

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY!

| June 2009 | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | Rev. 1 James George Hartford, CT | Rev. 2 Chacko Kumplam Hartford, CT | Rev. 3 Robert Grant Hartford, CT | Rev. 4 Joseph Dorcin Hartford, CT | Rev. 5 Honore Kombo Hartford, CT | Rev. 6 Pope Benedict XVI |
| Rev. 7 Zacharias Pushpanathan Hartford, CT | Rev. 8 Carlos Zapata Hartford, CT | Rev. 9 Paul Halovatch Hartford, CT | Rev. 10 Francis Karvelis Hartford, CT | Rev. 11 Joseph Looney Hartford, CT | Rev. 12 Robert Rousseau Hartford, CT | Rev. 13 Will-Roger Malave Hartford, CT |
| Rev. 14 Brian Jeffries Hartford, CT | Rev. 15 Lewis Papera Newark, NJ | Rev. 16 Stephen Toth Newark, NJ | Rev. 17 Paul Lehman Newark, NJ | Rev. Msgr. 18 John Demkovich Newark, NJ | Rev. 19 Brendan Murray Newark, NJ | Rev. 20 Timothy Graff Newark, NJ |
| Rev. 21 Eugene Bettinger O. Carm. Newark, NJ | Rev. 22 John Gordon Newark, NJ | Rev. 23 Paul Cannariato Newark, NJ | Rev. 24 William Halbing Newark, NJ | Rev. 25 Joseph Meagher Newark, NJ | Rev. 26 Paul O' Donnell Duggan Newark, NJ | Rev. 27 John Primich Newark, NJ |
| Rev. 28 Jeff Kegley Newark, NJ | Rev. 29 Francis Coryer Ogdensburg, NY | Rev. 30 Alan Shnob Ogdensburg, NY | | | | |

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 _____

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.

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

This donation is to help the Fraternity of Priests in continuing their work of ministering to priests.

Dear Father Bill Cosgrove,



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

THE VISITATION

A monthly publication of the Fraternity of Priests, Inc.

The Boston Fraternity: Strong and Ready

by Father John Kiley

The members of the Boston Fraternity are honored to be hosting the Annual Fraternity of Priests Conference, which will be held as usual during the first week of August. This year we have a particular cause for joy since Pope Benedict has declared that beginning with the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, June 19th, the universal Church will observe The Year for Priests. It is at this time, when there is a deeper call for holiness among all who stand at the altar, that we have been given St. Jeanne-Marie Vianney as our mentor and guide. It is our good fortune that his feast day falls on August 4, the Tuesday of our week together. This year will mark the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of his passage to eternal life, having died on August 4, 1859.

Let me tell you a little bit about our Boston Fraternity, which began in April 1988. Aware of the need for mutual support and encouragement several priests had already been gathering for prayer and reflection. Some members of that original core had a relationship with the Community of Hope in

New Jersey. Father Jim Ferry, who himself was so intimately associated with that covenant community, told them about the beginnings of a committed brotherhood of priests. Soon contact was made with Visitation House in Steubenville, Ohio and arrangements were made for a Fraternity Conference to be given here locally. This teaching conference was given by Father Ken Gallagher and six priests made their underway commitments and the Boston Fraternity was born.

It is very interesting that while we have been called the "Boston Fraternity" from the beginning, our meetings have taken place weekly at the Salvatorian Center in Methuen, MA which is part of the Melkite Diocese of Newton, MA. At this time the majority of the men are from the Diocese of Manchester, New Hampshire. Currently our leader is Father Moe Laroche, pastor of Miraculous Medal Parish in Hampton, NH. Almost half of the men who make up our Fraternity have been ordained in the last ten years. Regardless of the age there is an enthusiasm for the ministry that comes from the depth of our

relationship with Jesus that is strengthened by the Fraternity way of life. Sadly on the last day of last year one of our most faithful members, Father David Ziomek died. He battled the curse of cancer courageously and was constantly encouraged by his brothers in the Fraternity.

As busy as each of us is with our parish responsibilities we are keenly aware that the fulfillment of our mission is dependent on the quality of our relationships. First and foremost of course our relationship with Jesus, which is sustained by our fidelity to prayer. With that in mind we meet at the Salvatorian Center each Tuesday afternoon. There we follow the traditional Fraternity teaching with regards to the outline of our meeting. We begin with a substantial period of Prayer and Praise in the presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. We are fortunate that several of the men play the guitar, which is a great assistance to us in lifting our voices in praise of God.

Prayer of this nature truly attunes you to the working of the Holy Spirit

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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!

What better way to mark the 150th anniversary of the death of St. Jeanne-Marie Vianney than to declare June 19, 2009-June 19, 2010 as the “Year for Priests”. There have been many priests from the beginning of Christianity that could have been chosen to be the model and exemplar of the priesthood. However, mother church in her wisdom chose the lowly, humble man Jeanne-Marie Vianney of an obscure out of the way town in France—Ars, to be the model for the parish priest. Does that sound familiar? Is that something God has done before in choosing Mary and Joseph in the humble town of Nazareth to be the model for all Christian parents.

However, our Holy Father is doing something different this coming year. He is expanding the role of the Cure of Ars to include not only parish priests, but will declare him the patron saint of **all priests**. There will be much reflection, prayer and meditation in the coming year on the life of this man. What we all need to do on an occasion such as this is to rediscover the gift of this man's priesthood for us who have been called to live out our priestly ministry during the 21st century.

As is customary during this time of the year the Fraternity of Priests Board of Directors gather for fellowship, business and most especially hear the direction the Lord wants to lead us in the upcoming Fraternity Conference to be held this year in Ipswich, MA. One of the Board of Directors shared that Pope John XXIII had written an Encyclical on Jeanne Marie Vianney. I never heard that and was surprised when we “googled it” immediately and found it to be just so.

Immediately we were stricken with the idea that reading and meditating prayerfully on this encyclical would give us much food for thought for the upcoming Priests Conference in August. Could it be that through the divine intercession of the Cure of Ars, who was so devoted to the confessional, there will

be a grace bestowed upon priests that will help us not only embrace the Sacrament of Reconciliation more prayerfully and regularly ourselves, but also will be a blessing on the church when many more people will return to this sacrament.

I am writing this letter five days before 3 men will be ordained to the priesthood for the archdiocese of New York. This is the lowest number ever since the founding of the seminary in 1897. Our archdiocese is not the only one experiencing such a drought of vocations. Let us pray that many more of God's flock will be attentive to the voice of the shepherd calling to him/her to follow the Good Shepherd in a priestly or religious vocation. May many more choose to walk in the footsteps of the Cure of Ars.

Thank you for your faithfulness to us and one another.

Fraternally,

Father Bill

Fraternity Financial Report

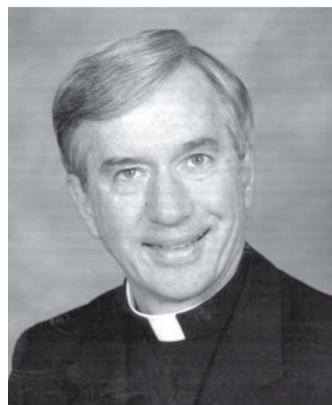
One of the objectives for the Fraternity of Priests is to inform our donors about the ongoing financial health and details of the organization. We're providing this information to help communicate our specific need and to thank those many faithful benefactors who help make our service possible. Thank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

Monthly Donation Budget: **\$4,750.00**

Actual Donations: **\$2,242.00**

Budget Surplus (shortage): **(\$2,508.00)**

Current as of March 31, 2009.



...continued from page 1

and after listening in faith we share the word or prophecy we have received and the Scriptures with the whole brotherhood. Next follows a brief social time. Very often our leader or one of the brothers has prepared a teaching that is given in order to deepen our understanding of how we can grow in holiness. Some sharing and reflection is given to help us appropriate this teaching to the real life situations that we are dealing with. What follows next is of essential importance to keeping us faithful to the Lord and the vision of the Fraternity Brotherhood. We break up into smaller ministry groups where we can honestly share with each other what are the struggles and consolations of our lives. We can each say that the Fraternity is a great gift from God that helps keep us faithful to the call of the priesthood and remain enthusiastic about ministry.

Our August Conference will be held in Ipswich, Massachusetts, a town on the ocean about 30 miles north of Boston. This year Ipswich happens to be celebrating its 375th Anniversary. You can check out all the information online at www.ipswichma375.org. The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur will host us at their center located at 30 Jeffreys Neck Rd. in Ipswich. In addition to the worship, teachings, faith sharing, and the annual business meeting that are the major elements of the Annual Conference, there will be the usual Wednesday Brotherhood Day. This will offer

Please send us your prayer intentions: _____

an opportunity to visit sites in the Boston area, such as the Freedom Trail, Old Ironsides, Quincy Market, and Museum of Fine Arts, etc. Also, the historic towns of Gloucester, Rockport, and Newburyport are near our home base in Ipswich. During the week, weather permitting; there will be an opportunity to visit famous Crane Beach in Ipswich for a swim.

The Annual Conference is always a wonderful opportunity to grow in our priestly vocation, to renew friendships and make new ones, and to commit ourselves once more to living faithfully the Fraternity disciplines. If you have never attended the Conference, pray about it and consider it this year. If you have been coming to it in the past, welcome back. Most importantly keep our Annual Conference in your daily prayers, so that those of us in this Brotherhood might with zeal “minister as a priest the gospel of God” (Rm 15:16).

Gratitude and Praise Well Deserved

For four years the editor of Visitation Newsletter has been Father Bob Franco of the Cleveland Fraternity. He has done a masterful job using his creativity and writing skills in keeping us inspired, informed, and in touch with one another. Of special note is the series of articles that he did last year during our 25th Anniversary. Our thanks and prayers are offered to him for a task done with great love for the Lord and the Brotherhood.

“I have had crosses in plenty—more than I could carry almost! I set myself to ask for the love of crosses—Then I was happy.”

—The Cure D'ars

Upcoming Events & Conferences

Keep these dates in mind as you plan for your upcoming schedules!

- **June 15-19 Annual Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians Conference** at Franciscan University, Steubenville, Ohio. For more information or to register online, visit www.franciscanconferences.com.
- **August 2-7 Annual Fraternity Meeting** at the Notre Dame Mission Center in Ipswich, Massachusetts. Visit www.fraternityofpriests.org.
- **September 27-October 3 International Priests Retreat** in the village of the Holy Cure of Ars, France. This retreat will be preached by Cardinal Christoph Schönborn. More information, including program fees and schedule, can be found at www.retraitears2009.org.