

SCJ NEWS

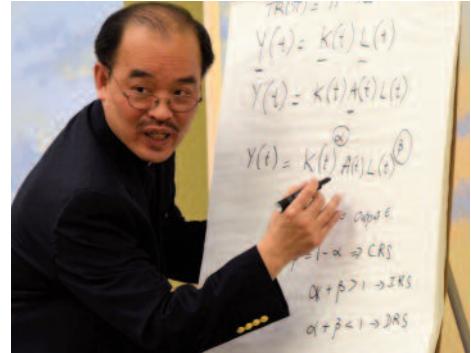
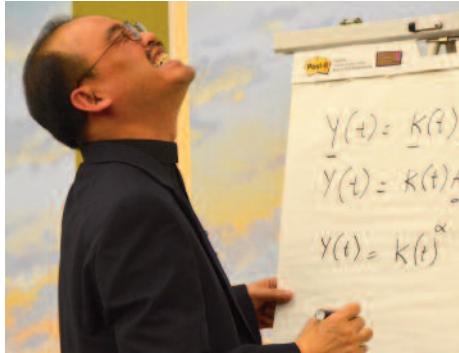
a newsletter of the U.S. Province of the Priests of the Sacred Heart

April 2014

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Fr. Quang Nguyen, who holds a doctorate in economics, spoke at SHST's Dehon Lecture. His topic: "Fr. Dehon's Ministry from an Economic Perspective."

Industrial Revolution set the stage for founder's concern for the poor

Fr. Dehon urged priests to become educated on economics and politics

"**C**lergy have to learn about economic issues and the problems of social science... Our seminaries have to offer courses in social and political economics."

Who said it? Originally, Fr. Leo John Dehon, founder of the Priests of the Sacred Heart.

Echoing it about a 100 years later was Fr. Quang Nguyen, SCJ, presenter at Sacred Heart School of Theology's annual Dehon Lecture on March 26. The title of his presentation: "Fr. Dehon's Ministry from an Economic Perspective."

Fr. Quang began by listing the founder's academic résumé, including degrees in canon and civil law, theology and philosophy.

"But was he an economist?" asked

Fr. Quang. Fr. Dehon held no degree in the field, but "his self-taught knowledge and respect for the discipline of economics was evident in his ministries and in his young congregation.

"His approach to ministry signified a deep understanding of econom-

ic issues and principles. And he did not stop at understanding the issues and theories but more important, he put them into practice."

"Christ exerts His influence through His Church," Fr. Dehon wrote. Economics is one of the driving forces of society. If priests and religious are to influence society, they must be educated in what drives it. How are the people of a society affected by economics?

How can economics be affected by the people of a society?



Fr. Quang speaks to SHST students and staff gathered in the Provincial Conference Center.



A panel discussion followed Fr. Quang's presentation.

Fr. Dehon began his priestly ministry in the midst of the Industrial Revolution in France. It was in the gritty factory town of Saint Quentin that the roots of the Priests of the Sacred Heart took hold.

"The relationship between industry and labor resulted not only in the mass production of goods for consumers and industry, but also in massive fortunes for the wealthy ownership class and economic deprivation for the working class," said Fr. Quang.

Employees as young as six worked 12-hour days, and sometimes longer. Family structures were strained. People were treated as expendable cogs in the factory machines.

Fr. Dehon, by birth a member of France's aristocratic elite, courageously challenged these social injustices. "An example of his courage was his Christmas Sermon in 1871 where he denounced 'the deplorable organization of the world of business and labor,'" said Fr. Quang. "He saw a situation in which working men and women were no longer able to obtain the minimal requirements that were essential for human survival."

Essential in Fr. Dehon's efforts to improve the lives of workers, said Fr. Quang, was that the founder didn't demonize one side of the equation over the other. He didn't just rally on the side of the worker without considering the concerns of the business owner.

"There are two main approaches in economics," said Fr. Quang. "Traditionally you either maximize profit or

minimize loss... Employers either have to increase prices in a market which is fairly competitive or reduce the cost which would include the wages and benefits of the workers."

The business of business is to make money. But when financial profit is the

ultimate goal, "the well-being of the employer ends up being held in higher regard than that of the worker," said Fr. Quang.

Fr. Dehon challenged this. "He provided workers with information that would legally and morally help them to improve their wages and working conditions," said Fr. Quang. "By organizing unions he helped them to have a collective voice that could not be ignored by owners.

"But most importantly, through his care and assistance, Fr. Dehon enabled workers to reclaim the endowed human dignity that had been neglected and trampled upon."

He did this "not by creating a war between workers and factory owners, not by entering into a 'blame game' or calling for a redistributive economy," said Fr. Quang. "Instead, he tried to serve as a bridge connecting the two sides, as an instrument for closing the inequality gap.

Pitting workers against their employers could have easily backfired. In an economy where there was a surplus of labor, business owners could have set even more challenging working conditions, assuming that there were always people desperate enough to take them. Employers could have moved their factories, or fired "troublesome" workers who challenged the status quo.

"Worse yet, such situations can become violent when employers and workers are unable to find a common voice to address their differences," said Fr. Quang.

"Fr. Dehon recognized that it was

important to evangelize the workers but even more necessary to instill into the employers the living of the Gospel... after all, employers held the greater responsibility and had the means to make a difference."

Fr. Quang noted that Pope Francis, in the opening Mass of his pontificate, said much the same:

"Please, I would like to ask all those who have positions of responsibility in economic, political and social life, and all men and women of goodwill: let us be 'protectors' of creation; protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment."

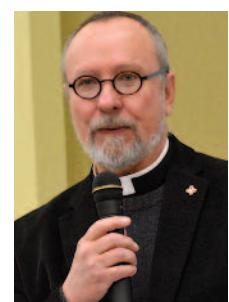
Like Pope Francis, Fr. Dehon not only helped workers to organize so that their voices could be heard, "but he also appealed for the participation of people from the other side of the equation, those who had the power and ability to make a difference in the lives of those entrusted to their care, despite the fact that this would not easy to do," said Fr. Quang.

"The apostolate among management is often ineffective," Fr. Dehon is said to have complained.

"But setbacks did not dissuade him from moving forward," said Fr. Quang. "Using his own recognition and family influence, he approached leading employers and made them aware of their responsibilities. Surprisingly, some of the employers eventually became his friends and active collaborators in his ministry."

Fr. Quang continued, noting that Fr. Dehon sought systemic, long-term solutions. He wasn't just trying to make the lives of workers of his day better, but the lives of the next generation as well. He did this by emphasizing education.

"Without education he recognized that the



Fr. Byron Haaland, SHST director of mission, introduces Fr. Quang

children of workers were likely to face the same dilemma as their parents," said Fr. Quang. He invested in youth, increasing the value of their "human capital" by creating educational opportunities, such as St. John High School.

"Those who invest in education are predicted to have higher income levels than those who don't," said Fr. Quang. "This was Fr. Dehon's long-term goal for the people of Saint Quentin." Fr. Quang challenged his audience — many of whom are seminarians at Sacred Heart School of Theology — to look at how they can affect change in today's world.

"I think that today's globalization can be seen as another Industrial Revolution," said Fr. Quang. "There are many of the same characteristics, similar challenges.

"Can we — as Fr. Dehon did — do anything to affect change?

A panel discussion followed the presentation, helping participants process what they had heard.

Panelists included seminarians who had experience in the business world, whose experiences put them on both sides of the business equation. Their lived realities showed the many grey areas in the questions; there are not easy answers to the concerns brought forth by an increasingly disparate economy.

"We need to 'evangelize' in a sense; working together to help employers and shareholders realize that the bottom line is not always the bottom line," said one of the panelists. "We can help to open up conversations, to get various sides to understand one another, to help humanize the business equation."

"We all have responsibility," said an audience member. "Many of us own stocks, if not directly, then through retirement plans or mutual funds. Do we make the effort to find out what is being done in our name? We are business owners too."

"The economy is global," said another. "But so too is our faith."

The Dehonian Spirituality section is available from the tab at the top of the province website at www.sacredheartusa.org. Click on topics under the tab to view previous posts.

Dehonian Spirituality page launched

On March 14, the anniversary of the birth of Fr. Leo John Dehon, the U.S. Province launched "Dehonian Spirituality," a new section in the province website that features weekly prayers and reflections based in the Dehonian charism. It is prepared by David Schimmel, province director of Dehonian Associates.

"Of the innumerable ways to contemplate God's infinite love for creation, the Priests of the Sacred Heart gaze upon the wounded body of Jesus on the cross, particularly his pierced side that symbolically opens a pathway to his heart," writes David in his introduction to Dehonian Spirituality. "It is their goal to be totally united to the thoughts and sentiments of the Heart of Jesus so that they might be prophets of God's love and servants of reconciliation, particularly among people who feel shunned, invisible, or oppressed."

The focus changes each week and

often includes reflections from SCJs, co-workers and others connected with the community. Writing on aging, Fr. Tony Russo, SCJ, said that "Most of my life I have felt in control of the

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outcomes in my life. But now as I am aging, I am not in control of my agenda as much as I am learning it's the Lord's agenda that is more important...

"I am a son of Fr. Dehon and as I age, his two mottos, Ecce Venio (I Come To Do Your Will) and Adveniat Regnum Tuum (Thy Kingdom Come) are what keep my journey going."

"Go to the people"

Mark Peters, province director of Justice, Peace and Reconciliation, wrote that "in the last two months, I've been reading Fr. Dehon's biography and some of his writings, and although I feel I've barely dipped my toe into the depths of his legacy, I'm already convinced that he should have been my patron saint all along. Leo Dehon was born into a society still not healed from a civil war, in political turmoil, and in which the Church was seen as irrelevant by many... To Church leaders of his day, he offered the advice: 'Go to the people!' He took his own advice, especially focusing on young adults and workers. He listened to them, and after opening his eyes and (of course!) his heart to their struggles, he both spoke out on their behalf and encouraged them to speak and act for themselves."

The Words of Fr. Dehon

Each week the Dehonian Spirituality page also includes words from the founder himself. Writing in 1891, Fr. Dehon admitted "some joy in fighting in order to make our Lord rule in souls... What is needed is to give oneself, to fight, to go to the people, and act as if everything depended upon us. Only then will God help us and act as only He knows how."

Visit the "Dehonian Spirituality" section on the province website at www.sacredheartusa.org. You can access the section from the drop-down menu at the top of the page or from the "Dehon Spirituality" box just above the listing of news items.

SCJ wins United Nations award

Known as the "Doctor Schweitzer" of today

Fr. Aldo Marchesini, SCJ, was named the 2014 recipient of the United Nations' Population Award.

A medical doctor, Fr. Aldo has lived and ministered for dozens of years in Mozambique, where he was kidnapped and imprisoned several times during the country's civil war.

The General Assembly established the UN Population Award in 1981 to recognize outstanding achievements in the fields of health.

Born in 1941 in Bologna, Italy, Fr. Aldo professed first vows in 1962, was ordained in 1969 and left for Africa in 1972.

He spent two years in Uganda to specialize in surgery. Since 1974 he has served as a medical missionary in Mozambique, serving in Mocuba, Songo, Tete, and from 1981 until the present, at Quelimane.

The mass media of Southern Africa generally refer to him as the "Doctor Schweizer of Today."

In 2007, Fr. Jan de Jong, SCJ, was teaching in South Africa. While there, he took the opportunity to interview Fr. Aldo. The following is excerpted from that interview:

Dehonian, priest and doctor

Prior to the interview, I read with great interest books that Fr. Aldo Marchesini had written about his work as a priest, Dehonian and as a physician in Mozambique. These works are

published in his native Italian.

After hearing so much about him, I looked forward to meeting Fr. Aldo. He is the only member of the Priests of the Sacred Heart who is a practicing physician and surgeon.

At the end of our Easter lunch with the SCJ community in Quelimane, I approached Fr. Aldo and asked him whether he would con-

sent to an interview about his work. Like a true surgeon who responds immediately to an emergency call, he said in a strong voice: "Now! Let's do it now." Without any hesitation he jumped from the table

and took me to a room where I was treated to an intense conversation with this energetic, 65-year-old SCJ priest and surgeon.

Until that point, he had struck me as a calm and contemplative person. His surge of energy surprised me.

Med school first

I was thoroughly absorbed in Fr. Aldo's story. He began with his high school days in Bologna. At a young age he told his parents that he wanted to become a priest and to enter the seminary with the SCJs. However, his father told him that he was too young and that he should first spend a year at the university. He was 18.

Fr. Aldo started his first year of medical school but his desire to become an SCJ only intensified. Finally, with the consent of his parents, he entered the novitiate in 1961. At the end of his novitiate year, Fr. Girardi, his provincial superior, asked the young Aldo to continue his medical studies. He obtained his doctorate in medicine in Bologna.



Fr. Aldo Marchesini ministers through medicine.

Once he was a doctor, he completed his theological studies at the SCJ seminary in Bologna and was ordained to the priesthood in 1969. With enthusiasm Fr. Aldo told us about the "medical team" that was formed in the seminary with Frs. Panteghini (now a missionary in Cameroon), he also served as general superior of the congregation), Lamieri, Moretti, Ornaghi and Fr. Aldo. They hoped to form a multi-disciplinary team of ministry that would provide medical, psychological and educational services for the congregation.

Missions, missions, missions

At the end of his third year of theology, every student was asked to submit a letter to the provincial superior indicating his three preferences for ministry following priesthood ordination. With a broad smile Fr. Aldo told me what he had written: "1: missions, 2: missions, and 3: missions."

At a conference at the University of Bologna, Fr. Aldo met a Combonian missionary who was a medical doctor and surgeon in Uganda, where he also had founded a hospital. Talking with him about the health care needs in Africa, this Combonian Father pointed out that there was an urgent need for surgeons, especially those who would do the more "routine" surgeries.

After his ordination, Fr. Aldo spent a year in Uganda to learn the basics of surgery. In addition, he spent a year in Portugal (1971-1972) to study tropical surgery. He spent a second year in Uganda. In 1975, Mozambique gained its independence from Portugal and Fr. Aldo could get a visa to enter the country. For years he had wanted to go there.

Arriving in Mozambique, Fr. Aldo found the country in an unsettling period of transition from Portuguese rule to that of an independent Mozambique. The new government nationalized schools, churches and health care institutions. "This situation forced me to work as a surgeon for the state," said Fr. Aldo.

In his first years as a surgeon, Fr. Aldo worked with physicians from Korea and China at several hospitals in Mozambique. In 1981, he came to Quelimane, where has worked ever since. For many years he was also the clinical director of a regional hospital.

During the civil war, Dr. Aldo treated many war victims and victims of torture. "The cases of violence were overwhelming but I learned quickly to practice war medicine with a minimum of resources available," he said. "It was horrible to see the victims of torture."

A multi-faceted call

I asked Fr. Aldo about his many roles — how does he combine his call as a priest, Dehonian and doctor-surgeon.

He responded by reflecting on a retreat he made in preparation for the priesthood. Cardinal Lercaro, archbishop of Bologna, directed it. The future priest talked with the cardinal about how to combine the dual vocations of physician and priest. The cardinal's response was simple: "Tu devi fare il medico come sacerdote" ("You must be a physician as a priest").

Fr. Aldo explained that he has always makes a clear separation between his role as a priest and his role as a physician. "In the hospital I am known as 'Doctor Marchesini,'" he said. "Outside of the hospital I am known as 'Padre Aldo.' Of course, in danger of death, I will give the sacraments. But outside of these extreme situations I always refer my patients to their own pastor for sacraments and counseling."

He adds that he has never given a sermon in the hospital. "I do my work in the surgical suite as a lay person," he said. "The performance of this lay function is my way of preaching Jesus' Gospel of healing. In my work I never make it a point that I am a Catholic."

Looking back

Father Aldo is an amiable person who touched me with his simplicity

and his deep Dehonian spirituality. Because of his work as a surgeon and his personal experience with illness, he is profoundly aware of the fragility and finiteness of our human existence on earth.

"Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord."



Many of Fr. Leo John Dehon's writings can now be accessed at www.dehondocs.it

Founder's writings digitized and posted

On March 14, the 171st anniversary of the birth of Fr. Leo John Dehon, the congregation launched www.dehondocs.it, a searchable website of the founder's writings.

Fr. Dehon has been described as "a priest with a pen in his hand." He was a constant writer. Some of his works were published as books, others as articles. His writings have ranged from social and spiritual issues, to detailed notes of his travels, to speeches, sermons and conferences, to retreats and meditations, as well as other pieces exploring and cultivating devotion to the Sacred Heart.

"The realization of this project was supported by the belief that the knowledge and dissemination of the social and spiritual thoughts of Fr. Dehon represent a treasure for the Church," wrote Fr. José Ornelas Carvalho, SCJ superior general. "We wish in this way to honor a motion of our XXI General Chapter (2003) which recommended digitizing the writings of the founder to make them accessible to everyone."

The website is a work in progress and more will be added as it develops.

Sacred Heart volunteer is too busy to slow down!

Adeline Henry worked for 38 years before retiring at age 59. Now 88, she has barely slowed down since handing in her timecard.

"Oh, I don't like to sit still for too long," she said, noting some of the many organizations to which she has donated her time as a volunteer. For the past 15 years, the Priests of the Sacred Heart have been one of them.

"I have always had a devotion to the Sacred Heart," said Adeline. "When I saw an advertisement in the *Catholic Herald* saying that they needed volunteers here, I called right away. I knew it would be right."

Adeline has a long history of helping where needed. The youngest of seven children, she dropped out of school after eighth grade because her mother was in poor health and needed a caregiver. Adeline continued to assist her for over 25 years.

In her early 20s she added a full-time job outside the home to her caretaking duties.

Retirement from that job wasn't in Adeline's plans at age 59, but a company reorganization left her and others in her department out of work.

"We worked 12 hours a day, seven days a week, because of some big project," she said.

When the overtime hours came to an end she and her coworkers learned that the "big project" they were working on was preparation for the closing

of their own department.

"Came in on Monday after having the weekend off and found out that we were laid off... permanently," she said.

A new beginning

Almost 60, she found herself looking for a new job. "But no one was going to hire a 59-year-old woman trying to start over," she said.

After a month, Adeline said "enough!" Money was going to be tight, but she had enough to get by. Instead of continuing her search for a job, she decided to spend more time doing what she loved: volunteering.

One of her first regular volunteer jobs was at St. Joseph's Hospital in Milwaukee, working in the gift shop. That was on top of volunteer hours in parish organizations, the National Catholic Society of Foresters, and Interfaith of Milwaukee.

"I think during my life I have put in as many volunteer hours as paid ones," she said.

It was the advertisement in Milwaukee's *Catholic Herald* that led Adeline to the Priests of the Sacred Heart. At the time, volunteer help was needed at the gift shop affiliated with the Sacred Heart Shine.

"I loved working in gift shops; it was what I had done for years at St. Joe's," said Adeline.

Soon she was a regular face at Sacred Heart. But after a few years she



Adeline Henry

was caught in another reorganization. The gift shop moved down the road to the development office. Instead of volunteers, staff at the front desk would assist visitors.

But before Adeline could look for another volunteer opportunity Kathy Harty, a librarian at SHST, asked if she had some time to spare. The library needed help cataloguing books.

"I was 80 years old and they were going to have me use a computer!" said Adeline.

Kathy said that even though Adeline had never touched a computer before (she didn't even know how to type) she learned.

"She can search the online library catalog now," said Kathy. "She often tells us that she is amazed that here she is, at this time in her life, using a computer!"

You can find Adeline at work at the SHST library every Tuesday. Often she comes in wearing one of her famous hats. "Adeline loves hats," said Kathy. "She always has something on her head... veiled hats, red hats... always something."

Adeline seems to have a knack for applying the skills she learns at one place to help at another. One of the

Born on the feast of the Assumption, Adeline has long collected angels. "They watch over me," she said.



first lay residents to move to Sacred Heart at Monastery Lake ("I signed up for it two years before we could finally move in!") she quickly went to work setting up a library for the residents.

"She and Fr. Charles Yost, SCJ, went through the boxes of donations together," said Kathy. "She set up the shelves, and continues to take care of the periodicals."

Besides helping residents with at the SHML library, Adeline has also helped several learn how to use the library across the street at SHST.

Strong faith

A devout Catholic with a strong faith that she says she gets from her mother, one of the reasons Adeline moved to SHML was the possibility of daily Mass on-site.

"Now that I don't drive that is really important to me," she said. Adeline gave up her driving privileges at the beginning of the year. Doing so meant not only losing a sense of independence but also "giving up one of my volunteer jobs."

For years Adeline volunteered with Milwaukee's Interfaith, giving the elderly and others with mobility problems rides to appointments.

It is one of the few times in her life that the roles are reversed and it is Adeline who is now dependent on the assistance of volunteers.

Don't forget the "B!"

As the interview with her came to a close Adeline reminded her visitor "not to forget the 'B,'" referring to her middle initial of "B" for "Beatrice."

"There are at least three other Adeline Henrys in the Milwaukee area and they've all ended up in the obituaries," said Adeline BEATRICE Henry. "Every time, I have to let people know, 'That's not me, I'm still alive.'

"I plan to stay around as long as the Lord lets me!"

SCJ NEWS



Fr. Mark (right) at the Easter Vigil stateside after his service in Afghanistan.

SCJ awarded Bronze Star

Fr. Mark Mastin, SCJ, a chaplain in the U.S. Army, recently completed his tour of duty in Afghanistan. Before returning to the States he was awarded the Bronze Star, the fourth highest military award one can receive. Fr. Mark shared the words of his executive officer, who was writing to his higher command. Although it might take a military dictionary to sort out some of the text, it seems to boil down to the fact that Fr. Mark is doing wonderful ministry with the troops in his care:

"Chaplain Mark Mastin has performed remarkably as the Chaplain for the duration of our deployment, providing tremendous support to RC-N. His willingness and proactive approach has not gone unnoticed by senior commanders, to include the 101st Sustainment Brigade Commander and the Deputy Commanding General of the 1st theater Sustainment command. As a result,

he was rated with an Above Center of Mass OER, and ranked #1 of the 6 Battalion Chaplains in the 101st Sustainment Brigade. The ACOM is a tremendous achievement, as he is competing against a lot of talented Officers, totaling over 90 Captains across Task Force Brigade. To top it off, he will be awarded with a BSM (Bronze Star Medal) at the end of the deployment. On behalf of our Task Force, we thank you for your support to our Chaplain and our Soldiers. We are truly lucky to have Chaplain Mastin on our team."

Fr. Mark enjoyed a few weeks of R&R with family and SCJs just before Easter. During his visit home to Cincinnati he was invited to throw out the first pitch at a Reds baseball game.

"I told the Reds that I was only a representative for those heroes who are still fighting as well as those who lost their lives," he said.

Fr. Mark is scheduled to soon begin a new assignment, this time closer to home in Missouri.

Lay person named president of St. Joseph's Indian School

The Provincial Council recently named Mike Tyrell as president of St. Joseph's Indian School. He has been serving as interim president since Fr. Stephen Huffstetter, SCJ, was elected as provincial superior of the U.S. Province last summer.

Mike has served for many years as executive director of Child Services at St. Joe's, as well as chairperson of the province's Dehonian Associates Committee. Reflecting on the Dehonian charism at last year's Mission Education Conference Mike said that "I am a Dehonian because I believe in many of the things that Fr. Dehon espoused. We cover his vision and values in the work we do at St. Joseph's. Providing hope to an underserved population, we truly are prophets of love and servants of reconciliation.



Mike Tyrell

"We make a difference, impacting one student, one family, at a time – and ultimately help to change society.

"I am blessed to be part of Fr. Dehon's vision."

Fr. Anthony

Kluckman, SCJ, will continue to serve as chaplain for the school.

Final thoughts on India

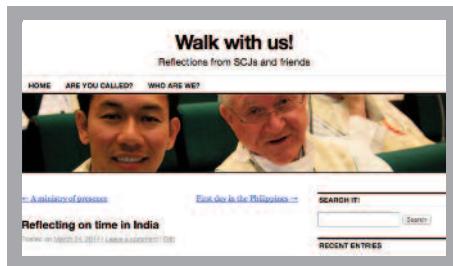
As noted previously, Fr. Tom Cassidy, SCJ, spent the first part of the year with the theology community in the Indian District. During his time there he was a regular writer for our province blog. Fr. Tom did his final reflection when he returned to Milwaukee in March. The following is excerpted from it:

"A wise Dutchman, Fr. Kees van Paassen, SCJ, a missionary in Indonesia for many years, once told me that even after 20-plus years in Indonesia each day brought with it a surprise. It took me some time to truly understand what he was trying to say, but I agree with his observation. Unless you are born into a culture and steeped in its traditions and ways from birth there are aspects to that culture you'll never fully comprehend.

"After two months in India, and this being my second visit, I do have a better sense of its life. India is a vast country composed of many languages and cultures. In fact, as I have said on more than one occasion, I marvel that it has been a functioning democracy for over 60 years. That is not easy with such a diverse population. Perhaps being a land of ancient culture has provided the glue to hold it all together. While there are differing cultures, languages, customs and foods there seems to be an underlying cultural unity to it all."

Read Fr. Tom's posts, as well as others' at www.scjusa.wordpress.com

The province blog is open to anyone connected to the Priests of the Sacred Heart – including co-workers and other collaborators in ministry. Submissions for the blog can be sent to scjcommunications@gmail.com.



Visit our province blog at:
www.scjusa.wordpress.com

New name for SHST

As of the 2014-15 academic year Sacred Heart School of Theology will be known as "Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology."

The request came to the council in March as a part of the school's strategic planning process. "A position paper was presented to our council," said Fr. Stephen Huffstetter, SCJ. "We reviewed all the previous discussion and feedback. [The name change had first been proposed in 2010.]

"The name change acknowledges that the mission of SHST is multifaceted. It is both a seminary, since all four pillars of seminary formation are in place there, and it is a school of theology, reaching out to the wider church. While endorsing the name change to make it clear that seminary formation is one focus, the council also asked for a broad and creative development of the MA program and more outreach to laity who want to deepen their theological education and training.

"With that in mind, we decided that the incorporation of the word 'seminary' in the name is now appropriate as an aid to recruiting sponsors and fulfilling the strategic plan of the school."

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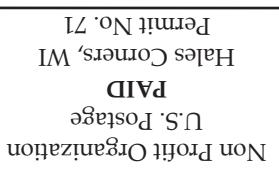
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