

Josephite News and Views

September 2008



In this Year of St Paul

Pope Benedict Reflects *On Touching Christ, and on Being Truly Christian*

At his papal audience Sept 3, 2008, Pope Benedict spoke of the experience which

led to the transformation of Paul. He said, "St. Paul did not consider the event as a 'conversion.' And the reason is very clear: this transformation of his life was not the result of a psychological process, of an intellectual or moral evolution, ... but the fruit of his meeting with Christ Jesus. ...St. Paul's renewal cannot be explained in any other way. Psychological analyses cannot clarify and resolve the problem; only an event, the forceful encounter with Christ, is the key to understanding what happened."

"For us," the Holy Father concluded, "Christianity is not a new philosophy or a new form of morality. We are only Christians if we encounter Christ, even if He does not reveal himself to us as clearly and irresistibly as he did to Paul in making him the Apostle of the Gentiles. We can also encounter Christ in reading Holy Scripture, in prayer, and in the liturgical life of the Church - touch Christ's heart and feel that Christ touches ours. And it is only in this personal relationship with Christ, in this meeting with the Risen One, that we are truly Christian."

"We are fools on Christ account...
when ridiculed, we bless;
when slandered, we respond gently."
St Paul to the Corinthians - cf. 1Cor. 4

Worthy of reflection—

We heard, our Holy Father,
Pope Benedict XVI, point out
– the way to encounter Christ
– to touch Christ's heart
– to feel Christ touching our hearts
– to have a personal relationship with Christ
– to meet the Risen Christ.

It is very simple.

All this is possible when we utilize the three important components mentioned by our Holy Father and apply them in our Christian lives:

- 1. Prayer**
- 2. Reading the Sacred Scriptures**
- 3. Being part of the liturgical life of the Church – which happens most particularly when attending Mass.**

Time: None of this is difficult. What is difficult is allocating the time to do these things and to respect those special times as belonging to our Lord.

Awareness: We must learn to keep ourselves *fully conscious* when doing these things by praying with faith and conviction, reflecting on what we read, and by putting our whole selves into that most sacred act when attending Mass.

Determination: In this *Year of Paul*, let us resolve to work more diligently at "being truly Christian" by utilizing the three components identified by Pope Benedict.

*Saint Paul, faithful apostle of the Gospel,
Pray for us. Amen.*

Paul speaks words of encouragement ~

“Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with His glorified body....” *Philippians 3:20-21*

Deceased Josephites September

September 2, 1993 - Fisher, Most Rev. Carl
September 3, 2007 - Sadlier, Richard
September 3, 1947 - Kane, Harry F
September 7, 1915 - Landy, Joseph
September 8, 1967 - Ledoux, Edward P.
September 8, 1968 - Farrell, Edward T.
September 8, 1992 - Rottmann, John P.
September 9, 1959 - Murphy, Leo V.
September 10, 1954- McDonald, Eugene Ed
September 12, 1988 - Horton, Benjamin M.
September 13, 1948 - Crowe, James J.
September 13, 1987 - Doyle, John
September 16, 1989 - Norton, Edward J.
September 17, 1890 - Brown, James A.
September 18, 1966 - Connor, Joseph A
September 18, 1968 - Duffy, Hugh J.
September 18, 1984 - Morrissey, William J.
September 18, 1985 - Geelan, John P.
September 19, 1937 - Tobin, Francis J.
September 21, 1995 - O'Neill, John
September 22, 2002 - Woodka, Raymond A.
September 24, 1914 - Wakeham, Alfred
September 24, 1966 - Conroy, John J.
September 24, 1975 - McShane, John A.
September 27, 1980 - Lennon, John D.
September 28, 1955 - Sullivan, Timothy J.
September 28, 1974 - Dunn, John J.

Died in Christ

+ **Sister M. Laura Banet, P.H.J.C.**, sister of *Fr. Paul Banet, SSJ*.

+ **Sister Mary Augustine Greene OSP**, an Oblate Sister of Providence for 66 years.

May they rest in the Peace of Christ. Amen!

Deceased Josephites October

October 1, 1946 Sweeney, Stephen B.
October 4, 1972 Quinn, John P
October 4, 1972 Callaghan, Bernard R.
October 4, 1999 Gartner, Edward J.
October 5, 1964 Grossi, Sabino S.
October 7, 1956 VanBaast, Joseph P.
October 7, 1984 Hanks, George J.
October 7, 1993 Sheedy, Thomas F.
October 9, 1954 Roy, Pacifique J.
October 9, 1971 Monahan, Thomas J.
October 11, 1983 Fraggiosa, K Joseph.
October 12, 1942 Slater, Thomas F.
October 12, 1989 Wilson, George A.
October 15, 2001 Conlon, John J.
October 16, 1949 O'Neil, Michael J.
October 17, 1945 Gumbleton, Michael L.
October 17, 1982 Casserly, Edward V.
October 18, 1979 Brown, Charles Patrick
October 21, 1923 Glancy, John A.
October 26, 1996 Colbert, Arthur T.
October 27, 2003 Tarallo, Philip J.
October 28, 1923 Brodie, John J.
October 28, 1933 Gaffney, John E.
October 30, 1893 Manley, Dominic J.
October 30, 1927 Linton, Francis L.
October 31, 1991 Griffin, J Richard

The Josephite News and Views

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- If you know of someone who wishes to receive News and Views please contact Fr.

Fest by one of the methods above.

- If you wish to receive the **Josephite Harvest Magazine**, please call 1-866-346-6727 or write to Josephite Mission Office
1130 N Calvert Street, Baltimore MD 21202
(subscription \$5/ year)

Those preparing for Priesthood with the Josephites are now 21 strong.

Read on....

1. Put out the Welcome Mat! We are happy to announce that our three remaining seminarians from Nigeria arrived safely in Washington and have now begun their studies at the Washington Theological Union. They are **Aloysius Koroba, Cornelius Ejiogu, and Stephen Sohe.**

2. In addition to the three new arrivals mentioned above, we have our Temporary Professed members who attend the Dominican House of Studies in Washington. They are **Godwin Akpan SSJ, Francis Asomkase SSJ, Joseph Gbenga Benjamin SSJ, Kenneth Ugwu SSJ, Stanley Ihuoma SSJ, Kenneth Keke SSJ, Etido Samuel Jerome SSJ, Michael Okechukw SSJ, Ugochukwu Jerome Cletus SSJ, Anthony Anichukwu SSJ, Christopher Amadi SSJ, George B Ajuruchi SSJ, Xavier Edet SSJ, and Leo Udeagu SSJ.** Fr. Brain Fox SSJ is the rector of St. Joseph Seminary, and **Fathers John Filippelli SSJ, William Norvel SSJ and Albert Adeleke** serve on the formation team.

3. Investiture of Novices - On Oct. 9, 2008, 11:00 a.m., our novices, **Emmanuel Awe NSSJ, Hyginus Boboh NSSJ, Anthony Okwum NSSJ, Emmanuel Udoh NSSJ,** and **Fr. Nixon Mullah NSSJ** will receive the Josephite religious habit in ceremonies at St. Joseph Manor, Baltimore. **Fr. Roderick Coates SSJ** is the Novice Director at Mary Immaculate Novitiate, Baltimore.

From the mail box:

“Dear Father: I enjoy the *News and Views* very much and I am always looking forward to the next issue. For 20 or so years now I

have prayed the St Joseph Chaplet for all Josephites- bishops, priests, brothers, administrators, novices and seminarians, as well as for all deceased Josephites. Because of the *News and Views*, I have included those celebrating birthdays in my prayers. Thanks for sending it to me.” /s/ Errol J. M. Editor’s Note: *If you know of someone who might enjoy receiving the News and Views, please send their email address to us at communications@josephite.com*

Another letter: “Father, please extend my thanks to your readers. A notice was placed in the January 2008 issue of *News and Views* requesting prayers for my recovery. I most sincerely thank everyone for the prayers. It has been eight months since the accident and I am here to tell you that I really felt the prayers and am fully recovering. I’ve never felt such an outpouring of love and prayers. I am most grateful. To God be the glory!” /s/ Sr. Marianna Halsmer, SSS, Los Angeles

WELCOME! – We extend a big welcome to **Fr. Stephen Brett SSJ**, as he begins his duties as Rector of St. Joseph Manor, Baltimore, which is home for our retired men and those who have need of medical care.

Josephites celebrating

September Birthdays

Joseph Calamari -September 5
Sidney Speaks - September 5
Jeremiah Brady - September 6
Ricardo Gourrier - September 8
Aloysius Koroba - September 9
John Carroll - September 18
Joseph Tyson - September 21
Rawlin Enette - September 21
Leo Udeagu - September 24
Stanley Ihuoma - September 25
George Ajuruchi - September 29

Anthony reflects on

Touching Christ & Being truly Christian

“The man who is filled with the Holy Spirit speaks in different languages. These different languages are different ways of witnessing to Christ, such as humility, poverty, patience and obedience; we speak in those languages when we reveal in ourselves these virtues to others. Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach and your actions speak. We are full of words, but empty of actions.” – *From a homily given by St. Anthony of Padua, died 1231, at age 36. He is one of the patrons of the Josephites.*

Josephites celebrating

October Birthdays

William Norvel - October 1

James Fallon - October 7

Raymond Carignan - October 9

Thomas Frank - October 9

Howard Byrd - October 11

Edward Mallowney - October 24

John Harfmann - October 24

Stephen Brett - October 26

May the dear Lord bless you!

October Ordination - Deacon Raphael C.

Onyeocha, of the Church of the Incarnation, Washington DC (**Fr. John Carroll SSJ, pastor**) will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Joseph Adamee of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnson on October 11, 2008 at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona, PA. On Sunday, October 19, 2008, the newly ordained will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of the Incarnation, Washington. *Keep him and all those in formation in your daily prayers.*

“You inspire us, O Lord, to delight in praising You because You made us for Yourself. Our hearts are restless until they rest in You.”

– *St. Augustine of Hippo*

News from New Orleans-

2008 GOSPEL FEST sponsored by the Office of Black Catholic Ministries, (**Dr. Joyce Gillie Cruse, Director**) will take place Sunday, September 21st from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at **Sisters of the Holy Family** Motherhouse, 6901 Chef Menteur Hwy. Dr. Cruse said: “The Gospel Fest will feature over fifteen choirs, vendors selling beverage, food, goodies and specialty items of all sorts as we gather and fellowship in Jesus’ name in an enjoyable and relaxing atmosphere.” The event is free and open to the public. (Note the **NEW location** in this message!)

St Augustine High School, New Orleans was featured on the *ABC News Now*, in a featured called **Faith Matters Now**. Both **Fr. Matthew O’Rourke SSJ**, former principal, and **Fr. John Raphael SSJ**, present principal, were interviewed by Passionist **Fr. Edward Beck CP** on Friday, Sept. 5, 2008 to speak about St. Augustine High School weathering storms of nature and of society, past and present. The interviewed had 7 minutes of air time.

Successful Review: Fr John Raphael SSJ recently reported that St. Aug’s “SACS” review which took place months ago, was quite successful. Fr. Raphael commented: “After the storm, we committed ourselves fully to the [SACS] review and visit and we are now back on the regular five year accreditation cycle. We are fully accredited until 2013. The school is about the students and the work we do with and for them. That is my priority.”

Fr. Howard Byrd SSJ is now pastor of the newly named *Blessed Sacrament-St. Joan of Arc Church*, located at St. Joan’s site on Burthe Street in New Orleans. This represents the recent merger of the two parishes by the Archdiocese.

A Prayer for Our Josephite Family

O, Most Holy Trinity, bless us Josephites. Grant our personal and Society needs. Come to the aid of the people in our parishes and institutions. Bestow blessings on the Josephite Community and the people we serve. Amen. *Josephite Prayer Manual, p. 5*

Pray with the Josephites

If you wish to have your own **Josephite Prayer Manual**, containing all the prayers and novenas Josephites pray each day, they are available from our Mission Office. See page 2 for contact information. Prayer Manuals are \$5 each, plus \$1.50 for postage and handling.

Assignment Changes, see also pp. 3 and 4 - **Fr. Paul Banet SSJ**, from pastor of Holy Rosary Church, Galveston TX to residency at St. Joseph Manor, Baltimore, MD.

Fr. Ray Bomberger SSJ from pastor of Corpus Christi-Epiphany Church, New Orleans, LA to pastor of St. Peter Claver and St Pius V Churches in Baltimore, Maryland.

Fr. Patrick Healy SSJ from pastor of Most Pure Heart of Mary, Mobile, AL to pastor of Corpus Christi-Epiphany Church, N.O.,LA.

Fr. Joseph Del Vecchio SSJ from pastor of St. Peter Claver and St Pius V Churches, Baltimore to pastor of St. Luke Church, Washington, D.C.

Fr. Oswald Pierre-Jules Jr SSJ from parochial vicar Our Mother of Mercy and Our Lady Star of the Sea Parishes, Houston TX, to parochial vicar Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Washington, DC.

Fr. Robert Kearns SSJ, pastor of St. James Church, Pritchard, AL., will provide area ministry with Most Pure Heart of Mary

parish, Mobile, AL.

Fr. Anthony Bozeman SSJ, from pastor of St. Joan of Arc Church, New Orleans, LA to pastor of St Raymond-St Leo the Great parish, New Orleans, LA.

Catholic Conference on Medicine and Ethics takes place Oct. 8-12, 2008, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Baltimore, MD. This gathering of physicians, nurses, healthcare workers and theologians will focus on the "Theology of the Body: Modern Challenges to Health, Conscience, and Human Dignity". The Conference will address modern medical practices and ethics. For more information on the Conference and registration form, see www.cathmed.org

Looking for a good Movie? The movie, "The Longshots," is now at the theaters. It is based on the true story of an African American girl who gets picked to play quarterback on a middle school boys' football team. The movie is great for young people, having positive messages about family, community pride, sportsmanship, and following your dreams.

Fr. William Norvel SSJ Receives Award
At the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Joint Conference of the Black Catholic Priests, Sisters, Bishops, Seminarians, and Permanent Deacons in Montgomery, AL., **Fr. Bill Norvel SSJ** (pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Washington, DC) was awarded **The Fr. Joseph Davis Award** in recognition of his 43 years of priestly ministry in the African American Community. Father was also presented with a plaque in recognition of his being one of the founding members of the Black Catholic Clergy Caucus. **Very Rev. Charles Andrus SSJ** (Josephite Area II Director) and **Sr. Patsy Guyton** made presentation remarks.

Black Catholic Men Gather for 2nd West Coast Conference The 2008 National Black Catholic Men's Conference will take place at the Best Western Heritage Inn in Rancho Cucamonga, CA, September 19-21, 2008. The conference theme is "Man in the Mirror." The Men's Conference began in Memphis, TN, in 2004, as a call to Black Catholic Men, as Men of God, to step up as leaders in their families, churches and communities and to address issues facing Catholic men of African descent. In 2007, the Diocese of San Bernardino hosted the first West Coast conference in Ontario, CA. Those attending will find practical answers to today's challenges, new ways to grow in their Catholic faith, connection with over a thousand men-young and old, ideas for local spiritual programs, an opportunity to rediscover and renew their Catholic faith, and form a deeper union with Jesus Christ. For more information or to register for the conference, contact Fr. Chester P. Smith, SVD, at 815 E. 58th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202 or phone 317-523-0900. For hotel reservations, contact the Best Western Heritage Inn at 800-682-7829 and ask for the "Men's Conference" rate.

Want to be a Church Volunteer in the USA or in a foreign land? Catholic Network of Volunteer Services invite you to check out their website for complete information about the possibilities. Potential volunteers can complete a Profile so CNVS staff can match the candidate with a suitable placement based on their interests. Visit their website www.cnvs.org for complete information.

Hurricane Gustav— Our parishes in Louisiana and along the Gulf coast suffered minor damages in a number of places— trees down and leaks in buildings.

— **Fr Walter Cerbin SSJ** (*pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, Lebeau, LA*) reported significant damage to the old school building and other small buildings on the parish property. Estimates for their repairs are in \$100,000 dollar range.

— **Fr. John McBrearty SSJ** (*pastor of St. Augustine Church, New Roads, LA*) reported roof damage and water in the sanctuary.

Hurricane Ike... At the time of this writing, it is too early to report the damages to our parishes in Galveston, Houston, Baytown, and Beaumont, Texas. All of them were either in the direct path of the hurricane, or off on it's eastside — the worst side of a hurricane for wind and water damage. We await word from them and we pray for all the people everywhere affected by storms this year.

The Black and Indian Mission Office — The directorship has changed hands recently. For thirty years, **Monsignor Paul Lenz** gave faithful and dedicated service as Executive Director of this Mission Office. **Father Wayne Paysse**, a priest of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, has graciously accepted the leadership of this office. We pray that God will bless all his efforts to raise the necessary funds to help support the many parishes, missions, programs and religious communities working in the Native and African American apostolate in the USA .

Reminder:

It's time now to get ready for
-November-
African American
Catholic History
Month