Year for Priests
June 19, 2009 - June 19, 2010
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When my children were little, a priest asked them, “What is a priest?”

The response was, “A priest is a prayer man.” That was an important response, but in this issue we will hear of many other descriptions of what it means to be a priest.

When Pope Benedict XVI announced June 2009-June 2010 “The Year for Priests,” immediately I had memories of priests who had played a role in my own faith development. One of the earliest was the associate pastor of my parish, St. Brigid’s on the east side of Manhattan. Father Matthias Lynch was a diocesan priest. One of his duties was to oversee the religious education program of the parish. He was personally responsible for inviting youngsters in the neighborhood to attend CCD (there was no parochial school) so as to prepare for the sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation. The program was large and the attendance quite good. He was a visible caring presence during his tenure at St. Brigid’s.

As a young adult and even to the present day, however, the Jesuits were the ones who made the greatest impact on me and my life. The first Jesuit I grew to know, respect and love was Father Francis K. Drolet. It was through him that I was introduced to the Sodality/CLC vocation/way of life. My first experience of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius was under his direction and guidance. He was the one to challenge me and all the members of the Sodality and CLC to become ‘adults’ in the Church by becoming informed about the faith by studying encyclicals and other Church documents. He also encouraged us to become ‘expert’ in our professions through further education. Father Frank helped us to become ‘prayers’, contemplatives in action. He spent the major part of his priestly life promoting Sodality/CLC in New York, nationally and even internationally. A major contribution to CLC was the publication of his book, New Communities for Christians, Alba House, New York, 1972. For over forty years he shared his life with so many of us and with our growing families. Besides celebrating liturgies in our homes, he encouraged us to make our home a domestic church.

It is over fifty years since my first encounter with Jesuit priests. In that time, particularly through CLC, I have come to know and appreciate, in varying degrees, the gifts, talents, generosity and wisdom of most of the priests featured in this issue of Harvest.

Father Walter Farrell was National Ecclesial Assistant for CLC when I was a delegate to the NCLC representing my Locust Valley community. Anyone who served in the capacity of delegate is aware of the tensions and differences of opinion that might present themselves when the delegates met. I have vivid memories of Walt Farrell ‘coming to our rescue’ using communal discernment to help us come to agreement if not consensus. His patience, knowledge and wisdom were evident to all.

When I was appointed President-elect of CLC-USA, I had the good fortune to be working alongside Father Larry Gooley, the then National Ecclesial Assistant. Larry helped me transition into my new office. He always listened and often sensed when I was having a difficult time. Gently and with compassion, he

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helped make things right. His celebration of Eucharist was simple, beautiful and at times most profound. Many of us are aware of the dedication he had to CLC particularly in the Northwest Region, but also for the national community.

Visiting with Father Dave Fitch at Santa Clara in California was always a treat. Dave put out the welcome mat for us each time. His passion for Christian Life Community never wavered. His energy and determination were visible in his love and care for the CLCers who were under his guidance.

Visits to the Mid Atlantic Region brought me into contact with Father James O’Brien. Father Jim always impressed me with his gentle manner and his inspiring homilies. I look forward to reading his column in MAR Links where he shares special insights. He is another example of one who works untiringly for CLC, often behind the scenes. His welcoming manner, made one feel right at home when attending a MAR conference.

Be sure to read the reflections of Father Jim on the Year for Priests and the upcoming celebration of his Fiftieth Anniversary of Ordination. (See the EA’s column.) His words are deep, challenging, hope-filled and practical, too. He reminds us that “all of us are a priestly people.” He calls us to prayer; to continuing relationships with our priests, to ongoing growth in our CLC vocation and to sharing the gift of Ignatian Spirituality.

It was a privilege for me to be present when Father Benedict Kim was appointed Assistant Ecclesial Assistant for the Korean CLC. Father Kim worked very hard in forming the early Korean CLCers, often traveling long distances to be with them on retreat or for formation sessions. His vision of developing lay leaders among the Korean communities came to fruition.

When I think of Father Jack Zuercher, a smile comes to my lips. I have fond memories of Jack in that colorful attire doing skits at the end of national gatherings. I think of his welcoming the National ExCo into the Jesuit residence when we arrived for an ExCo meeting. I marvel at his energy in traveling about the North Central Region promoting CLC and encouraging new members. Even when he was having health concerns, he never missed a beat when it came to his work as Regional EA.

Our present National Ecclesial Assistant is probably the Jesuit I know least of all. We were both at the World Assembly in Nairobi in 2003, but we didn’t share too much time together. I have gotten some insights into the person of Father Robert (Cos) Costello from his writing for Harvest. In those EA columns, we find someone who deeply ponders a topic and shares that with the rest of us. A recent incident shows another side of Cos. A few months ago, I was experiencing a problem in my home. As soon as Cos found out about this concern, I received a phone call from him. He assured me of his prayers and that of the St. Louis community. I was moved nearly to tears.

Early on I shared some of my experiences with Father Drolet. When Father retired as Ecclesial Assistant, the Metro New York Region was blessed with the appointment of Father Daniel Fitzpatrick. Dan is another tireless worker in promoting new CLCs, in supporting groups as needed, in initiating ongoing formation programs, and in keeping the region financially solvent. Dan does quite a bit of traveling around the Metro area to assist at baptisms, weddings, anniversaries and funerals of members and their families. He has been known to attract a large following for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, as well.

A name that stands out in the graced history of the New England Region is that of Father John Surette. John was another of our gentle and insightful priest leaders. He was initiator and guide for Journey CLC. He, too, celebrated the Eucharist in a simple, beautiful way. There was some disappointment when John left CLC activities to immerse himself in the SpiritEarth center. However, John was now ‘stretching us’ so that our spiritual lives included a greater view of creation in terms of ecology and justice.

Many of us in the New York and MAR Regions remember Father Dominic Totaro from his days at Scranton Prep. He worked energetically and passionately among the high school boys to share the charism of Christian Life Community. For some of us, his move to Nigeria was a huge surprise. What did not surprise us were the efforts he made and the fruits born of those efforts when he started CLC in Nigeria.
Read on to learn of **Father Joseph Brown** who served the Manresa CLC in Staten Island for twelve years.

**Father Bill Kidwell** was known in Florida and throughout the national community for his commitment to Christian Life Community© in the lives of Youth and Young Adults. He was dedicated wholeheartedly to the cause of Pro Life, leading groups annually to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life.

See what the South Florida CLC(CVX) Region has to say about some of their beloved Jesuits, for example, **Father Victor Hernandez** and **Father Florentino Azcoitia**.

(The following pages have not exhausted our reflections on priests who have served CLC through the years. We hope to continue with testimonies in the next issue of Harvest.)

I will close with some quotes from a “Letter on the End of the Priestly Year” written by Cardinal Claudio Hummes, Archbishop Emeritus of Sao Paulo, Prefect of the Congregation for the Clergy, April 12, 2010.

“`The Year for Priests brings great joy to the Church and she thanks the Lord for having inspired the Holy Father to announce it...It is true that, albeit proportionately small in number, some priests have committed horrible and most serious crimes of sexual abuse upon minors...On the other hand, it is absolutely unacceptable to use the crimes of the few in order to sully the entire ecclesial body of priests.

“That being necessarily said, we turn to you, dear priests. We want to repeat to you, yet again, that we recognize that which you are and that which you do in the Church and in society. The Church loves you, admires you and respects you. You are, moreover, a joy for our Catholic people throughout the world and it welcomes you and supports you, especially in these times of suffering.

“The conclusion of the Year for Priests will not be, properly speaking, a conclusion, but a new beginning. We, the People of God and its shepherds, want to thank the Lord for this privileged period of prayer and reflection on the priesthood. At the same time we want to be alert to what the Holy Spirit wants to say to us. Meanwhile, we will return to the exercise of our mission in the church and in the world with renewed joy and with the conviction that God, the Lord of history, remains with us, both in crises and in new times.”

Lastly, be attentive to the words of our President, Liem Le. Liem shares some of the results of the January 2010 Houston Summit. The Diversity and Organization Group handed over the work of reorganization to the leadership of CLC. Even after four years, the restructuring process needs more time. Read what Liem perceives to be the reality at the present time and also the prospects for becoming “a more effective lay prophetic community.” An upcoming meeting in Pittsburgh will continue to focus “on a new participative structural model.

Peace, Dorothy M. Zambito

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**Resources for Year for Priests**

**US Bishops’ Web site for ‘Year for Priests’:**
http://www.usccb.org/yearforpriests/

**Vatican Web site for ‘Year for Priests:**
http://www.vatican.va/special/anno_sac/index_en.html

**Denver Archdiocese Resources**
http://www.archden.org/index.cfm/ID/2227/#resources
Dear Companions in CLC-USA:

We began the new year of 2010 with the Houston Summit. I would say that it was a key moment for us in our journey toward finding a more suitable structure. Twenty-one people gathered. At the summit, Diversity and Organization (D&O) effectively handed over this effort of reorganization to the leadership of our community, ExCo specifically. In Houston, we came together to help each one of us to honestly and prudently face certain realities of our community so that we could see more clearly a structural model for our community. Some realities are encouraging, some are full of hope, but some are harsh. All of us at Houston felt confirmed that the work would need to be continued with a broader and more participative cross-section of the community’s leadership – the Leadership Assembly in Pittsburgh at the end of June this year.

You might wonder where we are and where we are going with this restructuring process – a process that has been in the works for more than four years now. I can assure you, we are all as anxious as you for a concrete result. But if I could borrow an expression from one of the most trusted and respected companions at the Houston Summit – “We are a monster with four heads.” We would all agree that it will take time to tame this “monster.” It is full of life and energy, but yet untamed.

We have journeyed on this together, not just a few of us in some committees. Thus I would like to share with you what I see. Together we can pray on this for further clarity as we, an organization of lay prophetic communities, will unfold in God’s grace.

I envision CLC-USA as a “body,” a term that we use more often now for community. In a body all the components need to be fully functional in order to give life to the body and to each other. There is also an intangible connectedness among all the components. This connectedness is most apparent when one tiny component of the body is in distress; it then is not able to give life to the body but it draws life away from the body. When we have a toothache, it is not just the tooth in pain, but the entire body feels the distress of the tooth.

It seems that the image of a four-component body is gradually coming into focus in the body of CLC-USA. These four components seem to be identified by the preferred choice of language of prayer, communal proceeding and apostolic calling: English, Korean, Spanish and Vietnamese. Each of these components has come from a different point, traveled on a different path, but arrived at this moment in time together.

The Korean community is emerging from within the current structure of regions. It has established a regional structure to support the growth of CLC in the Korean communities in New York, Washington, Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles and Toronto, Canada. It has formed a leadership body and a formation team for each of its 6 clusters. However, it is not sure if it is allowed to grow out of the existing structure completely to freely become a full community within CLC-USA as it has discerned. Thus it moves in discretion, hesitation and reservation. It has its unique calling within the larger Korean Catholic Community in North America.
The South Florida Region seems to have a distinctive Cuban identity. Its roots are in Cuban Sodalities with increasing members from other Latin American countries. It has its own leadership body. Its calling seems to be the vast Hispanic Community in the American Church.

The Vietnamese Dong-Hanh CLC is itself a community with a well established structure of leadership and formation. It is the only one in CLC-USA with a flourishing youth and young adult development that is not tied to Jesuit institutions. Naturally, it has the youngest median age. Its unique calling seems to be pastoral in nature, mainly focusing on the Vietnamese Catholic Community with programs for children as young as eight years old. However, like the Korean CLC, it seems to be in a stand-by position waiting for CLC-USA to accept it as it is discerned to be.

Last but not least in any aspect is the Anglophone community. It holds the rich and long history of CLC-USA. It has invested much energy, life, time and love to build the community of CLC-USA into what it is today. It has provided the bulk of leadership and stewardship of CLC-USA through the years. It has generously reached out, in some instances with great faith in God, to other cultural communities in the USA to form and embrace new communities. It is blessed with great zeal and vision for works in the area of social justice. It also is rich with networking resources for apostolic works, and it holds a treasure of experience in community development.

I think this is where we are now. Changing is a challenging process but we embarked on this process because we see a better future ahead. Maryanne Rouse recently shared that “while the structure has served us well, I fully see that it no longer works for our present reality.” But changing also presents us with new and great opportunities to be a more effective lay prophetic community.

First, it is an opportunity to adjust and shift in the way we think about our COMMUNITY:

- Shift to a model of an organization that is open, dynamic, interconnected and full of graces
- Because we are called to discover and live out our personal vocation in community
- Because we are called to also to empower each other to discover and live out our own gifts.

Second, it is an opportunity to adjust and shift in our understanding of RELATIONSHIP:

- Relationship is the organizing principle of who we are, what we are, whom we serve and how we serve
- CLC-USA is a set of relationships that define our connectedness among ourselves, individually and within and between components
- CLC-USA is a set of relationships that reaches out to serve the world around us.

Third, it is an opportunity to adjust and shift in the nature of our COMMITMENT:

- We do not just commit to a specific activity, task or mission
- We do commit to the CLC relationship – the essence that defines who we are, in individuals and communities, and propels and moves us to serve others in relationship
- We do not commit according to our own plan but with a willingness to respond to God’s desire in a state of surrendering and readiness – we trust that whatever we need to meet our vocation will be provided providentially through others along our journey and through the ever growing relationships we form.
- We commit to the profound understanding that we are an essential part, but not the only part, of the unfolding of God’s enterprise.

Some of us will travel to Pittsburgh this coming June to make the most out of these opportunities. It is a new beginning for us to put our discerning hearts and minds together to renew our community with a new participative structural model. I surely believe that all of our prayers – those in Pittsburgh and those at home - will transform that intangible connectedness to a concrete and grace-filled reality.

In Christ,

Liem T Le

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The Feast of the Sacred Heart, June 19, 2009 was the occasion chosen by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI to proclaim “A Year for Priests.” Happily chosen: this year marks the 150th anniversary of the birth into glory of St. John Vianney, the humble Cure of Ars and the worldwide patron of priests. In addition, the Feast of the Heart of Christ is a traditional day of prayer for priestly holiness. These are the reasons the Pope provides for writing his letter.

For me personally there is still another focusing frame of meaning. June 19, 2009 happened to be the 49th anniversary of my own priestly ordination. Thank you, Holy Father, for such an awesome introduction into a 50th year of priestly ministry!

Three things, I find, have become more simply central for me as this golden jubilee year unfolds. Strangely—and happily?—none of them is focused exclusively on the ministerial priesthood. Rather, the months have gifted me with a deepening sense of the great good news which is our common Christian gift to rejoice in and to share; there has been a peace-bringing reassurance that it’s God’s world, and God is serenely and lovingly at work within it; finally, with the Ever Faithful God in charge, our beckoning task, priests and all of us, is to keep listening for God’s personal and generous invitation to walk and talk, to pray and to play, to give and to receive, “to do everything” in the Spirit of Christ Jesus.

I have found myself often invited these past months to return to Jesus’ mission statement as proclaimed in the synagogue at Nazareth and recorded by St. Luke (4:16-21). Jubilation is the bold and celebratory proclamation Jesus employed from the very beginning to describe his ministry. In declaring, “Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing,” he set the tone for his own open-hearted, outreaching presence of healing and reconciliation. As he carried the story of his loving, prodigal Father “to the other towns” he was but anticipating the energy of his Spirit-Church calling each new generation to be an Easter people, celebrating resurrection faith and hope and love in everyday life.

How blessed we are! We, like Moses (Exodus 3:14) have been invited to take off our shoes and come to an ever deeper realization that everyone and everything around us is holy, since the great I AM has been revealed. God is everlastingly here, where we are; God is a Verb, unable to be and do anything other than Love. This Verb has become incarnate in God’s own Word, Christ Jesus, and his Spirit has been lavishly spread broadcast throughout the universe, in all places and times, among all peoples, and in special ways in our minds and hearts and lives. Indeed, in the words of Gerard Manley Hopkins, “The world is charged with the grandeur of God” for those of us bid to discard our shoes and see and feel the Holy Ground all around us.

Are you coming to the conclusion that in the midst of a year for priests I may be detaching myself from the rest of reality? The world to which I’m referring and the one which you inhabit are sounding strangely different? If this is your reaction, believe me, I can understand your difficulty. Indeed, my fifty years of priestly ministry, not excluding this one, are rife with such puzzling, perilous happenings in church, country and world. The overwhelming magnitude of the struggle of good and evil is so evident as to make us feel at once utterly helpless and yet confidently hopeful. To put it into gambling language, I find myself betting on the Lord of dogged loving purpose over against
those among us who are merely wild-eyed, frantic and power-driven human beings.

I’m certainly not trying to ignore our ugly, self-seeking world or our sadly struggling and wayward Church. More concretely, I am painfully conscious of the shameful clergy scandal and, in frightening financial circumstances, of the unbelievably angry and immature pushing and shoving which serves as democratic discourse in our nation these days. Precisely because things are so polarized, unpredictable and out of control, we who are blessed to travel in the company of Christ Jesus are enjoined to listen more carefully for his recurring greetings of peace, and to make audible and visible his fresh words and deeds, especially those of the Breaking of Bread by his priestly people. We do so in trusting hope, in the midst of the destructive cacophony and confusion all around. Yes, I know that we too are caught in all this mess; no, I haven’t forgotten that we are a fitful, sinful people; let’s keep remembering in humble gratitude that our failures and weaknesses are themselves factored into the Lord’s calculus of faithful Love. He continues to walk the road to Emmaus with us, that well worn way of illusory hopes and broken dreams, bidding us return to Jerusalem with expectant hearts.

I hope too that I don’t seem to be blind to the special emphasis which is “A Year for Priests.” In its own right priesthood is at the heart of the Church. “The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus,” is the way the saintly Cure of Ars often put it, Pope Benedict reminds us. That someone like myself is asked to witness to this kind of loving in daily public and interpersonal conversation, and to exercise a comprehending, clarifying care for the Lord’s Word, the Eucharist and all his sacramental actions! Do rejoice with me and my fellow priests at the recurring round of opportunities afforded us to grow in personal holiness and help this beautiful thing happen in others. Talk about living at the crossroads of human existence!

But we all of us are a priestly people, and ministerial priests are placed in a precarious position if this is put aside. I have found myself ever more reminded of this in a jubilee year, dwelling with young people and walking with Christian Life Community© as I am blessed to do. May I close these reflections with a few concerns that may connect CLC more closely with “A Year for Priests”? I find them personally supportive, and see them as relevant to baptismal priesthood.

— Please pray for us priests. I recently received a greeting from a morning prayer group in a distant parish in our diocese. It heartens me greatly: “We… would like to express our gratitude for the sharing of your sacred vocation to the priesthood with us. We are so blessed to have you… We pray that the Blessed Mother and Saint John Vianney, Patrons of priests, will intercede for you. May you have a long, happy, healthy and holy life.”

— Please continue to share your lives with us. The daily, informal interchanges of laity with clergy in the ordinary circumstances of life and family can be so humanly enriching for priests. Is this one way of dissipating the separate and closed clerical mindset which seems to be one factor in the sad, sad situation of abuse?

— Please keep growing in your own CLC vocation. Hear more resolutely the call to become “a prophetic apostolic community,” more insightful about the implications and applications of Catholic Social Principles rather than the various inadequate ideologies which so cloud vision and consensus.

— Please treasure and make available your gift of Ignatian Spirituality. As priests continue to age and diminish in the Church, a consciously active priestly presence among the Lord’s people must increase. We are discovering one happy example of this in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Priests in several parishes are showing themselves eager to engage CLC members to assist them in deliberate programs of spiritual growth among their people. Given the press of so many other duties, they just cannot provide the priority for this vital activity on their own. With so many other CLC-sponsored 18th and 19th Annotation programs around the country, Pittsburgh cannot be the only place where the Holy Spirit is inviting this kind of Kingdom growth.

I really do believe that “A Year for Priests” can be a Jubilee time for CLC and for the whole Church. How about yourself? 😊
Walter Farrell, S.J.

NCLC Ecclesial Assistant

Edward and Marilyn Bourguignon

At the National Convention in Scranton in 1991 when we became President-Elect of NCLC, Father Walter Farrell, S.J. became Ecclesial Assistant. Walt brought with him a long history of Sodality/CLC. In the Winter, 1991 issue of Harvest, Walt wrote,

“My roots for CLC go back to Sodality days at St. Ignatius High School in Cleveland and the Father Dan Lord Days on the national scene. My interest in CLC has stayed with me over the years and, especially, in the transition years from Sodality to CLC. I was able to keep abreast of the changes by talking with Nick (Father Nick Rieman, S.J.) when I would be in Rome for Jesuit business and he was also in Rome in CLC’s national office. It was because of this continued interest that, when I moved into the Jesuit Conference national office in Washington in 1984, I made a point of getting in touch with the CLC leadership and of appearing at different CLC events (Lay/Jesuit CLC gatherings, National Conventions, and the like). So, even though I can be said to be new to CLC, what is at the heart of CLC has long been an interest and value for me.”

Walt also brought a great deal of experience of the Spiritual Exercises and leadership within the Society of Jesus, and a real desire to “do what I can” for CLC. We were privileged to work with him for four years. During that time three significant issues were addressed by ExCo, and a World Assembly was held in Hong Kong.

The leadership community of ExCo realized that we had to be better stewards of our dwindling finances. We needed to take a hard look at where we stood and make difficult, and probably unpopular, decisions about our future. We gathered facts, we talked, we discerned. When the rest of us hoped to find an easy way out, Walt’s clear thinking kept us focused and true to our financial reality. In the end we went from full time paid help in our national office to part time and then to volunteer help. We closed our book store and began to sell our printed materials through the Institute of Jesuit Sources. We even travelled to the national office in Saint Louis and spent a long week-end clearing out old stuff to reflect a new way of doing business.

Some members were calling for a new way of being together as a national community. They wanted a regional plan rather than the larger, often cumbersome, delegate assembly. ExCo listened to them and put their proposal before the delegate assembly. ExCo listened to them and put their proposal before the delegate assembly. With Walt’s help that whole process was carried out through discernment and consensus. Delegates were given prayer and study materials beforehand. They came to the assembly ready to listen to each other and to the Holy Spirit. Walt taught us communal discernment and then sat back and watched it happen. Marilyn led the discernment and said that she watched the delegates move to a decision which was not the one she wanted. She had to let it happen because it was so clear to her that God’s Spirit was at work. The decision of the delegate assembly to change to a regional representative leadership was an important one for NCLC. More important, however, was the way we did it. Discernment and consensus became the way we make decisions in CLC.

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Fr. Larry Gooley, S.J.

A Priest for Many

Mary Minor
(with help from and thanks to Chris Minor, Rick Kunkle, Clarence and Kate Markham, Tom Taylor, Virginia Fisher and Evelyn Brookhyser)

There is a Spiritual energy moving through the Northwest Christian Life Region that is nourished by the love, inspiration and writings of our beloved priest, Father Larry Gooley, S.J. We are spread far and wide and have been without an Ecclesial Assistant since 2003, but we are alive and growing because of Larry’s influence.

CLC was started in the Northwest in 1988 by Sylvia Swank, RSM, and Larry, at the request of Jesuit Provincial Frank Case. Sylvia had been a member of a CLC Community when she lived in Omaha. Sylvia and Larry founded communities in Seattle, Spokane, Portland, Anchorage, Olympia, Richland, Newport and Yachats. They traveled about, guiding and supporting these communities. Larry created formation materials which are still widely used for CLC groups in the Northwest and elsewhere.

Sylvia stepped down from the CLCNW ministry in 1996 and Larry continued on as Regional EA. In 2001 a lay team was formed to take on more of the leadership and management for CLCNW, with support from Larry. In 2004 Larry was asked by the Jesuit Provincial to step down as Regional Ecclesial Assistant and become Pastor at St. Catherine’s Parish in Priest River Idaho. No replacement has ever been appointed. Before Larry left, he made sure that the NW Regional Council approved bylaws and more formally took on the leadership of CLCNW.

It’s hard to express the depth of Larry’s influence on our communities. He has conducted many CLCNW retreats and has been especially comforting and close to us on the Oregon Coast in this last year, as we lost two of our long-standing members to the ravages of cancer. He was here for a healing service for Catherine Ryan and conducted the liturgy for Mark Treon’s funeral.

Our many retreats at Nestucca Retreat Center, a beautiful, rustic bit of nature carved out of the temperate rainforest on the Oregon Coast, have been an inspiration. Sadly, the NW Jesuits have had to close down Nestucca in the wake of recent events. Undaunted, Larry, in September 2009, led us in a beautiful retreat at Mt. Angel Shalom House. The theme was Forgiveness. Kate Markham said, “I came away able to forgive others as well as myself. This was my first introduction to forgiving oneself.”

Many of us have visited Larry in Priest River. On one memorable visit, Larry had invited Fr. Greg Boyle (“G-Dog”) from East Los Angeles and two young men who were former gang members to share their stories. Clarence Markham remarked later, “Why would he do this? Invite gang members to Priest River! Then it dawned upon me. He was in his very subtle way letting his parish know about another world that exists in America that they should be aware of.”

Laurence Leo Gooley was born in Spokane in June 1932. He was raised there and attended Gonzaga Prep. He graduated from Gonzaga U. with a degree in music in 1954.

His first thoughts about becoming a priest came around age 16, and on September 7, 1954 he entered the St. Francis Xavier Novitiate at Sheridan, Oregon. By strange coincidence, when he got on the bus in Spokane, headed for Sheridan, his old school

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friend, Andy Dufner, was on the same bus, also headed to the Novitiate. Neither had known of the other’s plans. Andy, after a brilliant career as a physicist and priest, became the director of the Nestucca Retreat Center where so many of our CLCNW inspirations began.

Larry was ordained June 16, 1965 and made his final vows in 1972. He taught music at Seattle Prep from 1959 to 1962 and at Gonzaga Prep from 1966 to 1972. He has a Masters in Theology from Santa Clara University and a Masters in Music from the University of Montana. It’s no wonder the music we share at our retreats and liturgies is so inspiring!

Larry was the first full time director of The Jesuit Volunteer Corps, serving from 1972 to 1981. After that he was at the Bethlehem Farm Retreat Center, near Chehalis, until 1988 when he began to lead CLCNW.

He served as the National EA for CLC from 2000-2003.

Many Pilgrims (Larry’s term) have contributed to this article and I would like to conclude with just a few quotes that mirror our love for Larry:

**From Virginia:** “I think the most important thing Larry has taught me over the years is to LISTEN... to listen to others with a humble heart and without judgment, especially when the other person has differing views...to be still so the Spirit of God can be heard.”

**From Evelyn:** “He gives the Lord to the People. He provides encouragement without taking, which enables the group to grow in their own way with the Lord.”

**From Clarence:** “I immediately felt at ease in his presence, soft spoken, kind and thoughtful...you always feel comfortable around him. You feel that he is your friend and you are glad of it.”

**From Kate:** “He encouraged each of us to continue our calling at our parish, Sacred Heart, whatever the ministry and to be visible in the community helping in some way.”

**From Rick:** “I was on the NCC when Larry was the National EA. He had such a peaceful presence to us. He has invited a number of us to deepen our faith and how we live it out.”

**From Mary:** “I joined CLCNW in 2002, shortly before Larry Gooley stepped down as EA. It was a terrible shock to our communities to lose him as Ecclesial Assistant, but because of the structure and Grace he infused into the organization, we survive and go on. Many lay people, such as Rick Kunkle, Tom Taylor and Paula Burgan have been inspired by Larry to extraordinary service, and we still are honored to have Larry as our friend and Priest.”

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**Walter Farrell, S.J. continued from page 10**

ExCo was charged with developing a formation program for CLC. Walt’s work at the time was directing a Tertianship program for the continuing formation of Jesuits. We drew on Walt’s expertise and our own experience in CLC formation. We believed with Walt that, “We recognize that CLC is only an empty shell and structure if well-formed individuals do not exist in dynamic local communities.” We developed a plan for initial formation and another plan for continuing formation and put the responsibility for formation in the hands of regional people.

There was a World CLC Assembly in Hong Kong in 1994. After the first day we told Walt that no one to whom we spoke understood that the *Spiritual Exercises* just naturally led to mission. We knew that for Walt, the heart of the Exercises and of CLC was helping Jesus complete the mission entrusted to Him by His Father. Walt had a word with the World CLC leaders and the next day it was announced that there was a new special committee on the *Spiritual Exercises* and that Father Walter Farrell was in charge. Like Walt, his committee worked quietly and in the background, but by the end of the meeting delegates were talking to each other about how mission is at the heart of the Exercises.

Walt worked another four years with CLC during which time he helped ExCo implement the new regional structure. Now, well into his nineties, he continues to be available to CLC as Director of Manresa Jesuit Retreat House in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. We value the time we spent with him. We know him to be a man of prayer and discernment, a servant leader and one who listens well. He let CLC leaders do their work but was always ready with an insightful comment just when it was needed most. He was always a Jesuit priest for us sharing prayer and liturgy. Most especially, he was and is our very good friend.

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He let CLC leaders do their work but was always ready with an insightful comment just when it was needed most.
Anyone who ever met Fr. Dave Fitch would describe him as a little man in stature (my former pastor had had Fr. Dave as a teacher in the seminary years ago and said that the seminarians used to lovingly call him “The Peanut”) but, in spirit, heart, and dedication to CLC, Fr. Dave was a GIANT! We who live in the West were blessed to have had him as the EA in our region for many years, and miss him very much.

Fr. Dave died last year at the Jesuit Retirement Center in Los Gatos, California (Jan. 30, 2009) at the age of 88. His health had been declining for several years due to Parkinson’s disease, but for as long as possible, he kept connected with his beloved CLC family. He was involved with CLC for over 40 years!

CLC was Father Dave’s life. He worked tirelessly to promote it throughout the West and helped to get many groups started in San Francisco, Santa Clara, San Jose, Los Gatos, Palm Springs, Sacramento, Phoenix, and Salinas. Those of us who have been members for years were truly spoiled by his love and dedication. He would drive around regularly to visit groups throughout the state, say Masses at home meetings, organize CLC cluster days, run monthly cluster leadership meetings, organize two weekend retreats each year, and a yearly summer eight day retreat. He contacted many parishes and Newman Centers asking if he could come to talk about CLC. If any group showed interest, Father Dave was there!

I first met Fr. Dave in the early 1970’s while attending college in San Francisco. Through his persistence, he got our Newman Center chaplain to start a CLC group. Several of these people are still together today (The Philippians). After moving to the central coast of California, I was surprised to hear that Fr. Dave was coming to talk about CLC at our parish. He came, spoke, and got about 20 people to sign up.

In the 70’s he helped organize a Bay Area Moderator’s group and helped promote a six month peace and justice course/19th annotation retreat (Connections) which had a profound effect on my life, and on all of those who took it, opening our eyes to the meaning of social justice.

Fr. Dave was very generous with his time and talents, and was willing to serve whomever and wherever the Spirit led. He once came to my town of Salinas to give a Faith Experience Weekend to my friends in a Franciscan Catholic Worker community. He also came several times to give a talk and say Mass at a yearly retreat we have for our disabled adults, the Sonflowers.

Fr. Dave was an excellent spiritual, and retreat director. He had a way of simply describing the gospel scenes, teaching us all how to pray the Ignatian way. Kathy Tobin, Treasurer of our region, remembers his humble, gentle way of directing her through the 19th Annotation, giving her wonderful insights, but always giving all the credit to the Holy Spirit.

Tricia Perry, a member from Sacramento, first met Father when she was a young nun, and he directed her on an Ignatian retreat. He made a great impression on her, and went on to become her long time spiritual director, mentor, and friend.

Continued on page 14
If anyone really desired to make a retreat, but could not afford it, or did not have the time to go away, Fr. Dave found a way. He always was able to come up with the funds, and would come to people’s homes to give them the 19th Annotation, if necessary.

Fr. Dave was a traditional priest, and a holy man. He stressed the value of daily Mass and monthly confession. Though patient, he would not tolerate injustice, immorality, or anything contrary to Church teaching, and would speak up about it. He had a strong devotion to the Blessed Mother, and always carried a small statue of her in his Mass kit, to set on the altar, along with a CLC candle.

Father had a good sense of humor, twinkling eyes, and a mischievous smile. He’d always include thoughtfult and fun stories into his sermons. He loved sweets, and had a particular affection for Fritos corn chips. The Nicolettas, members of our San Jose Holy Family group, recall that: “You could always depend on seeing him with a big bag of Fritos whether on retreat, traveling, or joining us for a meeting.” In memory of him they placed a bag of Fritos on the memorial table at his funeral celebration.

Fr. Dave came from a well-off family in Southern California, but was a very humble man. He was usually seen wearing the same faded Hawaiian print shirts, and carrying his worn black brief case of CLC literature and mass books. He would drive for hours to visit sick/elderly CLCers, and concelebrate at CLC members’ weddings and family funerals.

In his retirement years, Father still saw people for spiritual direction, and would attend occasional CLC meetings and cluster events. Some of us would go up to visit at times and he would invite us to attend his religious community’s Mass. It was touching to see so many elderly and infirm Jesuits, some unable to get out of their wheelchairs, lift their hands in prayer at the consecration. What a blessing these men have been to so many!

Father often spoke of wanting CLC to do MORE for social justice, and hoped that more groups would get started. It sometimes sounded like he felt he hadn’t done enough, and was a little discouraged by his failing hearing, and progressing disease. Yet, deep down, I’m sure he knew that he had been a good and faithful servant, who tried his best to lead many people to a deeper love for, and relationship with Christ, and His Mother Mary. Fr. Dave took his vocation to the priesthood and to CLC seriously, and planted many seeds. Now it is up to us to keep his plants watered, and growing. 🌱

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**YEAR FOR PRIESTS**

**JUNE 19, 2009 - JUNE 19, 2010**

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Fr. Jim O’Brien, S.J.

The Quiet Man

Marilyn Barton

Fr. Jim O’Brien, S.J. is the Ecclesial Assistant for the Mid-Atlantic Region. He is an ever-available, hard-working and resourceful participant in all the CLC endeavors of his region, and helps plan and present guides courses, regional meetings, retreats and days of prayer. After the 9/11 disaster, he proposed that each month a different CLC group within the region have a program of remembrance, prayer and commemoration for peace and the victims of the disaster. He was recognized at the CLC National Assembly in Miami in 2004 where he received the Development of Peoples Award.

He’s a quiet man, steadfast and persistent in his devotion to peace and justice issues since the political and social turmoil of the 50s and 60s. Then and now he works to found and form lasting organizations and initiatives dedicated to service of the poor; to provide spiritual formation of the youth; to conciliate, mediate, and make peace; and to bring comfort and support to people and organizations working for peace and justice in our world.

One of his many remarkable programs is the Appalachian Experience Club, whose mission is to help students see some of the hardships of life through service to the poor and vulnerable in Appalachia. He organized the first group of students in 1978, providing for them a break from the intellectual rigors of university life and an excellent grounding in cross-cultural sensitivity and compassion for the poor. For over 30 years Fr. O’Brien has been leading these students at each fall and spring break, working with them, splitting wood, raking leaves, patching roofs, and mending fences — truly transformation at work in the hearts of both the served and the serving.

His quiet presence living in the dormitories of Wheeling Jesuit University since his assignment there in 1962 reveals his profound priestly commitment to be a servant, always available, on the spot, whenever a student is in need. An article in the Wheeling Jesuit University Chronicle in the summer of 1993 speaks of his mission and passion: “People, their emotions, their well-being, and their need to be enriched by words of encouragement and support are the energy sources that keep Fr. O’Brien going. Individuals, groups dedicated to peace and justice, organizations promoting the betterment of the whole, and students struggling with the pressures of collegiate courses all receive the patient and caring attention of Fr. O’Brien.”

Fr. Jim has also been foundational to the establishment of the Bridges/Prayer Companions program in Pittsburgh. This program brings the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius in Everyday Life into the lives of a wide variety of people. In the Prayer Companions component, participants spend two years learning how to companion others through the Spiritual Exercises. And now this initiative is moving into the parishes in the form of Lightworks, or the 18th Annotation Retreat. Through this work, Fr. Jim is creating an ever-widening network of people with a grounding in Ignatian Spirituality, and is building the potential for new CLC groups to be formed as the program grows.

Somehow, through all Fr. Jim does, he manages to hold in his heart at any given time hundreds of individuals and their current detailed concerns, illnesses, failures, broken relationships, joys and hopes. He keeps in touch with each one and walks through the unfolding process of each situation, praying, supporting, encouraging and celebrating as he goes. You can’t be connected with Fr. Jim without knowing that he cares for you, is there for you and will help you see things through to a positive conclusion, no matter how long it takes. The Mid-Atlantic Region has been immeasurably blessed by his leadership and care over the past twenty-five years.

Anyone who was present at the 2009 National Assembly could have seen him, quietly in the background, arranging all the details so that everything would go smoothly for all the others in charge of the liturgies and meetings. He has truly followed the example of Christ, not to be served, but to serve.
Jesuits Sharing their Lives with CLC

Walt Farrell, S.J., (far right) celebrating Eucharist with Bishop Roger Kaffer, the then Auxiliary Bishop of Joliet, IL and Episcopal Moderator for NCLC (second from right) and members of the World ExCo at a World ExCo meeting in Joliet in early 1996.

Father Benedict Kim, S.J., (left) being commissioned Assistant to REA for the Korean CLC with Dorothy Zambito assisting at the commissioning service.

Walt Farrell, S.J. (left in back row) and Larry Gooley, S.J. (second from left) with NCC members at a meeting in Los Angeles after 1997 Convention. At the time Walt was serving as Ecclesial Assistant and Larry was serving as Regional Rep for the NorthWest Region.
Jesuits Sharing their Lives with CLC

Province Day at Fordham in 2001. From left to right: Deacon Leandro Centenera, Dorothy Zambito, Thomas Feely, S.J. and Dan Fitzpatrick, S.J.

Dan LeBrun (left) and Jack Zuercher, S.J. serving as MCs for our Talent Show at the National Convention at John Carroll University in 1995.

Bill Kidwell, S.J. (left) with members of ExCo at an ExCo meeting he hosted in Miami in 1998: (left to right) Greg Hyde, S.J., Carmen Castagno, and Dolores Celentano.

The Exco laying hands on Larry Gooley, S.J., just prior to his leaving ExCo in 2002.
Dear Fr. Ben,

With heart-felt gratitude and love, we dedicate this love letter to you from all of us. Finally! We are so grateful to have this opportunity to give you the tribute that you deserve in planting a grain of seed of CLC for Korean Americans living in the United States. It is with mixed feelings of gratitude and sadness that we remember your generosity and labor of love.

The following statements reflect only a portion of how we feel about you.

**Metro NY KCLC**

“You first introduced us to the *Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola* through a five day silent retreat in New York in 1995. You began by helping us to establish our first community by introducing Fr. Dan Fitzpatrick and the NY Metro CLC in November 1996. And the rest is history! We held the first temporary commitment ceremony in 1997 and planned our first silent retreat for young adults in 2000. You were tireless in your mission to help us, laity, to become an essential part of the Church, and to promote our active role as laity living the CLC way of life. It is very hard to describe and put on paper everything that you meant to us individually and communally. It was truly a privilege knowing you and working with you closely, through many of our formation efforts for our members and for sharing of the Ignatian Spirituality with others in parish settings. You were very prophetic in your stance of promoting Ignatian Spirituality and collaborating with laity against significant resistance and challenges from Korean pastors and other Christian groups in the Metro NY area. Facing fierce adversity and challenges many times throughout the years as our EA, you stood by us and gave us the solid foundation for living the CLC way of life. You always reminded us that you would step aside when we have members making permanent commitment, as CLC is ours to live, not yours. You kept that promise in spite of our fearful apprehension and deep sadness in seeing you leave us. You introduced us to a mystical word *indifferentia* and you actually lived by it. You emphasized so many times that we are to find Jesus in the midst of our lives to be fully contemplative in action (*The Fourth Week*).

It has been almost five years since you left us. Maybe it is time for us to meet and discern whether our continuing journey has been what you had envisioned and dreamed about when you were inspired by the Holy Spirit to guide and form us to know the Will of God. We hope that we can attest to all your labor of love, bearing fruits abundantly so that we may be called a branch successfully grafted to Jesus’ grapevine.”

**Western Region KCLC**

“Since establishing the CLC in the Western Region in 1996, we were struggling to live the CLC way of life without an EA. Fr. Kim came to our rescue by visiting us every three months from New York to guide and train us in the CLC formation program. He continuously educated us in the CLC way of life through the *Spiritual Exercises*, the General Principles and Norms, CLC Charism, and through many forms of retreats. We remember Fr. Kim suffering with severe back pain at that time flying back and forth, but nevertheless, he gave his whole heart and mind in helping...
to form us. He also repeatedly emphasized that we need to “stand alone” and introduced us to the Loyola Institute for Spirituality (LIS) to study spiritual direction. We currently have six members who graduated from the program receiving certification. Three members are currently working with LIS in giving the 19th Annotation retreats. Without him, we would not have been able to grow and participate fully in living the CLC way of life. Fr. Kim laid the foundational keystone for us to be part of the CLC Western Region and introduced us to Fr. John LeVecke who was then the EA for the region. Without his generosity and hard work in planting the seed of CLC, we would not be here today.”

(By Dorothea Chong, Western Region)

MAR KCLC

“Fr. Benedict helped us to establish and maintain the first local community, Cephas, in MAR CLC when, due to misunderstanding by local Korean pastors, the community went underground and was near to being dissolved. Fr. Benedict helped us to join the MAR CLC Region as a Pre-CLC group, and helped us to connect with Korean Jesuits who were studying in the area for spiritual direction and Ignatian Spirituality. He continued to support our community by emphasizing the Spiritual Exercises and the GP & GN to live the CLC way of life within the boundary of our lives (e.g., family, work, parish life). After Korean pastors realized their misunderstanding and accepted CLC, Fr. Benedict helped us to establish a CLC group and held an inaugural ceremony founding the first community in St. Paul Chung Korean Catholic Church in Virginia. He also supported us in connecting with the Korean CLC in the New York Metro Region. Fr. Benedict helped us to establish an annual retreat program and gave formation to the guides four times a year. He was always ready to help with our various retreat programs throughout the year and met with KCLC members once or twice a year to respond to questions about our faith, motivating us to desire to be closer to Jesus through Ignatian Spirituality and to fully live a CLC way of life. Fr. Benedict also supported us in living the General Principles and Norms and recognized the importance of temporary and permanent commitments. He frequently invited us to New York and helped us to establish structures and formats for commitment ceremonies.”

(By John Kim, Teresa Kim, Anne Park, Bibiana Rhee, MAR KCLC)

Chicago KCLC

“Fr. Benedict visited Chicago to establish CLC after giving the first silent retreat in 2000. He helped us to receive the 19th Annotation retreat, and continuously supported us in formation so that we could spread Ignatian Spirituality in the Chicago area. He also helped us to work with other regions and celebrate our commitment to live the CLC way of life.”

(By Paulina Kim, Chicago KCLC)

Canada KCLC

“We are happy to give tribute to Fr. Benedict Sung Ho Kim. Fr. Benedict came to give an Ignatian retreat and helped to plant a seed to begin our graced history in Canada.

He first came to Canada in 2004 and introduced us to the 19th Annotation retreat with help from the Korean CLC-NY and helped us to connect with the Canadian CLC leaders.

If the opportunity comes, we would love to invite Fr. Benedict to show how we have grown because of his hard work led by the Holy Spirit.”

(By Angela Lee, Canada KCLC)

Korean CLC formation leaders gathered in November, 2009, at Pittsburgh Gilmary Retreat Center for our first “Train the Trainer” workshop. After watching the PowerPoint presentation made from each region’s “Graced History,” our current EA, Fr. Isidore An, expressed in his homily that the Holy Spirit was truly at work in forming Korean CLC groups through the loving hands (and the grateful heart) of Fr. Benedict Sung Ho Kim.

Through tribulations and joys, we are truly indebted to you for our CLC vocation. You will always remain in our heart and we look forward to reuniting with you to celebrate the results of your labor of love very soon!!

With Love from all.

(Compiled and translated by E. Christina Kim, NY Magis)

Fr. Sung Ho Benedict Kim is a native of South Korea. He entered the Society of Jesus and was ordained in 1995. He resigned as Korean CLC E.A. in February, 2005, after seeing the first permanent commitment made by 14 CLC members in New York. He holds a Ph.D. in Psychoanalysis and is currently working full time as a licensed psychoanalyst in New York City. He is founder and a senior faculty in PIP (Postgraduate Institute in Psychoanalysis) in South Korea.

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Fr. Jack Zuercher, S.J.

Our CLC Mentor, Advocate and Champion

Maryanne Rouse
QM CLC in Omaha, Nebraska

Fr. Jack Zuercher, S.J., has been the Regional Assistant for the North Central Region for more than 30 years, but it is not his steadfast commitment of time that causes us to choose him as “our priest” to be featured in this edition of *Harvest*. Rather it is his consistent belief in the gift that CLC can be for others, based on his own experience as a member of two communities in our region.

For over 30 years, Jack has been a member of Quest for Metanoia (QM) in Omaha and for over 25 years, a member of Ichthus which he founded. Because of the impact of it in his life, Jack has been a zealous champion of CLC in the boonies of our seven-state region and in its population hubs. He is an untiring promoter of CLC among the Jesuits in Omaha, in Milwaukee, in St. Paul and in places like Sun Prairie, Wisconsin; Mankato, Minnesota; and Ames, Iowa. To this end, he put thousands of miles on his car recruiting, nurturing, and supporting communities with personal visits three or four times a year. His easy non-clerical manner, laced with humor, and unconditional love of CLC and the folks, and his willingness to give it a try during these past decades, have left deep impressions.

The results have not always been satisfying: a community votes to disassociate itself from CLC; a Jesuit is transferred from one place where he is an active member to a place where no CLC exists and his call there is not to be an initiator of CLC; a regional retreat is not attended as well as hoped. More than satisfying, however, are the communities that are sprinkled from one end of the 1200 mile wide region to another, the thousands of graces for the members, and special gifts that have been shared with CLC-USA: several National Presidents, one National Executive Director, at least two national assembly planning groups and the list goes on.

In recent years, Jack has noted that, at 85, more and more of the CLC regional activity needs to be vested in us lay folk. He has initiated a regional endowment so that there may be money to support CLC work here when the Jesuits cannot or will not support him in that role. In the past two years, he has created a Regional Executive Council. With the Provincial’s agreement he diverted some of his provincial money to the creation of Cluster Promoters and their CLC expenses in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Nebraska.

He has been recognized with the conferring of the Development Award by CLC-USA. In 2008, he was the focus of another *Harvest* article entitled “Reaching New Horizons in the North Central Region.”

Known by many as simply “Z” or more formally as “Fr. Z” Jack lives his life with zest and gusto. His reputation for a zany sense of humor and fun is known throughout the CLC community across the country.
For 12 years, he and Joan Lanahan created and filled the Collaborative Ministry Office at Creighton University (CU). His colleague Joan states, “He has a gift of focus which was a great help to putting our variety of ideas into action. His great love of God and people is evident in his preaching of ‘living in the now.’ ”

Spring Break is traditionally when CU honors staff (who most often are the only ones working in their offices during that time). Z began the “We Need a Spring Break, Too” luncheons. The program was sprinkled with humor and CU staff members recall the times that Jack and Fr. Bob Dufford, S.J., entertained with silly dialogues of corny jokes. A Jesuit quartet — Frs. Bernie Portz, Dave Schultenhover, Dufford and Zuercher — led sing-a-longs. The famous, maybe infamous, “Perfection Holy Cards” are prized mementos of these occasions.

One of the fondly told tales in the Graced History of QM was during a weekend retreat when Jack made a couple of uncharacteristically clerical remarks. The group assembled for the next round of sharing, and when Jack began to speak all of the women bobby-pinned pieces of Kleenex to their hair in mock deference to the “Father” among us. When this instance is recalled today, there are gales of laughter, Jack’s voice being the loudest.

In addition to CLC, Jack is generous in sharing other things and people that have made significant impacts on his faith journey. A key one of these is Tony de Mello, S.J., whom Jack first encountered in the early 1980’s at a weekend retreat in New York. De Mello’s blend of Christian and Eastern spirituality gave Jack a self-described life-changing freedom and ability to see God in the now, an awareness of God’s daily gifts. Through the years, hundreds of retreatants have benefited as Jack introduced them to de Mello’s spirituality. Twice a month Jack hosts the De Mello Group in Lower St. John’s Church at Creighton for an hour of meditation and sharing based on one of the de Mello stories. All are invited.

As you have read the paragraphs above, the writer intends that some things shine through the narrative. The qualities of the man are: committed, fun-loving, humorous, approachable, nurturing, aware, grateful and loving. The Jesuit Priest that this CLC Region is blessed to call “ours” we are privileged to share with all of you, the Harvest readers.
Robert Costello, S.J.: Cos

Mary Wescovich

Robert Costello was born in St. Louis, Missouri to William and Florence Costello, the youngest of five children; his parents were first-generation immigrants. He attended St. Roch parish school, then Saint Louis University High School. During high school he admired the happy life and good work of his young Jesuit teachers. Maybe he would join some day? After graduation, he attended Saint Louis University and it was during his college years that he discerned now was the time to join or get over it. He entered the novitiate at St. Stanislaus Seminary in Florissant, Missouri and followed the standard formation program. Theological studies were offered at St Mary’s College in Kansas. He worked part-time counseling juveniles sentenced to the Boys Industrial School in Topeka, Kansas.

During the first years as a priest he finished an advanced degree and taught at Rockhurst University. He took academic leave to work at the US Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. Later on he was sent as Rector of Jesuit scholastics studying philosophy at SLU and then six years as Provincial of Missouri Jesuits. Still later he served as President of his alma mater, St. Louis University High School.

In 1999, while studying the *Exercises* at Guelph, Ontario, Fr. Costello received the invitation that began his work with Christian Life Community. The British Provincial asked him to be Ecclesial Assistant for England and Wales. So, off he went to England for four years to spread the word and spirituality of CLC. He met many people with deep faith in a country where church membership was diminishing. There were also young Cambridge University graduates in CLC seeking new communities to nourish their spirituality. At the heart of CLC were groups of devout women and men committed to their faith, eager to serve and loyal to the Catholic Church.

He was aided by many carefully designed formation materials that assisted groups at any stage of maturity to grow in their faith lives in CLC. He traveled about Britain and Wales wherever CLC groups existed. In 2003 the World Assembly was held in Nairobi and Fr. Costello was chosen to attend. This powerful experience of delegates from sixty nations remains with him because it was obvious the Ignatian mission is alive and well, flourishing in cultures all over the world.

At the Assembly he joined an insertion group to visit Kibera, home of a million people and the poorest slum in sub-Saharan Africa. They visited a two-room school for small children. Some of the group were invited into a CLC teacher’s shack only to learn this woman, in grinding poverty, heard of twin babies abandoned on a roadside. Ignoring the consequences, she brought them home: they had a right to life.

Returning to St. Louis in 2003, Fr. Costello continued working with CLC. He first connected with the campus ministry at the three Missouri Province universities. He was available when possible to students in fledgling CLC groups. Recognizing there was a booming CLC program at Loyola Marymount University involving 500 students in carefully planned formation, he encouraged campus ministers in Missouri schools to send students to Cura Personalis (CP) workshops at LMU. For five years CP has offered undergraduates directed, silent retreats followed by modules on group leadership. The young participants have found CP very moving and challenging.

As National Ecclesial Assistant he visits groups, attends meetings of Jesuits to promote CLC and plans events with the Executive Council that will shape the future of
our really new CLC. Last summer CLC held its National Assembly in Washington at Trinity University where the changing face of CLC was obvious.

In the Midwest Region, Fr. Costello encourages the community to grow in the understanding of our apostolic mission, increase numbers of guided groups and encourage campus ministry leaders to deepen the spirituality of students. On World CLC days, he joins in immersion experiences at a food kitchen and serves dinner to the homeless. The community also works at a Jesuit parish painting, cleaning up trash and seeding the church lawn. Fr. Costello is a member of the Sacred Circle group and spends a day a week at DeSmet High School for a pre-CLC student group and guides faculty in the Exercises.

If it is Ignatian, Fr. Costello is involved. He got several of us working with staff and faculty at SLU forming pre-CLC groups. Several weeks ago, St. Louis was the site for our first CLC Group Guides Workshop course, first presented at Creighton University. He was part of the team along with Eileen Burke-Sullivan and Jen Horan. Fr. Costello inspired us to step forward and hold the workshop in St. Louis. It was a great success and we have him to thank for believing that we could do it.

In closing, here is a down to earth taste of Fr. Costello. Many in CLC know him as “Cos.” He only answers to that name. To some, it seems not respectful enough to be calling Father by Cos so it is fitting that he is known as Fr. Cos. That is the Fr. Costello we know and love. The nickname also points to his Irish ancestry. Cos holds dual citizenship in the United States and Ireland. When he has the chance, he spends a summer in Galway in the Jesuit parish celebrating Mass, hearing confession and doing pastoral work. It is one his great joys. When the plane touches down and he sets foot on the Irish turf, he feels at home.

Prayer for Our Priests

You came from among us
To be, for us, one who serves.
We thank you for ministering Christ to us
And helping us minister Christ to each other.
We are grateful for the many gifts you bring
To our community:
for drawing us together in worship,
for visiting us in our homes,
for comforting us in sickness,
for showing us compassion,
for blessing our marriage,
for baptizing our children,
for confirming us in our calling,
for supporting us in bereavement,
for helping us to grow in faith,
for encouraging us to take the initiative,
for helping the whole community realise
God’s presence among us.

For our part, we pray that we may always be
Attentive to your needs and never take you
For granted. You, like us, need friendship and
Love, welcome and a sense of belonging,
kind words and acts of thoughtfulness.
We pray, also, for the priests who have
Wounded priesthood.
May we be willing to forgive
And may they be open to healing.
Let us support one another during times
Of crisis.
God our Father, we ask you to bless our
Priests and confirm them in their calling.
Give them the gifts they need
To respond with generosity and a joyful heart.
We offer this prayer for our priest,
Who is our brother and friend. Amen

Prayer from online prayer booklet prepared by the Archdiocese of Denver. http://www.archden.org/index.cfm/ID/2227/#resources
Fr. Dan Fitzpatrick, S.J.

Mentor and Friend

Forty years of influence is difficult to capture in a brief remembrance, but Fr. Dan Fitzpatrick’s dedication to the Lord as a Jesuit priest and his faithful guidance and service to the CLC movement have been an ongoing inspiration to me. My memory takes me back to the early 70’s when a small group of CLCers gathered at St. Ignatius Loyola for an in depth look at the Gospel of John offered by Fr. Dan. From there we went on to study and share thoughts on the Vatican II documents, which opened up new vistas for us as lay Christians. Dan continued to inspire us by moving on to initiate and shepherd new CLCs throughout the metropolitan area, including outreach to our Korean and Filipino brothers and sisters.

On a personal level, Fr. Dan has always been there for me in my ongoing struggles and resulting tensions in trying to live a Christian life. His deep understanding that “all is gift,” which calls us to a sense of gratitude for everything that has brought us to the present moment, is an insight that I keep coming back to when my life gets off kilter. In this Year of the Priest, I give thanks for Dan’s generous, caring life and the gift he has been to me personally and to so many of us.

In this Year of the Priest, I would like to thank Fr. Dan Fitzpatrick, S.J. for his faithful mentoring and companionship to the Metro NY CLC community and to myself.

For more than 25 years, Dan has modeled and taught the rich Ignatian prayer tradition. With the Northern New Jersey community, I benefited from experiences of deeper prayer, contemplation, the examen of consciousness, and praying with one’s senses. This deeper prayer has sustained and deepened our love for Christ and others. Fr. Dan is a tireless mentor, committed to helping others grow spiritually.

In the last three years, serving as Chair of the Metro NY Council, I witnessed and benefited not only from the administrative skills of Fr. Dan, but experienced his selfless service and collaboration with the communities of the Metro area in planning days of prayer and other events. I am very grateful for his leadership of CLC in the region.

I am grateful for the many times we have gathered to celebrate Eucharist with Fr. Dan. In presiding at this our great prayer of thanksgiving, Dan often reminds us to live and be the Eucharist we celebrate, wherever we live.

I am grateful for his love for the Church, and the richness of our Catholic tradition. I am grateful for his encouragement to expand our experience of CLC to include national assemblies, and to read and reflect on the documents that have come from World CLC and the national assemblies.

Finally, I am deeply grateful for his loving companionship to CLC and to each of the members of the Northern New Jersey community past and present. Fr. Dan you are gift to us.

By Mary Ann Cassidy
My first remembrances of Fr. Dan were during the transition period between the New York Professional Sodality and Loyola CLC. He would come to our meetings as an assistant to Fr. Francis Drolet, S.J. I always remember his warm smile and enthusiasm as he greeted our members. Then we experienced a short period without any formal meetings. Finally I received a phone call saying Fr. Dan would begin again with a series of lectures on the Gospel of St. John. At first we were just a few, but gradually former members including Thomas and Muriel Monaghan came back and new members joined to increase our membership. This all happened in the early 70’s and Fr. Dan has been with us ever since.

It has been a long time and a lot has happened. Some Loyola CLC members joined with Dan to form new CLCs. He used to say, “Eight million people in New York City and only one CLC.” Dan has always been a strong supporter of our membership in a national and international organization. During the transition period and afterwards, and thanks to the hospitality of Fred and Betty Leone (Washington, D.C.) we would have joint meetings with the New England and Mid Atlantic communities.

Dan worked with members to start the Metro Council and the leadership committee. He has given his time and expertise so that we have a viable leadership team. He has always been the driving force behind “GO!!!”, our Metro newsletter.

Finally he has attended our national assemblies where he has given workshops and has always been part of the Liturgy Teams. He was very instrumental in making the National Assembly in New York a success.

Over these forty years there are so many wonderful memories of Fr. Dan: Paschal Triduums at Walden; many retreats including eight day ones at the Jersey shore, Long Island and Westchester; Epiphany celebrations at the Messina’s; Loyola meetings at the Monaghan’s; “The Loyola Trials;” national meetings around the country and our Westchester meetings at Netta’s and Debbie’s homes.

Personally, Dan has always been a good friend, a mentor, and a priest. Thanks Dan for making CLC such a special part of my life.

By Joan Woods

Fr. “Dan” has been an exceptional example of one laboring for the Lord. For more than a quarter of a century he has been on the frontlines as an organizer of Christian Life Community© — most of that time as Ecclesiastical Assistant for the New York Region as well as representing CLC as an NGO at the United Nations in New York.

Fr. Dan has been instrumental in the formation of CLCs within the New York Region, along with welcoming and guiding us in formation. He also authored an Ignatian formation program which took each CLCer about three years to complete, and imparted a most solid introduction to Ignatian Spirituality. Under his guidance, CLC members immediately realize they are part of an international community. He was the serious force that brought Korean CLC to its outstanding presence within the region.

He developed Metro NY CLC as a regional entity with twice yearly Days of Prayer featuring national speakers. Sometimes these included Temporary as well as Permanent Commitment ceremonies. He fostered the Metro NY Council with meetings of representatives from the individual groups several times during the year. He established a Leadership Seminar for the growth of members.

Fr. Dan has been actively involved with CLC conventions, which are now called national assemblies, has served at international assemblies, and contributed often (and graciously) to Harvest.

When new groups were begun, he often traveled to their twice monthly meetings for years, always with a smile and his indomitable sense of humor. It is no surprise that Fr. Dan is included in important events in NY CLCers’ lives.

Fr. Dan is an icon among many wonderful Companions of Jesus.

Thank you, Fr. Dan.

By Dolores Celentano ©
John Surette, S.J.

A Tribute

Barbara L. Saulnier
Journey CLC, New England

About 1985 John Surette spoke at St. Anthony’s Shrine about Christian Life Communities based on the Ignatian way of life.

This was a pivotal moment in my life for two reasons:

1. I was searching for a way to deepen my relationship with Christ. John’s presentation seemed an answer to my prayer.
2. When I questioned him after the lecture he gave me no answer. He suggested I contact Reverend John McCarthy, S.J. Thus began a year of weekly meetings in Charlestown, Massachusetts. This was a period of preparation and growth during which I discovered myself, my relationship with the Trinity, and especially the humanity of Christ.

John Surette called a second meeting inviting those who so desired to form CLCs, committing themselves to the Ignatian way of life.

Thus began our community which we named Journey. John was our guide for several years. We flourished under his presence among us.

He rarely gave an answer to questions. I remember pointing out the word “indifference” to him. I asked him what it meant. In his gentle, pleasant way he replied, “I cannot tell you. You will discover that yourself.” Over the years I have.

Another pivotal moment for us was when John sat with us in silence. He suggested we tell who we were. During this time he would stop the speaking individual and say, “Stay with that…” Those moments focused my attention on an authentic self, another discovery of depth, change and growth.

John fed us as a community with his joy and appreciation.

In 1990 with Mary Southard, C.S.J., an experienced retreat facilitator and educator, John co-founded, SpiritEarth, a center and network for Ecology, Spirituality and Justice in La Grange Park, Illinois. His words about God’s constant creation follow:

“The dynamics of dying and rising, of going down into chaos with something new emerging... this is a dynamic that permeates God’s Universe...”

Through practical appreciation of his words we are able to recognize our own diminishment, our loss of vigor, even death; also to recognize his wisdom that life, death and resurrection in Christ is at the center of our experience. He continues to inspire us during his recent illness and recovery.

As we continue to pray for his recovery we are more intensely aware of his love and appreciation of what “is...” the now of the moment. He is teaching us how to “try to deal with our life’s new menu creatively, rather than destructively, for ourselves and others.”

John is a blessing, causing us to revere, appreciate and embrace life just as it is — resplendently aware of our choices, creating contentment and peace as we live each paradoxical moment.

Offering thanks pales — and yet we say constantly, “Thank you, John, thank you” ad infinitum.

Through John we sing a constant hymn of praise and thanks! ☺
Fr. Dominic Totaro, S.J.

An Interview

Fr. Dominic Totaro, S.J. is a diaspora CLC member of the Mid-Atlantic Region and has over 30 years of experience in directing the Spiritual Exercises for groups and individuals. He is currently the Ecclesial Assistant for CLC Nigeria. This interview with him was first published in 2007 in MAR Links, the newsletter of the Mid-Atlantic Region. – Kathy Hubbel Domning

MAR: How did you become involved with CLC?

Fr. Dom: When I entered Gonzaga High School in 1949, I joined the Freshman Sodal-ity. The school affirmed this as the primary organization for extra-curricular activity. I was happy that the Jesuits held this group in such high esteem. Our moderator, Mr. (later Fr.) John Murphy, S.J., helped us to integrate a prayer life, to develop a sense of service to others, and to help one another to grow academically and socially.

MAR: What was it like to begin CLC in Nigeria?

Fr. Dom: When I went to Nigeria, I asked about CLC, hoping that people would then ask me about it. But I found that a Jesuit Scholastic had started a prayer group at the Jesuit parish in Benin City. The group had disbanded, but several were still interested. With others’ help, we brought them back together (along with a host of others from the parish) for introductory sessions, got them into homogenous communities, and helped the communities move through their introductory formation.

MAR: What formation materials did you use?

Fr. Dom: We have composed our own formation program. (Aside: This program has been shared with national CLC communities Lesotho and Kenya. Also, I understand that a community in Missouri is using our program.) The program has an introductory cycle of six sessions. To this, we have added two cycles on spirituality, three on mission, one on community, one for youth and young adults, as well as cycles on discernment, life-style, Catholic social teaching, and fruits from the World CLC Assembly in Itaici.

MAR: Please describe one of your CLC mission activities.

Fr. Dom: A Widows Committee is now a national apostolic work. The aim of the committee is to raise awareness of the plight of widows in Nigeria. The committee has two goals: first, that widows and widowers be treated equally, and second, that widows be allowed to inherit. CLC members have engaged a playwright to dramatize the situation and have received a grant from the Governor of Edo State to put the drama on television.

MAR: In the U.S., we see the use of water as an emerging social justice issue. That is, the sources of clean water are being bought up globally by private companies in order to produce bottled water for sale. From your perspective as living in a country with distinct rainy seasons, how do you see this issue? Is there an awareness of this as an issue? What, if anything, is the impact on you of the global water situation?

Fr. Dom: In Nigeria, Coca Cola and Nestle must be making more money on their bottled water than on their sodas and other products. The reason for this is that they

Continued on page 28

Dominic Totaro, S.J.

We must be people of hope.
We must believe that, even though we may never see the desired outcome, the desired outcome is something which is good and worth the effort.
already have the marketing in place, and the water is not good. As one of our priests said, “The water in the toilet in the U.S.A. is purer than the water my mother has to drink.” As long as the corporations and other smaller companies supply the bottled water, the government does not have any need to supply clean water to its people. In the rainy season, the local people can get their own water. After three heavy downpours, the people figure that the dust, rust, etc. has been washed from their roofs. Then they can collect the rain water from the roof into large buckets or, if they are more enterprising, into cisterns. But in the dry season (five to six months long), they need to go to places where water is sold and bring back buckets on their heads. International pressure on this issue could help some government persons to begin to think in terms of supplying clean water to the people, rather than have that money go into their own pockets.

MAR: What stance do you take in the face of this?

Fr. Dom: We must be people of hope. We must believe that, even though we may never see the desired outcome, the desired outcome is something which is good and worth the effort. We in CLC have done this in our efforts to help people be aware of the plight of widows. Our numbers are small and our influence has been little, but it has been noticed, and the discrimination against widows has been changing.

Fr. Joseph Browne, S.J.

Caring Servant

Dolores Celentano

Fr. Browne’s experience ran the gamut from service in the Pacific Islands to administration at Fordham Prep. He was a man of many talents and we in Manresa CLC on Staten Island consider ourselves most fortunate to have had him with us for a period of twelve years. His gentle ways, skill as a spiritual director as well as a guide for the Nineteenth Annotation, and his ability to see humor in many a situation were truly gifts to those in his care.

Because of declining health he left Manresa Retreat House to reside at St. Ignatius Parish in Manhattan, later at Murray-Weigel Hall. His limitations at being able to visit with people face to face were compensated for by his caring calls to people from nonagenarian religious to CLCers, and always with a positive attitude.

We remember Fr. Browne with great fondness and love.

MAR: What kind of progress have you experienced in CLC in Nigeria?

Fr. Dom: In 2006-2007, we began the process of regionalization. We now have four regions: Benin, East, West, North. The expansion was good in that it gave more local authority. However, many local leaders do not possess the confidence to run programs; and so, we have not developed leadership. One result is that many communities have been dying or have disbanded. We are hoping that our Third National Assembly will help to meet this need because we will use the assembly as an opportunity to train and develop leaders.

Fr. Dom has written a booklet entitled My Just One Shall Live by Faith for groups of individuals who have limited English or who might be illiterate in their own language. He states that it is not to be taken as a replacement for a good director, but it can be useful for areas (e.g., East Africa and Latin America) that do not have directors available. He includes an “Aids for Discernment” section where he provides guidance to the group based on where he feels the group will be at that point in the Exercises.

If anyone wishes to purchase the book at $10 a copy (100% of proceeds go to CLC Nigeria), please contact Kathy Domning (phone: 301-588-0927; e-mail: khubbel02@comcast.net).

Fr. Joseph Browne, S.J., in center, with members of Manresa CLC Staten Island and Fr. Dan Fitzpatrick, S.J.
Fr. Bill Kidwell, S.J.

Advocate for Pro-Life

Margarita Maria Theye
Y-A CLC “Prince of Peace”

The late Fr. Bill Kidwell, S.J. was an amazing Jesuit. He was an influential person in my life and formed an integral part of my spiritual formative years. Fr. Kidwell was a humble presence, yet he achieved great accomplishments. In Miami he gathered and guided the youth in high schools into Christian Life Community groups in which he instilled the highest of moral standards through the teaching and application of faith. In particular, he brought to us the awareness of the atrocities of abortion and then led us in action to stand up and defend the unborn. He accomplished all of this armed simply with a telephone and a typewriter. Despite the deterioration of his physical health, Father managed to fulfill all his duties as a priest, reaching his 60th Jubilee. Somehow he found the time to guide CLC youth, young adult and adult groups, to visit the sick as a Chaplain in the hospital and to organize twenty annual Pro-Life pilgrimages for hundreds of youths to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life. He became our family priest and celebrated the Holy Eucharist in our home on very special occasions. I have benefited greatly from his dedication to this community and retain my closest friendships with those I became acquainted with through him. Though Fr. Kidwell is no longer with us he has left us a legacy, an example of what it takes to live a true vocation...faith, action and perseverance.
Testimonies from the South Florida Region

The South Florida Region has been blessed by the companionship of four very different Jesuits.

Father Jose M. Izquierdo, S.J. supported us as we tried to keep together, no longer sodality but looking for something more.

Father Sergio Figueredo, S.J. firmly guided us in the study of the General Principles and becoming CLC.

Father Victor Hernandez, S.J. helped us develop a real CLC identity, one securely grounded in Ignatian Spirituality.

Father Pedro Suarez, S.J. is now assisting us in our transformation into a true apostolic community.

Praise and thanks to the Lord who has always given us what we needed, even though at times we have been slow to recognize His graces.

By Maggie Khuly
CVX “Magnificat”

Three years ago members of the South Florida Region were devastated with the news that our beloved Fr. Victor Hernández, S.J., our Regional Ecclesial Assistant, had not survived the heart attack that he suffered while attending a Seminar for Spiritual Companions in Rome.

We are indebted to Fr. Victor, who instilled in us the daily prayer, the *Exercises* in Daily Life and gave us so many examples of generosity, love and commitment during the nine years he guided us in the steps of Ignacio. After a discernment among the leadership of our region and Fr. Jesús Zaglul, S.J., our Antilles Provincial, Fr. Pedro Suárez, S.J. accepted the responsibility to assume the duties of Regional EA.

His energy, great sense of humor, enthusiasm, and his strong Ignatian Spirituality have guided our members through the last three years.

GRACIAS, padre Pedro, for being our REA and a special friend upon whom we can count.

Clarita Baloyra
CVX “El Peregrino”

Father Victor Hernandez, S. J.: Teacher

Father Victor taught me to love a Lord of Mercy instead of a Lord of Discipline, the one with whom I was raised. Through the *Exercises in Daily Life* that he conducted, the Holy Spirit was a very valuable instrument. The Spirit showed me, little by little, how I was able to know Jesus more intimately, through my daily time with Him in prayer and meditation. Thank you for this opportunity to express my feelings about Father Victor.

By Ada Acevedo
CVX “Monserrat”
Several years have passed since Fr. Victor, S.J. went to meet the Lord and my community misses him very much. Often we recall some of his teachings and he becomes alive again in our lives. I often hear from those whose lives were touched by him, especially the parishioners of Mother of Christ Church. It was to these that he gave most of his little free time. We pray for him and know he is praying for us.

By Mimi León
CVX “Mensajeros de la Luz”

Priest: Man anointed and ordained to celebrate the sacrifice of the Mass.

Father, presbyter, pastor, preacher, shepherd. This is the dictionary definition.

How do I describe Father Victor Hernandez, S.J.?

Father Victor was a Man of God: authentic, patient, wise, committed, firm, noble, with a big heart — a very big heart to Love and Serve. He lived loving and serving, serving and loving for the love of his God.

“This was his legacy.”

Alicia Bugallo
Diaspora, South Florida Region

Fr. Florentino Azcoitia, S.J.: Spiritual Guide

As we celebrate the Year for Priests announced by our Pope Benedict XVI, how can I not express my gratitude to the Jesuit whose help has been fundamental to my spiritual development? How can I omit my gratitude to the Jesuit friend who gave me a hand and patiently encouraged me to be a better Christian? How can I omit my gratitude to the Jesuit friend who taught me his Founder’s words:

“Man is created to praise, reverence, and serve God our Lord, and by this means to save his soul”.

I am grateful to Fr. Florentino Azcoitia, S.J. because his teaching about the unconditional love of God and for Ignatian Spirituality has done great things for my family and me.

Dear Father Tino: I thank you for the times you talked to me about being a young boy in your birthplace in Cuba. You became a member of a Marian Congregation. With those stories you instilled in me the importance of belonging to a Christian community. Later, you became our spiritual guide when the CVX Casa Manresa was formed 10 years ago.

Thank you again and I want you to know that your trust and what you have taught me along with the Principle and Foundation sustain me today.

By Bertha Arias
CVX Casa Manresa

Fr. Pedro Suarez, S.J.: Committed Guide

A few months after Fr. Pedro Suárez, S.J. assumed the responsibilities of being our Regional Ecclesial Assistant, he was given another big responsibility, even bigger than that of Regional EA. He was named President (Rector) of Belen Jesuit Preparatory School in Miami, the middle and high school that has educated so many young men in Ignatian Spirituality and way of life since its beginnings in 1853 in Havana, Cuba.

Later on Fr. Suárez assumed another responsibility, Superior of the Miami Section of the Antilles Province. Needless to say, his commitment to accompany us and celebrate the Eucharist at our monthly meetings at Belen Jesuit Prep was impossible to fulfill on many occasions. Thanks to the support that the Miami Jesuit Community has given the Regional CVX, another Jesuit has accompanied us and celebrated Mass.

We are deeply indebted to Fr. Eduardo Barrios, S.J. who lovingly and enthusiastically joins us whenever Fr. Suárez, S.J. is away or responding to any of his many obligations.

GRACIAS, padre Barrios!

CVX “El Peregrino”
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Even a small contribution can make a huge impact over time...

For more information call us at 314-633-4628, or write us at

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Calendar of Events

CLC-USA
LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY
JUNE 24-27, 2010
GILMARY CENTER
PITTSBURGH, PA

Next Issue

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS