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LESSER CHAPTER 1985 -- A TIME FOR GROWTH

Lesser Chapter, held in White Plains over the weekend of March 9th and 10th, saw most of the Brotherhood gathered for what is normally an optional weekend of fellowship. All but three of the brothers were able to attend, and those who were absent were remembered in prayer -- distance does not diminish the sense of community shared by those bound by devotion.

Part of the activities of the weekend included the admission of a new postulant, Donovan Aidan Rowley, of the Church of the Advent, Boston MA; the reception of two novices, Br. John Francis Jones of Calvary/ St. George's, New York, and Br. Earl Christian of St. Andrew's, Bronx NY; Br. Bernard Fessenden of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, Boston MA, made his first vows of profession.

But the high point for the community was the life profession of vows of Br. Jason Jude Schellas, of St. Andrew's, Bronx NY. A period of preparation lasting seven years culminated in the Superior General's reception of Br. Jason Jude's vows at the main Chapter Eucharist on Saturday the 9th of March. At this service, the Celebrant was the Rev. Gene White, of the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief refugee office. The Gospel Choir of St. Andrew's was on hand to offer a special gift of music in recognition of Br. Jason Jude's profession. The Superior General, Br. Richard Thomas Biernacki, preached. Following is an excerpt from his sermon.

In going the second mile, Jesus gave us choices -- choices we can use to help in our growth and development.

The first mile is compulsory; the second mile is voluntary. The first mile is compulsion; the second mile is consecration. When we do what we are compelled to do, we seldom enjoy life -- drudgery sets in and life is so hard -- we are always tired. The mile of duty is no fun; on the mile of consecration we find joy and happiness. It is on the second mile that we make our greatest strides; and it is also on this leg of the journey on which we see that fulfillment comes with service.

There are several observations to be made here: When Jesus did something for someone, he was giving us an example in humility in addition to helping those in need. When he gave sight to the blind, he was not only healing

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(Left to right) Br. Bernard Fessenden, the Rev. Gene White, Br. Jason Jude Schellas, and the Superior General.



The Superior General embraces Br. Earl, as he is received as a novice.



Donovan Aidan Bowley is admitted to the Postulancy



The brothers in choir.



Part of the reception into the novitiate is the clothing in the habit of a novice - alb, cowl and cincture. Here Br. John Francis is assisted by Br. Stephen Storen, acting as his sponsor.



-- he was showing us that we must help to remove the prejudice and blindness of the world. And, when he made the lame walk, he was illustrating how we should help others along the rough road of life. In all that we do, the most important act we can perform is to serve those in need. Servanthood -- serving -- giving.

Jesus was nailed to a cross. He was mistreated as none had ever been and his trials were not fair. He had the power to strike down any of those who hurt and abused him. He did not; instead he prayed for them. He went the second mile, and in that act was seen as the Savior.. He bore his cross of duty and all of us must do the same. In doing so he gained his greatest reward, If we follow him and walk the second mile, so will we.

COMMUNITY NOTES

BOSTON MA: Brs. Luke Anthony Nowicki, Roy Tobin and Laurence Andrew Keller visited St. Peter's in Cambridge to talk with parishioners about the vocation and ministry of the Brotherhood of St. Gregory. They joined the rector, the Rev. Robert Dunbar afterwards for refreshments and conversation. Br. Christian Williams joined Br. Roy as representatives of the Brotherhood at the installation of the Very Rev. Thomas Kennedy as dean of the Cathedral of St. Paul.

SILVER SPRING MD: Br. Richard Thomas Biernacki, Founder and Superior General of the Brotherhood of St. Gregory, has recently been named Associate Member of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men's Institutes of the United States. The Conference, founded in 1956, includes in its membership 267 superiors, abbots and priors of the Roman Catholic religious orders, communities and institutes in the United States, and has as its goal the promotion of the welfare of more than 30,000 priests, brothers and candidates to the religious life. Br. Richard Thomas is the only non-Roman Catholic Associate Member.

This ecumenical recognition came about as a result of his attendance at the annual meeting of CMSM in August of 1984, at which time he represented the Rev. Canon James P. Gundrum, Executive Officer of the General Convention and the Rt. Rev. William C. R. Sheridan, Chairman of the House of Bishops Committee for Religious Communities in the Episcopal Church. Br. Richard Thomas serves as Secretary of the House of Bishops Committee and as liaison to the Christian Communities of the Episcopal Church.

MOUNT VERNON VA; Novice Br. Thomas Martin Little is working with the homeless of Northern Virginia at the Route One Shelter here. His parish, St. James, hosts the shelter one week each month.

BOWIE MD: Thanks to the Rev. Thomas Andrews, rector of Holy Trinity Parish, Collington, Br. Edward Munro has recently secured

three unwanted copy machines from St. Paul's Parish in Baden MD. The two electric machines were passed along to the Center for New Creation in Arlington VA, a group active in ministry for peace. The third machine, which is an older hand-operated model, is being reconditioned for shipment to Nicaragua through the Quixote Center (see note below). Father Andrews was recently arrested, along with the Rt. Rev. John Walker, Bishop of Washington, and 70 clergy and lay people of the diocese, for demonstrating against apartheid in front of the South African embassy.

WASHINGTON DC: Br. John Nidecker, recovering from lung surgery but still tethered to an oxygen tank, was able to attend the Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's Parish on the Feast of St. Gregory the Great. We ask that you keep him in your prayers, and are grateful to all of those who have expressed concern for this beloved member of our community. + + + + Bro. Thaddeus David Williams, Edward and Novice Br. Thomas Martin took part in the sixth annual Acolyte Festival at the National Cathedral.

BRONX NY: Bra. James Teets, Tobias Stanislas Haller, William Bunting and Novice Br. Earl Christian attended the solemn profession of vows of Br. Walter Hund to the Third Order Regular of St. Francis of Penance (CRC) at St. Augustine's Parish in the South Bronx. The brothers of this small community are committed to witness and service in a part of the city many would rather forget exists. Pray for them, and for Br. Walt, as they seek to form themselves ever more closely to the life that the blessed "Little Poor Man" of Assisi followed.

OMAHA NE: Brs. William Francis Jones and Stephen Storen presented a Quiet Day entitled "Reflections on Lent and the Resurrection" for the parish of St. Martin of Tours. They were joined by Brs. Augustine James Baird, Paul Halsey and Novice Br. Bernard Francis LaReau, and the Rev. Fr. Frank Stephen Walinski, SSC, rector of St. Martin's, who celebrated the Holy Eucharist. While here the brothers visited the tombs of Bishop Clarkson, first Episcopal Bishop of Nebraska, and of Msgr. Edward Flanagan, the founder of Boys' Town.

HELP THE CHILDREN OF CENTRAL AMERICA

The Quixote Center has begun collecting educational materials for distribution to the schoolchildren of Nicaragua. We ask that collected items such as notebooks, pens, pencils, scissors, rulers, crayons and construction paper be sent to the warehouse at this address:

Quixote Center Educational Aid
United Export Company
13946 Park Center Road
Herndon VA 22720

PLEASE INCLUDE AN INVENTORY

The Quixote Center will ship these supplies in 20-ton cargo containers, at the cost of \$5,000 per shipment. Monetary contributions towards these shipping charges may be sent to the Quixote Center, P. O. Box 5206, Hyattsville MD 20782.

MAY INTERCESSIONS

Kalendar

1. The Rt. Rev. James Daniel Warner
St. Philip's Church, Dyker Heights, Brooklyn NY
4. The Rt. Rev. Arthur Walmsley
8. The Order of Julian of Norwich
9. The Rev. James L. Jelinek
16. The Order of the Ascension
17. The Rt. Rev. Horace W. B. Donegan, Visitor Emeritus
18. The Rev. Ledlie I. Laughlin, Jr.
19. The Rev. Anne S. Webb
St. Dunstan's Church, Maclean VA
20. Br. William Francis Jones, BSG
Donovan Aidan Bowley, p/BSG
23. Br. James Teets, BSG
25. Br. Charles Kramer, BSG
26. The Community of the Holy Spirit The Worker
Sisters / Brothers of the Holy Spirit
The Order of the Holy Apostolate
The Order of the Holy Paraclete
28. The Rev. E. McK. Williams
31. The Visitation Nuns

For the ill

Br. John Nidecker, BSG Gaetano Sanfilippo Vera Jones

For the Departed

Charlotte B. Morgan H. Eugene Cheek Elton Pounds
Irving Diaz The Rt. Rev. Charles V. Maclean
For the victims of violence in South Africa

Special Intentions of

The Rev. E. A. St. John
The Visitation Nuns The Sacramentine Nuns
Karl G. Sorg Thelma Pounds John Peheck
Traci, Missy, Cindy and Quinton
Linda Meyer and the Crossroads Center: and the student members
Mrs. Shirley Schellas Mrs. Sinai Schellas

Thanksgiving for

The Choir of St. Andrew's Church, Bronx NY
The health of Janine Vene
The new Dean of the Cathedral of St. Paul, Boston MA,
the Very Rev. Thomas Kennedy
Fr. Henry N. Fukui's presence and pastoral care to Br. John in
his illness and recovery
The life profession of vows of Br. Jason Jude Schellas
The first profession of vows of Br. Bernard Fessenden
The reception of Novice Brothers Earl Christian and John Francis Jones
The admission of Postulant Donovan Aidan Bowley