

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY!

September 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Rev. Domenico Pinti Tucson, AZ 1	Pope Benedict XVI 2
Rev. David Reinders Tucson, AZ 3	Rev. Liam Leahy Tucson, AZ 4	Rev. Carlos Cocio Tucson, AZ 5	Rev. Ray Ratzenberger Tucson, AZ 6	Rev. Joseph Baker Tucson, AZ 7	Rev. Henry Dauphinais M.S. Tucson, AZ 8	Rev. James Hobert Tucson, AZ 9
Rev. Isaac Fynn Tucson, AZ 10	Rev. John Williamson Tucson, AZ 11	Rev. Francis Iber Tucson, AZ 12	Rev. Dale Branson Tucson, AZ 13	Rev. Godfrey Oparaekwe Tucson, AZ 14	Rev. Pietro Hewlet Ukraine 15	Rev. James Roetzer Upper Peninsula, MI 16
Rev. Norm Clisch Upper Peninsula, MI 17	Rev. Darryl Pepin Upper Peninsula, MI 18	Rev. Raymond Zeugner Upper Peninsula, MI 19	Rev. Ray Hoefgen Upper Peninsula, MI 20	Rev. Michael Steber Upper Peninsula, MI 21	Rev. Ted Brodeur Upper Peninsula, MI 22	Rev. Christopher Gardiner Upper Peninsula, MI 23
Rev. Larry Vandamme Upper Peninsula, MI 24	Rev. Cyriac Kottayarikil Upper Peninsula, MI 25	Rev. Stephen Kantubog Wa, West Africa 26	Rev. Evarist Kuuwulong Wa, West Africa 27	Rev. John Kpan Wa, West Africa 28	Rev. Henry Dondzila R.I.P 29	Rev. Robert Conlin, T.O.R. R.I.P 30

A PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, live in (name of priest), act in him, speak in and through him. Think your thoughts in his mind, love through his heart. Give him your own disposition and feelings. Teach, lead and guide him always. Correct, enlighten and expand his thoughts and behavior. Possess his soul, take over his entire personality and life. Replace him with yourself. Incline him to constant adoration and thanksgiving; pray in and through him. Let him live in you and keep him in this intimate union always.

O Mary, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Jesus and Mother of priests, pray and intercede for (.....). Amen.

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Do you know anyone who would like to receive our Newsletter? (Please print legibly)

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Street _____

City, State and Zip _____

Dear Father John Allard,
 This donation is to help the Fraternity of Priests in continuing their work of ministering to priests.
 \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____
 The Fraternity of Priests pledge of financial accountability: We take very seriously the trust you put in us when you send a gift. We stand accountable before God and you to honor that trust. We pledge: To use your gift carefully and wisely, and not to ask for money that is not needed.



"To gather priests to Christ and to one another to proclaim..."

THE VISITATION

A monthly publication of the Fraternity of Priests, Inc.

Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians Conference

Fr. Richard Champigny, O.Carm.
 Church of St. Jude, Boca Raton, FL

"In the heart of a world desiccated by rationalistic skepticism a new experience of the Holy Spirit has come about, amounting to a worldwide renewal movement. What the New Testament describes, with reference to the charisms, as visible signs of the coming of the Spirit is no longer merely ancient, past history – this history is becoming a burning reality today."
 (Pope Benedict XVI)

The theme of the Priests, Deacons, Seminarians Conference in Steubenville this year was "Shepherds After God's Heart". It was based on Jeremiah 3:15: "I will appoint over you shepherds after my own heart, who will shepherd you wisely and prudently."

I have missed only a few of these Conferences since 1982. Every Conference I have attended has been spiritually enriching and a refreshing experience of fraternity; this year was no exception!

I always enjoy returning to Steubenville and renewing acquaintances from the 5 years that I lived there. I had the privilege to be part of a Men's group my first year living in Steubenville. One of the members of that group was

Mark Nehrbus, now Executive Director of Christian Outreach and Host for the Summer Conferences. Some months ago Mark asked me to be part of a 3-man panel to "share experiences of how we have integrated charismatic renewal, or principles of renewal, into parish ministries."

There were a wonderful variety of presenters and topics, all related, of course, to the main theme of "Shepherds after God's Heart". Bishop Joseph Faber MacDonald of New Brunswick, Canada, set the theme in motion. He reviewed the "cloud of witnesses" from the Old Testament to the New reminding us that Jesus said that the Holy Spirit "will be my witness" and pointing out that the Holy Spirit was witness to all the events from Abraham to Jesus. "The Holy Spirit is revealed as the source of holiness and call", as prayed in the third Eucharistic Prayer: "...all holiness comes from you (Father) through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, by the working of the Holy Spirit."

Each morning, Fr. Francis Martin pursued the controversial topic of "Male and Female". In his usual insightful manner, Francis delved into the topics of "Communion and Conflict; "The Christian Community and Family",

and finally "The Gift of Celibacy." With scriptural and patristic abundance, Francis stirred the brethren to thundering applause and contemplative wonderment! One of his comments that struck me, as a Carmelite, was "Baptism in the Holy Spirit is essentially a contemplative grace." Francis' treatment on "Celibacy" was one of the most helpful presentations I have ever heard. He situated celibacy in "the kingdom", quoting from Matthew 19 "...and there are those who have made themselves eunuchs because of the kingdom." Celibacy is a "gift of the Spirit, not for efficiency but for worship."

Each afternoon Fr. John Gordon, of the Newark Fraternity and presently director of the Pre-Theology program at the University of Steubenville, led the Life in the Spirit Seminar. With his gift of enthusiasm and prayerful insights, John brought down the fire of the Holy Spirit, like Elijah did in the Book of Kings, which we read at the Liturgies during the week! Each afternoon, also, the brothers of the Fraternity led small sharing groups of the other priests and deacons, in the style of our weekly Fraternity gatherings.

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Dear Friends of the Priesthood

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Editor's Box:

Please send all articles, comments and photos to the editor, Fr. Bill Cosgrove via e-mail at frbill@optonline.com or fax to 845-227-3951.

Newsletter material from all Fraternity members is gratefully accepted!

Today we celebrated as Fraternity a summer get-together. This is something we do in Providence during the summertime. We invited our fraternity brothers from Worcester to join us. We were thirteen brothers in all—enjoying fellowship at a lake house, with good food, fun and (the fraternity chosen pastime)—CRIBBAGE. As the psalmist says, "How good it is when brothers are one." It was a hot, hot day, yet we braved the heat and had a ball. I have to admit that being with a bunch of priests can really be fun!! The food was soooo good: stuffed loin of pork, antipasto, tomato salad, baked ziti with sausage, and the centerpiece, chicken Roman style (thank you Giada DiLauretis).

I was thinking: how important it is, especially in summertime when things slow down a bit, to connect with people, to "build community". Our lives are so busy and so stressed—what a stress breaker to be with the people you love and just enjoy each other. You really can sense the Lord's presence, This is fraternity at its best! What a gift we are to each other!

Well, this is my last message to you as chairman of the board. I did tell you a year ago that it was just for a year. I will miss this communication. I've been involved with the Fraternity of Priests for over twenty-five years. It has been a lifeline to me in so many ways. As you read this note a new chairman has been appointed—pray for him. This is such an important work! Hopefully his messages to you will be inspirational and not boring like mine!!

I want to thank you all for the many blessings of your prayers over the years—know too that I (we) pray for you and your intentions. Continue to pray for your parish priest. These are tough times and we often wonder if we are appreciated. The real challenge I see is that we priests not settle for being "alter Christus" (other Christs), but "ipse Christus" (Christ himself). God has high hopes for us, "high

hopes as high as the sky-h o p e s ". Know that I will be offering a Mass for all your intentions in thanksgiving for all your prayers and generosity over the years. I am French-Canadian, and we have a phrase for "good-bye"; it is "Adieu" which translates to "to God". This is not good-bye from me to you, it is a wish that you be with God, in prayer I commend you to him. Thank you and God bless you.



In Jesus,

Fr. John

P.S. Hi, Emma, on City Island, New York—I hope all is well.

Fraternity Financial Report

One of the objectives for the Fraternity of Priests is to inform our donors about the ongoing financial health and details of the organization. We're providing this information to help communicate our specific need and to thank those many faithful benefactors who help make our service possible. Thank you!

Monthly Donation Budget: **\$6,300.00**

Actual Donations: **\$10,960.00**

Budget Surplus (shortage) **\$5,204.00**

Current as of June 30, 2006.

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The Priest track each afternoon was on "Deliverance" given by Henri Lemay, from Ottawa. Henri delved into the "what's" and "how's" of Deliverance and the importance of being well informed and confident in our role as ministers of the flock to face such situations with the confidence of the Holy Spirit, who Jesus promised would always be with us.

There were a few special highlights. Fr. Don Calloway, MIC gave his personal testimony of how the Holy Spirit worked in his life, bringing him from a pagan lifestyle on the path to self-destruction by age 15, to entering a Religious Community and serving the Church and especially youth by his powerful witness. Patty Gallagher Mansfield, one the original members of the Ark and the Dove prayer group at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, shared a video of her presentation to the Holy Father, thanking the Holy Father for his support of the Renewal movements in the Church. Patti was chosen to represent all the renewal movements that have come into the Church in our time. She was a worthy "representer"

The highlight of the week for me and I believe for the Fraternity, was the panel presentation on Tuesday evening of the Conference. I had the privilege of being part of a three-man team to present our experiences of "how we have integrated the charismatic renewal, or principles of renewal into parish ministries". The other two presenters were Fr. Bob Franco, of the Cleveland Fraternity and long time faithful leader of the

Fraternity and former member of the Fraternity of Priests' Board of Directors. Bob has never missed a Fraternity gathering and always brings his guitar and enthusiasm to share with the brothers. If anyone deserves special recognition among the brothers, it is certainly Bob Franco! Fr. Tim Graff, of the Newark Fraternity was the third member of the panel. Tim has been part of the Newark Fraternity since he was a seminarian. He also is a dependable, faithful brother and has led the Fraternity as Chairman of the Board and Missionary of the Fraternity to many foreign countries, establishing several new Fraternities around the world.

We gave about a seven-minute presentation each and then opened the floor to questions or comments. Fr. John Gordon was the moderator of the evening. Bob and Tim shared their experiences of special programs that they have in place in their parishes to lead people into a deeper life in the Spirit. As they spoke I could see how their personal involvement and example was being used powerfully by the Spirit to accomplish his work in their ministries!

This was especially obvious in the question period. For example one question was: "Can a parish be Catholic and not charismatic"? Bob was eloquent and forceful in his response that a Parish cannot be Catholic if it is not living the life of the Holy Spirit. I don't remember all the exact words of both Bob and Tim but I was in awe of my Fraternity brothers' clear and dynamic responses! I shared some insights I had received from talking

to Babsie Bleasdel of Trinidad. Recognizing that the Renewal is approaching its 40th anniversary in the Catholic Church, she wondered where the fire was and suggested that part of what has taken place is that the "gifts" of the Spirit have become "ministries" in the Church and perhaps are now more institutionalized, than charismatic. We speak often of the "ministry of healing", and seem to have relegated that gift to healing Masses and services and are not so enthusiastic to respond to the needs of others outside of such settings.

Another awareness that came to me was that our parishes already "belong" to the Holy Spirit. We don't bring the Holy Spirit to the Parish, but he is already there; we are already his. To paraphrase Pope John Paul II, the Great, as he said in his 1981 "Familiaris Consortio", we are Spirit-filled parishes, we must "become what we are".

I shared part of the homily I was inspired to preach for Trinity Sunday. In it I gave my personal experience of the Holy Spirit in my life, including the gifts I have used, and continue to use as I am led, of "praying in tongues, healing, discernment, preaching, knowledge and understanding and a whole new and exciting desire and insight into the Sacred Scriptures". I shared too, my awareness that in the Sacrament of Orders are contained all the gifts we need to minister to the people of God entrusted to our care.

Fr. Michael Scanlan, TOR, Chancellor of the University, said afterwards that we, the panel, had shared "things we never talked about before". The Holy Spirit was very present!

Please send us your prayer intentions: _____

