, vicar general, was the main celebrant at the inauguration liturgy. Among those joining him was Fr. Paulus Sugino,

SCJ, general councilor for Asia. During the liturgy, Fr. Rino Venturin, SCJ, was installed as the district's first superior. Fr. Rino is an alumnus of Sacred Heart School of Theology's ESL program.

Remembered at Mass as the founder of the district was Fr. Jerry Sheehy, who died in 2012 of cancer. The community also remembered Fr. Michael Walsh, SCJ, who, after his term as provincial superior of the British – Irish Province, joined Fr. Jerry for a year. Fr. Michael contracted the dengue virus and died in Vietnam in 2011.

The new district has 17 members: 10 priests and seven students. The students live and study for the most part in the Philippines. All of them were members of the Philippine Region. Now with establishment of the Vietnamese District, the Philippine Region just became a little smaller. As Fr. John said in his homily, "This is a day of beginnings, but also a day also of endings. We end today the first phase of our presence in Vietnam. We begin a new phase."

Concluding the inauguration those gathered prayed that the SCJs "may leave a trace of love and reparation in this land."



The SCJs' first community house in Vietnam was blessed in April. It was also the site of the inauguration ceremony for the new district.



Bishop Zolile Petros Mpambani is ordained.

South African SCJ ordained as bishop

On August 3, Fr. Zolile Petros Mpambani, SCJ, was ordained as bishop of the Diocese of Kokstad, South Africa. He is the second SCJ in less than a year to be ordained for episcopal service in Africa. Archbishop Claudio Dalla Zuanna, SCJ, was ordained October 7, 2012, for the Archdiocese of Beira, Mozambique.

What follows are two reflections on Bishop Zolile's ordination. The first is from Fr. Adam Maslowski, SCJ, a member of the South African Province. Bishop Zolile was the province's provincial superior when he was named bishop of Kokstad on May 6.

The second reflection is from Fr. David Szatkowski, SCJ, who represented the U.S. Province at the ordination.

"No more Father Zolile but Bishop Zolile!"

These were the words that we could hear during the episcopal ordination of Zolile Petros Mpambani, SCJ.

Fr. Zolile, 56, was professed in 1982 and ordained in 1957. He has been involved in pastoral work, the novitiate and formation of seminarians, general administration in Rome, and local administration. Of course,

since February he was the provincial superior of the South African Province.

Approximately 30 bishops and over 100 priests (diocesan and religious) took part in Bishop Zolile's ordination. Bishop Zolile received his episcopal ordination from the hands of Archbishop William Slattery, OFM, of Pretoria. The two witnessing bishops were Archbishop Stephen Brislin of Cape Town and Bishop Michael Wustenberg of Aliwal.

Among the SCJs were two bishops from Mozambique and one bishop from South Africa. Dehonians from other provinces were present too, from Cameroon, Congo, Mozambique, Indonesia, Germany, the United States, Poland and the general administration.

We wish Bishop Zolile many graces as he spreads the love of the Sacred Heart, as his motto says, "As I have loved you."

-Fr. Adam Maslowski

(Our thanks to Fr. Adam who also supplied the photos from the ordination)

Fr. David Szatkowski writes...

The Diocese of Kokstad had been without a bishop for over two years prior to Bishop Zolile's ordination.

There was a constant feeling of joy and celebration as the Mass began

and continued. I was struck more than once by the overwhelming sense of unity found in the people who were present.

Joy was expressed not only by singing, but also by hands lifted up in prayer, in dancing to the hymns, in the applause at the announcement of the papal mandate for the ordination. People felt free to sing and move with the liturgy.

In the truest sense, the liturgy was the work of the people accepting a new shepherd and rejoicing at his ordination.

I was also struck by the way the liturgy was inculturated. The hymns and prayers included multiple languages. People moved among them with comfort. Hymns were sung in both English and African languages.

One last observation is about universality. The universality of the Church and the collegial action of episcopal ordination is traditionally shown by having at least three bishops present. However, for Bishop Zolile, many more were present.

Bishops from Namibia and Mozambique were there in addition to many bishops from South Africa. This universality was made all the more present when one saw the many SCJs from various provinces as well.

In all, it was a day of great joy seeing Bishop Zolile entering a new mission, a new work, a new ministry.



In the footsteps of saints

Milwaukee's *Catholic Herald* did a feature on Fr. Tony Russo's visit to the Molokai leper colony. The SCJ went in November, just weeks after Marianne Cope was declared a saint.



Fr. Tony Russo

The sister, who has long been an inspiration to Fr. Tony, spent 30 years ministering to people with leprosy.

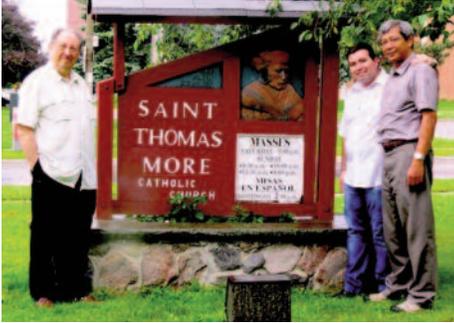
In the *Catholic Herald* article Fr. Tony was quoted as saying that one of the most emotional moments of the trip was celebrating Mass at St. Philomena Church at the altar built by Fr. Damien (St. Damien of Molokai), the priest also known for his ministry at the colony. He eventually contracted the disease himself.

"It was so moving to me when I was there – that I was saying Mass where this saintly man said Mass," said Fr. Russo in the *Herald* article. "One very interesting thing I saw was all the holes in the floor. When Damien said Mass, the lepers, who were so sick, often had to spit and went outside to do this. Damien wanted to keep them in church, so he put holes in the floor and there were big leaves underneath that they could spit into. He was a handy guy and helped build a lot of buildings on other islands in Hawaii before coming to Molokai."

The full article is on the *Catholic Herald* website at: www.chnonline.org.



Three SCJs: Archbishop Claudio Dalla Zuanna, Bishop Zolile and Bishop Elio Greslin



Fr. Jim Casper, Fr. Aegi Warsito and Willyans Prado Rapozo outside of the SCJs' new ministry in Toronto

New ministry in Toronto

Three members of the Toronto SCJ community settled into a new ministry this summer. Fathers Jim Casper, Aegi Warsito and Willyans Prado Rapozo now serve St. Thomas More and Our Lady of the Rosary parishes in northeast Toronto.

St. Thomas More "is not just a big parish; it is HUGE with some 6,800 people on the parish list," said Fr. Bill Marreeve, SCJ. Fr. Bill is the regional superior of Canada. Our Lady of the Rosary, about a 15-minute drive from St. Thomas More, has a large Portuguese-speaking community, besides its English-speaking parishioners. Fr. Will, a Brazilian SCJ, is fluent in the language.

"Needless to say, the parishes are quite a challenge, but Frs. Jim, Aegi

and Will are very generous and quite committed to the project." said Fr. Bill. "They have begun their ministry with enthusiasm and dedication."

The parishes are about a 30-minute drive from the SCJ community house on High Park so the team of three will live at St. Thomas More. Although in a new residence, they will continue to be a part of the High Park community.

"This is another step in our effort to form an international community in Toronto," added Fr. Bill. "As for the three now living at St. Thomas More, you cannot get more international: Fr. Jim is Canadian, Fr. Aegi is from Indonesia and Fr. Will is Brazilian. And, the parishes themselves are very international."

Retired SCJ back at school

Among the new students settling in at Sacred Heart School of Theology this fall is someone very familiar to the seminary – Fr. Bernie Rosinski, SCJ. Although now retired and a member of the SCJ community in South Dakota, for many years he served in various capacities SHST.

Why, at the age of 79, is Fr. Bernie heading back to school? It's not that he doesn't already have a full academic CV. Among the schools from which he has earned degrees: the Gregorian

University in Rome, Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and Ball State University in Muncie, Ind.

Reflecting on the return to school Fr. Bernie writes that "I am a candidate for a master's degree in Sacred Scripture. I have generously been given credit for some previous studies and have chosen the thesis track. I hope to pick up 12 credits in this fall semester which I am required to spend at the School of Theology. When the courses are successfully completed, I will only need six more credits. The program will also require a thesis.

"Why return to school? Why tempt fate? Why deliberately stumble over these facts: that I now nap in the morning and the afternoon, that my memory is not what it once was, that my eyes do not see what they once were able to see?

"Interest and desire! Scripture is where God's revelation to the human race is recorded. And I want to learn more about his revelation and how to discern his word and meaning. A formal degree program will help keep my nose to the wheel and help me be motivated when discouraged, for I dread the possibility that my reputation among my SCJ brothers would be forever sullied should I be a 'drop-out!'"

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