

September 2018

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# Passionist News Notes

## St Paul of the Cross Province



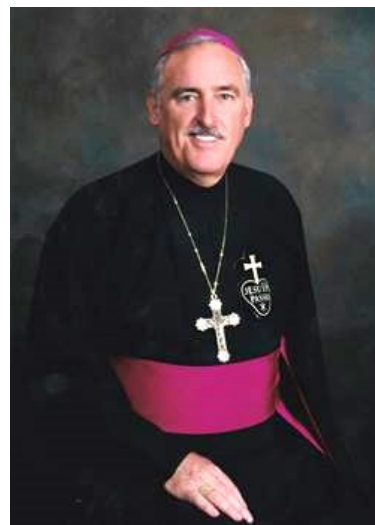
Date	Birthday
2	HAVEY, Lee POWERS, John
4	MOCCIA, Bonaventure
5	CUSACK, Paul
8	TURNER, Daniel
15	CASEY, Kevin MCEACHERN, Bernard
19	CINQUEGRANI, David
22	JONES, Joseph
23	BECK, Edward
26	MCCANN, Thomas
28	DUNN, Stephen

Date	Professed
5	SKORKA, Terence
8	TURNER, Daniel
15	DROTAR, William

Date	Ordained
10	RYWALT, Lawrence

### Bishop Neil Tiedemann, C.P., on the 10th anniversary of his ordination as a bishop

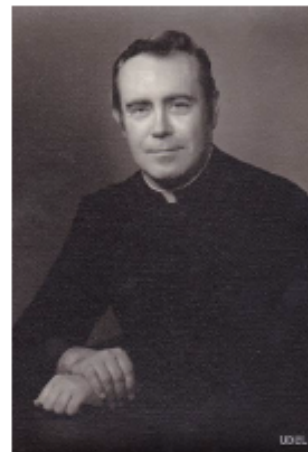
Congratulations to our brother, Bishop Neil Tiedemann, C.P., on the 10th anniversary of his ordination as a bishop. On this feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord, may Bishop Neil continue to preach and teach the gift of God's glory to the people of God.



## Death and Life in the Province: “Are you satisfied with your life?”

Letter from our Provincial Fr. Jim O’Shea, C.P.

At the funeral Mass for Fr. Damian Towey, Fr. Paul Wierichs, during his excellent homily, recalled the question that changed the life of the young Damian. During a chance visit to the monastery in Union City, a Passionist directed a question to him, “Are you satisfied with your life?” Somehow that simple question began an inner search that led Damian to enter the Passionists.



Not a bad question for all of us as we spend the summer months – hopefully with some time for rest and recreation. It is the great question for the province – are we satisfied with our life? Not meant to be an endless pursuit driven by unrealistic perfectionism but an honest look at how well we are finding our satisfaction in the great struggle to be disciples of Jesus, the one who was crucified for living out the vision of the Reign of God. It is the great question that constantly invites us into reflection and into the constant process of reformation. This question becomes even more pressing as we welcome new members into the community.

On Monday, the same day that the body of Damian was laid to rest, the Province Admissions Board met in Jamaica and recommended to me that two young men – Jonathan Ramos and Danny Allen – be admitted to our Postulancy process. These men are excellent candidates for our community and we look forward to them beginning their journey at the new formation house in Wilkes Barre, PA.



Additionally, the three fine men – Jonathan Pabon Tirado, Luis Daniel Guivas Gerena, Cristian Martinez Montalvo – who were in studies in Mexico will return to the Province for the next three months beginning immediately. They will live at St. Ann’s in Scranton and collaborate with the new formation community in





Wilkes Barre. The men asked for some time to connect to their new province and I am very happy to facilitate that. The community in Puerto Rico has been through some very difficult experiences and they, like all the men on the Island, need some time to breathe. This will be an opportunity for us to get to know one another better. It will also allow the men the time to do language studies in English as they continue their formation.

Together with these men, two men from Haiti – Jean Luc Desrivieres and Samuel Joseph- will begin a postulancy period in Mexico leading to a year of novitiate. We remember them as well with our prayers.



Not to be forgotten, five young people – Magdalen Sceski, Jessica Villatoro, Erin Curtin, Kathleen Englihs, and Marrisa Radziwiecki - are beginning a year of service and a lifetime of association with the Passionist Volunteers International in Jamaica WI. We offer them our blessings and look forward to their journey within the Passionist movement.



This province has always had a great spirit of welcome. I know that all these young men and women will find our welcome and our support to continue their journeys of discernment and service with us.

We pray with gratitude for the life of Fr. Damian Towey. We also give great thanks for the life and ministry of Brother Matt Krawchyk who will also be laid to rest this week. May their powerful legacies inspire us to continue to find our deepest satisfaction in the great mission we have been entrusted with. May our witness be a powerful invitation for the young to continue to answer the same question as well.

Yours in JXP,  
Fr. Jim O'Shea, C.P.



**Profession Father Curtis Kiddy &  
Ordination Deacon Javier Montalvo Aviles Mercado, CP**

Letter from our Provincial Fr. James O'Shea, C.P.

Dear Brothers, Associates and Friends,

On Saturday September 15, 2018, **Father Curtis Kiddy** will profess his first vows with our community and province. We congratulate Curtis and welcome him with great respect and fraternity into our mission. The Mass of Profession will take place at the Basilica of St. Ann in Scranton, PA at 1 pm. Please consider joining us on this wonderful day and please extend the invitation to associates, collaborators and volunteers. *As per our tradition, there will be limited concelebration at the Mass and we request that all Passionists be vested in our habit.*

Curtis will continue his period of initial formation at the new community in Wilkes Barre, PA.

On Saturday, September 29, 2018 **Deacon Javier Montalvo Aviles Mercado, CP** will be ordained to the priesthood. The Mass will take place at the Church of Santa Gemma in Puerto Rico. We are very honored that Bishop Neil Tiedemann, CP will ordain Javier. We hope to have a good group from the Province to celebrate this sacred event.

After ordination, Javier will continue his ministry at Santa Gemma parish.

We promise to these men our prayers and support as we look eagerly to strengthening our mission together!

Sincerely,



Fr. James O'Shea, C.P.  
Provincial





## A New Formation Community House in Wilkes Barre, PA

Letter from Our Provincial Fr. James O'Shea, C.P.

As we know, under the leadership of Robert Joerger, CP, the province re-ignited a vocation ministry. This new team, together with many men in the Province, have been actively raising awareness about our life and mission. As we know, we are a multi-cultural, multi-lingual province and we must consider ways to form young men to live and minister in this new and developing reality.

We are actively engaged with many young men who are discerning a deeper relationship with our Charism and mission, and as a council we are committed to creating a formation process that effectively engages the spirits of young men and allows them to see the potential of Passionist life. The formation process as it has been will be evaluated and possibilities will be discerned.

As a first step, we are initiating a new formation community that will be focused on the welcoming and the formation of young men in the postulant stage. In August, 2018 we will open this community in Wilkes Barre, PA. The house will be located on the campus of King's College, an institution led by the Holy Cross Fathers.

The hallmarks of this new community are the following:

- A small community of vowed Passionists committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where young men of different cultures can find a home.
- A community who will be committed to the study of language – not to become experts – but to witness that we are a community that will struggle to communicate with one another and with the world.
- A community that is committed to stand with the Crucified of today. This house is in walking distance to the parish that is the center for Hispanics in Wilkes Barre and many social outreaches to the marginalized.



I have asked three Passionists to form this new venture: Paul Ruttle, CP, Dan Turner, CP and Lionel Pacheco, CP. Paul Ruttle will serve as the local leader. All three of these men enthusiastically agreed to pilot this project. I am grateful for



their willingness to make personal sacrifices in order to serve this most critical ministry in the life of the Province. Richard Burke, CP, Rector of Scranton, was also most gracious in accepting the change in his local community and was very willing to take on the extra challenge posed by the move of these three religious. Richard is also most willing to continue to allow St. Ann's to be a place for the postulants to find spiritual directors, conferences and another home to celebrate Passionist feasts.

Jim Price, CP, Formation Consultant, will be the liaison for the community and will work with the community to put things in place to begin. Throughout the process, Jim has worked hard to find possibilities for this community and ultimately led us to Fr. Jack Ryan, CSC who is the president of Kings College. Jack will be a great friend to this new community and has thrown open the campus – language studies, gymnasium and food service, if needed. Jack is also offering us the formation house without rent. The only cost to the province will be utilities. It is a generous and wonderful way to begin this community.

We will share more information in the near future as we continue the acceptance process for our postulants. We will also set a date for the official blessing of the house and its' naming. Please pray for this new community. May it be a sign of the continued re-birth of the charism. Please continue to invite young people to consider the Passionist mission.