

THE SERVANT

*THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT  
GREGORY  
VOLUME 1 -- 1977*



THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT GREGORY

THE REV. BROTHER RICHARD T. BERNACKI  
SUPERIOR

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
82 PROSPECT  
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. 10606  
THE SERVANT

VOL. I NO. 1

JANUARY, 1977

## THE SERVANT

### THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

As 1976 passes out of memory and 1977 becomes a reality, one tends to think back to the accomplishments of the past year. The Brotherhood has undergone some real changes since the Founding of our Community in September of 1969. Where have the years gone? While some have been rather inactive with members who have come and gone, we now have a fresh start, and after much prayer, the future is brighter than ever before.

We have had two professions in the past two months. Much mail has come in and still does, mainly inquiring as to our work, etc. We are in the process of developing a brochure which should be forthcoming soon. As soon as it is completed, we plan to send copies to all of the Religious Communities.

I have included many names on the mailing list of this, the first issue, of THE SERVANT with the hope that it will reach many people with whom I have not had an opportunity to make contact.

If there is any focus for all Churchmen, at the moment, it is the strengthening of our Faith in the Church we all hold so dear. We learn that some Parishes are threatening to leave the Church because of the Ordination of Women and the Proposed Book of Common Prayer. My humble suggestion is that we are all members of the Body of Christ and because the human element makes this body an imperfect institution, we should pray the Prayer for the Holy Catholic Church and live by its precepts. When, we disagree, we owe it to the Church of Christ to stay with it and work out our disagreements. Enough said--I ask your prayers for those who feel that they must separate themselves from the Church. This Brotherhood will remain faithful and constant to the Church which has our pledge of loyalty.

I ask your prayers for our work and our mission as "Servants of the Servants of God."

Rev. Brother Richard T. Bernacki  
Superior

### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Chair of Unity Octave will be observed in the Third Week of Epiphany. Father Paul, the Priest who originated this ecumenical ideal and was Founder of the Graymoor Friars began his religious life as a Priest of the Episcopal Church. He later became a Roman Catholic Priest and was a firm believer in the principle of all Christians being "one flock, under one Shepherd." In the period from January 18, through January, 25, please include a prayer for Unity in your recitation of the Canonical Hours and at all Celebrations of the Eucharist.

### WE BID YOUR PRAYERS FOR:

The Most Rev. John M. Allin, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

All Religious Communities and especially for Fr. Martin P. Davidson, Prior of the Oratory of the Good Shepherd, All Saints Sisters of the Poor at Catonsville, Maryland, the Sisters of the Visitation and all who are Associates and Companions of these Orders.

### COMMUNITY NOTES

"How good it is when Brothers dwell together in unity."

On the Feast of Christ the King, November 21, 1976, at 3:00 p.m., John E. Nidecker was Professed as a Brother in the Community. Brother John, long active in the Church (Layreader for 48 years) has also been very involved at the White House having served as Special Assistant to two Presidents. He is on Mission to Christ Church, Rockville, Maryland where he assists the Clergy and is Sacristan. Brother John's Vows were received by the Superior and The Rev. Fr. Elwyn D. Brown, Rector of Christ Church.

On Sunday, January 9, The Baptism of our Lord, Brother Richard received the Final Vows of Brother Michael (Paul Stephen Delmolino) at St. James' Church, Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Brother Michael serves the Parish in many ways. He is a member of the Choir and assists the Rector, Canon Pierce Middleton in all phases of parochial responsibility. Brother Richard was joined by Brother Leslie at this Service of Profession.

### IN TRANSIT

Our Superior was literally "up in the air" during the past few weeks. In addition to flying to Maryland for Brother John's Profession, he also assisted in the Ordination of Fr. Robert Julian Vanderau, Jr. to the Sacred Order of Priests. Fr. Vanderau is the Curate at Christ Church, Rockville, Maryland. The Superior's "down to earth" travel consisted of driving to Great Barrington for the Profession of Brother Michael.

Please pray for our new Priest and the Brothers that all may be faithful to their vows and their calling to serve God.

### THE SERVANT

If ever a new effort required much prayer and the might of heaven,, this newsletter is one. First, for our typewriter which has dyslexia and may require your transposition of words to make them sensible. Next, we hope to hear from our friends both religious and secular. May we? Just send a word to Brother John, B.S.G., 5 Atwell Court, Potomac, Maryland 20854.

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VOL. 1 NO. 2  
FEBRUARY, 1977

FEBRUARY 1977.

THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

"I HAVE ALWAYS TRUSTED IN THE SAVIOR,  
I HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO CARRY TO HIM,  
I GO TO HIM IN CONFIOENCE."  
VENERABLE MOTHER MARY de SALES CHAPPUIS.

This quotation taken from the writings of this Holy Nun, a revered member of the Order of the Visitation (R.C.), brings to mind vividly, the word "Trust." In these times, with every kind of legal battle raging all around us, trust is an often misused word. We use to indicate that someone's confidence can be relied on--that they will not let us down. The joke phrase, "In God we trust, all others pay cash" has been seen many times in stores over the cash register. I wonder how many store keepers actually believe it--and really trust God?

In the complete abandonment which one must have to be a contemplative in such an Order as the Visitation, Mother Chappuis did indeed trust in the Savior. With the Holy Rule of Poverty--she literally had nothing else to give Him but her trust. That kind of trust is one necessary ingredient missing in the Church today.

For those of us who are not contemplatives in the sense of living within a cloister, the facts of life, today, are all around us--in newspapers--on radio--and on television. When anything goes wrong, we first blame God. "Why me--what have I done to deserve this?" "Nothing seems to be going right." The questions and the statement are the result of complete lack of trust.

As a musician and being interested in all forms of Liturgical expression, I often listen to an Evangelical Gospel radio station in the New York area. At a section called "Prayer Time", I am often amazed at the problems people pour out upon God. Loss of job--too much drinking--conversion of a friend to the Lord and many more. What troubles me, is the way that this shopping list is read off-- many many requests each day. Suppose for a moment that these many requests were converted into positive actions such as trusting in the Lord to do what is best for us--I am sure that those people would feel better and get a lot further in their lives. The Lord will do what is best for us and if we would just trust in God, all will work out for the best. I have often said., "When the right thing comes along, there is no power in the world that can change the circumstances or take it from us."

Trust leads to confidence and we can go to God with confidence, once we begin to trust in Him. Lent will soon be upon us and instead of using the old custom of giving up something, let us take on an attitude of complete trust--for whatever we are doing--it will be better done, better followed through--and better accomplished when we trust in God's eternal plan for us. We are all part of that plan and no power can change it." 'Faith is seeing the will of God unfold itself in mysterious ways. Trust is part of that faith.

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Brother Richard, B.S.G.  
Superior

Brothers. in your Intercessions, pray for.:

Those who are ill:

Br. William Benedict, Superior, Community of the Holy Trinity Joseph Sanfilippo,  
Br. Richard's Uncle.

RELIGIOUS ORDERS:

The Community of the Holy Trinity  
The Order of Holy Cross  
The Order of St. Helena  
The Community of the Way of the Cross

Sister Marie Louise, newly Professed in All Saints Sisters of the Poor

The Order of the Visitation at Springfield, Missouri, Riverdale, New York,  
Washington, D. C.

OTHER RELIGIOUS:

Most Rev. John M. Allin, Presiding Bishop Rt. Rev. Paul Moore, Bishop of New York  
Rt. Rev. William F. Creighton, Bishop of Washington, who plans to retire in July.

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MUSICAL CONCERTS

Brother Richard and Brother Leslie are always anxious to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" and welcome opportunities to do so. If any of you would like to hear a vocal and/or organ recital, please let us know. In the case of long distance travel, we would welcome a donation to defray expenses. Naturally, if the event is within driving distance from White Plains, we would not need expense money. We will be more than pleased to present a concert and should you wish to make a contribution to our cause we will be grateful. Do consider us--and this chance to praise the Lord through music.

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COMMUNITY NOTES:

We continue to be busy, going about the Lord's work and also searching for new and exciting opportunities for service.

Brother Michael, on Mission to St. James' Church, Great Barrington, Mass., is now assisting the Rector, Canon Middleton. He visits nursing homes, shut-ins, and performs other Parochial duties. Brother Michael is also a Parish Delegate to the local Deanery.

Brother Richard assisted by Brother Leslie share in answering inquiries and correspondence. They are both greatly involved with the music program at St. Bartholomew's.

COMMUNITY NOTES (Cont.):

Brother Richard is in the midst of preparations for a new Brochure which will describe our Brotherhood and its work. All of the Brothers are involved in the project and we hope to have it out in due time. As soon as it is off the press, copies will be made available to all Religious Communities and the Church general.

Brother John is on Mission as Assistant to the Clergy at Christ Church in Rockville, Maryland. His work encompasses all types of Parochial activity including visitation, administration of the Chalice, reaching and in handling some of the Parish administrative duties.

There may be ways in which the Brotherhood can combine forces with others in the vineyard of the Lord, and, if you know of such possibilities, the Superior is anxious to hear from interested persons. Our Intercessions are already a unifying force and each of you is remembered in our-daily recitations of the Offices.

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VESTITURE  
LITURGY  
SERVICE

In addition to the interest we have in music, as outlined previously, our Brotherhood is interested in the LITURGY, the VESTITURE and the SERVICES of the Church. Some of our studies have taken us back to the Chabura of early Judaism through the various liturgies of history to the modern use of the Church today. As we begin using the new Book of Common Prayer, we may be able to be of assistance to your Church in outlining some of the form that will be most adaptable to your Celebrations and Services. If we can be of help to you, please call on us.

In the situation of Vestiture, some Churches are blessed with a plethora of vestments and have several complete sets of Eucharistic vestments in all of the colors of the Church Year. There are other Churches which suffer from a paucity. We would like to be the agency for adjusting such situations. If your Church has extra sets of Eucharistic vestments and would like to help a less fortunate Parish, please tell us about it and we will arrange to have the vestments placed in operation for the beauty of the Eucharist. Just write to:

Brother John, B.S.G. 5 Atwell Court Potomac, Maryland 20854.

Our interest in Service is constant and if we can be of service to you, please inform:

Brother Richard, Superior, B.S.G.  
82 N. Prospect Street  
White Plains, New York 10606

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ANOTHER CORINTH ???

In a recent sermon, the Rev. Robert Vanderau pointed out the personal problems and the dissent taking place in the Church at Corinth when St. Paul illustrated that all people have a part and are dependent on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. As St. Paul taught, some have the gifts of prophesy, some of healing and some have gifts of interpretation. Not all of the gifts have been given to one person and there is a dependence on our brothers and sisters for these gifts. He admonished the Corinthians to find the way to live together in harmony.

So it is in the Church today. We must follow the teachings of St. Paul and to realize that not all of us have all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We should avail ourselves of the gifts to be found in others so that we might become true believers and to quiet any dissent within the framework of our Church. Let us not air our problems in the media but let us solve them within the Church.

As God has tried His people in many generations so He is trying us now. Will we be Christians or Corinthians ??? The answer is up to you.

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A Brother asks:

O Sweet Jesus, what of me?  
How best can I be serving thee?  
As I worry about my cares,  
Should I burden thee in prayer?  
If I can sew or sing or speak,  
Or build a house, repair a leak,  
Do I just think these gifts are mine?  
Or understand these gifts are thine?

The answer comes:

My child, come unto me and rest,  
Place thy head upon my breast.  
To ease your every care and pain,  
That I may not have died in vain.  
If you would use your talents well,  
Do not upon your burdens dwell.  
And then to your eternal merit,  
Thank Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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"I HAVE DONE THOSE THINGS I SHOULD NOT HAVE DONE."

In the last issue of THE SERVANT, I blamed this great machine for having a bad disease --dyslexia. It is I who have the misfortune of not being able to spell well and am the bearer of the burdens of omission. If you will note, I have misspelled our Superior's name on our Logo sheet. For these and other sins, (such as being a hair shirt to Fr. Brown, I humbly beg forgiveness.

The Scribe.

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

If you have special Intentions or Intercessions you would like us to employ. If you would like to have some news item spread in this paper. If you would tell of some experience which may help other Communities, please write to:

Brother John, B.S.G. 5 Atwell Court Potomac, Maryland 20854.

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VOL. I No. 3

MARCH 1977

## THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

Many times in my life I have been told that I am an observant, aware person. Sometimes perhaps in jest, but so, for not too much around me escapes my notice.

I would like to relate to you an occurrence of a few weeks ago-and then try to use it for an illustration for that "everyday miracle."

During the period when many of us were in the midst of one of the worst winters ever, I was walking home from the train station. The temperature had risen and some of the patches of ice had melted to water filled pools. As I walked, a small piece of paper was blowing along the ground--right along my path. After a while, the paper being guided in no particular direction, was blown into one of the pools of water. It was caught--trapped--and this event actually made me stop and observe. This is the result of my pondering--an everyday miracle.

To stretch the point, let us call the piece of paper man. The pool of water the Love of God. For many people, life is just such a wandering from place to place--from one frustration to another. No purpose or direction. But--one day--we discover God --- his love---his teachings --- the Gospel of the Lord. Then what happens? Like the little piece of paper, we are caught up--helpless but saved. If our faith grows, we will be entrenched in the pool of God's love--just like that paper-caught in the pool of water. The only difference is that the pool of water was stagnant--and the love of God is never so, but always fresh and new. Each time we allow ourselves to be caught in another pool--it is a new Miracle of Faith, and a new chance to be caught up in that Faith that makes us strong. When was the last time you were caught up in the Love of God?

In order to be caught up, we must not only be free to let God work out his wonders but must accept that which he wants for us. The wonder of Easter and the Resurrection is fast approaching us insofar as the Church year is concerned but that miracle lives on all through the year.

Think of the paper--the pool and then of yourself. Am I floating free or do I have direction and purpose? One day we will encounter another pool of living water. Only we can say whether or not we have been caught up as was my little piece of paper an EVERYDAY MIRACLE.

Brother Richard, Superior, B.S.G.

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Like as the hart desireth the water brooks, so longeth my soul after thee O God. My soul is athirst for God, yea even for the living God. When shall I come to appear before the presence of God? Why art thou so vexed O my soul, and why art thou so disquieted within me. O put thy trust in God, for I will yet thank him which is the help of my countenance, and my God.

BROTHERS IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY FOR:

THE ILL

Cynthia who suffers from multiple sclerosis.

THE RELIGIOUS ORDERS

The Oratory of the Good Shepherd  
All Saints Sisters of the Poor  
The Sisters of the Visitation

OTHER RELIGIOUS

Most Rev. John M. Allin  
Rt. Rev. Paul Moore  
William Cardinal Baum

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COMMUNITY NOTES:

The Lenten Season finds us all very busy with many extra Services and with preparations for the great feast of the Resurrection.

Brothers Richard and Leslie are very deeply involved with the music at St. Bartholomew's, White Plains and are outlining some programs to be presented in the near future. Brother Michael continues to be busy with the Parish work at St. James' Church in Great Barrington, Mass., and is assisting the Rector. At the Church of St. Simon the Cyrene, Brother Wilyam David works with the Anglican Sister who have a nearby Youth Center as well as assisting the Rector. Brother John continues to be very busy with getting The Servant into your hands despite the difficulty with the Postal Service (who fail to get Brother Richard's hard work on his portion of the paper here in time) and the need for more rapid mail service. He is also greatly involved with his assistance to the clergy of Christ Church and his administrative duties.

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SHARE A PRAYER:

One of the best prayers we have found that is helpful to us is:

Teach us Lord to serve thee as thou desirest; to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for any reward--save that of knowing that we do thy will. AMEN.

Please share this little prayer with your friends and ask them to likewise share it with their families and friends.

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CARD OF THANKS:

Our thanks to Sister Margaret Mary Joyce of the Visitation Community at Springfield and Brother William Benedict of the Community of the Holy Trinity for their letters of encouragement.

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St. Gregory's Prayers on the Passion.

1.

I adore thee, O Lord Jesu Christ! hanging upon the Cross, and wearing on thy head the crown of thorns: I beseech thee that thy Cross may deliver me from the destroying angel. Amen

2. I adore thee, O Lord Jesu Christ, wounded on the Cross, and having gall and vinegar given thee to drink: I beseech thee that thy wounds may be the healing of my soul. Amen

3. I pray thee, O Lord Jesu Christ, by that bitterness of thy Passion, which thou suffered at the hour of thy death, and then above all when thy most holy Soul passed forth from thy blessed' body; pity my soul when it is departing out of my body and bring it to everlasting life. Amen.

4.

I adore thee, O Lord Jesu Christ, laid in the'. sepulchre, embalmed with myrrh and spices: I beseech thee that thy death may be my life. Amen

5. I adore thee, O Lord Jesu Christ, descending into hell and sending forth thy prisoners: I beseech thee, suffer me not to enter there. Amen

6. I adore thee, O Lord Jesu Christ, rising again from the dead, and ascending into heaven and sitting at the right hand of the Father: I beseech thee that I may be found worthy to follow thee thither, and dwell in thy presence. Amen

7. O Lord Jesu Christ, the Good Shepherd, preserve the righteous, justify sinners, have mercy upon all the faithful, and be gracious to me, a miserable and wretched sinner. Amen

I beseech thee, O Lord Jesu Christ, that thy Passion may be unto me virtue whereby I may be fenced, protected and defended. Let thy wounds be to me meat and drink, by which I may be fed, inebriated, and delighted. Let the sprinkling of thy blood be to me the washing away of all my sins. Let thy death be to me everlasting glory. In these let me find my refreshment, exultation, health, longing, joy and desire, both of body and soul, now and for ever. Amen.

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As we enter the period of remembrance of the Passion of our Lord Jesu Christ, let us contemplate on these prayers of our Patron that our Lent may be enriched by them. We pray that they may help us to a clearer insight to the glorious and happy time of the Resurrection and that each Brother will be filled with the joy of Easter.

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My hope is that each of you joined with us in the Celebration of our Patron's Day - March 12. Special prayers for the increase of our service to the "servants of God" were said at Masses on Saint Gregory's Day. At Saint Paul's, K Street, in Washington, D. C., Fr. James Daughtry was the Celebrant. He illustrated the glory of our Patron to the assembled class of Candidates for Confirmation by reading a brief history of the life of Saint Gregory in place of a Homily. We are all very grateful to Fr. Daughtry for his thoughtfulness. Brother John who attended this Celebration greeted the members of the Congregation at the passing of the Peace.

At Grace Church in White Plains, New York, Brother Richard and Brother Leslie were greeted at the Commemorative Mass for our Patron. We are all thankful to God for these great celebrations.

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#### THE NEWER RITE

The new Book of Common Prayer is now in use in many Episcopal Churches having been instituted in Lent. There were several disappointments due to late shipping of the Books but most all of the Parishes now have them.

The Brotherhood has available schedules for the movement of the Ministers of the Eucharists, the Acolytes and the Layreaders which outline the functions of each group. We will be happy to make them available to you for your use and they may be modified to suit the needs of your Parish or Order. Also included are the use for the Service of Matins or Morning Prayer.

Just write for copies, to:

Brother John, B.S.G  
5 Atwell Court  
Potomac, Maryland 20854

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#### INQUIRERS

We are happy to report that three men have inquired as to their possible Postulancy in the Brotherhood. Please pray for these men and for the Brotherhood that we may have them in our great Community in the near future.

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#### MY LENTEN PRAYER

Dear God, sustain my fortitude, To keep a holy Lent.  
Let me not stray from purpose, Nor fail in my intent.

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## PASS IT ALONG

At the time of the death of President Eisenhower, one political cartoonist depicted a military cemetery and the captions read, "The General has joined us, pass it along." The term "pass it along" has been a military device used by the enlisted ranks to inform everyone about some current thought.

The Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church has been "passing it along" for two thousand years. The Word of the Gospel has been passed by such means and is read to the people of God in a form of the passing in all that time. The Passing of the Peace incorporated in the Celebration of the Eucharist has been a part of the form and order of the Eucharist for Christians since Christ first said, "My Peace I leave with you."

We, of the Brotherhood, would like to copy the Church and the military and ask you to pass along this copy of The Servant. After you have read it, please pass it along to someone who may then become more aware of our Brotherhood and what we hope to do. We ask that you pass it to a Parish Priest if possible. In this way, we hope to interest men in considering our form of service to the Church and to assist us with our desire to be an exchange for Altar Hangings, Vestments, etc.

For this, and all other expressions of interest in our work, we thank you.

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## MUSIC IN THE AIR

As suggested in the foregoing, Fr. Fred Trumbore shared his copy of The Servant with Fr. Joseph Falzone and from that sharing came the request for Brothers Richard and Leslie to perform a concert at St. Stephen's, Whitehall, Pennsylvania. Naturally, we are delighted at the request and hope to fulfill it in the near future. At the same time, we will be able to inform other members of the Church about our Brotherhood.

Our Patron was impressed with the voices of some young boys who were being sold as slaves in Rome and from this opportunity he formed a great choir. We, of the Church, are also indebted to Saint Gregory for Gregorian Chants and other music sung in the Church throughout the world.

If your Church or Order would like to hear these gifted Brothers, please let us know and we will attempt to comply with your request.

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Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord. Hosannah in the highest.

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SOME SUNDAY MORNING THOUGHTS OF THE VICAR OF ST. SWITHIN'S, SURREY

Here begins another Sunday. As I open the door and look down the long aisle, in the semi-darkness I see the beauty of the Altar and think of the Guild which has so tirelessly served this Church for many years. They are great ladies.

As the lights come on, the brightness illuminates my thoughts for my prayer for the day:

O God, make clean my heart within me. Bless those who come to this, thy Table. Bless those who will help make this Sacrifice a commendable remembrance of the Resurrection of our blessed Lord Jesus. Keep us from error. Keep us in humility. May the Holy Spirit be with us all. We ask it in Jesus name. AMEN.

Now to check everything. The Sacristan has set out the proper colours for the day. Doors are closed against draughts which cause the candles to burn too rapidly. Ah, there are the assistants saying their prayers before the Eucharist. I wonder if the acolytes are here?

Where is my list for the Intentions? Must remember Mrs. Terwilleger, she needs God's help. Also must pray for the soul of Mr. Tuffingham who is now in the land of peace and joy.

As I put on my vestments, I recall the joy of the catechumens as they dressed in white to signify that they were baptized. 'The cincture binds me to Christ and as I place the stole, I am reminded of the awesome responsibility of being an extension of the Bishop's office in this Parish. At last, the chausuble. The orphreys call to mind, our Saviour Christ bearing his cross to Calvary..

Must have one quick look to see how many people are here. This is one of the modern mysteries. Five minutes before Mass and only two people here. Well, as the Lord said, "When two or three are gathered, I am in the midst of them." I wonder why it is, that at five minutes before the Service-- every Sunday--we have so few people here.

The candles are lighted--the Acolyte, the Deacon and Subdeacon are ready-- and now we say our prayers of preparation. Here we go forth to the Altar of God. I look out and see one of the mysteries of our faith, the Church is nearly full. How can that be? Only five minutes ago, only two were here and now we have a full congregation. Makes a body wonder, doesn't it? Thanks be to God for the miracle.

And now to begin:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open .....

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OSTARUN becomes Easter by the Resurrection of the Son of God. He is

Risen!**HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

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SUPERIOR

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VOL. I No. 4

APRIL 1977

## THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

"He is not here; for he has risen, as he said."

THE DAY OF RESURRECTION, EARTH TELL IT OUT ABROAD.

A HAPPY EASTER TO ONE AND ALL FROM ALL OF THE BROTHERS!

"It is not that we keep his commandments first, and that then he loves; but that he loves us and then we keep his commandments. This is that grace, which is revealed to the humble but hidden from the proud."

St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430) as quoted by St. Thomas Aquinas.

Keeping commandments can often become the same as reading a book of rules-- that is to simply read them--and reaffirm our promise not to break the rules. The Brothers of Saint Gregory observe an eleventh commandment, "to be Servants of the Servants of God." To be a servant is one thing--- but--- to be a servant to the servants is yet another. It is in being humble that we receive that great grace, the love of God.

God gradually makes us enter the lists with the enemies against whom we must fight. He often places the ones easiest to conquer first, and then the more powerful ones later, when we are better prepared to fight.

Being a servant is a very difficult task, and it has an ability to humble one greatly. Blessed Gregory, whose motto "Soli Deo Gloria" we follow, was a servant. We try to emulate that motto. Each of us performs a specific function and we believe, as many do, that all of our talents and capabilities are God given. The baker, the cook, the housewife and factory worker all perform with God given abilities. All of these can and do (if we let them) show forth the love of God. As Brothers, we' are bound to show the love of God, present in every moment, else the moment and the deed have no purpose.

It is my hope that as all of us in this Brotherhood, and all of you who work in the vineyards, have used this year's Lenten Season to "take on" new responsibilities. In a recent sermon, the preacher said, "We must let go-- and--let God." If we let God direct our lives and our work, all that work must and will-be to his glory. This is our eleventh commandment.

Brother Richard + Superior, B.S.G.

MAY THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST, BRING YOU GREAT JOY IN THIS EASTER SEASON.

Richard, B.S.G.

SOME MONDAY THOUGHTS OF THE VICAR OF ST. SWITHINS', SURREY.

Today, I would like to just lie here in bed and contemplate the beauty of the Masses of yesterday. But as I think a bit more, I recall the words of a great clergyman and poet, John Donne.

"Keep us, Lord, so awake in the duties of our callings, that we may sleep in thy peace and wake in thy Glory."

There, that wakened me. Now I think that I would like to add some appeals to the Great Litany. Wonder if God would think me irreverent if I were to incorporate some of my thoughts on today's program in that Great Appeal:

From all gossip and scandal.  
Good Lord deliver us.

From all committees, councils and clergy meetings.  
Good Lord deliver us.

From all buildings with leaky rooves.  
Good Lord deliver us.

From all choirs whose tempo is temper tantrum.  
Good Lord deliver us.

From all officious Sacristans and Assistants.  
Good Lord deliver us.

That it may please thee to toughen the hides and soften the hearts of all Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Sisters and Brothers. We beseech thee to hear us, Good Lord.

O God, let me not be tempted to add these thoughts to any of my appeals to thee. I ask it in Jesus' name.

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BROTHERS IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY FOR:

THE ILL	Cynthia
THE RECOVERED	Brother Richard's mother.
THE REPOSE OF	Joseph Sanfilippo
RELIGIOUS ORDERS	The Sisters of the Visitation
	The Order of the Holy Cross
	The Sisters of St. Helena
	The Sisters of St. Margaret
OTHER RELIGIOUS	The Most Rev. John M.' Allin
	The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore
	The Rev. Davis Given
	Brother Michael
	Brother Wilyam
	Brother Leslie

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### EX LIBRIS

We have been informed by Sister Sylvia of the Sisters of the Holy Nativity of Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin, that two men posing as members of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory have made off with books from their Library. They call themselves; The Most Rev. R. Zaborowski and the Rev. Fr. Robert. Neither of these men are, nor have they ever-been, members of our Order. PLEASE BE ALERTED TO THESE IMPOSTERS AND PRAY FOR THE SALVATION OF THEIR SOULS.

### VESTMENT EXCHANGE

The Brotherhood is pleased to announce that we have been able to provide a SARUM Blue set of vestments for the Ministers of the Mass to a Church in Washington Diocese.

We have available Burse and Veil sets in Red, Green and Purple. They are odd sets but in good condition and have many years of service left in them. If you know of anyone who can \*use these Altar vestments, please let us know and we will send them to whomever it may be. The only cost will be the postage for the package. Please send your request to:

Brother John, B.S.G. 5 Atwell Court Potomac, Maryland 20854.

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### SHARE A PRAYER AND A QUOTE

In our last Issue, we asked you to share a little prayer which was written by St. Ignatius Loyola (1491-1556) the Founder of the Society of Jesus.

This time we hope you will share a quote from the writings of Saint Francis de Sales

"Humility is the mother of all sanctity which attributes nothing to self, but refers all to the glory of God."

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### COMMUNITY NOTES:

The Easter Season has all of the Brothers truly being "servants of the servants of God." Brothers Richard and Leslie are preparing special music for the Feast of the Resurrection at St. Bartholomew's in White Plains, New York. Brother Wilyam is at work at the Church of St. Simon the Cyrene at Cincinnati, Ohio and Brother Michael will be very busy at Easter at St. James' Church in Great Barrington, Mass. Brother John's schedule includes each day in Holy Week, the Easter Vigil and the several Eucharists on Easter Day.

Brother Richard is about to enter a new daily work. He will become the Executive Director of "Help for the Aged" an organization which is based in England and has a branch at White Plains. We ask you to pray for him in this new activity which will allow him to be an even greater "servant of the servants of God."

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### GROWTH

The Servant has grown and is growing. Our circulation list has increased by leaps and bounds. We are now in need of contributions. By that we mean only a very small money contribution. Whatever you can afford--please--keep it small. The larger contribution is a material item. Let us know what you would like to see on these pages and send us material you would like us to publish. THANK YOU.

THE SERVANT

THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT GREGORY

THE REV. BROTHER RICHARD T. BIERNACKI  
SUPERIOR

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
82 PROSPECT  
WHITEPLAINS, N.Y. 10606

Vol . 1 No. 5

MAY 1977

## THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

"That each meeting will be, each work undertaken, BY--WITH--and IN HIM, performed to His glory."

From: St. Augustine's Prayer Book.

This little verse says in many ways, many things - and I would hope that this will become a meaningful verse to all of us. As part of our commitment in the Brotherhood of St. Gregory, we underline the fact that all that we do is to His glory. It is our motto--SOLI DEO GLORIA.

Recently, you were all notified, with great joy, of my venture for the "Help the Aged" charity in the United States. This English based organization had just begun activity in the States with a major fund raising effort. I felt very good about this new opportunity for service, especially to the aged, who are one of our forgotten minorities (they are really a majority).

I spent a week of concentrated work in the Charity office in Ottawa, Canada. It was a week of training in the things that they do and how they do them. There was much to learn in a few" short days.

The Lord wills things and sometimes things change drastically. I returned home quite dismayed, since I was given the news, on the last day there, that the Charity was about to suspend all major fund raising effort in the United States until a later date. I had not yet been to tee my new office, when the job was all but cancelled! At the moment, I shall be in office at least until August. What happens after that is in the hands of the Almighty. Man proposes and God disposes. Never forget that phrase--it is very true.

My thought now is, that I am being prepared for yet another work, and that this is simply a stop-gap on the way. Again, what it to come will, and must be to His glory. We must co forth with the sign of faith in the peace of Christ. But then, isn't that what it is all about? That faith, or better, that leap of faith which we must all make is ever before us. Living each day, in this constantly changing world, requires a constant leap of faith for all that we do in these days is uncertain.

I tend to feel alone in situations until prayer enters the picture, and then being aware that my prayer is joined by countless other orisons moving ever upward, that loneliness is entirely dissipated. I know that my prayers are joined by those of my Brothers. the words BY him, WITH him, and IN him give such strength to those prayers.

What I will do next, will be directed-.BY him - in its actual carrying out. WITH him--through his strength in doing the job. IN him-through his peace.

Pray brethren, that what I do next, and what we all do now or in the future, will have the three qualities--BY--WITH--IN Him and be all for His greater glory.

Brother Richard + Superior, B.S.G.

## COMMUNITY NOTES

The Easter Season is still with us but the bustle and chaos of the DAY are pleasant memories. Brother Richard as well as others involved in Church music, find comfort in the fact that they have performed music worthy of their calling. His concern with Choir attendance and the arrival of the trumpets, sometimes made him feel that he might not get through the day with any sort of calm. He did manage to provide the same music for two identical Eucharists and felt that he knew it backwards.

Brother Leslie was his right arm at Easter and was also the soloist on\* Good Friday. Brother Leslie is also preparing for future concerts in conjunction with Brother Richard.

Brother Michael was very busy with his work at St. James, Great Barrington, as he assisted the Clergy with their many preparations for the great Day.

Brother John was in the midst of everything, as usual, and the Rector of Christ Church has sent a copy of a letter of appreciation for his effort to the Superior.

Brother Richard, due to the uncertainty concerning his work, has some free time for his work on our new brochure. He is also catching up on his correspondence.

Easter was the occasion of a visitation to the Visitation Nuns at Riverdale, New York. Brothers Richard and Leslie report that they spent several hours at the Monastery. The Sisters were very interested in the females in the Priesthood of the Episcopal Church. The visit made the Brothers realize the importance of dialogue amongst all of the religious concerning the problems facing the Church. AS Brother Richard stated, "It is wonderful to realize the incredibly strong bond we still have to these wonderful Nuns."

The Vestment Exchange Program is working well. A set of Eucharistic Vestments have been sent to Brother John for a Church in the Diocese of Washington. Burse and Veil sets are being sent to Sister Sara Elizabeth at St. John's Home in Painesville, Ohio. If anyone has such vestiture that is no longer needed, please send it on to us or tell us how to obtain it for others. We are a clearing house for all types of vestments and want to help others to avail themselves of your largess. PLEASE GIVE US THIS WORK TO DO. Thank you.

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God's mercy is the eager gift of His heart to his utterly undeserving children.

Dom Edmund Futterer, O.C.S.O.

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SOME TUESDAY THOUGHTS OF THE VICAR OF ST. SWITHUN'S, SURREY.

Now that my morning orisons are over, the recurring thought which comes to me is, whatever possesses people when they become members of a Parish Council? Suddenly, they become experts in property, finance and above all, experts in synodical syntax. No gathering of Bishops or even the early Fathers of the Church was ever so able in Canon Law, Liturgy nor in Theology.

What a Parish Council meeting we had last night. Why do they concern themselves with those things over which we have no control. Nothing they have said will change a jot not a tittle. The viciousness and their bitterness amazes me, no end. I suppose it is the normal human desire to be out in front. They remind me of lorry drivers who cut in and out in heavy traffic.

The sorrow to a Priest is that they never seem to hear what is being said to them. They cannot get on with the business at hand but keep gnarling a problem long after it has been settled. Much like my old dog worrying that old leathern shoe he has played with for years.

I am caused to wonder whether they ever hear the sermons over which I spend hours in preparation to follow a course through the Gospels. It seems that most of our people hear what I have to say. Why not the Council?

Last night's problem is one that has perplexed and plagued God's Church since the first Liturgies were recorded. They worship words and form. They forget the sacrifice of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who died for them. Needless to say, the changes in the Prayer Book are not about to be altered to satisfy some lazy Christian who must reprogram the computer in his brain to remember how the prayer cycle has been revised. If only the International Consultation on the English Texts could realise the reaction of some of our people, they would be horrified. Thanks be to God that I have had sufficient parochial experience and know that, "the many who have complained" are really but a few.

If I ask, "take this cup from me", I do not emulate the Christ but become like them.

Dear God, help me to teach and guide my people, that complaints will fall away as do the leaves in the Autumn. That I may think of the problems as being like the leaves and that they will also fall away as is your wont. Help me to realise that the Spring will come again and that the new leaves that will appear are those things that you desire. That you Will clothe the earth in beautiful raiment once more and that mankind will have their hearts filled with the joy of your Son our Saviour Jesus- Christ. AMEN.



BROTHERS IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY FOR:

THE ILL	Cynthia
THE REPOSE OF	The souls of all departed Religious.
THOSE WITH PROBLEMS	Brother Richard
RELIGIOUS ORDERS	The Sisters of the Visitation
	Order of St. Anne
	Order of St. Benedict
	All Saints Sisters of the Poor
	Oratory of the Good Shepherd
OTHER RELIGIOUS	The Most Rev. John M. Allin
	The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore
	The Rt. Rev. William F. Creighton
	The Rt. Rev. John T. Walker
	The Rev. Harold Avery
	The Rev. Elwyn Brown
	The Rev. Robert Vanderau
	The Rev. J. Norman Hall

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My Lord, my Lord, I pray thee,  
That I may ne'er be lost.  
That I may have the gift of tongue,  
Like that at Pentecost.

Not strange nor unknown language,  
But the gift in my own speech.  
For this, dear Lord, I pray thee,  
And thus do I beseech.

To have the erudition,  
To tell of thine own Son.  
Would make my life much better,  
For me and every one.

Now as that Day approaches,  
I bid thee, Lord, to guide..  
My heart and soul to teach the Word,  
To my flock, At Whitsuntide.

The Vicar of St. Swithun's.

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A Directory of Anglican Religious Communities is available from St. Paul's Press, P.O. Box 1000, Sandy Oregon 97055, for \$2.00 Post paid.

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THE SERVANT

THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT GREGORY

THE REV. BROTHER RICHARD T. BIERNACKI

SUPERIOR

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
82 PROSPECT  
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. 10606

VOL. 1 No. 6  
JUNE 1977

## THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

"The way to love anything, is to realize that it might be lost."  
Jeremy Taylor.

DUE TO LACK OF INTEREST, THE CHURCH HAS BEEN CANCELLED!

How would you react to such a statement, if you arrived for Sunday worship and found it tacked to the Church door? I suppose that a few who would simply go home and back to bed--would consider the whole issue unimportant. For those of us to whom the Church is life and breath, the reaction would be quite different. True, we can worship at home--in the street--at work--in the car, BUT the building, organ, Choir and the Preacher all serve to bring us into a closer relationship with God. Much of what is around us, Sunday by Sunday, makes us aware of His nearness. For many, 'church' with all of the formality and ritual, lifts us out of the world for a time--takes us away from it all.

The Church, for many years, stayed the same and we fell into the doldrums of simply going through the motions week after week. One of the great things about our newly revised Prayer Book is the change. The things that have been changed, make us think and make us consider what we are saying and what we are doing. We should be aware that each time we say, "Amen" and each time we recite the Creed, we are making a very serious commitment to God. We are affirming our Faith!

There are those who would move away from the Church because -of the change, and I dare to be so bold to ask them where they will turn when tragedy strikes them. You all know that they will come to the Church. Ann Landers once said, "The only difference between a rut and a grave is the dimension." We have to beware of that rut--and those of us who are part of the Religious Communities owe it to ourselves and those we serve to keep them out of the rut by helping them to believe in Mother Church.

There are practical ways to help those who are turned off by the change.

1. Study the Prayer Book--cover to cover--so that when people ask questions, we have the answers.
2. Use all of the Rubrics--give people reason to be curious as to why something has been done or changed.
3. Study the History of the Prayer Book--go back to the Rite of Hippolytus, if necessary.

Shakespeare said, "Tis the mind that makes the body rich." Liturgy is a learning process as well as a worshipping experience. Use the Prayer Book as the guide. As you go through the Book, use the daily Offices (if you are a layman, all the better). There is a wealth of information for all people in the Prayer Book to help them use the "mind to make the body rich."

I hope that these few suggestions will be helpful. The Church is what we make it--and we can add to its greatness by being thinking and acting part of change--change that can make us stronger and much more involved in worship

Brother Richard +

SOME WEDNESDAY THOUGHTS OF THE VICAR OF ST. SWITHUN'S, SURREY.

O God, how glorious are thy works and this day!

The sun is shining brightly and my old dog's tail is wagging as though it might become detached at any moment. The happiness of the day seems to permeate my being as though the Holy Spirit came to visit me, to be within me and to surround me in all that I do.

The letter from the Bishop announcing the planned arrival of the Sisters of Charity and the Brothers of St. Anselm here at Surrey was a most welcome missive. How fortunate is the Church that we have these grand and dedicated people professed to God forever and to whom there is no task impossible to accomplish. The Sisters will live at the old house on Lincolnshire Lane and the Brothers have taken the old inn at the crossroads. All will be close to the Church and will assist here in their mission. Would to God that all of our Parishes were as fortunate as we at St. Swithun's.

The joy that I feel is almost sinful in my anticipation of their arrival. Dear God, do not let me gloat nor revel in my fortune. Let me pray that other Churches may have similar blessing occur for them.

We welcome them with happy hearts, O Lord, and pray that they will be as happy with us as we will be with them as we say:

For all Religious, Lord, we pray,  
And ask that they will find,  
Great joy in all the work they do.  
For all of humankind.  
We ask that thou wilt bless them,  
Grant them thy heavenly peace.  
And that, in their service to the Church,  
Their joy will never cease.  
We pray for Sisters--Brothers,  
In all their whole lives through.  
And pray they will find happiness,  
In everything they do.

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"SUFFER THE LITTLE CHILDREN TO COME UNTO ME."

These welcoming words of our Lord are being carried out to the fullest at St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Nevada. Fr. Herbert A. Ward, Jr., the Executive Director is assisted by the Sisters of Charity and some lay people who are as dedicated as he is. The Ranch is a haven for children who have suffered at the hands of unfortunate adults who have never heard these words of Jesus Christ in his welcome to youth. If you can offer any support to this great mission of the Church, please send your contributions to: St.

St. Jude's Ranch for Children  
100 St. Jude's Street  
Box 985  
Boulder City, Nevada 89005

MEET: BROTHER LESLIE VICTOR MORGAN, B.S.G.

Leslie Victor Morgan was born on July 10, 1943 at Oxford, North Carolina. At the tender age of three months, he moved with his mother, her sisters and brothers to New York. Although an only child, he is a member of a large family that is closely knit together in familial love. The family often gathers together for reunions and as Brother Richard has said, "They are a major convention when they meet."

Music has always played an important role in the life of Brother Leslie. Although his family's interests lie in the more popular forms of music, he is interested in the classical and operatic works. Leslie is also interested in Church music and he has sung in several Choirs.

His first major role and most significant performance was when he sang King Balthazar in Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors." He was then a member of Choir of the North Avenue Presbyterian Church, in New Rochelle, New York. His success in that role convinced him that he was worthy of going beyond that experience and he decided to study voice. He studied under Lloyd Walser who was the Organist-Choirmaster of the North Avenue Church who had become his friend. He still studies from time to time with Mr. Walser, a Fulbright Scholar who later became the Associate Conductor of the New York City Opera Company at the Lincoln Center in New York.

Brother Leslie joined the Choir of St. Bartholomew's Church which is under the Direction of our Superior, Brother Richard. He was ultimately ranked as the Bass Soloist in the Choir and serves in that capacity today. Since his activity is such an integral part of the Choir, he works very closely with Brother Richard and thus developed an interest in the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory. Being blessed with an interest similar to that of our Patron it was natural that he displayed the fervor of a true musician. He was next inspired to seek the Postulancy and Novitiate of the Order and worked diligently to achieve the golden step of a Professed Brother.

Brother Leslie's secular occupation is that of a secretary for an agency which provides temporary assistance to large corporations. This affords him the opportunity to be in contact with all sorts and conditions of men and gives him the wherewithal to serve God in the secular world.

His multi-faceted experience in choral work, his studies, and his work in the world being concomitant with the life of Saint Gregory he is truly a "servant of the servants of God."

Brother Leslie says, "I realize that at times I am a prude about which music should be heard and sung in the Church, but my own God given talent and ability entitles me to that kind of prudishness."

We of the Brotherhood agree and honor and love this Brother of ours who exemplifies our purpose in the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

BROTHERS IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY-FOR,

THE ILL	Eva Kirkpatrick	
	Cynthia	
THE TROUBLED	Wilyam	
THE REPOSE OF	The Souls of all departed Religious	
RELIGIOUS ORDERS	The Sisters of the Visitation'	
	The Poor Clares	
	Society of St. Margaret	
	Order of the Holy Family	
	St. Barnabas Brotherhood	
	Order of the Holy Cross	
	The Graymoor Friars	
OTHER RELIGIOUS		The Most Rev. John M. Allin
	The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore	
	The Rev. Davis Given	
	The Rev, Fred Trumbore	
	The Rev. Paul Andersen	

GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR:

The dialogue between Pope Paul and the Archbishop of Canterbury that brings closer the union of Christendom.

The Community of St. Mary at the nomination of the DeKoven Foundation to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Sisters of Charity on the purchase of the Boulder City, Nevada Hospital to establish an American Convent.

The Rev. Larry R. Gattis who Was installed as. Rector of St. Paul's Church at Dowagiac, Mi.

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THE GOAL

Some years ago, a doughnut maker coined the-phrase, "As you wander through life, brother, what ever be your goal; keep your eye upon the doughnut and not upon the hole."

To paraphrase, we say, "As you wander through life, brother, what ever be your goal; keep your eye upon the Savior and thus you'll save your soul."

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WE ASK ALL RELIGIOUS TO PRAY FOR THE POSTULANCY OF DUANE VOITEL AS HE ENTERS THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT GREGORY ON TRINITY SUNDAY, 1977.

THE SERVANT

THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT GREGORY

THE REV. BROTHER RICHARD T. BIERNACKI

SUPERIOR

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
82 PROSPECT  
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. 10606

BR. JOHN, B.S.G.  
SCRIBE--EDITOR

SOLI DEO GLORIA

VOL. 1 No. 7

JULY 1977

## THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

"Whenever possible---- put people on hold"

This little motto seems to be the watchword of many of our contemporaries of this age. Thus the hold button on many telephones is used enough to warrant a replacement guarantee. I am sure that many of us have experienced being put on hold, and detested that feeling of waiting for an eternity, until the person called answers.

If that is my feeling, I wonder what others think when I put them on hold. Does the caller feel as though he has been placed in a form of suspended animation--levitation--limbo? Very often, calls come to me at my office and I must put the person on hold until I can complete another call. Just the other day when this happened, my thoughts led me to a very interesting point. How many times do we put God on hold when we know full well that He has given us a responsibility--a task-or something that we feel is unpleasant to do? There may be times when we unknowingly push the hold button but more often than not we knowingly push that mental hold button with its glowing light under it and we put God off again. He asks so little from us in comparison to all that we receive from Him, thus when we put a duty aside--we are putting Him and our fellow man--on hold.

Since everything we do is an opportunity to please God and to glorify Him, when we shirk a responsibility, we unconsciously push that button. Each experience we have increases our life's blessings. When we are asked to do something for the Church or the Community, we have the opportunity to do God's will and often we unknowingly put Him on hold by not doing that service. When the Sunday Usher suddenly becomes ill, when the scheduled Lector is unexpectedly called away, and we do not rush in to replace that person, we are pushing that hold button.

There are times when using the hold button can be a positive thing: Those of us who are in religious orders place no limits on our availability to serve God and we purposefully put people on hold so that we can serve God when He calls. Those are times when the hold button is put to good use. The negative use is when we have the feeling that "someone else is there and they really do not need me" and we push the mental hold button in order to do something else. "God is working His purpose out", as the hymn tells us, yet there are those who impede that purpose.' Don't be a stumbling block---  
HANDS OFF--- that hold button.

I hope that these thoughts will be of value to you all. The Summer is upon us, and for many it will be a time of renewal and rest. God will put many opportunities in our paths, and we must be ready to say, "yes" when He calls --- not hold out for one moment! The time to serve is now to work for the Kingdom of Heaven. God never asks us to hold--He is always ready to listen and we should be equally ready to hear Him.

Think about it.

Brother Richard + Superior.

## GOOD NEWS

Br. Leslie is now Secretary in the Public Relations Department of the National Foundation--March of Dimes.



MEET: WILYAM DAVID. B.S.G.

Brother Wilyam David was born Wilyam David Smith at Cincinnati, Ohio on August 14, 1950. He is the last of four children born to the Smith family and lived in Cincinnati through his Junior High School years when the family moved to Michigan. After completing his education there, he moved on to New York and subsequently returned to Cincinnati, in 1972.

He began attending the Church of St. Simon of Cyrene and while working there, the Holy Spirit inspired him to seek the religious life. The Rev. Peter Golden, Rector of this Lincoln Heights Church, and his friends, felt that he should seek a Community which would permit him to continue to work within the Parish. His search and his prayers led him to feel that The Brotherhood of Saint Gregory would be an ideal Order for him to enter.

Under the guidance of his Rector, he was prompted to make an appeal to the Bishop of Ohio, The Rt. Rev. John Krumm who suggested that he speak to Rev. Brother Richard. With this approval, Wilyam David began a dialogue with Br. Richard. Thus on Friday, September 22, 1972, Wilyam David was admitted to the Postulancy of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory.

How fortunate for this dear Brother and for the Brotherhood, for Br. Wilyam is a true artist and designer. As it developed, it is also a fortune for the Church of St. Simon since he has been an assistant to the Rector for the past four plus years. He has accomplished many things while serving at the Church and has acted as teacher, sexton, sacristan, etc., in that service.

Brother Wilyam's art work is on display in many places and the vestments he has made grace the Eucharistic celebrations in Churches in Ohio. He also works with the Sisters of the Transfiguration at their Chapel at Glendale, Ohio. His secular occupation is with the City Development Department. of the City of Lincoln Heights. He has also worked with the city's Drug Advisory Board and a half-way house for released prisoners, as well as being a staff member of St. Monica's Center in a program for school aged children.

Brother Wilyam is contemplating studies toward the Diaconate and Asks all of us to pray that he may receive the blessings of our Lord in his vocation. He selflessly asks that we pray for Fr. Mobley and for his Bishop and to include all of the Brothers in our prayers.

We ask, God bless this dear Brother and grant him great joy in the use of his talents in Thy behalf.

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THE VESTMENT EXCHANGE

Through the kindness of the Altar Guild of Christ Church, Rockville, MD., we have received some old but serviceable Eucharistic vestments. These vestments have matching Burse and Veil sets and are in Red, Green, White and Violet. The Maniples may be revamped to use as Lectern Markers. There are some Frontals which are short and can be used on small Altars. Please send your requests to: Brother John, B.S.G., 5 Atwell Ct., Potomac, MD, 20854. (AFTER JULY 20, 1977 ----- 642 Crocus Drive, Rockville, MD. 20850)

SOME THURSDAY THOUGHTS OF THE VICAR OF ST. SWITHUN'S, SURREY.

Well, here we are a holiday time again. That glorious season of the year when all and sundry desert the town for the country or the seaside. Brighton will be the rather dubious beneficiary of the influx of those who seek the waters of the sea to cure their tired and weary bones. From all that I can glean from the news media and the adverts, the bathing costumes will be scantier on both men and ladies. The drive to display more of the human skin to the elements is a complete reversion to the classic dress of the Garden of Eden. That place where the original sin took place is being emulated at all of the seaside resorts 'in this year of our Lord, Nineteen and Seventy-seven.

Although I think that the human body needs some freedom, I cannot be but a bit apprehensive about the inordinate baring of all of it. The serpent may be the tempter in the minds of some and I pray that God will prevent that.

It is amusing to think how some of our parishioners might appear to be in the scanty kinds of fluff which most people wear at beaches. Take Mr. Livengood, he looks the sketch in knickers let alone wearing the brief costumes I've seen. Good Lord, deliver me from my thoughts as to how fat Mrs. Golightly might affect other bathers if she came out of a cabinet attired in a bikini--I think that is what they call them.

Well, whatever might possess our people in their search for holiday fun, I pray that their pledges will be kept up during the summer.

Dear God, am I wrong to think these things?

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The mendicant set out one day, to walk from town to town,  
His begging bowl held out from him, he uttered not a sound.  
And hopefully he prayed to God, in a silent orison,  
Yet naught was in his begging bowl, when set the evening sun.

'Twas then a thought beat down on him, "if I would but believe,  
I've merely to speak out to God, to ask and I'll receive."  
He prayed aloud and soon he stood, looked down and he was thrilled,  
For God had worked a miracle, his begging bowl was filled.

We men of Gregory's Brotherhood, no begging bowls possess,  
And at the art of seeking funds have limited success.  
So, if you have a penny or some other little sum,  
Please send it on to help us in the spread of Christendom.

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WHO POSSESSES GOD POSSESSES ALL.  
St. Jane de Chantal.

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BROTHERS IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY FOR:

THE ILL

Cynthia  
Doris  
Robert  
Charles

THE REPOSE OF

The soul of The Rev. James Richards  
The souls of all departed Religious

RELIGIOUS ORDERS

The Sisters of the Visitation  
The Oratory of the Good Shepherd  
All Saints Sisters of the Poor  
The Cowley Fathers

THE CLERGY

The Society of St. Francis  
The Most Rev. John M. Allin  
The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore  
The Rt. Rev. John T. Walker  
The Rev. Elwyn D. Brown  
The Rev. Robert J. Vanderau

GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR

The Postulancy of Brother David (Duane Voitel)  
who was admitted on Trinity Sunday.

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THE ORATORY OF THE LITTLE WAY

"The Oratory is a place where you can stop a while, and let your soul catch up with your body." Thus says The Rev. Benjamin R. Priest, a Solitary of the Little Way who founded the Oratory. It is located on South Kent Road at Gaylordsville, CT, and is a beautiful place to allow a person to obtain "in a little way" Christ's solitary experience of His forty days in the wilderness. Accommodations are modest and retreatants assist with meals and minor chores. There is no charge for the use of the Oratory for retreat or contemplation, and anyone can contribute to the upkeep of this place where one can talk with God and forget the outside world. Additional information may be secured from:

The Rev. Benjamin R. Priest, S.L.W.

Oratory of the Little Way  
South Kent Road, P.O. Box 221  
Gaylordsville, CT 06755

THE SERVANT

THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT GREGORY

THE REV. BROTHER RICHARD T. BIERNACKI

SUPERIOR

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
82 PROSPECT  
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. 10606

BR. JOHN, B.S.G.  
SCRIBE--EDITOR

SOLI DEO GLORIA

VOL. I No. 8

AUGUST 1977

## THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

"HE MUST INCREASE--- I MUST DECREASE."

This little phrase is the motto of the Community of St. John the Baptist, at Mendham, New Jersey. My use of this text for this writing is inspired by just having finished reading a wonderful book, "Stars In His Crown" a Centennial History of the C.S.J.B.

I have read many similar books, some fiction and some non-fiction, and have a deep and abiding interest in all books on Religious life. This book provided me with great enjoyment since the whole presentation is made in the context of the history of Anglican Religious Orders. Some no longer exist, others have remained and have weathered the years. Many are still vital, vibrant, vocal and like the Community of St. John the Baptist, are very much alive.

In times like these when Nuns are yielding their traditions, it is quite inspiring to learn of an Order which "holds fast to that which is good." They still adhere to the habits of that tradition and wear the Habits of their Order. I do not feel that Orders should remain in the dark ages, but, Nuns should look like Nuns. This Order is modern enough to work in the aura of our era without giving away that which they hold dear. To illustrate the newer thinking, there was a Sister from Clewer, England on visit to Mendham and the Sisters decided to take some of the children to the movies while she was there. The English Nun said, "Oh, we do not take children to the cinema in England." Sister Eudora commented, "Well, we do here." It is amazing to see how readily Religious accept certain change yet still maintain traditions which have purpose. They are not willing to "throw the baby out with the bath water."

Tradition is so important to the Religious life since it links us with those wholly devoted Sisters and Brothers who have gone before us, and helps us understand their reward. In our Brotherhood, much of what we do is based on the traditions established on the study of other Order's rules and customs. We say the four Offices found in the Holy Cross Breviary, we still wear the habit which sets us apart as Religious, and we wear the Rosary at our sides. All of this is symbolic of our Catholic heritage. The Brotherhood of Saint Gregory is a modern adaptation of the Religious life of worker Brothers. Although we do not live in Community--our community exists in the maintenance of these traditions.

Some time ago, when we were on Retreat at Gonzaga House at Monroe, New York, we were in the midst of many retreatants who were there. They attended our Masses and recitation of the Offices and were witnesses to the admission of one of our Novices. These observers were fascinated by our traditional rubrics and ceremonial. They questioned the use of the old forms and I told them of our adherence to traditions. One of the Jesuits later translated our feelings into Latin and gave us a kind of second motto, "Ad Huc Fecimus" which we use jointly with our primary motto, "Soli Deo Gloria."

Tradition is the amalgam that holds past and future together. As I have said, we cannot jettison the past for meaningless innovation, thus it is that we are careful in making any change. When we look back to the

turbulent sixties, we can recall the Guitar Masses, Folk Masses and the use of balloons in the Church. They have all been forgotten (thanks be to God) and now the Clergy and the People look for meaningful tradition to restore the honor due our God.

When I hear people who are unhappy with the new Book of Common Prayer, seeking the old forms, I am amused for we have moved into the real forms of traditional worship and have taken into consideration the all of the revisions of our Book of Common Prayer. This has allowed us to seek the increase of the worship of God and not the worship of words. To those who grouse about our Habited Nuns and Brothers, I must state that a Religious should look like a Religious. Modified Habits--yes! No Habits-no! The Habit bespeaks, "HE MUST INCREASE--- I MUST DECREASE."

Finally, I thank God for communities like the Community of St. John the Baptist, the Community of the Holy Spirit, All Saints Sisters of the Poor, the Visitation Nuns and on and on. They have helped to maintain Catholic heritage and tradition. They still do and we still do.

Ad Huc Fecimus.  
Brother Richard + Superior.

#### THE VESTMENT EXCHANGE

The exchange is alive and well. We have had the good fortune of sending supplies of vestiture to the Community of the Holy Spirit and Rev. Mother Elise is happy with what we have been able to provide. Mother Elise was the first to request vestments based in our offer in the July Issue of the Servant.

The Chapel of the Epiphany at the Episcopal Church Home in Washington was also a donee of some of our Chancel Vestment offerings.

We still have some Clergy and Chancel vestiture available. One of the Chasubles is a beautiful caparisoned white one and would enrich the worship of a Parish or Convent. We have some Altar Frontlets and will be happy to supply them.

If your Monastery, Convent or a Parish in which you serve has a surplus of vestments or if you have need for these items, please write to:  
Brother John, B.S.G.  
642 Crocus Drive  
Rockville, MD 20850

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#### THE LITTLE ENVELOPE

This Issue of The Servant bears with it a small envelope addressed to us. It is a multi-purpose envelope in which we hope you will send us the names of those for whom you would have us offer Intercessions. You might also use it to tell us how you feel about The Servant. Another purpose is to send in a small contribution--which you have solicited--which will help to assure the survival of this newsletter.

Please note that we would prefer having funds which you have solicited-not your own funds, unless, of course, you are so inclined.

Thank you.

MEET: REV. BR. RICHARD T. BIERNACKI, B.S.G.

It was on December 8, 1942 when the world first saw the child Richard Thomas Biernacki, and thereafter became a different place.

Meriden, Connecticut claims him as their own but it was only for a short time since the family moved to Queens, New York where Richard spent his earlier years. He moved through the school system and ultimately to Newtown High School. After graduation he attended the Baruch School of Business Administration; then on to Manhattanville College. He continued his education at the Pius X School of Liturgical Music.

Richard's first brush with the field of music came when he joined the Choir of St. James Episcopal Church in Elmhurst, New York. Fr. George Parsons, the Rector, encouraged him to establish a goal in music and urged that it should be oriented to Church music. While at St. James' Church, his resonant voice was heard as he assisted in the Services and it was thus that he was licensed as a Layreader by The Rt. Rev. James Pernette DeWolfe, the Bishop of Long Island. Still, music was his first love and he pursued his career with diligence.

That career has taken him to many places including Trinity Church at Inwood, New York, and on to Congregational, Lutheran and Episcopal Churches throughout New York. The result of the varied experiences he has had in those Churches is a vast knowledge of Traditions and Liturgy of Music which has served him in good stead in his chosen field. His many, highly acclaimed, recitals have been given at St. Patrick's Cathedral, The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the New York Cultural Center, and other places where fine organs are a part of the equipment.

Brother Richard's secular life has been vast and varied. It has included clerical positions that have evolved into management; reporting; library work; credit management; charities, etc. He joined the staff of the National Headquarters of the Episcopal Church where he worked in the Christian Social Relations and Social Work Scholarships area. He moved into the field of Prayer Book revision and assisted The Rev. Canon Charles Guilbert, the Custodian of the Episcopal Prayer Book. While serving at the headquarters, he was organist of The Chapel of Christ the Lord and directed the Chapel Choir. Brother Richard returned to school in the late nineteen sixties and thus left "815."

It was while serving as Organist-Choir Master of St. Andrew's Church in Yonkers, New York that he lived directly across the street from the Visitation Monastery. He quickly learned that the back stairs from the garden of the Monastery was a short cut to the train station at river's edge and made that short cut his daily habit. One day, as he was returning from work, he saw Sister Rose Angela, the Extern, working in the garden and stopped to speak with her. His exuberant personality so impressed the Sister that she asked him to meet with The Rev. Mother Superior and her assistant Sister Margaret Mary. This most fortuitous meeting was the first of several during which Richard outlined his fervent hopes and desires of forming a Brotherhood of worker Religious who would give of themselves to the glory of God. The Sisters were greatly impressed with his ambition and began a prayer cycle asking God to look with favor on this project. One evening while the Sisters and Richard had gathered for prayer, the Sisters were behind the grille and they suddenly joined their voices and sang, "They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love."

Soon after that meeting, Richard began conducting Choir Rehearsals for the Nuns and gave them copies of the Hymnal-1940 which are still in use today. The intensity of the prayers increased and were joined by friends of the Sisters of the Visitation that the Brotherhood would be formed and accepted by the Church.

This led to consultations with the Rev. Thomas Pike which helped bring the Brotherhood into being. The Sisters adopted it as their Order of Anglican Brothers and so it has continued since that day.

It was on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, September 14, 1969 that the first four Brothers of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory were professed in the Chapel of the Monastery of the Visitation. In the beginning, the dedication of the Order was to Church Music based on the great contribution of our Patron. Since then, the ideals have been modified to include all forms of Church Art, Liturgy and Vestiture.

Brother Richard is the guiding light to many people and so it has been with the Brotherhood. It was thus that he has been the Brother Superior since our founding. He, indefatigable, outgoing, garrulous and totally motivated Brother that he is, keeps all and sundry on their toes. He makes pottery, Eucharistic Vessels, vestments and writes music for the Mass. He is Organist-Choir Master at St. Bartholomew's Church the Home of our community and is known as the Rector's Collaborator. He is an active Member of the American Guild of Organists and is on the Executive Board of the Westchester Chapter. His secular occupation is as Manager of the Organ Department of the Ostrovsky Piano Company in New York City. He has had special training in the Yamaha organ and his work and training allow him to maintain several interlocking relationships with musicians and the public.

It is easy to see that Brother Richard leads a very active and involved life, yet he is able to fit work, music, and the administration of the Brotherhood into his schedule. He states that he is in need of constant prayers for strength to keep that schedule going. His pleasure is derived from seeing that the Brotherhood is a viable, working part of the Body of Christ. He, as are all of the Brothers, stands ready to serve the Church in whatever capacity is required. Despite the horrendous schedule he maintains, he always manages to find time for many extra projects.

Brother Richard's philosophy is, "never forget the past as we look to the future." This has had much to do with the formation of the Order so that our Brotherhood's heritage will not be jettisoned in the midst of change and revision. His watchword is a quote from a Lenten Homily, "TAKE ON---- DO NOT GIVE UP."

This is The Rev. Brother Richard, Superior of The Brotherhood of Saint Gregory.

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St. Gregory's good servant,  
Brother Richard e'er will be.  
And we, his Brothers, pray for him,  
With great felicity.

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SOME FRIDAY THOUGHTS OF THE VICAR OF ST. SWITHUN'S, SURREY.

What a glorious day. St. Swithun's Day \* and not a sign of rain. I often have wondered where that tradition about our Saint's Day originated. To think that for years people throughout England, have said that if it should rain on St. Swithun's Day, it will rain for forty days thereafter.

Dear Saint Swithun, I, for one, hold no brief with that kind of thinking. I know that it is merely a superstition that has grown out of whole cloth. For you, our Patron, I will go in and Celebrate the Eucharist with special fervor on this Friday.

No doubt, Mrs. Wolstenholme will have some little cloud that she will see, and accuse it and you of creating the possibility of a downpour. Her outlook on the science of weather is really remarkable. The poor lady does not realize that she really loves to have rain spoil the plans which she has made but hates to have work out successfully. If Mrs. Wolstenholme had not problems, she would not need me to lean on with them. Then what would I do.

Dear God, who sent thy servant Swithun to this great land of ours: Grant that the memory of your Saint will be honored in a manner commensurate with the glory he brought here. May all who are members of this Parish love and cherish him in glory. AMEN

St. Swithun's Day in 1977 was on Friday, July 15.

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PEACE

Peace, perfect peace,  
In this dark world of sin,  
The voice of Jesus,  
Whispers, peace within,  
The peace of God the Father,  
The peace of God the Son,  
The peace of the Holy Spirit,  
Is given to everyone,

Some may not e'er accept it,  
But those who do will find,  
That peace that comes from heaven,  
Is the one true peace of mind.

Though you may have great sorrow,  
That seems will never cease,  
If you will but believe in God,  
You'll find that heavenly peace.

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BROTHERS IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY FOR:

THE ILL

Doris                                      Sr. Mary Bernadette                                      Robert                                      Charles

THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:

Cynthia                      All departed Religious                                      All departed Clergy

RELIGIOUS ORDERS

The Sisters of the Visitation	All Saints Sisters of the Poor
The Oratory of the Good Shepherd	The Society of St. Paul
The Order of the Holy Family	Community of the Transfiguration
The Society of <sup>st</sup> Margaret	The Community of the Holy Spirit
The Ecumenical Oblates	Hermanos Franciscanos
Rev. Mother Virginia	Rev. Mother Mary Leonard Whipple

THE CLERGY

The Most Rev. John M. Allin	William Cardinal Baum
The Rt. Rev. John T. Walker	The Rt. Rev. John M. Krumm
The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore	The Rev. Davis Given
The Rev. Elwyn D. Brown	The Rev. Robert J. Vanderau, Jr.
The Rev. Maurice T. Fox	The Rev. Frank Bober
The Rev. Benjamin R. Priest	The Rev. Martin Davidson
The Rev. James Daughtry	The Rev. Kenneth Higginbotham
The Rev. John A. McHale	The Rev. Roy F. Kephart

THE GREGORIAN BROTHERS

Rev. Brother Richard, Superior, at St. Bartholomew's Church, White Plains, N.Y.  
Br. Leslie on Mission at St. Bartholomew's Church, White Plains, NY  
Br. David, Postulant at Christ Church, Diocese of Washington  
Br. Wilyam on Mission at St. Simon's Church, Diocese of Ohio  
Br. Michael on Mission at St. James Church, Diocese of Massachusetts  
Br. John, on Mission to Christ Church, Rockville. MD, Diocese of Washington.

Brother John is also serving as Supply Chaplain at the Episcopal Church Home, of the Diocese of Washington, for the Summer, where he officiates at the Chapel of the Epiphany. His other summer work takes him to the town of Aquasco, MD, where he serves at Saint Philip's Chapel.

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O Lord Jesus Christ, you became poor for our sake, that we might be made rich through your poverty: Guide and sanctify, we pray, those whom you call to follow you under religious vows, that by their prayer and service they may enrich your Church, and by their life and worship may glorify your Name; for you reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

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SCRIBE----- EDITOR

SOLI DEO GLORIA

VOL. 1 NO. 9

SEPTEMBER 1977

## THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

"CHRIST - THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD."

Wednesday, July 13, 1977, for those of us who were involved in it, will remain an unforgettable memory. It was the day of the blackout that "could never happen again." A group of Parishioners and I were in the midst of dinner when the darkness fell. We scrambled for candles, lit them, and had the joy of a candle-lit repast. Having been through the blackout of 1965 when I was trapped on the 17th floor of an office complex - in an elevator, I felt that as an experienced and typical New Yorker, I would be able to take this one in stride. My confidence was born of the fact that "sooner or later the lights would come on." That unmitigated confidence provided me with an interesting experience that I would like to share with you.

After I was assured that my hosts, who live alone, were safe for the duration, I headed for home. As I meandered through the town, I noted the tiny flickerings of candles here and there and those small flames loomed large and bright in the deepness of the night. In my desire to be of help, and armed with my red flashlight, I directed traffic at one of the busiest intersections leading into North Broadway a major traffic artery in Westchester County, New York. The people were so helpful that it buoyed my feeling of well-being that I was of help to the community. At 1:30 a.m., when the traffic slowed to a workable minimum, I went home to sleep, satisfied that I had performed a service for the town.

Since no one was aware of what the morning would bring nor whether the power would be back on again or not, I groped my way into my home with the feeling that God would take care of us all. Everything seemed so calm, calmer than normal, yet history has proved that things were far from calm in the city of New York. In order to conserve my flashlight, I searched in my closet and found the stub of a fat candle and carried it to my bedroom. Later, as I turned to snuff out the candle a very strange sensation came over me. The candle stub I had chosen was from an old Christ Candle that had burned down to the point where the PAX symbol was visible and intact and illuminated by the flame of the burning candle. My thoughts wandered that light - Christ, the Light of the world. There it was in front of me --HE-- was all of the light that I needed and the only light that I had.

Suddenly, I thought of the wonderful Moravian tradition about candles and their functions. "A candle consumes itself in the giving of light, just as Jesus consumed himself in the giving of our salvation." "The flame burns and gives light to the area around it, just as Jesus gives light to all who come into contact with him." They also tie a bit of red ribbon to their candles at Christmas to remind themselves that the Babe of Bethlehem is also the Christ of Calvary. My candle had consumed itself just enough to show me the PAX symbol and bring me peace.

The thoughts that raced through my mind as I gazed on the PAX were of the many candles that would be alight throughout the State and then the words of the song, "if everyone lit just one little candle, what a bright world this would be" came to me. The incredible peace that was experienced as the candle and its symbolism were indelibly fixed in my mind was overwhelming.

This proves to me that we, who are so dependent on electricity, often forge that it is God who makes all things possible. Christ is still the Light of the world.

Brother Richard + Superior.

SOME SATURDAY THOUGHTS OF THE VICAR OF ST. SWITHUN'S SURREY.

Thanks be to God, today is bright and shining and is the day for happy people to come to Confession. May their sins be light and the day stay bright.

How fortunate we are that the Church has provided us with this way to earn Absolution and Remission of our sins. We can tell God, through the Priest, just what we have done, resolve to amend our lives and vow to live and walk in the godly example set for us by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Some of the Confessions I have heard would curl the hair of the Holy Saints and some are so sweetly innocent that I am confident that their Absolution was foreordained. But, those people did come to Confession. What of the poor souls who have let this very important sacrament pass by? As I say my daily prayers, I pray that they will have the good sense to come one day and pour out their hearts to God.

The excuses for not coming seem like literary gems but all excuses should be dispelled by some form of education. Perhaps that would be an ideal theme for a sermon or homily. What a bright thought! Next week, I may prepare just such a sermon. It would be nice to do it tomorrow, but then I have prepared what I hope will be thought of as a brilliant sermon on prayer. (There, my pride and arrogance must be Confessed.) When I write that sermon, I must put in something about those strange thoughts that people believe about Confession. Some think that the Priest is just waiting to pounce on them for their sins. Others feel that the Priest recognizes every voice and that later he will look down on them for their sins. What rot! They should know that when a Priest can grant Absolution and Remission, he then puts aside all thoughts of those sins. His duty to God and to the confessing child of God is to be happy that the sin is not of such magnitude that absolution cannot be granted.

Well, in the hours until Confession begins, I pray that the Lord will keep me in a happy frame of mind and that what I hear I will keep in my heart as I help someone to gain the state of Grace that is to the glory of God.

Dear God, as I enter the Confessional stall,  
May I vow to give my all.  
To thy dear child who has gone astray,  
And bring him back to thee, today.

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THE LITTLE ENVELOPE

The LITTLE ENVELOPE brought us quite some joy in that we received the sacrifices of some of our readers. We also heard from some who asked for our help and some who made comments about The Servant. We are still hopeful that an inspired readership will use this method of talking with us. Mayhap someone might suggest that the loose offerings at a Service be dedicated to the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory and thus help us to help others. Thank you.

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GOD MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS HIS WONDERS TO PERFORM.

## THE GREGORIAN BROTHERS IN ACTION.

### NEW YORK BROTHERS ON MISSION TO THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

Brother Richard, our Superior and Brother Leslie are now serving on the Staff of the Cathedral on Sunday afternoons. They are the first Docents\* to be encountered as one enters the Cathedral just inside the great bronze doors. Seated at their desk, they are on hand to greet the veteran Cathedral-goer, visitors from New York and out of town and those who are in need of someone to hear their problems.

The Brothers do not offer any counselling, but refer such questions as are asked of that nature, to one of the Priests on duty. A gamut of other questions keep them busy with answers, and include:

"Is this a Roman Catholic Church?" "When is the next Service?" "WHERE ARE THE BATHROOMS?"

Brother Richard is happiest when answering questions about our Order. As he says, "that is terribly good for the Brotherhood" and loves to have such questions. Brother Leslie states that, "we blend so well with things at the Cathedral that it is a joy to be there."

One of the most exciting events in which they participated was the Mass of Thanksgiving, held on August 14, for the cast of "Godspell." The Cathedral has long been a patron to theatrical art form, having hosted the cast of this play on another occasion. The Service took place in the main portion of the Nave and was presided over by The Bishop of New York at the Eucharist. Both of the Brothers were in the Procession and were seated in the Dean's Stalls. It was a great honor to have been so chosen since the musical closes during the first week of September after 2600 performances. The music of the Mass was enhanced by the cast's singing of "Long Live God" which rang to the rafters of that formidable Church. That in itself was a great religious experience. There were tears and applause that greeted this happy hymn and a joyful noise was made unto the Lord,

Brother Richard asks that any of our readers who are in New York will stop by to see him and Brother Leslie since they will be there most of 'the Sundays in the year and will be happy to be of any assistance,

DOCENT: A teacher, a guide in a museum, art gallery or Cathedral.

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### ECUMENISM IN PRACTICE IN MARYLAND.

Recently, Brother John assisted The Rev. Mark Brennan in the Baptism of Matthew Armstrong Gunther at the Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Mercy in Potomac, Maryland.

### POSTULANT ASSISTS IN STUDY

Brother David, our Postulant, has been assisting Brother John in a study being made for the Diocese of Washington. He has also been Epistoler at Eucharists celebrated at Christ Church, Rockville.

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ALLELUIA SING TO JESUS

With the words of this wonderfully familiar Hymn, the voices of the congregation of Christ Church, Rockville, blended with the virtuosity of Brother Richard to render to God the praise He deserves. It was said by some that never before had they heard this congregation sing as they did and one person stated that their voices must have sounded like a heavenly chorus to our Lord.

The day was a very special day to many and Sunday, August 21, 1977, will long live in their memories as they recall the beautiful music that came from the organ on that day. The banner marking on the calendar and in the Archives of the Church will bear accolades for Brother Richard's friend, The Rev. David Henritzy, Director of the famous Bowery Mission in New York. The Sermon he preached held a hushed congregation in awe as they heard his words. Our Order is fortunate in having The Rev. Henritzy as a friend.

The people of Christ Church in Mary! and look forward to the return of these talented men.

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BROTHERS IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY FOR:

THE ILL

Sr. Mary Bernadette	Doris	Andy	Charles
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THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:

Paul	All departed Religious	All departed Clergy
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THE CLERGY

The Right Reverend John T. Walker at his Installation as the Diocesan of the Diocese of Washington, D.C.

The Most Rev. John M. Allin	William Cardinal Baum
The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore	The Rt. Rev. John M. Krumm
The Rev. J. Norman Hall	The Rev. Elwyn D. Brown
The Rev. Robert J. Vanderau, Jr.	The Rev. Davis Given
The Rev. Martin Davidson-	The Rev. Benjamin R. Priest
The Rev. Roy F. Kephart	The Rev. Kenneth Higginbotham
The Rev. Eugenio Loreto	The Rev. Harold Avery

RELIGIOUS ORDERS

The Sisters of the Visitation	All Saints Sisters of the Poor
The Society of Saint Paul	The Oratory of the Good Shepherd
The Order of the Holy Family	Community of the Transfiguration
The Society of Saint Margaret	The Community of the Holy Spirit
Order of Saint Helena	Order of Saint Anne
Saint Barnabas Brotherhood	Society of Saint Francis
The Rev. Mother Virginia	The Rev. Mother Mary Leonard Whipple
Community of the Glorious Ascension in England.	

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May God bless all of the Professed, the Novices and the Postulants in His service.

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SUPERIOR

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SOLI DEO GLORIA

BROTHER JOHN E. NIDECKER

ASSISTANT SUPERIOR

SCRIBE ----- EDITOR

VOL. 1 NO. 10  
OCTOBER 1977



THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

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"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE MEN."

With this admonition of our Lord before us, The Brotherhood has been spending the last vestiges of the summer in so doing. Our prayerful hope is that our work will glorify our Father in heaven.

Brother Wilyam has been assisting at St. Monica's Recreation Center and is making drapes for the interior of a new Chapel. Brother David has been in preparation for the completion of his Postulancy and Brother John has been acting as Supply Chaplain at the Episcopal Church Home in Washington.

Brother Leslie and I continue in our full service at St. Bartholomew's as well as our normal Sunday trek to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. Our duties now have been expanded and we participate in the Evensong Services there. On Sunday, September 18, we were guests at a Luncheon for Volunteers, Staff and Acolytes of the Cathedral and met the personnel we had not seen due to their being away on holiday during the summer.

Our service at the Cathedral has been very rewarding for the Brotherhood in many ways. Our explanations to Episcopalians and others of the Religious Community activities has broadened their knowledge of the Nuns and Brothers who are in the service of the Lord in the Anglican Church. We are also able to help those from other lands like Thailand and Japan about the Church and the work of the Cathedral.

Friday, September 23, found Brother Leslie and I in the midst of the rush hour traffic in a race to get the train for Washington. Our purpose was two-fold in that we planned a special service and attendance at the Service of Installation of Bishop John T. Walker. Our special service was held at the Altar in Brother John's home. Fr. Brown and Fr. Vanderau of Christ Church, Rockville, Brother Leslie and I held a Service of Advancement for our Brother John who was appointed Assistant Superior of the Brotherhood. Brother Leslie read the Warrant of Advancement, I welcomed Brother John to his new activities and the Priests gave him their blessings

The Installation of the Sixth Bishop of Washington, The Right Reverend John Thomas Walker was held on Saturday, September 24. Brother David our Postulant Brother Leslie, Brother John and I were in the forefront of the Procession of Welcome to the new Ordinary. It was truly a grand occasion filled with the pomp and ceremony which is the hallmark of Anglican Worship. The music, and the colorful vestiture of the Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Anglican Bishops lent an air of dignity and joy at one and the same time. The loud symbolic knocking at the door of the Cathedral must surely have alerted the heavenly host as it reverberated around the walls. Great pride swelled our hearts as we saw our handsomely caparisoned Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend John M. Allin walk in the place of honor in the Procession.

In late August, Brother Michael came home to White Plains for a two day visit during which we had the opportunity of sharing our prayers and plans. His visit was an inspiration and he made his report on his work in Massachusetts. In the parlance of the military, "he jumped the gun" and made his Autumnal Embertide Report.

In all, the summer was a busy time, and helped us live our motto:

SOLI DEO GLORIA.

Brother Richard, BSG Superior.

St. Teresa of Avila - Virgin & Doctor - October 16 - 16<sup>th</sup> Century  
 Keep your eyes on the Crucified  
 and everything else will take its rightful  
 place.



THE SCRIPTORIUM

The Sisters of All Saints Convent make various kinds of cards of greeting, note cards, Holy cards and Christmas Cards. They are very inexpensive and prices range from 5 cents to 10 cents for these handsome works of art,

The Sisters also have small pocket Kalendars for sale and these are beautifully decorated with special dates of remembrance. This year Saints are honored in the Kalendar.

We urge you to avail yourselves of these cards and Kalendars and in so doing help the Sisters with their efforts to spread the Word of the Lord. Just write to:

Sister Jane Teresa  
 All Saints Convent  
 P.O. Box 3127  
 Catonsville, MD 21228

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THE EXCHANGE

We have a request from Hermanos Franciscanos de la Providencia of Puerto Rico for a set of the Saint Jerome Bible Commentary. If you have a spare set or know of someone who does, please get in touch with:

Brother John, BSG 642 Crocus Drive Rockville, MD 20850.

The Brotherhood of Saint Gregory will assume the responsibility for sending it to these Franciscans with your compliments. Your gift will be deeply appreciated by these Brothers who are doing a great work in Puerto Rico.

There are several requests for vestments -' which have come to us and a more specific request for a cope. If you plan to retire a used cope or plan to obtain a new one, the used cope will help a House of the Order of the Holy Cross. Please advise Brother John.

Thank you.

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THE GOBLINS'LL GIT YOU IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT!

This merely will remind you that tricks, treats, hobgoblins and wraiths will be about on October 31. Hallow Even will be with us before the solemn remembrance of the Day of All Saints.

May we solicit your special Intercessions for the Sisters at All Saints Convent on November 1.

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SOME THOUGHTS ON THE COLLECTS OF THE VICAR OF ST. SWITHUN'S, SURREY.

How often I say and how often people hear the Collect for Purity as they come to Mass, yet I wonder how many hear the words and understand them. As the beautiful Collect tells us:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name, through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

This Collect is an acknowledgement of the supreme omniscience of God. It tells us that saint and sinner alike have their hearts open to God. One cannot hide from God. He sees and knows all about us. Our every desire is known to him and that must elicit some thinking on all our parts for we are prone to have desires that we would not want publicised. Just suppose one of those desires turned in to being coveteousness. What a tragedy. Or suppose the desire was lascivious. What a devastating thing to one's soul.

On the other hand, if that desire is to move onward in faith what a great boon to the Christian. If we have desires that are evil we must put them from us for we are not expressing them only to ourselves but we are, in effect, telling them to God for he knows what we desire. If we have good desires he also knows them and will be pleased that we think as we do.

How many times have you held a secret, one that you would not tell the Priest in Confession. One that you thought was your own special secret that you would tell no one. No matter how closely you hold that secret it is known by God.

The Collect provides for all contingencies in asking God to "cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit." If we are inspired, we erase all evil thoughts and desires and the holding of secrets that cannot be spread abroad. What relief and surcease we obtain when we are so inspired. Thus my hope is that all of us will truly say these words and mean them.

In so doing we are at the point of worthily magnifying God and fully acknowledging him in the truesense. And as we ask for the help of Jesus Christ, we know that we will be helped if we really want it.

This then, is my desire that all who say and all who hear this helpful little Collect will understand the greatness of it and practice that which it would have us do to honor God.

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THE LITTLE ENVELOPE

The last issue of THE SERVANT had its little envelope ready to receive whatever it might have brought. It was highly successful in bringing to us word of the needs of others as well as requests for help and for Intercession. Some of those requests are made known in THE EXCHANGE, others are made known in our Intercessory Requests. One brought us the evidence of sacrifice on the part of one of our readers. Can you make a small sacrifice for us? Thank you.

IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY FOR:

THE ILL           Doris   Andy   Peg   Charles   Sr. Mary Bernadette  
                  Sr. Rose           Angela

THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:    Sr. Mary Frances Alice Hyatt  
  Walter Joseph Brinks    Leah G. Rhue Trumbore

RELIGIOUS ORDERS:

The Sisters of the Visitation	All Saints Sisters of the Poor
The Oratory of the Good Shepherd	The Society of Saint Paul
The Order of Friars Minor	The Order of Saint Helena
The Community of the Transfiguration	The Community of the Holy Spirit
Hermanos Franciscanos	The Order of Saint Anne
Saint Barnabas Brotherhood	The Community of the Glorious Ascension

The Order of the Holy Cross	The Community of Saint Francis
The Rev. Mother Mary 'Leonard Whipple	The Rev. Mother Virginia

THE CLERGY

The Most Rev. John M. Allin	The Rt. Rev. John T. Walker
The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore	The Rt. Rev. Horace W. B. Donegan
The Rev. Elwyn D. Brown	The Rev. J. Norman Hall
The Rev. Robert J. Vanderau, Jr.	The Rev. James Mobley
The Rev. Benjamin R. Priest	The Rev. Davis Given
The Rev. Martin P. Davidson	The Rev. Kenneth Higginbotham
The Rev. Harold Avery	The Rev. Roy F. Kephart

WITH SPECIAL INTENTIONS FOR:

The Most Reverend John M. Allin, The Presiding Bishop  
The Right Reverend John H.\* Burt, The Bishop of Ohio  
The Right Reverend Joseph M. Harte, The Bishop of Arizona  
The Right Reverend Joseph T. Heistand, The Suffragan of Arizona  
The Right Reverend John M. Krumm, The Bishop  
of Southern Ohio  
The Right Reverend James Duncan, The Bishop of  
Southeastern Florida.

Brother John, BSG, who on the Autumn Ember  
Friday, was appointed the Assistant Superior  
of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory.

Almighty God, we pray for those for  
That they may be filled with the Holy  
Spirit, hold the love of Jesus Christ  
in their hearts and bear thy blessing  
in all that they do; through Jesus  
Christ our Lord.           AMEN.

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PASS IT ON           After you have read THE SERVANT,  
                          please pass it on to a Parish  
                          in your area that they might also pray  
                          for us and our Intercessions.

THE SERVANT

THE BROTHERHOOD OF SAINT GREGORY

BROTHER RICHARD BIERNACKI  
SUPERIOR

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
82 PROSPECT  
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. 10606

SOLI DEO GLORIA.

BROTHER JOHN E. NIDECKER  
ASSISTANT SUPERIOR

SCRIBE ----- EDITOR

VOL. I NO. 11

NOVEMBER 1977

NOVEMBER THE MONTH OF ALL SAINTS



Almighty God, thou hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow thy blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those ineffable joys that thou hast prepared for those who truly love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, in glory everlasting.



St. Ephrem of Eessa - Deacon - June 9 - 4th Century

## THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

### "ABOUT THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT"

These words of St. Paul, open the 12th Chapter of his First Letter to the Corinthians. They lead into the familiar passage, telling us Christ is like a single body with its many members and organs, which as many as they are, together they make up one body. To go on and excerpt another phrase (a fond charm of the Bible literalists) we read in Chapter 13, that if we are without love, we are sounding gongs and clanging cymbals. In the close of St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians, he writes, "Mend your ways, heed my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you."

I have not used this column to speak out on controversial matters, but with the present currents in the Church as they are, I feel I must, at this time.

If we are to be true to ourselves and to the Church, we must act on the basis of fact and set aside news media reports. The news media would have us believe that the Anglican Church is being rent asunder by schism and heresy. Almost every day there are reports that there are two issues which are tearing at the very vitals of the Episcopal Church. They are the Ordination of Women and the revisions which have been made to the Book of Common Prayer. We read that at the meeting held in Minneapolis a new movement was formed that would irreparably tear the Episcopal Church apart. Such is not the case.

My personal experience may serve as an example of the truth. The Church at which Brother Leslie and I serve has used all of the new Liturgies in the current Book of Common Prayer. They have been passed on to our people with a strong educational program and with constant exposure. We thank God that we are using that new Prayer Book with great success. This same Church has called as a Curate, a Woman who was Ordained a Priest under the Canons of the Church, and she has been well received and is extremely effective in her Ministry.

Thus both of the issues in question have been met and in this experience I can find no reason to abandon my Church nor this Parish. When I read in Scripture about gifts of the Spirit and in history of the trials through which the Church has gone, I feel that those who have gone before me have shown the way and I must remain a part of the body of Christ which is the Church. Although there be some who disagree with this, no one of us has the right to absent himself or herself from that body for by doing so they merely weaken the Church. Those who remain faithful to the Church strengthen the Body of Christ.

We, who remain faithful, are not clanging cymbals nor sounding gongs but by our love we seek to excel in the gifts of the Spirit which build up the Church. In my opinion, the dissidents do not read nor heed the admonitions of St. Paul in his letters to the Corinthians. When they break away from the Church, they lose love and aspire to tear down rather than to build up the Church. In their disagreement with the current Book of Common Prayer, they disagree with Liturgy that has been handed down to us over a long period of time.

When they disagree with the Ordination of Women, they are in -denial of the Canons by which the Church is governed. No one, under this Canon, can be forced to seek the advice and counsel of a Woman Priest nor can that person be forced to seek advice and counsel from a Man Priest. The Canon on Ordination provides the kind of independence that they seek.

Separation has never cured any problem. It merely sends that problem into limbo. The Prophet Isaiah asks us, "Come now, let us reason together."

In closing, I must mention an ad which appeared in the New York Times under the heading, "CONTINUING EPISCOPAL SERVICES, IN NEW YORK CITY." Although Episcopal Services have never ceased for me and for the Brothers, I was curious, so I called the number provided. I learned that for one, they use the 1928 Prayer Book exclusively, and that they want no part of Women Priests. The clincher is that they are holding forth their "Continuing Episcopal Services" in a funeral home on Long Island.

I have no more to say--the significance of their meeting place tells it all.

Brother Richard, BSG  
Superior,

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Almighty Father,, whose blessed Son before his passion prayed for his disciples that they might be one, as you and he are one: Grant that your Church, being bound together in love and obedience to you, may be united in one body by the one Spirit, that the world may believe in him whom you have sent, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN

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#### PEREGRINATIONS OF OUR PRINCIPAL

In the month of October, our Superior, Brother Richard was ill with hepatitis. This caused a serious curtailment of activity and he had to forego appearances at the Cathedral. Undaunted by his disease he was able to direct his choir, write and teach a series on the New Prayer Book and the music of the new Liturgies, and write a series of notes and music for use with the Services, keep order in the Brotherhood and a host of things that keep his assistant on his toes Now that you read what he does when he is ill, can you imagine what he does when he is well? Thanks be to God he is now well.

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THE VICAR OF SURREY WROTE:

Although on holiday from my Parish in Surrey,  
I bid that no one fret nor worry.  
My prayers and orisons daily arise,  
As I walk on the sward 'neath the azure skies.





THE SERVANT

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SCRIBE ----- EDITOR

DECEMBER 1977

VOL. 1 NO. 12

THOUGHTS ON THE COLLECTS BY THE VICAR OF SAINT SWITHUN'S, SURREY.

THE  
ADVENT COLLECT

*Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put upon us the armour of light now in the time Of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. AMEN.*

This beautiful collect for the First Sunday of Advent seems to sum up the most stringent of human needs in our time. Men should be stirred to think of that most glorious expectation, The Coming of the Lord. If we will but cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, we will be ready to answer the Lord when we come into his judgemental presence. May the Lord find each of us ready to rise with him to the life immortal and to share with him the joys of our heavenly home.

No man may know the hour, when the Christ will re-appear,  
To ask for an accounting, of the life he's held so dear.  
Thus, then it would behoove us, to live each day in grace,  
So that we will be ready, as our Master, dear, we face.

We have the Advent Season, in which we can prepare,  
To meet with Jesus face to face, to tell him that we care.  
Thus now, I would exhort you, shrive sin from out your soul,  
And make a purity of life, your constant aim and goal.

May God provide you, one and all, with a Happy Christmas.

*The Vicar of Surrey*

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THE-SERVANT IS ONE YEAR OLD!

Our Superior, Brother Richard greeted the Staff of The Servant with a Happy Birthday message of congratulations on the completion of Volume I of THE SERVANT. When we sign xXx to this Issue, the entire staff will breathe a sigh of gratitude for all who have contributed and for the kind words of our readers over the past year.

Our expanded distribution now covers many places far and near. We are read in Europe, Africa, the Bahamas, Haiti and Puerto Rico. As we begin the New Year, we will be going to Korea to the Diocese of Seoul and of Pusan. One of the most heartening occurrences is the fact that the publication is passed on and that we hear from our readers who so receive it. If you have a comment, we will appreciate hearing from you.

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# MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

*These wishes old; so tried and true,  
We wish to every one of you.  
Brothers on Mission far and wide,  
Wish you a happy Christmastide.*

000

## A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM BROTHER LESLIE, BSG

*My secular task is with the March of Dimes where our goal is, "protection of the unborn and the newborn from birth defects" Through our research and grants, we are trying hard to achieve that goal. Thus, when we hear that a newborn has come into the world, healthy and whole, we celebrate.*

*When Jesus Christ was born 2,000 years ago, he was born, healthy and whole despite the meager trappings of his birth place. We celebrate the 33 brief years he walked on earth because his short life with us was full of love, sharing and giving to his fellowman. He had a monumental task placed on his shoulders and he carried it every day of his mortal life, without faltering.*

*Let us remember that as we celebrate this Christmastide with family and friends; the sharing, the giving, the loving and the fellowship. Not only at this Christmastide should we share our goods, love and give fellowship, but throughout the entire Church Year.*

*In the Holy Scriptures we read, "To everything there is a season." Jesus Christ is truly a man for all seasons.*

*My sincere wishes are extended to all of my brothers and sisters in Christ and to their families at this Christmas Season. My hope is that the coming year will be prayerful and productive to the Glory of His Name.*

*Yours in Christ,*

*Brother Leslie V. Morgan, BSG.*

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*Brother Michael says: Then pealed the bells more loud and deep, God is not dead nor yet asleep. The wrong shall fail the right prevail,*

*WITH PEACE ON EARTH GOOD WILL TO MEN. BUON NATALE.  
Brother Michael, BSG.*

*The hour was late, the Galilean, sought a place of rest  
For his dear wife, a Virgin, who by heaven had been blest.  
He called to the innkeeper, who answered with a frown,  
"Go out into the stable, and there you may lie down."*

*"My wife is great with child" said he, "there may be a great danger."  
The benedict in anger said, "The child can use the manger."  
So Joseph walked with Mary out to the stable yard,  
To hold his sorrow in his heart, he found was very hard.*

*And then the little Child was born, let out a baby's cry,  
Just as he did, a star appeared, and lighted up the sky.  
The sound of music then was heard, as angel voices sang,  
All round about through Bethlehem, that pleasant music rang.*

*That was the night of nights for us, the great Nativity,  
When God gave to the earth a Gift, a Gift for you and me.  
The Child was Jesus Christ the Lord, let us honor now, God's Son,  
Who came, each one of us to save, throughout all Christendom.*

*May God grant you a Happy Christmas,  
Brother John, BSG  
Assistant Superior*

BROTHER WILYAM'S CHRISTMAS GREETING:

*May the song of the Christmas Angels of "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to men" be yours throughout the year  
1978.*

*Wilyam David, BSG.*

TO MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST THROUGHOUT THE WORLD:

My thanks to God for all of you and all who have been loving, supportive and concerned for the Brotherhood. Pray for us as we will pray for you. As we assist at Mass on the day of Christmas, let us remember that Jesus came into the world for us and that we are here for him.

A Blessed Christmastide and a glorious New Year in the service of our Lord and Church is my prayer for you all.

Richard, BSG. Superior.

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#### THE SUPERIOR'S SANCTUM

ADVENT! The time of expectation and anticipation of the coming of the Lord. It is the time of Preparation also. Thus, as I prepare., I must reflect and base my preparation on that reflection. As I look back, I recall the early days of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory when we tried to visualize where it would all lead. Could we develop a meaningful ministry as worker Brothers in the Church? Would others want to follow our Rule? It almost seems as though we were experiencing an eight year Advent.

There were times of stress and trial but we felt that God had worked His plan for us and we must withstand that trial. Then came 1976 and two new Brothers were Professed. Brothers John and Michael have added to our ranks and we are grateful. Then God felt that we must have another trial to show us that we should not anticipate His working in us. We received a Postulant, who, thanks be to God made the decision that this life was not for him.

Time went on and a change in the ministry of the Brotherhood took place. There were new births in our activities. THE SERVANT was born a year ago. Now it is an international newsletter that is of such interest that each month brings requests to send it to new places and to Religious Orders of the Roman and Anglican branches of Catholic Christendom. Another birth was that of the Vestiture Exchange. Convents and Abbeys now are caparisoned with Altar Hangings as the Priests who serve at those Altars wear Eucharistic Vestments acquired through the Exchange. The other births in our lives have been our work at the Cathedral our ecumenical ministry the greater participation in parochial activities and on and on.

Our eight year Advent is coming to a close and brings with it a new expectation and a reality. Our growth is joyous and with this Advent, we will have the glory of the Professions of two Brothers and a Novice Brother. The event takes place on the Third Sunday of Advent and we offer our thanks to God for this great ADVENT in the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory.

Brother Richard, BSG Superior.

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## CLUSTER COMMUNITY CENTER DEDICATED

St. Andrew's Day was a banner day for the Community of Saint Francis in Yonkers, New York. The Rt. Rev. Paul Moore, the Bishop of New York was the Officiant at the Dedication and the Celebrant of the Eucharist at he Church of Saint Andrew where CLUSTER is housed.

This work of the Franciscans provides meals for senior citizens, has a youth activity, offers drama courses and provides the Community with a theater for exhibiting the work of noted drama groups.

At the Service of Dedication, Brothers Richard and Leslie participated in the Eucharist and the Procession. All of our Brothers pray for this work of the Lord.

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## BROTHERS TO BE PROFESSED

On Sunday, December Eighteenth, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Brothers James Teets and Roger Hayes will be Professed at a Service of Institution and Eucharist at Grace Church, White Plains, New York. Fr. Cecil Williams will act as Chaplain Locum-tenens for the Institution and will be the Celebrant of the Eucharist. The Rev. David Henritzky will deliver the Homily.

Following a Reception for the new Brothers, there will be a meeting of the Chapter of the Brotherhood of Saint Gregory.

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## DECEMBER HOLY DAYS

EMBER DAYS 14,16,17. Reports are due.

Saint Thomas 21, Holy Nativity 25, Saint Stephen 26, Saint John 27,  
Holy Innocents 28.

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## THE EXCHANGE

We have on hand some Veils, Burses, Frontlets, and some hand-crafted Eucharistic Vestments. We need anything you can send us so that we may supply small missions, etc. WILL YOU HELP??

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## THE LITTLE ENVELOPE

The little envelope seeks the support of our readers so that we may continue to publish THE SERVANT. Contributions--large or small--may be sent to Brother John, 642 Crocus Drive, Rockville, MD. 20850.

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HAPPY HANUKKAH TO OUR FRIENDS OF THE JEWISH FAITH WE WISH GLAD TIDINGS IN THIS THE SEASON OF LIGHT.

IN YOUR INTERCESSIONS PRAY FOR:

THE ILL: Doris Hopkins, Andy Raymond, Max Turner, Philip  
Vanderau, Margerite Melbourne, Hazel Gosline, Nan Barker,  
Rosemary Selby.

THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF: Sister Rose Angela Stephen C. Ertz

RELIGIOUS ORDERS

All Saints Sisters of the Poor  
Order of Friars Minor  
Ascension  
The Oratory of the Good Shepherd  
Order of Saint Helena  
Order of the Holy Cross  
Rev. Mother Mary Leonard Whipple

The Visitation Sisters  
Community of the Glorious

Hermanos Franciscanos  
Society of Saint Paul  
Order of Saint Anne  
Rev. Mother Virginia

THE CLERGY

Most Rev. John M. Allin  
Rt. Rev. Paul Moore  
Rt. Rev. Paul Lee  
Rev. Elwyn D. Brown  
Rev. Robert J. Vanderau  
Rev. Davis Given  
Rev. Benjamin R. Priest SLW  
Rev. Martin P. Davidson OGS

Rt. Rev. John T. Walker  
Rt. Rev. Horace W. B. Donegan  
Rt. Rev. William Choi  
Rev. J. Norman Hall  
Rev. Fred W. Trumbore  
Rev. James Mobley  
Rev. Harold Avery  
Rev. Robin G. E. Murray