



HE SERVANT



*Gregory the Great,
an icon written
by Tobias Stanislas*

#187

Epiphany - Lent 2003

EPIPHANIES

The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tables of stone, with the Law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." So Moses rose with his servant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. Ex. 24:12

People know my passion for all of nature; plants, animals, water and land. As I set out on a trip to Puerto Rico for a much needed rest, I planned to journey into the hinterlands just to see the natural beauty of the island. On the day the plan was accomplished, a friend and I decided we would like to tour "El Junque," the tropical rain-forest located an hour away from San Juan, despite the fact that we had been there on another occasion, but with a guide whose inhibiting eye kept us in close observation.

This time we rented a car and were treated to an incredible experience. The rain forest is a lush, green, alive place teeming with beauty and life. As the trip to the forest began, we thought we were seeing all that was worthwhile but other delights were in store for us. As the car meandered the narrow two-lane highway, there was an almost forbidding aura around us. We arrived at an open gate and drove through to begin an ascent of a mountainous unknown region. Suddenly, we were on US Navy property that housed a radar station, and which we later learned was off-limits to any except Naval personnel.

As we reached the top of the mountain, we were standing in the clouds. It was then that the words from Exodus came to me in a glaring thought: I was standing on God's mountain. The clouds seemed to pass through our bodies. As I stood there, I mused, "How can anyone doubt the existence of God the Creator, in this marvelous exhibit of nature? I feel as though I am standing on God's mountain."

If we read further in the twelfth chapter of Exodus, we learn that the cloud covered the mountain for six days, and that on the seventh day God called Moses from the midst of the cloud. As I thought of it, it was almost like being Moses for a moment to be so close to the heavenly city. This may seem to be a bit romantic but by being where we should not have been, we were treated to a sight that few tourists if any ever see. The silence of that lofty place some thirty-eight hundred feet above the city of San Juan was actually deafening. (Silence in its true sense and in meditation can be so.) The peace of the place was overwhelming as I stood apart from my friend on that mountaintop. The more I thought of Moses' experience on God's mountain for forty days and nights, the more I felt that I could sense what Moses must have felt at that time. I was on God's mountain and I was not alone. for God was with me.

As we enter into Lent and our way to God's mountain, I have this experience to contemplate. I hope my sharing it with you will be useful in your meditations. Our Lenten pilgrimage will be our climb on a long steep road, but at the end is Easter: the day when all is fulfilled for us. Then the road is short and the climb no longer steep.

Richard Thomas

Here and there with the community

COMMUNITY NOTES

Concord NH

Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold attended this year's convention of the Diocese of New Hampshire and celebrated the festival convention Holy Eucharist. Charles Edward was present and served as one of the Deacons of the Mass.

Yonkers

Last year's celebration of the Feast of Blessed Constance and her Companions, patrons of the chapel at Brother Bernard Fessenden House, had to be cancelled at the very last moment due to its calendar proximity to the terror attack on the World Trade Center on September 11.

This year made up the difference, as a full chapel gathered to celebrate this annual event with Bishop Mark Sisk of New York, making his first visitation to the facility, and Deacon Claudia Wilson, preacher and chair of Fessenden House's Board of Directors. Christopher Stephen gave a presentation on the history of Fessenden House and the caring ministries provided there, and the event was attended by James Dunstan, Minister Provincial of Province II, and a number of our local friars, sisters and Associates.



(l to r) Brothers Christopher Stephen, Randall and Patrick Ignatius

Members of the community turned out in force to give thanks for the ministry of Brother Randal Horton, who has joined the staff of Fessenden House, on the fourth anniversary of his life profession of vows to the Bishop of New York. "Brother Randy," as he is best known, is also serving at Tobias Stanislas' parish in the Bronx, putting another of his many talents to use as organist and choir director—and a number of the choir made the journey north to be at the celebration as well.

Arkansas

Earlier this year Damian-Curtis participated in the Light of Hope Ceremony in Conway, providing both the invocation and the closing prayer. This event was sponsored by CASA—the Court Appointed Special Advocate's office in the 26th Judicial District—where Damian-Curtis assists with cases of abused and neglected children. In a congratulatory letter, Laura Strope, CASA's director, said: "we take this opportunity to tell you how much we appreciate all the extra things you do for CASA. You are helping us grow to meet the needs of our community's children." Your brothers add their heartfelt congratulations, too!

Manhattan

James participated in a rare event on October 16: an ordination to the transitional diaconate held at the Chapel of Christ the Lord at the Episcopal Church Center, presided over by two bishops! Barbara Marie Stewart was the ordinand and Bishop George E Packard ordained and celebrated, assisted by Bishop C Christopher Epting, her former diocesan. The ordinand and her husband, Deacon Michel Stewart, are both hospital chaplains serving with Bishop Packard's Office of the Bishop for the Armed Services and Hospital and Prison Chaplaincies.



Peter, Saint Gregory (courtesy of Michael David) and James in Rhinelander

James concluded his autumn travels for his Office of Anglican and Global Relations at the Episcopal Church Center, having participated in the annual meeting of the Seminary Conference on Mission—this year hosted at Wycliffe College on the campus of the University of Toronto—followed shortly by the conventions of the Dioceses of Fond du Lac and Eau Claire. He had the opportunity to visit with Peter and his wife, Betty, to address the convention at Saint Paul's Cathedral, Fond du Lac, and to again worship with Peter and Betty's congregation at the Church of Saint Augustine of Hippo, Rhinelander, and two weeks later to return to the beautiful State of Wisconsin, this time addressing Eau Claire's convention at the brand new Saint Paul's Church, Hudson, and to be the guest preacher on Sunday at Grace Church, Rice Lake.

Tobias Stanislas led a course in "Understanding the Scripture" for the congregation of the Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine, based on his work on the document, "Let the Reader Understand," distributed throughout the Anglican Communion by the Bishop of New York.

Western Louisiana

Michael David portrayed the politically incorrect Yellow Feather in the summer NSU Dinner Theatre production of *Little Mary Sunshine*; he also appeared as a forest ranger which somewhat balances things, and is in keeping with his having won the local Garden of the Month award for October! He also assisted as one of three thurifers at the Recognition and Investiture of Bishop Coadjutor David Bruce MacPherson.

In mid-November, as the holiday season approaches, Michael David reports that his calendar is already over booked! The Rev Richard M Flynn, Rector of Trinity Church, Natchitoches, had again turned over the arrangements for A Service of Lessons and Carols to our brother and he was busily selecting the music and the soloists.



*Michael David in two guises:
a humble gardener by day. . .*



. . . and a danger to society by night!

Whenever he's tried to give the orchestration of this annual event over to others, he's greeted with "You simply must do it!" and "It's the highlight of our town!" So how can he resist? And this is accomplished in tandem with building sets for local theatrical productions. And he now has a reputation for arranging weddings and decorating homes for Christmas. We are also assured that in the midst of all of this activity, he still finds time to teach!

Passings

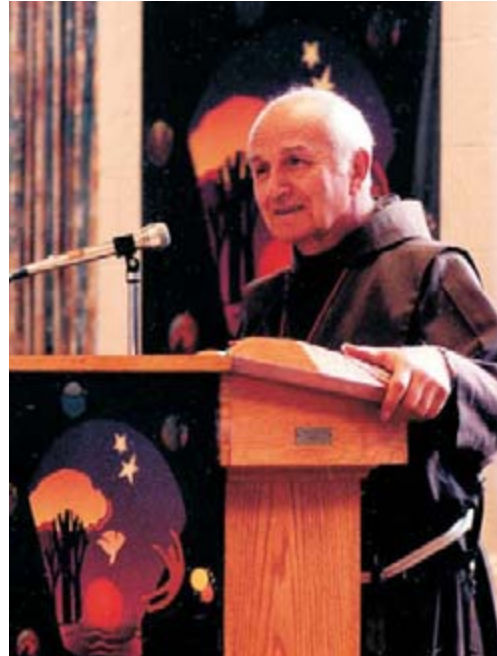
We note with sorrow the loss of two old friends from the Society of the Atonement, Brothers Raphael Colaciello and Joseph Marie Zakia. Both were good friends to the Gregorian friars during our visits to Graymoor. Brother "Joe Marie" in particular brought his warm Franciscan spirit to a workshop on Creation Spirituality at our Annual Convocation in 1992. Both of them will be much missed by their own community, and by ours. Well done, good and faithful servants.

Associate Update

On September 28 the Rev Leon Pablo Cadsap organized a meeting of fellow Associates and interested friends in Tagaytay City in the Philippines to share their experiences of the terrible violence that continues to cause such tragic injury and loss of life there. The group took strength as they prayed together and discussed their ongoing ministries to the people living through such terror and devastation. We join our prayers with theirs for strength, courage and continued faith through these times of uncertainty.



Brother Raphael reads a lesson at the 1993 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity observance.



Brother Joe Marie presents a talk on Saint Francis and nature at the Brotherhood's 1992 Convocation.

A World Trade Center remembrance

FROM THE ASHES

Dear Family and Friends,

I wanted to share some of my reflections with you as we approach this anniversary. As most of you are aware, I responded to the World Trade Center, and participated in the rescue and recovery operations that followed. In a few days, all of us will in some way remember that day and the terrible and heroic events that followed. I would prefer to focus on the positive things that I found that day and the days after. For me, these are the things that I will always remember of 9-11-01:

- ☒ That lady in some apartment building in the Village, who while we were treating two walking wounded people with dust in their eyes, decided that we needed peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and some of the coldest water I ever tasted. Never found out her name, but those sandwiches were better than steak. Angels come in many forms.
- ☒ All of the folks who just stopped to check on us later that week, coming up with coffee or in one case a box of socks. The food that people brought down to the Trade Center just to help out. Never been to Peter Luger's but I have had a steak sandwich from there!
- ☒ The gang along the Westside Highway, out in all sorts of weather, waving signs as we went by, thanking us for doing our job. Thank you back at ya!
- ☒ The fact that for a few weeks, New Yorkers acted as if they were from a small town out west or down south, just being polite and cooperative, instead of the normally driven, focused-on-ourselves people that New Yorkers can be.

- Ⓣ More close and personal, all of the support people at Ground Zero. There isn't enough room here for all of the thanks that needs to go out, but here are a few:
- Ⓣ People like those at the Tent; all volunteers, making sure that we all got fed and never intruded when it looked like you wanted to be left alone. They and those at "Sal's Sidewalk Cafe" at the CME are just outstanding people.
- Ⓣ The clergy, laity and volunteers of Saint Paul's Chapel. People like Deacons Robin and Jackie, who came from pretty far away to help support the mission at the WTC, bringing their parishioners with them. The chiropractors who kept us "tuned up"; the supply coordinators who, regardless of what you needed, would search it out and usually deliver. The volunteer coordinators who after a while made volunteering at Saint Paul's the hottest ticket in town. Every single one of these people were volunteers, and their commitment made our job that much easier to deal with. A special thanks to all who kept that valuable ministry open until the final walk out on May 30th.
- Ⓣ The clergy at the Temporary Mortuary. In spite of obvious mortal danger when they were called to perform their ministry on The Pile or later The Pit, they daily came to volunteer at the T-Morgue. Men and women like Father Emile, Father Tom, Mother Mitties, Mother Denise, Deacons Justus, Gail, Betty, and Rose Marie, not all of them from New York, but still coming in to help. There are so many of them that came that I can only name a few. They ensured that every person who was recovered, regardless of faith or tradition, was handled with reverence and compassion. Their dedication was and remains an inspiration to all of us that served in the T-Morgue. Their ministry is truly what is meant to "be true and faithful ministers of God's Word and sacraments."
- Ⓣ Most importantly, Big Frank. Frank was the construction worker who found what has become the "Ground Zero Cross." He ended up being the Cross's guardian, and will eventually see it into a suitable safe place. Frank is a small mountain of a man, with a heart just as big.

There were many positive things that happened in the aftermath of 9-11 besides the horrible. These are only a few. I would ask that you remember all of these people in your thoughts and prayers for the work that they did.

In closing, I would like to share a poem that I found traveling the Internet, part of which I have used to "sign" my e-mails since 9-11. It was written during World War I by Laurence Binyon, an Englishman, to remember the fallen of that generation. While the poem speaks of England's loss, it recalls the loss of all who remain on Eternal Patrol. I wish to dedicate it to all of my friends who did not return home on 9-11. Please remember them and their families in your thoughts and prayers in the coming days as well. Thank you.

Robert White, a/BSG

For the fallen
by Laurence Binyon

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea.
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young.
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted:
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain;
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end they remain.

In Memoriam: Lest we forget / 9-11-01

Captain Kathy Mazza, PAPD
Lieutenant Robert Cirri, PAPD
Sergeant Robert Kalufers, PAPD
Police Officer John "JD" Levi, PAPD
Police Officer Bruce Reynolds, PAPD
Police Officer Michael Wholey, PAPD
Police Officer Dominick Pezzulo, PAPD
Police Officer Christopher Amoroso, PAPD
Police Officer Uhuru Houston, PAPD
Lieutenant Kevin Phieffer, FDNY (Paramedic NYC*EMS)
Paramedic-Lieutenant Ricardo Quinn, FDNY-EMS
Paramedic Carlos Lillo, FDNY-EMS
EMT Keith Fairben, NYH-EMS
EMT Marc Sullins, Cabrini EMS
Firefighter James Papageorge, FDNY (Paramdic FDNY-EMS)



CARRYING THE CROSS

Be with us, O Lord, so we may shine like you and be radiant through us to others.

Carry the cross, seek self knowledge and understanding. Live a life of integrity.

Carry the cross every minute and place it within the inner chamber of your heart, for it is the same and true cross which Jesus carried and it became the Altar upon which he was offered up in sacrifice for the whole world.

We join with Jesus as we offer our sacrifices of illness, pain, pride, our joys and celebrations. It is often the case that those who suffer more are closer to Jesus. But we too, can be united with those who suffer and offer this as a gift back to our Father.

In Proverbs it is said to seek knowledge, to seek it out as a precious treasure, one which can not be taken away from you. Such knowledge yields humility, such knowledge of God yields love. I ask you to carry the cross of self-knowledge and to be generous in giving it away.

Giving it away as much as you can, eventually give it all away. Your cup will overflow when you meet Christ in Glory!



There are many ways to begin this continuous quest of self-knowledge and of knowledge of God. I believe through simplicity, one removes many aspects of a culture and world of material gain and hurtfulness, which can seem to control the cross we carry. Becoming poor and loving until it hurts, we can love with greater intensity, with more holiness. With celebration and basic joy to regain our innocence.

Through living a life of detachment, one begins to actually be a part of all, not a clenched fist, but an open hand. One can enjoy the richness of a complete tapestry. So have a good Scandinavian smorgasbord! Carry the cross with others, let it be a beacon showing through your heart.

While in Mexico City this past Holy Week and Easter I saw three thousand crosses carried and dragged through the streets as part of the re-enactment of the Passion Play. Just think of what this would look like if three thousand crosses were dragged down Park Avenue or around Saint John the Divine.

God is in love with you. Knowing this, your life will illuminate that love to others. But you can and have carried the cross here and to other places as well by action and deed: to street people, the homeless, troubled teenagers, the elderly, the mentally and physically handicapped, to those of whom you may not even be aware. To those in bondage to drugs or self-destruction, to those who are in the bondage of material wealth and gain.

Blessed Saint Benedict carried the cross also in teaching. All of us are teachers, everyday we teach others and hopefully even ourselves. Teaching is giving away without an expectation of getting something in return. Take the gifts which God has abundantly showered upon each of you, a great and mighty waterfall of gifts. Show through your gifts of teaching, teach a happy faith. Just wink at someone on the subway and see what happens! Be joyous, God loves you!

When I carried the cross into the National Cathedral in Mexico City, I was surrounded by thousands of people, most all with dark hair and dark eyes, people marked with the cross. I don't know what a blond, blue-eyed friar in his habit must have looked like to them, but for me they became part of a living church, making the cathedral itself undulate and move, a sea of beauty. In my eyes they became part of the sculpture, paintings, the sounds of the choir and magnificent organ.



More importantly, they became Jesus.

So my brothers and friends, I come to you as a pilgrim, coming home, and you are part of my pilgrimage, even through my brief story of Mexico City. Continue to build your foundations well, be simple, listen, be contemplative. Read and hear the many words of Jesus to carry the cross and to walk with integrity; share your resources and seek self-knowledge.

In prayer, just listen: Jesus is the one who begins the prayer in the first place, and he waits—he listens, with patience for your response. A simple thank-you will be just fine. Glory be to God Most High, Eternal Father, Blessed Son, Holy Spirit, One in Three, Almighty Three in One.

Michael David



INTERCESSIONS

The Brotherhood

Episcopal Visitor Sun

Rodney R Michel

Episcopal Visitors Emeriti

Horace WB Donegan d 11.11.91

Paul Moore, jr

Walter D Dennis

Life and Annual Professed

Richard Thomas Biernacki

John Nidecker d 6.20.88

James Teets

Luke Anthony Nowicki

John Peter Clark d 2.25.94 Mon

William Francis Jones

Stephen Storen

Thomas Joseph Ross d 12.18.01

Tobias Stanislas Haller

William Bunting d 10.12.88

Edward Munro

Charles Kramer Tue

Bernard Fessenden d 8.10.93

Donovan Aidan Bowley

Michael David Elvestrøm

Edward Ramón Riley

Christopher Stephen Jenks

Ciarán Anthony DellaFera

William Edward Orce Wed

Damian-Curtis Kellum

Richard John Lorino

Ronald Augustine Fox

Maurice John Grove

Charles Edward LeClerc

Francis Andrew Phillips

Andrew Fortuna Thu

Gordon John Stanley

Karekin Madteos Yarian

Alban Patrick Thompson

Gabriel Liam Everett

Thomas Bushnell

Thomas Mark Liotta

James Dunstan Mahoney

Patrick Ignatius Dickson Fri

Robert James McLaughlin

Peter Budde

John Henry Ernestine

Francis Sebastian Medina

Aelred Bernard Dean

Novices Sat

Joseph Basil Gauss

Mark Andrew Jones

Emmanuel Williamson

Richard Matthias

Postulants

William Benefield

Deward Rahm

Thomas M Greer

And for the Associates and

Friends of the Brotherhood

Religious Communities

The Sisters of Saint Gregory

Sacramentine & Visitandine Nuns

Society of the Atonement

Order of Agapé & Reconciliation

Camaldolese Benedictines

Society of Saint John the

Evangelist

Community of the Paraclete

Congregation of the Anglican

Oblates of Saint Benedict

Community of the

Transfiguration

The Order of Julian of Norwich

For healing

Our brothers Luke Anthony,

William Francis, Charles,

Damian-Curtis, William

Edward, Edward Ramón, Patrick

Ignatius and James Dunstan

For all who live with HIV/AIDS

Ian Frazier

Jane Bowley

Mary Haller

Walter D Dennis

Betty Budde

Robert G. Tharp

David G Henritzky, OSL

Mary Earle

Tom Neff

Jeff and Jerry

Christopher

Kay Benefield

Bonnee Voss

Philip Oakes

Will Harman

Drew Jones

Tom Kelly

Anthony DellaFera

Sergio Perez

Francisco, Jesse, Ali, Sam, Frank

John Walsted

Joan DiGioia

Madge Brown

Janet, Emily

Caroline and La Donna Dixon

Sonia Francis and Brian Grieves

Madelyn Elizabeth Christian

Carl Gerdau, OGS

Joe Lopez

Cher Mahmood

Dean Rice

Audrey Boissenin

Marge Cappetta

Barbara Donchet

Dallis Faithé

Thomas Gumprecht, SA

Departed

Charlotte B Morgan

Arsene and Louise Lemarier

J Norman Hall

George T Koerner

Henry N Fukui

J Steward Slocum

James R Gundrum

Randy Sacks

Werner Westmark

Eda, Warren, Lee and Isabel

Charlene Dugger

Jennifer Dixon-Schwartz

Thomas Marin

Joseph Marie Zakia, SA

Raphael Colaciello, SA

Richard Elledge

Ruth Coburn

John H B Rye

Charlene Dugger

Russelle Thompson

Verna Woodfill

Carroll Simcox

James Gerard

Maybell Green

Sophie Wisniewski

Nancy Beretta

Richard Elledge

Rhena Burford

Intentions

Joseph Richey House

Fessenden Recovery Ministries

Baltimore International

Seafarers' Center

Saint James' Fordham, Trinity,

Stoughton MA, Saint Paul's, San

Antonio, Dove House

Our brothers Karekin Madteos,

Francis Andrew, Gabriel Liam

and Thomas

Our Lady of the Rosary, Yonkers;

Aldersgate UMC Dobbs Ferry

Ronald Morgan

Miguel Zavala

Ruben, John and Tony

The Episcopal Church in Mexico

Jeffrey and Jared

Steven Davidson

Ann Marie and Crystal

Sarah & Josh

Jim and Judy Elledge

Holy Innocents, Magallanes

Philippines

Pat DiGioia

Carlo, Steve and Dorothy

Jeani Lopez

Amanda and Lora

Karekin Madteos and Anthony

Richard, Shirley, Jack, Pat and

Michael

Francisco

Thanksgiving

The enthronement of Bishop

Martin Barahona as Primate of

the Central American Region