

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY!

March 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Rev. Paul Halovatch Hartford, CT 1	Rev. Francis Karvelis Hartford, CT 2	Pope Benedict XVI 3
Rev. Harold Knueven Indianapolis, IN 4	Rev. Paul Landwerlen Indianapolis, IN 5	Rev. Earl Dekat Kansas City, MO 6	Rev. Roderic Giller, OSB Kansas City, MO 7	Rev. Thomas Cawley, CM Kansas City, MO 8	Rev. Joseph Meagher New Jersey 9	Rev. Paul O' Donnell Duggan New Jersey 10
Rev. John Primich New Jersey 11	Rev. Jeff Kegley New Jersey 12	Rev. Brendan Murray New Jersey 13	Rev. Eugene Bettinger, O.Carm. New Jersey 14	Rev. Lewis Papera New Jersey 15	Rev. John Gordon New Jersey 16	Rev. Paul Lehman New Jersey 17
Rev. William Halbing New Jersey 18	Rev. Msgr. John Demkovich New Jersey 19	Rev. Timothy Graff New Jersey 20	Rev. Stephen Toth New Jersey 21	Rev. Paul Cannariato New Jersey 22	Msgr. James Cassidy, Ph.D. New York, NY 23	Msgr. Leslie Ivers New York, NY 24
Rev. Thomas Devery New York, NY 25	Rev. William Cosgrove New York, NY 26	Rev. Alan Shnob Ogdensburg, NY 27	Rev. Francis Coyer Ottawa, ON 28	Rev. Joseph Muldoon Ottawa, ON 29	Rev. Joseph Luisi Pittsburgh, PA 30	Rev. Kenneth Oldenski Pittsburgh, PA 31

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.

Please cut and return this form with your donation.



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

Name _____

Street _____

City, State and Zip _____

Dear Father Bob Franco, 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.

Being Anointed

By Fr. Frances Dabre

Recently a young man came to me and said with great sincerity "Father I am full of the Holy Spirit. I am delighted and happy. Something is happening to me!" He had just attended one of our retreats here in India and had experienced the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Yes, I told him, it is possible and the Spirit can work wonders in our lives as long as we are open and welcoming of the Spirit. This is only one of the examples and lived experiences of those who have attended our Charismatic Retreats. I myself took part in a retreat following the annual Fraternity Conference this past August in Slovenia. I did feel that same "super power" come into me. Now I am free with the power of the Holy Spirit. The door of the Upper Room is always open waiting for us to enter in and be filled with the Holy Spirit.

I Jesus is Anointed

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, and he has sent me..." (Lk 4:18-19) In fact this is the manifesto of Jesus, after the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus he starts his mission, he is anointed "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straight away out of the water: and, lo the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God

descending like a dove, and lighting upon him. And lo a voice from heaven saying, 'This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased'." (Mt 3:16-17) Here again we see the coming of the Holy Spirit on Jesus. He is filled with the POWER of the Holy Spirit. He is ready to launch his mission. Jesus was fully connected with God the Father whom he consulted before ever making a major decision. "And Jesus, being full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness." (Lk 4:1)

II The Apostles Are Anointed with Mary, our Mother

"And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 2:3-4) Still fearfully confined in the Upper Room, not knowing what was before them; they prayed devoutly. With Pentecost and being filled with the Holy Spirit their fear disappears and a new life begins for them. Being neither fearful nor anxious they are ready to die for Jesus! One wonders, where did these persons get such POWER!! Clearly the transformation happens once they were anointed by the Holy Spirit. They are ready for their world-wide mission. We know

that the Apostles went to the ends of the earth proclaiming the Good News, like Thomas here in India giving their lives for Jesus. What could have motivated them so? It is the anointing by the Holy Spirit!

III The Church Is Anointed

As we know the Church, our Mother, is the Bride of Christ. He loves her. He is present where two or more are gathered in his name. She is Mother and Teacher. It is the hierarchy, our Pope and Bishops, who are also anointed to carry on the work of Jesus. It is the mandate given to the Church. When the Pope or our local Bishop make a decision, we trust that they do so under the anointment of the Holy Spirit.

IV We Too Are Anointed

All of us, baptized in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are also anointed and sent to proclaim the Good News to all. Later, in the Sacrament of Confirmation, we are made even more ready to preach and use the charisms to build the Kingdom of God as it was envisioned by Jesus. So we become as it were, the ones sent like Jesus was, to bring salvation to all peoples everywhere. The same Spirit, in different ways leads the priesthood of all the faithful and the ministerial priesthood to carry on the work of Jesus Christ.

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Dear Friends of the Priesthood

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Editor's Box:

Please send articles, comments, and photos to the FOP Newsletter editor, Fr. Michael Roy via e-mail at editor@fraternityofpriests.org or fax to 508-943-2213.

Newsletter material from all Fraternity members is gratefully accepted. Any submissions will help make each issue better!

God has a long reach. He reached from eternity into time, from Spirit into matter, from the Eternal Day into our darkened world—all through Jesus Christ, the Word made Flesh. This is the message of Christmas. However, this truth is also worthy of our reflection as we enter the season of Lent.

God's reach into our world through the Word made Flesh not only affirms the dignity of our humanity. The Incarnation shows us how to make this a good Lent. Our bodies are not some sort of superfluous feature of our human makeup. We need to remember that:

• Jesus Christ saved the world through the sacrificial offering of his body on the cross at Calvary.

• He also said that whatever we would do for or against the least of our brothers and sisters, we do for or against him.

The sacrifice of his body on the cross and a particular ongoing presence of Jesus in our neediest brothers and sisters hearken to the fact that Jesus has come to redeem us, body and soul. The whole of our being is important to God. We are not souls in a body. We are a fusion of spirit and matter.

It is only right that Lent involve the body in some manner. Each of the traditional Lenten penances has a bodily aspect. Prayer involves placing ourselves, body and soul, in the presence of God. Fasting deprives our bodies the comforts (types and amounts of food, sleep, TV/radio chatter, et cetera) they desire. Almsgiving demonstrates our care for Jesus Christ in our needier brothers and sisters. These offerings, joined to Jesus Christ and his sacrifice, allow us to participate in the redeeming work of Christ.

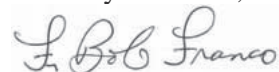
The Fraternity disciplines of fasting and tithing are disciplines of the body. Besides freeing us from the grip of our whim and fancy, these disciplines conform us to Jesus Christ, who fasted for us and gave his whole life for us. In bringing the redeeming grace of Jesus Christ to our generation, it is only fitting that we imitate our Lord in every aspect of his earthly

life. Our bodily penances, small though they may seem, are conduits of the grace of Christ to the people of our time.

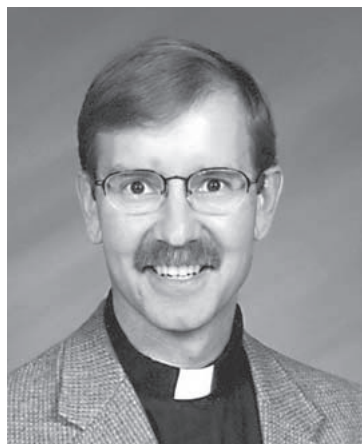
Finally, the offering of our bodies through the Lenten penances of almsgiving, prayer and fasting orient us toward our resurrection of the dead. Yes, St. Paul teaches, "...we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord." (II Corinthians 5:8b) However, the mystery is completed when "...all who are in the tombs will hear his voice and will come out, those who have done good deeds, to the resurrection of the just." (John 5:28-29)

To our donors: please remember the Fraternity of Priests with your Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving. To my brother priests: joyfully embrace holy penance! We are the channels of God's long reach to our generation.

Sincerely in Christ,



Fr. Bob Franco



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: **\$4,750.00**

Actual Donations: **\$2,662.00**

Budget Surplus (shortage): **(\$2,088.00)**

Current as of December 31, 2011.

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V Need to Be Re-Anointed in the Spirit

The Charismatic Renewal is doing great work in this part of the world. It is a new way of us being a Church. In India we see the Holy Spirit being poured out on all who ask for it. I can see daily that the Renewal is adding more and more people to the list of those who are anointed. It is the on-going miracle for the growth of our local church that more and more of our bishops and priests as well as the lay faithful have been spiritually renewed by the experience of charismatic prayer. One day we ourselves will see another Day of Pentecost when all will be filled with the POWER of the Holy Spirit. It is my conviction that all nations will follow Jesus calling on his name for salvation.

In order to accomplish this, what is needed is for all those presently committed to the work of evangelization to make themselves available for a re-anointment, a refreshment in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. There is no such thing as permanent conversion. It is not enough to be filled with the Holy Spirit during the annual charismatic retreat. We all leak. We all need to go deeper. There are still some who have what you might call a second-hand faith that has been handed down to them by their parents. This has got to become a personally experienced faith that they can claim is honestly their own. Great efforts are being made in my country to provide many opportunities for this to happen.

VI In Conclusion

"All those who are heavily burdened, come to me, I will give you REST." (Mt 11:28)

The good Lord is inviting us to experience him fully and be anointed in the Holy Spirit. Jesus has promised us that he is the One

who has come to give us life, life to fullness (Jn10:10). Let us all them make a U-Turn in our lives. Go to Jesus fully to be anointed. Find the reason for being in Jesus Christ.

Father Dabre is a long-time Fraternity member and writes from India.

The Exchange Corner ~ (Something New)

- Father Mike Roy, Editor

I wonder if there would be any interest in allowing a certain amount of space in our monthly newsletter for an exchange of ideas among ourselves of what might be happening that is bearing some fruit in our lives or ministry. As a Fraternity we are called "to draw priests to Christ and one another for the purpose of proclaiming the Kingdom of God."

For example, recently I have felt the Holy Spirit encouraging me to equip my people for the new evangelization by somehow enabling them to do something they were never trained to do – speak about faith, to give some testimony to what I believe and why I believe. I also felt that the "keepers of the flame" at the present time are the grandparents who can have a very significant influence on the younger generation but who are often intimidated into silence.

Soon after all this I found an advertisement that was making an offer you could not refuse – DynamicCatholic.com was willing to make available a bestselling book "Rediscovering Catholicism" for only three dollars a copy. What a bargain! After ordering a hundred books we set up two gathering times, morning and evening with the express purpose of reading, discussing and practicing talking about what we believe and why. The book is an easy read, inspiring and lends itself easily to lively, enthusiastic exchanges. The big thing is that a core group people are sticking with it even looking forward to the gatherings.

The organization founded by Matthew Kelly is committed to developing Catholic learning centers that engage people in conversation about the treasures of our Catholic faith, equip modern Catholics to live their faith in this ever changing world, give Catholics a reason to feel good about being Catholic again, energize them to participate more fully and ignite a desire for continuous learning and best practices. In this parish it is working. It's a beginning. As a matter of fact most of the participants bought multiple copies of the book to hand out as Christmas Presents recently.

If anyone else has some good news to share, please don't hesitate to email me at editor@fraternityofpriests.org. It would certainly be great to hear from you and to build one another up.

Please send us your prayer intentions: _____
