CONFIGURATION of JESUS CRUCIFIED

I - Newsletter May, 2013.

PUERTO RICO – DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ORDINATION.

Fr. Carlos Javier Gonzalez, C.P. was Ordained Dec. 28, 2012 at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. He celebrated his First Mass Sunday Dec. 30 at his Community Chapel of St. Therese. We congratulate Fr. Carlos Javier who is presently assigned to the Community of La Peña in San Francisco of Macoris, Dominican Republic.

ORDENATION.

Fr. Garcia Genelio Antigua, C.P. was Ordained Nov. 24, 2012 at the Church of Our Lady of Peace in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. He celebrated his First Mass Sunday Nov. 25 at the same Church. We congratulate Fr. Genelio who is presently assigned to the Church of Our Lady of Peace in Santo Domingo.

PAUL - USA

160 YEARS OF THE PASSIONISTS PRESENCE in the United States

. Passionists Speakers Series: "Then and Now": will held at the Bishop MollyRetreat House in Jamaica, NY in the Fall of 2013:

September 11 – Steve Bevans speaks on Vatican II as an Historical Event.

October 9 – Donald Senior speaks about Vatican II and Scripture

November 12 – Elizabeth Johnston discusses Joys, Hopes, Pains, Anxieties: The Church in the Modern World

. Fr. Joachim Rego, C.P. will be presiding at the close of the 160th Anniversary year of the Passionists presence in the United States at Immaculate Conception Monastery, on October 20 in Jamaica, NY.

RE-CONNECT

Young men 17-24 years old who have an attitude for change. RE-CONNECT, a project of *Vernon Ave. Project, Inc.* organizes and empowers young men (17-25 years of age) who are experiencing social and economic disconnection due to various factors. NYC is home to upwards of 250,000 disconnected youth, representing a quiet crisis that promises continued significant social consequences. Bedford Stuyvesant, Brooklyn is home to RE-CONNECT as well as to thousands of young men ready for positive change.RE-CONNECT engages those considered to be least likely to connect with traditional training and remedial programs. This majority segment does not typically connect to these programs due to fear, distance, the perception of overly demanding structure/requirements, etc…The mission of RE-CONNECT is to develop an alternative lifestyle choice – one that is rooted in relationships that foster an assets based engagement through entrepreneurial enterprises that nurture and highlight natural and learned talents, while co-creating a life plan to attain other competencies, including GED, college, professional training and an array of life skills.

CRUC – USA .

PASSIONISTS MISSION IN CHINA. Rob Carbonneau, Passionist archivist in St. Paul of the Cross Province, is currently working with the Ricci Institute at the University of San Francisco. Every Friday he posts one photo from the Passionist China collection that is being digitized at the Ricci Institute. Each week the selected photo and commentary is made public on the St. Paul of the Cross website. Holy Cross Province assigned several men to China from the 1920s to the 1940s. You might be interested in viewing this website: http://thepassionists.org/china-posts/

PASSIONIST INSTITUTE FOR SPIRITUAL GUIDES for the Spanish speaking. Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center, Houston, Texas. Congratulations to the 34 graduates who completed their first year of this Passionist Institute. Under the leadership of Joe Castro, the Institute offers certification for Formation for Spiritual Companions in Spanish.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH - 75 ANNIVERSARY

April 14, 2013. In 1937 the Provincial, Fr. Boniface Fielding, sent two men to establish Passionist ministry in Birmingham. Holy Family began in 1938 with fewer than a dozen people at the first Mass in Tuxedo Junction. Since that first Mass in a building "with a thousand leaks," we have established Holy Family Church and Rectory, a clinic and later a hospital, Holy Family Grade School and High School, St. Mary's Church and Grade School, and we have taken on St. Joseph's Parish. The building projects are impressive. More important is the Province's commitment to ministry in Birmingham, which includes the Passionists who served there, the parishioners, teachers, the Felician Sisters of Chicago, Illinois, the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Kentucky, and the Franciscan Sisters of Joliet, Illinois, and so many more who sacrificed and supported these ministries serving the spiritual, educational and physical needs of people on the west side of Birmingham. Congratulations!

NOVICES

Juan Gonzalez, Antonio Aquino and Glen Bisquera will profess first vows on August 18. They will then move to Chicago and our Vincent Strambi Community. Glen will continue his studies at CTU. Juan needs to complete his college degree. Antonio has his college degree but will need to take philosophy courses required by the guidelines of the Conference of Catholic Bishops in *The Program of Priestly Formation*.

REX - MEXICO

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY. On February 19 we held a special Assembly where we dealt with the location of the Novitiate for this part of the Configuration. The decision was to open the novitiate in our Blessed Isidore of Loor house in Tequixquiapan, Queretaro, Mexico.

EASTER. Different groups of various communities of our province traveled to various places for Holy Week in communities that typically lack pastoral care: 3 teams in the state of Veracruz and one team in the state of Guerrero.

PROVINCIAL SENATE. The superiors of each of the seven communities of the Province met on April 10-11. We shared the situation of each community, studied an article about religious life (BETHANY) and organized various events at the provincial level.

DOMIN, LIBER, VICT, CALV - BRASIL

COUSILS OF DOMIN, LIBER, VICT AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THREE AREAS OF SOLIDARITY.

From April 16 to 18, 2013 in the formation community of St. Paul of the Cross, Goiânia – GO, councils and representatives of the three areas of solidarity of the Vicariates Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God, Our Lady of Victory and Christ Liberator met to prepare the way for the Assembly of June 2013 in the city of Salvador. This will be a decisive step for the creation of the new Passionist Province of northern Brazil. Other decisions were also made:

The Aspirants House (first year of formation) will be in Jequie - Bahia starting in February 2014.

The House of Philosophy: will be in Goiania - Goias starting in February 2014.

The Statutes of the new Province and the project for the initial stage of

formation, taking into account the Configuration formation project, was considered.

The Chapter will be held May 5-9, 2014 our General, Fr. Joachim Rego will preside. May our founder, St. Paul of the Cross protect the steps we will undertake on the way to becoming a new Province.

<u>PASSIONIST FAMILY OF BRAZIL.</u> On February 26-27, the Major Superiors (men and women) and the Coordinators of the Passionist Family Organizations of Brazil met in the Passionist Sisters House in the City of Sao Paulo, for the meeting of CLAP Brazil (Latin American Passionist Conference). The paths of each Province and Vicariate and SAV (Vocation Service), FORPAL (Passionists Formators) CLP (Lay Passionist Communities), Apostolic Animation and Economy were evaluated. Also a new coordination team composed of: Fr. José Roberto (Coordinator), Sr. Ana Lúcia (Vice-Coordinator) and Miguel Rosa (Secretary)was chosen We ask St. Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother to intercede for the Brazilian Passionist Family at this time of pursuing new directions. May they continue to be blessed with new dynamics and missionary zeal.

MOTHER MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS.

<u>Vitoria, Brazil.</u>

On April 21 the Mother Church of Mary Help of Christians as reopened after undergoing refurbishing for nine months. The Diocesan Bishop, Mons. Carmelo Scampa, presided at the dedication of the altar and blessing of the shrine and the crucifix. Both the Church and the outer square were full

of worshipers participated in this beautiful celebration. In addition to opening of the Church, the 67th Celebration called "Romaria", also took place with the theme *"Faith and Hope: Fundamentals of the human person*." After attending Mass, all the faithful enjoyed the show, "The Singers of God". May Our Lady, Help of Christians, bless all the people of Ipora so that they may always be a visible sign of God's love

CONC - ARGENTINA

<u>40 YEARS OF CHRISTIAN BASE COMMUNITIES</u>. (Comunidades eclesiales de base)
St. GEMA. Montevideo Uruguay.

With great joy and grateful hearts to the God of life we come to you to share good news. This year, 2013 the Network of Christian Base Communities of St. Gemma fulfilled 40 years that have chosen to follow Jesus living in "Churches" among the neighbors. We think this "walk that does not surrender" is something to be thankful for and to celebrate. The celebration will begin on Saturday, May 18 at 8:30 AM and will culminate on Sunday 19 at 5:30 PM.

<u>INDIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS VISIT.</u>

A group of Indian university students visited the Holy Cross College and Parish, Buenos Aires in April. Wichi brothers and sisters (native people of northern Argentina): Serafina (MEMA), the first Aborigine special master of Ing. Juarez, Formosa, and four Wichi University students: Arminda and Beatriz who are studying psychology, Vicente a Geography teacher and Amadeo a music teacher. We really had a meeting of different cultures. Everyone was enriched. Thanks to a scholarship program they can study at the University and afterwards serve their people. The Passionists are committed to this project.

In the photo are the Wichi brothers, Fr Francisco Nazar (Vicar of the Aborigine peoples of Formosa) and Adolfo Perez Esquivel (Nobel Peace Prize).