



Las Servidoras

*Newsletter of the Houses of Formation of the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará,
Province of the Immaculate Conception: United States, Canada and Guyana*



Fall 2009

Volume 6, Issue III

VISIT OF OUR FOUNDER, FR. CARLOS MIGUEL BUELA

In a spirit of immense joy and filial love the members of the Religious Family of the Incarnate Word welcomed our founding father, Fr. Carlos Miguel Buela, IVE, to the province of the Immaculate Conception. During his trip to the United States from



May 28th to June 3rd, Fr. Buela was present for the ordinations to the Priesthood and Diaconate of seven members of the Institute of the Incarnate Word (IVE).



On May 29th, the religious of our province gathered for the Mass of final vows of four seminarians of the IVE. The following day, Mother Mary of the Immaculate Conception, currently local superior in Guyana, and Sister Mary Mother of Hope, missionary in Brooklyn, NY,

both had the grace to profess their final vows in the presence of our founder, while a novice professed vows for the first time.

On Saturday afternoon, Fr. Buela spent a few hours with the sisters in formation at the Juniorate House of Studies in Washington, DC. Professed sisters, novices and postulants asked him many questions about the founding of our Institute, the foundational charism, future missions, goals of the Religious Family and influences on the life of Fr. Buela. For most of these new sisters, this was the first opportunity to meet and personally speak with Fr. Buela.

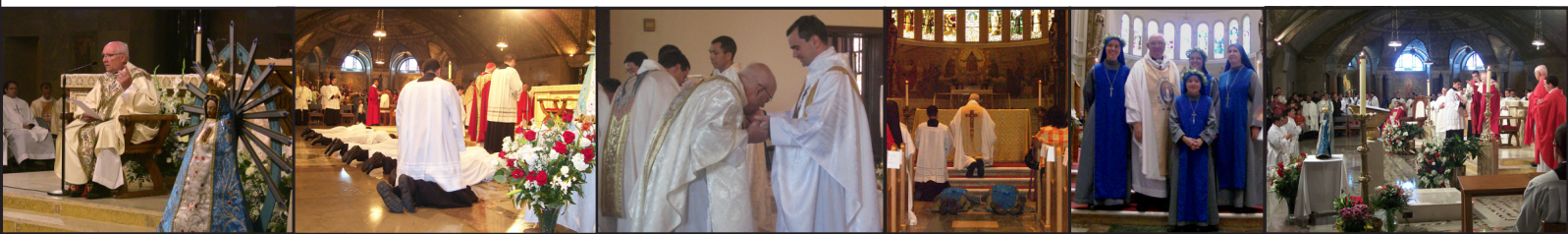


Seven men received Holy Orders on May 31st, Pentecost Sunday. Three deacons were ordained to the priesthood: Fr. Joseph LoJacono, Fr. Juan Nuñez, and Fr. James Ty; and four seminarians to the diaconate: Rafael Fuentes, Alex Perez, Pedro Torres, and Miguel Zavala. The main celebrant for the Holy Mass was His Eminence Theodore Cardinal McCarrick, Archbishop Emeritus of Washington. His Excellency Bishop Nicola De Angelis, the Bishop



of Peterborough, Canada, Fr. Buela, Fr. Gustavo Nieto, the Provincial Superior, Msgr. Frank Depman, and more than 30 IVE priests joined by other religious and diocesan priests concelebrated.

To be a member of a religious institute during the time of the founder is a particular grace; to be able to learn about the charism that God has given to our Institute directly from our founder is an even greater one. May we always desire to be faithful to the particular spirit which God has given our Religious Family. We ask you to unite your prayers with ours asking for the holiness and perseverance of all the members of our Religious Family.





Summer Missions

Part of our charism is to organize and participate in the Popular Missions: periods of intensive parish evangelization according to the method of St. Alphonsus Liguori. According to this Saint, the goal of the Popular Missions is “the conversion of sinners.” It is a call to a renewal of the Christian life of the faithful and a return to the friendship of God for those who have fallen away from the Faith.

June 10-21, 2009

Sisters from the Juniorate and Novitiate Houses of Formation joined seminarians and apostolic sisters for Popular Missions in Avondale, PA; Phoenix, AZ; and Toronto, ON. The Feast of Corpus Christi occurred during the Popular Missions this year, so each of the three missions held a Eucharistic Procession on Sunday, June 14 in honor of Our Lord truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.

Summer Camps for Girls and Young Women

IVE Girls’ Summer Camp 2009



From June 11 -14, nearly 100 girls gathered at St. Patrick’s Retreat Center in Upstate New York for the Girls’ Summer Camp. Ranging in age from 7 to 16, most of the girls came from our urban parishes in Brooklyn, Harlem, the Bronx, and Bridgeport.

This annual weekend was filled with games, laughter, and prayer. *St. Maria Goretti! St. Christina! St. Lucy! and St. Cecilia!* echoed across fields and in the dining room all weekend as the girls cheered for their teams’ patron saint. In a spirit of holy competition, the girls worked together in scavenger hunts, obstacle courses, water games, and field games. They displayed a variety of artistic skills in banner making, poetry, drama, and song writing. The teams also gained points by practicing virtue, generosity, and good spirit.

The daily schedule included Mass and Adoration, rosary processions, and the opportunity for confession, in order to help the girls find their true strength and joy in Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament. May this time of friendship and Christian joy help them all to draw closer to Our Lord and His Blessed Mother.



“Fiat Days” Discernment Retreat for High School and College Students: Diocese of Harrisburg, PA



During July, Sisters Maria Mater Cruci Corde Affixa and Mary Joy of Martyrs shared in “Fiat Days,” hosted at Mount St. Mary’s College in Emmitsburg, MD.

Sisters from various religious congregations gave talks on the call to religious life, the variety of charisms among religious orders, what it means to be a Spouse of Christ, and actual vocation stories. Together with daily Mass, Adoration, the Liturgy of the Hours, and a rosary procession, the schedule allowed the girls time to speak with the sisters and to ask questions during free-time and recreation.

“Totus Tuus” Girls’ Camp: Diocese of Rapid City, SD

Sisters Mariam Annai Vailankanni and Mary Joy of Martyrs were invited to help run a Girls’ Camp held by the Office of Vocations of the Diocese of Rapid City, South Dakota from June 21 - 26. More than 70 middle school and high school girls participated. Each day’s schedule included Holy Mass, Adoration, Liturgy of the Hours, talks led by the sisters, hiking, camp fires, and many other games and activities.



Please pray for many holy vocations in the Church, that the youth of today may answer God’s call with courage and joy.

Mission: Guyana, August 2009



a large territory providing pastoral care and catechist formation for many additional community chapels throughout the coastal and jungle region of Northwest Guyana.

This year eleven missionaries came to organize the Popular Missions in Santa Rosa and Henrietta: Fr. Jose Signorelli, IVE, the main preacher, 4 seminarians, 3 sisters, and 3 lay young adults. One of these young adults came all the way from Egypt to participate.

Santa Rosa

Missionaries divided up to visit all the houses, make special visits to the sick, and lead daily activities for children and youth. Each night people gathered at the church for the central mission talk, when a particular mystery of our Faith was explained and a relevant topic of today was discussed. Evening camp fires, songs and skits ended the day's mission.



We were blessed to have nearly 200 children participate in the daily activities. At the end of the mission 52 children received the Sacrament of Baptism, while 57 children received the Sacraments of Confession and First Communion.



We thank God for this grace and trust that the many other seeds that were planted will bear fruit in due time. We remember, as we give thanks for the dedicated work of these missionaries, the words of Jesus: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation." (Mark 16:15) May we, as His missionary servants, always be faithful to this command and go joyfully to where the Lord sends us.

Henrietta

For this community on the Essequibo Coast the mission served especially as an intense time of conversion as many people came back to the Church and back to the life of grace through the Sacrament of Confession.

Since 2003, visiting priests, seminarians, sisters and lay volunteers have been leading summer missions in Guyana. These events renew the parishes of our Religious Family in Santa Rosa, Moruca, and Charity, on the Essequibo Coast. These parishes cover

Pilgrimages to the Province of the Immaculate Conception



From Iceland and Holland

Priests and sisters of our Religious Family have been working as missionaries in Iceland and Holland since 2004. This year, they worked together to organize a summer youth trip to the United States and Canada. The group of 43 teenagers and young adults spent three weeks visiting historical, cultural and religious sights. Daily Mass and Rosary were included in the schedule, as well as an opportunity for confession at the end of the pilgrimage.

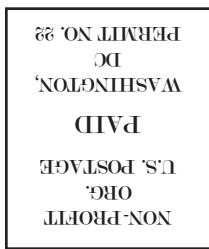
These young Catholics from highly secularized cultures were able to come to a deeper awareness of what Pope John Paul II called "the youthfulness of the Church" – the Church is young and the Church is alive! Please pray that these youth may be Christ's faithful witnesses in the contemporary culture of northern Europe.



From Argentina

For the sixth summer in a row, girls from Isabel la Católica High School in San Rafael, Argentina came to California for a three-week intensive English language exchange program. Our sisters in Argentina run this all-girls high school as well as a co-ed elementary and middle school.

After the English language course, the students came to the East Coast, where our sisters were able to host the girls and share with them our American culture.



Return Service Requested

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SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

“Man is created to praise, reverence, and serve God our Lord, and by this means to save his soul. The other things on the face of the earth are created for man to help him in attaining the end for which he is created... Our one desire and choice should be what is more conducive to the end for which we are created.” -First Principle and Foundation, Spiritual Exercises #23

The Ignatian Spiritual Exercises are silent retreats for men and women preached throughout our Province by the priests of our Religious Family. Spiritual Exercises include any method of examination of conscience, meditation, contemplation, vocal prayer, and mental prayer. The Spiritual Exercises prepare and dispose the soul to remove inordinate attachments and then seek and find the will of God. The retreat includes guided meditations, daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, and Spiritual Direction.

For more information and to register online please visit www.iveignatianexercises.org or contact Sr. Glory of the Church at (202) 543-1179 or jun.ihm@servidoras.org.

Upcoming Spiritual Exercises			
Guyana	Men	English	11/12/09 - 11/15/09
Guyana	Women	English	11/19/09 - 11/22/09
Toronto, Canada	Women	Spanish	12/27/09 - 12/30/09
Toronto, Canada	Men	Spanish	12/27/09 - 12/30/09
Pennsylvania	Men	Spanish	1/15/10 - 1/18/10
Washington, DC	Men	English	2/12/10 - 2/15/10
Pennsylvania	Women	English	2/12/10 - 2/15/10
San Jose, CA	Women	English	3/4/10 - 3/8/10
New York	Women	Spanish	3/12/10 - 3/15/10
New York	Men	Spanish	5/14/10 - 5/17/10
San Jose, CA	Women	English	5/20/10 - 5/24/10