



Via Sacra

VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 2 THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CANONS REGULAR OF ST. JOHN CANTIUS NOVEMBER 1, 2006

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FROM THE SUPERIOR'S DESK

Dear Friends and Benefactors,

There was a time here at St. John's when we looked forward to a restful summer after celebrating the Feast of Corpus Christi. However, as the Cantians grow the days of a slower pace are long past.

On June 19th, six men entered our community as Postulants. These men come to us from far and wide seeking to do the Lord's will. Robert Brajkovich comes to us from Indiana, Jonathan Hill from Florida, Jonathan Ryan from North Carolina, Kevin Mann and Scott Thelander from California, and Anselm Karas, one of our own parishioners, from Chicago, Illinois. As soon as they arrived they began classes on Gregorian Chant, the mechanics of serving Mass and Benediction, and the intricacies of the Divine Office. They also have been learning the various obligations attached to caring for the rectory, church, and community property. In addition to studying, they have engaged in manual

labor at the church, in Lawton, Michigan, or, as in the past, at the Missionaries of Charity. In spite of full days they still have "some" free time.

This summer Father Jim and Brother Chad

November 1, 2006
Feast of All Saints

conducted a number of successful Don Bosco Boys Camps. Two of them took place at St. Peter's in Volo, Illinois, while the other two were at St. John's. A total of one hundred twenty boys took



Fr. Dennis Kolinski, CRSJC, celebrated Mass at the altar of Our Lady of Czestochowa on September 13, 2006, during the Cantian pilgrimage to Poland.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN NAWROT)

part in this year's round of camps, representing a notable increase of participants from last year.

Brs. Chad, Brendan, and Brian attended two weeks of classes in July on various aspects of the Vowed life. The Institute on Religious Life conducted these summer courses at Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia. Fr. Benedict Groeschel, one of our spiritual advisors, was one of the three instructors at the sessions that our men attended. While our men were taking these classes on Religious Life, Father Dennis helped two priests in Front Royal learn the Tridentine Mass. We were honored that we were asked to familiarize these

priests and servers with the Tridentine Mass. Father Dennis kept busy the entire time as there were three sessions each day for three hours at a time.

As the summer moved steadily on, Father Frank, Father Jim, and Brothers Nathan, Robin, Trenton, and Matthew made a pilgrimage to Fatima with Abbot McCaffrey. Each night we participated in the Rosary Procession and at this time especially I included all of our benefactors in our prayers. See the accompanying article later in this issue for some reflections on the pilgrimage by Br. Nathan.

Abbot McCaffrey acted as spiritual director for the Fatima pilgrimages for the last twenty-one years. In



Bishop Basil Meeking (left to right), Fr. Regis Barwig, and Mrs. Dorothy Williams were among the attendees at this year's Annual Benefit for the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)

this capacity, he began raising funds in order to make it possible for seminarians to go to Fatima.

However, now that the Abbot is retiring from leading the pilgrimages, I thought that if I were able to impose on all of you reading this, I would start a fund in order to make it possible for our men to continue to visit this great place of pilgrimage. When Abbot McCaffrey received donations for this fund, the cost for each seminarian was about \$2500.00. Anyone willing to sponsor one of our men should contact Father Phillips.

We conducted the Annual Benefit for the Cantians in early August. Before we left for Fatima we only had a total of twenty registered for the Benefit. While I was in Fatima, Father Brendan spoke at all the Masses and gave it the final push. We had one hundred seventy-four in attendance,



This year the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius hosted 174 attendees at its annual Benefit dinner. Here is pictured the University Club dining hall, where the event has been held for the past three years.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)

the largest number of participants ever. Our thanks to all who supported our Annual Benefit through donations or their presence at the Benefit.

During the Benefit dinner, we awarded our St. John's Cantian medallion to Father Douglas Mosey, Rector of Holy Apostles Seminary. Over the years, Father Mosey has been very supportive of our men and he continues to show them a good priestly example.

We also presented our medallion to Bishop Basil Meeking, retired Bishop of Christ Church, New Zealand. Sadly, Bishop Meeking, who has been our liaison with Cardinal George for the past five years, is returning to his

hometown. The Bishop will be greatly missed by the Cantians as well as by our parish, for on numerous occasions he offered Pontifical Masses at St. John's.

The summer came to a joyous conclusion with the advent of the Feast of the Assumption. The Postulants received the habit on August 14th and so began their two-year Novitiate. On August 15th, Brothers Brendan Bartlett and Brian Schafer professed first vows and Brothers Joshua Caswell, Robert Maresh, and Anthony Rice renewed vows. Brother Chad McCoy professed perpetual vows, as did Brother Scott Haynes. Brother Scott will be ordained a Deacon on



After receiving the Cantian medallion, Fr. Douglas Mosey, OSB, speaks to the Benefit attendees about the mission of Holy Apostles College and Seminary.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)

December 27th, the Feast of St. John the Evangelist, by Bishop Joseph Perry.

From September 11 to

September 21, Deacon Bart and Brothers Brian, Nathan, and Robin accompanied Fr. Dennis on a pilgrimage to Poland. They had the opportunity to visit many beautiful churches and shrines, as well as a number of places with ties to the late Pope John Paul II. Br. Robin shares with us some of his experiences in another article contained in this edition of the newsletter.

As winter approaches and we draw closer to the Christmas season, let us begin now to prepare our hearts for this joyous celebration through frequent reception of the sacraments and a life of charity. Know that we will continue to remember all of you daily in our prayers.



Bishop Meeking receives the Cantian medallion from Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R., at the Annual Benefit dinner held on August 8, 2006.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)

Rev. C. Frank Phillips, C.R.
Founder-Superior



The six postulants kneel at the communion rail while Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R., blesses their cassocks and sashes.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R., assists Br. Anselm Karas with his cassock during the investiture ceremony for novices.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



Deacon Bart Juncer helps Br. Kevin Mann adjust his sash as the other novices don their habits.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



As a prelude to first profession of vows, all members of the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius personally consecrate themselves to Mary. Here, Brothers Brendan Bartlett and Brian Schafer recite the formula of consecration in the presence of Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



Brothers Scott Thelander (left to right), Anselm Karas, Jonathan Ryan, Kevin Mann, Robert Brajkovich, and Jonathan Hill pose with Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R., after their investiture as novices on August 14, 2006.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R., invests Br. Chad McCoy with the rochet after he makes his profession of final vows. All solemnly professed members of the Cantians wear the rochet during liturgical functions.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



Br. Chad McCoy signs his profession of final vows.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



Br. Anthony Rice signs his renewed profession of vows.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. NATHAN CASWELL, CRSJC)



Br. Scott Haynes professes his final vows before Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



An especially memorable moment of any final vows ceremony is the covering of the individuals with a funeral pall. This signifies their death to the world, which takes place through their solemn lifelong profession of the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. Here four of the Cantian novices place the pall over Br. Chad McCoy and Br. Scott Haynes.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



While the candidates for final profession lie prostrate covered with the funeral pall, the schola chants the Litany of Saints to invoke the intercession of the entire heavenly court on behalf of the brothers.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R., invests Br. Brian Schafer with the mozetta after he professes his first vows on August 15, 2006. All professed members of the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius receive the mozetta, which they wear during liturgical functions over the surplice.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. NATHAN CASWELL, CRSJC)

The Canons Regular of St. John Cantius
invites you to the ordination of one of its members.
Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the imposition of hands,

Brother Scott Haynes, CRSJC,
will be ordained to the Holy Order of Deacon
by Bishop Joseph Perry for the Archdiocese of Chicago
As a member of the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius

As you have shared in the preparation of Br. Scott for Holy Orders
by your prayers and support, you are invited to share in the joy
of his ordination by attending his Ordination Ceremony.

Rite of Ordination to the Diaconate
Wednesday, December 27, 2006, Feast of St. John the Evangelist
7:30 p.m. — St. John Cantius Church

A light reception will be provided in the parish hall after the Ordination Mass.

In lieu of gifts, donations may be made to: The Canons Regular of Saint John Cantius
825 North Carpenter Street, Chicago, Illinois 60622-5405

LITURGICAL CONFERENCE AFFIRMS THE ENDURING VALUE OF THE LATIN LITURGY

Br. Scott was asked to attend the CIEL conference on behalf of the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius. Here he offers his impressions of the colloquium.

CIEL (*Centre International d'Etudes Liturgiques*) held a splendid liturgical conference September 12-16, 2006, at Oxford University's Merton College (founded 1264). This colloquium met to study the richness of the Roman liturgical tradition. Scholarly papers were given by illustrious scholars from all over the world, including the Rev. Dr. Alcuin Reid, author of *The Organic Development of the Liturgy*, and by Rev. Dr. U. Michael Lang, member of the Brompton Oratory, and author of *Turning Toward the Lord*. Both authors have received the highest praise from Pope Benedict for their scholarly efforts.

In 2003, then Cardinal Ratzinger praised Fr. Lang for his book on orientation in liturgical prayer and urged Catholics to consider the compelling historical, ecumenical, pastoral, and theological reasons for the Catholic

tradition of praying *ad orientam*. Though translators were needed in the lecture hall, everyone was able to worship together in the common tongue of the Church. The medieval halls of this Oxford college resounded daily with the vigorous chanting of the one hundred sixty participants. The Tridentine Mass and Divine Office were offered with much solemnity. The fine schola cantorum and superb organ playing were like a spark of fire for the faithful, who took up the singing with full voice. It should not be forgotten that this was the first Catholic liturgy offered here since the Reformation.

Many were even moved to tears when newly ordained Bishop David McGough, Auxiliary Bishop of the local Diocese of Birmingham, offered his first ever Tridentine Mass in the concluding liturgy of this colloquium. One could not leave this conference without concluding that the Latin liturgy, offered according to the norms of the Church, is a great treasure of inestimable worth.

Br. Scott A. Haynes, CRSJC



Br. Brian Schafer (front row, left to right), Br. Scott Haynes, Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R., Br. Chad McCoy, Br. Brendan Bartlett, Br. Robert Maresch (back row, left to right), Br. Anthony Rice, and Br. Joshua Caswell after the evening Mass and profession of vows on August 15, 2006.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)



Br. Brendan Bartlett professes his first vows on August 15, 2006, before Fr. Frank Phillips, C.R.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. NATHAN CASWELL, CRSJC)



On Thursday, September 14, 2006, participants in the pilgrimage to Poland had Mass at the tomb of St. John Cantius in St. Anne's Collegiate Church in Krakow, Poland. Pictured is the tomb of St. John Cantius.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. NATHAN CASWELL, CRSJC)



An exterior view of the Basilica of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. NATHAN CASWELL, CRSJC)



A photo of St. Mary's Basilica in Krakow, Poland, taken from the square. This is the church in the background of the mural of St. John Cantius in our church.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. NATHAN CASWELL, CRSJC)

THE SPIRITUAL HEART OF POLAND

For 11 days in September, Father Dennis, Deacon Bart, Brothers Brian, Nathan, and I made a Pilgrimage with over forty pilgrims to Poland. But, as Father said during the Pilgrimage, this was more than just visiting beautiful Churches and eating interesting food. For most of us, the influence of Materialism makes it very difficult to detach ourselves from the things of this world and advance in the interior life. This pilgrimage was a spiritual retreat that separated us from our normal surroundings and cares to enkindle a deeper love for Christ and our Blessed Mother by prayer, meditation, Mass, and Confession.

Every day, the pilgrims journeyed to different holy sites, all adorned with beautiful architecture and sacred items with centuries of rich history. On most days, Father Dennis celebrated a Tridentine High Mass at the pilgrimage site, while the Schola chanted the propers in Gregorian modes. Father Dennis, who lived in Poland for six years, served as our guide and helped us with the difficulties of the language barrier as we journeyed around the country. We were blessed to have a guide who knows so much of Poland's history and could impart to us so much wisdom that greatly enriched the pilgrimage experience. The Cantians and young men from the parish were also able to chant the office in common on most days and have our daily holy hour at St. Mary's Basilica in Krakow.

For most of the pilgrimage, we stayed in Krakow's Old City, also known as the "Rome of the North." We visited more than a dozen sites, such as the Divine Mercy Shrine, the Shrine of the Holy Sepulchre, Wawel Cathedral, and the Tomb of St. John Cantius. For myself, the

most memorable part of the pilgrimage was staying at the pilgrim home next to the Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa. It was overwhelming to see the crowds of people who came so early for the unveiling of the Icon of the Black Madonna at six in the morning! This is believed to be the Original Icon painted by St. Luke, making it a major site of miracles and special graces.

We also had the privilege of celebrating a Tridentine High Mass in the Chapel of Our Lady of Czest-

cause you truly felt the presence of Our Lady. And I am very grateful because I believe she bestowed upon us many graces and favors which have brought us closer to Her.

The entire pilgrimage was spiritually edifying, drawing us into the constant presence of Christ. It has helped me to appreciate the sacred items we have at St. John Cantius Parish: the icon of the Black Madonna above Mary's altar; the Divine Mercy Shrine altar below the north choir loft; the replica of the



Br. Brian Schafer (left to right), Sean Littledale, and Br. Robin Kwan (center) on the streets of Czestochowa.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. NATHAN CASWELL, CRSJC)

ochowa, where the Icon was unveiled before us at the beginning of the Mass. It was particularly humbling for the people to greet us with a head bow and a *Szczesc Boze*, which means, "May the blessing of God be upon you." How strange for an American like myself to hear such words! There was something special about Czestochowa, be-

Wit Stwosz altar below the south choir loft; and the painting of St. John Cantius above the high altar. Now, whenever I take a panoramic view of the Church, I am brought back to the holy sites we visited in Poland. We were drawn closer to Our Blessed Lord through Our Lady of Czestochowa.

Br. Robin Kwan, CRSJC



Some of the Cantians prepare to chant Vespers in the Byzantine chapel of Domus Pacis, the pilgrim home where the group lodged.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. MATTHEW LEWIS, CRSJC)



Br. Robin Kwan (left to right) and Br. Nathan Caswell in front of the tomb of St. James in the Cathedral of Santiago. The Fatima pilgrims included a three-day stay in Santiago, Spain, as part of their itinerary.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. MATTHEW LEWIS, CRSJC)

COVA IS KEY TO FATIMA

This summer, some of the Cantians took part in a pilgrimage to Portugal and Spain. It was an awesome experience visiting churches, shrines, and monasteries of magnificent architecture where the Holy Spirit has worked. Their slender gothic stone columns and Baroque altars remain as monuments expressing man's faith in God through the ages. But the pilgrimage was not just a matter of living in the past, for the most impressive thing was the faith that is found presently in Fatima.

The Cova da Iria is a quiet, peaceful place. I was moved by the simplicity of this little farming town, once so ordinary and unassuming, which is now "the Altar of the world," as Pope Pius XII called it. In its very essence it shows itself inspired by Our Lady. Though adorned with basilica, chapels, statues and religious goods stores, it is still a humble place, not puffed up, not proud, not self-seeking. It gives witness to the Gospel.

One Sunday evening, I watched from the steps of the basilica. The stones were still warm from the August sun and the cool air smelled like approaching rain. As the 9:30 bell struck, a few final pilgrims made their way through the expansive cobblestone sanctuary to the *capelinha* (little chapel) where the "beautiful lady" appeared many times and where seventy thousand people saw the miracle of the sun on October 13, 1917.



The Bom Jesus, one of the many churches the pilgrims to Portugal and Spain visited over the course of their pilgrimage.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. MATTHEW LEWIS, CRSJC)



View of the Cova da Iria in Fatima, with the Basilica in the background.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. JOSHUA CASWELL, CRSJC)

The choir sang the antiphon "Venite Adoremus" and the crowd of about five hundred repeated it. A few people came from the far end of the cova down the stone path on their knees in prayer and penance. Just behind the *capelinha*, flames shot up from the candle pit, which burns continuously with wax votive offerings and petitions of many shapes and sizes. On the right stood the Holm oak where the three little shepherds often took refuge from the sun.

Next, pilgrims from around the globe took turns leading a decade of the rosary and then joined in the candlelight procession with the Statue of Mary. The Fatima "Ave" was sung by all, repeated verse after verse as the procession passed in front of the basilica where Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco now lie. As Our Lady was brought back to the *capelinha* and to the tabernacle I was reminded that our whole life is a pilgrimage with Mary leading us to her Son.

Mary called herself the Lady of the Rosary and instructed us to pray the rosary daily. She told us to pray for the conversion of sinners and to do penance in reparation for the sins committed against her Immaculate Heart and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Since then the rosary has been recited here every night and now Masses are celebrated nearly every half-hour throughout each day. People come to pray and to be reconciled to God. Thousands are healed spiritually and physically. From this small Portuguese town, millions have heard the message of Our Lady: prayer, conversion, and penance.

Br. Nathan Caswell, CRSJC



Br. Chad McCoy (front row) and Br. Brendan Bartlett (back row, center) with a number of the religious who attended the two-week Vita Consecrata Institute at Christendom College.



The children of the parish participate in a vigorous tug-of-war during the parish picnic on August 20, 2006. The tug-of-war was one of the many activities organized throughout the course of the afternoon for the parish picnic.

(PHOTO COURTESY OF BR. NATHAN CASWELL, CRSJC)



The Don Bosco boys' camp from St. Peter's in Volo on one of the bluffs overlooking Devil's Lake, Wisconsin.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENDAN DEMPSEY)



The boys from the first session of Camp Don Bosco play a game of dodge ball.
(PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENDAN DEMPSEY)



THE CANONS REGULAR OF ST. JOHN CANTIUS

The Canons Regular of St. John Cantius is a Public Association of the Christian Faithful in formation as a new religious community of men established with the approval of Cardinal George and the Congregation of the Resurrection. Its mission is the Restoration of the Sacred in the Church through solemn liturgies, devotions, sacred art and sacred music, as well as instruction in Church heritage, catechesis, and Catholic culture in the context of parish ministry. The community's twenty-three members include six priests, one deacon, five seminarians, two professed religious brothers and nine members in formation.

HELP RESTORE THE SACRED

You too can help Restore the Sacred through your tax-deductible contribution or as an Associate Member of the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius. In addition to men who are seeking a vocation in religious life, the Cantian statutes also allow the laity—male or female, married or single—to affiliate themselves with the Cantians as Associate Members in order to aid in the advancement of their mission. For more information about how to become an Associate Member, write to: Fr. C. Frank Phillips, C.R., Superior, Canons Regular of St. John Cantius, 825 North Carpenter Street, Chicago, Illinois 60622-5405. You can also send your check made out to “Canons Regular of St. John Cantius ” to the above address.

VISIT US ON THE WEB

Learn more about the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius on its website www.societycantius.org . You can also learn about the Cantians' work by visiting the St. John Cantius Parish website www.cantius.org , where you can visit the community's mother church on a cybertour or view an exhibit of Sacred Art from the Cantian collections.

GET THE WORD OUT!

Do you know of someone who you think should know about the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius ? Please send us their names and addresses so that we can add them to our *Via Sacra* mailing list.

Via Sacra
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