

Holy Cross Province News

February 2020

February Birthdays

- 26 Robin Ryan
- 28 Enno Dango

Professions

- 27 Chris Gibson
Tu-Jin Paul Kim

LOOKING FORWARD...

February 14
Valentine's Day

February 21
Solemn Commemoration
of the Passion

February 26
Ash Wednesday

February 27
Feast of St. Gabriel Possenti



St. Gabriel Possenti

Holy Cross Province
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Submit news to Claire Smith
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Address changes to Loretta Ciesielski
loretta@cppo.org

Updates...

- The annual Inter-Provincial Council Meeting will take place February 17-20 at Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center in Sierra Madre, California.
- The Provincial Council meets at Mater Dolorosa, February 20-21.
- Congratulations to Holy Family Cristo Rey Catholic High School Senior, J'Eron Pruitt, who was named a regional finalist in the 2019-2020 Coca-Cola Scholars Program. J'Eron is one of only 251 students nationwide to make it to this round of the selection process. He will travel to Atlanta in February to participate in an interview with the scholarship committee. If J'Eron is selected as a Coca-Cola Scholar, he will attend the Scholars' Weekend in Atlanta in April, where he will receive a \$20,000 scholarship to be used at the college or university of his choice. Congratulations and good luck, J'Eron!
- Holy Cross Province has expanded its collaboration with the Passionist Family to produce daily video reflections during Lent. This year includes reflections from Phil Paxton, Faith Offman, Paul Wadell, and Peter Smith from Holy Cross Province, Bob Joerger, from St. Paul of the Cross Province, Sr. Yolanda Montes, from the Passionist Sisters Mexican Foundation), and Octavio Mondragon, from Cristo Rey Province, Mexico. More information will be forthcoming.
- Our retreat centers in Holy Cross Province are presenting programs for the Lenten season. For more information, please visit the retreat center websites at passionist.org/retreats.





The Jubilee Icon in Holy Cross Province

The 300th Jubilee Icon and Relic of St. Paul of the Cross are traveling across the Province. Christopher Jungers and Bob Rizzi have been accompanying these sacred items so that they arrive safely at each community. There are still a few celebrations happening this month:

Houston, Texas

Thursday - Sunday, February 6-9
Holy Name Passionist Retreat Center

Citrus Heights, California

Wednesday - Sunday, February 12-16
Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center

Sierra Madre, California

Wednesday - Sunday, February 19-23
Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center

Detroit, Michigan

Tuesday, June 9 - Friday, June 19
St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat
and Conference Center

For more information, please contact Angela Kwasinski at akwasinski@passionist.org, or by phone at 847-518-8844, extension 206.

Please keep Bob Rizzi and Christopher Jungers in your prayers as they travel across the country with the Icon and Relic.

Photo (l-r): Bob Rizzi and Christopher Jungers.



Jubilee Celebrations in Holy Cross Province

Jubilee celebrations with the Icon and Relic are underway. Here are a few photos of the local liturgical gatherings which celebrated the spiritual treasures of Passionist History.



(l-r): Bill Murphy (St. Paul of the Cross Province) and Michael Murphy, Pastor of St. Joseph Monastery Parish, welcome the Icon and Relic to Baltimore, Maryland.



Bob Weiss explains some of the images in the Icon to a young guest in Nashville, Tennessee.



A stop on the journey included St. Joseph Monastery in Whitesville, Kentucky, with the Passionist Nuns.



Justin Nelson, Pastor, and Joe Moons, Provincial, celebrate Mass at St. Agnes Parish in Louisville, Kentucky.



Chris Gibson offers a blessing with the Relic at Sacred Heart Monastery in Louisville, Kentucky.



David Colhour gives a blessing with the Relic at St. Paul of the Cross Church in Park Ridge, Illinois.

Photo Ops...

The Passionist Family of Holy Cross Province welcomes Vimal Backiyaraj! After arriving in Louisville, Kentucky, from India, Vimal will travel to Birmingham, Alabama, to begin parish ministry as Associate Pastor for Holy Family and St. Mary's Parishes.

Photo (l-r): John Monzyk, Joe Moons, Vimal Backiyaraj and Justin Nelson in Louisville.



Blaise Czaja shows off his new "Papa Bear" shirt. He explained, "Old men in India are called PAPA by some. We can Americanize it by saying "Papa Bear."



Peter Berendt and Eric Meyer share a laugh during breakfast at Sacred Heart Monastery recently.



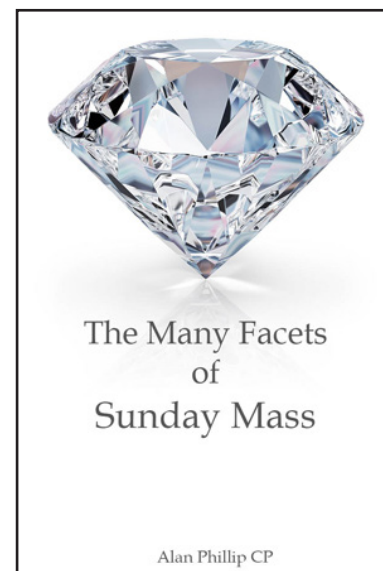
Two Good Reads...

Alan Phillip has published a new booklet titled, *The Many Facets of Sunday Mass*. Alan says he is concerned about the recent drop in Mass attendance. He also wonders just how well practicing Catholics understand the Mass.

He states that this booklet was written:

1. To encourage those who have stopped going to church to come back.
2. To make the Mass more understandable to practicing Catholic.
3. To help non-Catholics gain a better understanding of what Catholics do at Mass.
4. And to help all who go to Mass to grow in 'full, conscious and active' participation. As Alan explains, the Mass is a way of life, the way to a full, conscious, and active journey through life with Jesus.

The booklet will soon be available on Amazon.com. Meanwhile, copies can be obtained directly from Alan. Please contact him via email at yes2life@prodigy.net or by phone at (626) 355-1746. There are special discounts for orders of ten or more.



Cedric Pisegna has published a new book, *Your Best Lent Ever!*

Be open to the grace God wants to share with you. Through the power of the Holy Spirit you will experience life changing revolution, not just resolution.

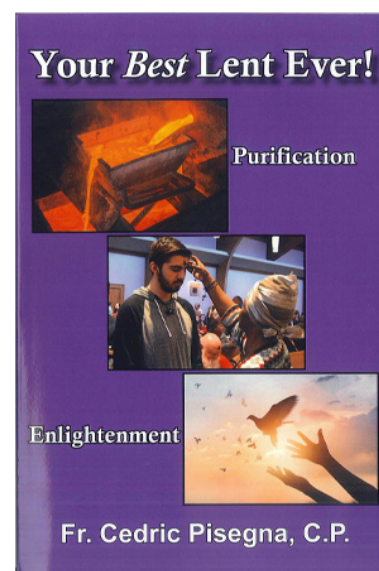
Cedric will be interviewed on EWTN on Sunday, February 23, to discuss his new book and his upcoming Lenten Mission. There are four chances to catch Cedric's interview:

All times are Eastern Standard Time.

- Sunday, February 23, 9:30 am.
- Monday, February 24, 5 a.m. & 5 p.m.
- Saturday, February 29, 1:30 p.m.

Cedric's Lenten mission will air on EWTN Saturdays at 6 p.m. and Sundays at 5:30 pm starting February 29/March 1. It can also be seen on TBN, Sundays at 7 a.m. and Daystar TV at 1 p.m.

For more information on Cedric's book and EWTN broadcasts, please visit his website at frcedric.org.



A ROOM WITHOUT BOOKS IS LIKE A BODY WITHOUT A SOUL.

-Marcus Tullius Cicero

Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center...

Citrus Heights, California

Natalie Svistoonoff is the new Executive Director at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center. She started in December 2019. Although Natalie is originally from Citrus Heights, California, she spent 16 years in San Diego, California, pursuing her education and various experiences in restaurant entrepreneurship, hospitality, program management and humanitarian work. She has a Master's in Public Health and is excited to be able to share her vast experience with our Christ the King community. Welcome Natalie to the Passionist Family!



The new Holy Family Prayer Garden is a dedicated place for meditation and prayer for all who visit. The Garden was blessed on January 2, 2020, by Giltus Mathias and Christ the King Community. We are deeply grateful to a generous donor for making this prayer garden a reality.



Do the things you have to do.

Work, but without hast and anxiety.

Work diligently, but with peace of heart and a quiet spirit,
remaining in the presence of God.

-St. Paul of the Cross

Farewell to Thee...

On the weekend of January 18-19, 2020, the Parish Family of St. Agnes, held farewell celebrations after each weekend Mass for David Colhour. After nine years as pastor of St. Agnes, David has moved to Chicago, Illinois. David was elected Local Superior of St. Vincent Strambi Community, and also serves as First Consultant on the Provincial Council of Holy Cross Province. God bless you, David as you settle in to your new ministry in Chicago!



(l-r): Justin Nelson, John Schork, John Monzyk, David Colhour, Febin Barose, Chris Gibson and Eric Meyer.



The congregation joined Justin Nelson in a special blessing for David.



Ron Corl wishes David well as David begins a new chapter in his Passionist life.



John Monzyk and Febin Barose try to cause trouble by playing tug-of-war with a box of doughnuts.



Sacred Heart Community joined the celebration on Sunday morning. (l-r): Eric Meyer, Chris Gibson, John Monzyk, Sebastian MacDonald, Trey Mobley (former Deacon at St. Agnes), Febin Barose, David Colhour, Justin Nelson and John Schork.