REGINA COELI HOUSE, 2918 Tracy Ave., Kansas City, MO 64109 Tel: (816) 753-0073 FAX (816) 753-3560

Midwest Converges on Starkenburg

he 5th annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in STARKENBURG, MO took place this year, but for 3 days, from October 21-23, instead of just one as in the past. This was a dream come true for Fr. Kenneth Dean,

pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Kansas City, MO, who had wanted to have a 3-day version imitating the famous Chartres Pilgrimages since he originated this pilgrimage for the

chapels in the Midwestern states. Also encouraging was the expanded participation, for this year in addition to the usual representation of the SSPX chapels in Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield and Mexico, MO; Chicago, IL; St. Mary's, KS; and Madison, WI, there were pilgrims from the Society's chapels in Nappanee, IN; Tulsa, OK;

and St. Paul, MN.

During the first two days of the pilgrimage that is mostly along the Katy Trail, 45 people started from North Jefferson City, MO to walk the first 28 miles, while on the third day, Saturday, over 400 people joined the seasoned

pilgrims in Portland, MO for the remaining 12 miles to the shrine in Starkenburg.

While the town of Starkenburg was named by Fr. George Hoehn, pastor of St. Martin's Parish in 1891 (after a monastery-fortress near his hometown of Heppenheim, Germany —in fact, Starkenburg means "strong fort" in German), the shrine had its beginnings in May 1888 through the efforts of his young nephew,



Lined up into chapters by parish or organization, the pilgrims eagerly listen to Fr. Kenneth Novak (out of the picture) give the kick-off speech in the morning of the last day, during which he compared the groups on the pilgrimage to the various parts of the Mystical Body of Christ.



Surrounded by the Missouri fall foliage, the young men of St. Mary's Academy (high school) process proudly bearing their "sword of Christendom" and iconic banner of "Cor Mariae Immaculata" (Immaculate Heart of Mary).

This year, pilgrims could

image of Our Lady of

emblem.

purchase a white bandana that was imprinted with this

Sorrows, which served as

the pilgrimage's "script", or

STARKENBURG..., continued from p.1

August Mitsch, who found the parish's famous "White Lady" statue in the rectory attic (it had been replaced 15 years earlier by a larger statue) and constructed a log shrine chapel for it. Mitsch died 13 months later and upon the request of his uncle, was subsequently buried on the shrine's grounds near the chapel he built.

In 1906, a beautiful, stone Romanesque-style shrine church was begun, which was finished in 1910. During the years, several miraculous cures have been attributed to the shrine, as is evident by the crutches, braces and stone plaques (mostly inscribed in German) that line the walls of the church.

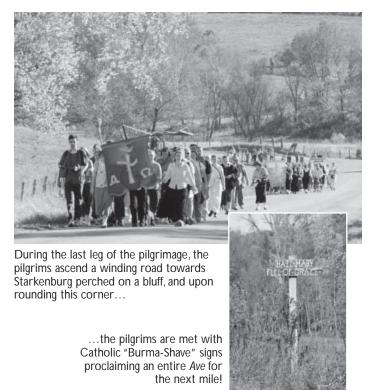
The original log chapel that August Mitsch constructed, which is often used by the SSPX priests who accompany the pilgrimage for saying their private Masses. Complete with arched windows, stained glass, cornices, bell tower, rounded apse and carved German gothic oak altar, the chapel is a testament to Mitsch's devotion to Our Lady.





Fr. Steven Soos (prior in St. Louis) was the Celebrant at the climatic Solemn High Mass and he also gave the sermon, while Fr. Dean acted as Deacon, and Fr. Gerard Beck (District Bursar) acted as Subdeacon. The stone pulpit is attached to the porch, and marks the spot on which Archbishop John Kain of St. Louis in 1895 said: "May the pilgrims come from far and near to this place to gaze at the face of our Sorrowful Mother and find therein consolation and peace for their aching hearts". How true, in this time of great affliction for the Church!

On the front porch of the shrine chapel, is an outdoor altar, and surrounding the porch's foot are benches capable of seating several hundred people. The SSPX has been forbidden by the local bishop to use the shrine church for celebrating Mass, however, as it can only seat about 150 people, the pilgrims are content to use the outdoor altar for the Mass that concludes the pilgrimage.





Replacing the original stations erected in 1889, these stations were erected in 1950, along with an underground seplucher, atop of which is a large Mount Calvary sculpture grouping. Nearby also is the Starkenburg Lourdes Well, so-called as Fr. Hoehn poured some Lourdes water into this well that was wonderfully found after prayers were made for a sign that the shrine was authentic and a place of grace.



Society of Saint Pius X

District of the United States of America
REGINA COELI HOUSE

2918 Tracy Avenue Kansas City, MO 64109 (816) 753-0073 FAX (816) 753-3560

Father John Fullerton
District Superior

J.M.J. December 1, 2004

Dear friends and benefactors of the Society of Saint Pius X,

Several of our priories were privileged during this past November to receive a visit from our Superior General, Bishop Fellay, who gave an update regarding the Church crisis and dealings with Rome.

One topic he touched on and which remains a stumbling block for many Catholics is the question of obedience. Indeed, most of us have been threatened at one time with the phrase: "You are being disobedient to the Pope." Liberal Catholics will claim that the one thing necessary to remain Catholic is an absolute obedience even to Liberal Church superiors. Conservatives will compromise and claim that the superiors imposing the Liberal renewal are not good but Catholic obedience requires us to "stay with Rome."

It is important to occasionally refresh our knowledge of this moral virtue of obedience in order to avoid falling into one of two extremes. As St. Thomas Aquinas says:

Obedience is a moral virtue, since it is part of justice, and it observes the mean between excess and deficiency. Excess thereof is measured in respect, not of quantity, but of other circumstances, in so far as a man obeys whom he ought not, or in matters wherein he ought not to obey as we have stated above regarding religion (IIaIIae, Q.104, 2 ad 2).

Let us first consider what the virtue of obedience is. Obedience is a supernatural moral virtue which inclines a person to submit his will to that of a lawful superior. The authority of the superior shares in the authority of God and therefore obedience rests on the submission each person owes to God. Thus God alone has the right to demand absolute obedience from us. St. Thomas says:

Man is subject to God simply as regards all things, both internal and external, wherefore he is bound to obey Him in all things. On the other hand, inferiors are not subject to their superiors in all things, but only in certain things and in a particular way, in respect of which the superior stands between God and his subjects (IIaIIae, Q.104, 5,ad2).

He goes on to explain, while speaking about the Religious:

If they be willing to obey even in other matters, this will belong to the superabundance of perfection; provided, however, such things be not contrary to God or to the rule they profess, for obedience in this case would be unlawful (IIaIIae, Q.104, 5,ad3).

True obedience, therefore, is relative to Faith and Tradition and if demanded contrary to them a Catholic has the duty not to obey.

As St. Thomas mentions there are two errors in regard to obedience; one by defect and another by excess. The first we call **disobedience**. The disobedient hold their own conscience as the absolute authority. They do not accept any authority over them and so refuse respect and obedience to anyone. Original sin, the sin of our first parents and the origin of all sin in the world, was such a sin of disobedience.

The second error, through excess, is known as false **obedience**. Those holding to this error say that the Church hierarchy has absolute authority and therefore obedience to Church leaders has no limits. Leaders command whatever they want and expect us to blindly obey, even when they contradict God's Law by forsaking Tradition and Faith. Anyone who criticizes them or protests against what they say or do is labeled as Protestant or schismatic and may receive unjust or improper suspensions or excommunications. They have gone so far as to try and tell us that we must attend a protestantized Mass and that we are forbidden to attend or say the Catholic Mass of all times as codified by St. Pius V. False obedience is much more dangerous today than disobedience because it can take on the appearance of obedience and in this way has spread throughout the Church today as Archbishop Lefebvre once said: "Satan's masterstroke is to have succeeded in sowing disobedience to all tradition through obedience (i.e., false obedience)."

True obedience is the mean between these two extremes. St Thomas teaches us that God alone, through His Church, has absolute authority over one's conscience. The lawful superiors, such as the Pope, are to be respected as representatives of Christ but they are not infallible in everything they say or do and if they depart from Christ's teaching we need not follow them. Pope Leo XIII in *Diuturnum Illud* wrote:

There is no reason why those who obey God rather than men should be accused of refusing obedience, for if the will of rulers is opposed to the will and the laws of God, these rulers exceed the bounds of their own power and pervert justice, nor can their authority be valid, which, when there is no justice, is null.

There seems to be no end in view for today's crises in the Church. Things are going from bad to worse. Here in the United States, the Catholic Church has spent over \$772 million dollars in dealing with scandals. Two dioceses have declared bankruptcy and indications are that several more will do likewise. Churches are being closed and parishes consolidated as the number of Catholics attending Church and available priests dwindle. False Ecumenism has thrown open the doors of Catholic churches to all religions seeking "unity in diversity". Only Catholics who refuse to accept these errors, opposed to 2000 years of Tradition and Faith as given us by Christ, are persecuted and threatened.

Yet there is, as always, still hope. Even with the present state of affairs things can still be turned around. This will only happen when we begin to practice true obedience to God's unchanging commands; when we accept the unchanging truths His Divine Son taught and deposited in the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church; when

we heed the request of the Mother of God to consecrate Russia to her Immaculate Heart. It is through obedience that His Kingdom will come on earth as it is in heaven.

But this work of restoration can already begin with each of us. Let us be faithful, obedient servants in our daily lives by performing our duties of state and avoiding sin. It is by doing this that we will establish Our Lord's kingdom in our hearts and, thus, prepare the way for His kingdom here on earth.

Let this then be our attitude as we enter into the season of Advent and begin preparations for the birth of Our Savior at Christmas. Be assured of our prayers and best wishes for you and your families during the upcoming year. May you have a blessed Christmas and a happy, holy New Year.

Sincerely yours in Christ the Savior,

John D. Villenton

Fr. John D. Fullerton

REGIONAL REPORT



CALIFORNIA

Located in the southern environs of the state, Saint Joseph & Immaculate Heart of Mary Church of COLTON, CA has recently had a couple of noteworthy events for the year so far, the bestowal of Confirmation in April and a Rosary procession in October.

During the Friday afternoon of April 20th, the parish was proud to host the visit of Bishop Bernard Tissier de Mallerais, who came to administer the sacrament of Confirmation to 10 souls. After the High Mass, a potluck dinner was held in the parish hall, which was attended by over 100 people.

"Hail Mary, full of grace..." Every year the International Rosary March, a lay organization, promotes within the SSPX's USA District a procession that includes the public recitation of all 15 decades of the Rosary and bearing a statue of Our Lady, in order to give her honor, encourage "her reign over souls as our Heavenly Queen" and finally to "contribute towards the consecration of

Russia and the triumph of her Immaculate Heart in souls throughout the world". This Rosary procession is held on the First Saturday in October, the month of the Holy Rosary, and so on October 2nd, the Colton chapel mustered about 45 souls in the morning for Mass celebrated by their pastor, Fr. David Nichols, followed by a 2-hour long procession from the church to downtown Colton (a distance of 2 miles), while stopping momentarily at an abortion clinic to make a Catholic protest, before returning to the chapel.

Jubilant in their efforts to effect the Triumph of Our Lady, the participants in the Rosary procession pose with processional cross, candles, their Virgin of Fatima statue and banners.



With the altar sumptuously decorated as a suitable backdrop, Bishop Tissier de Mallerais receives the Sacred Chrism from Fr. Nichols, and in a few moments will anoint the foreheads of the new *militia Christi* (Soldiers of Christ).





Notre Dame de La Salette Boys' Academy Update



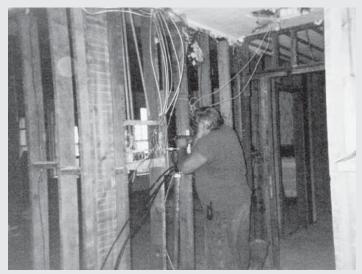
ILLINOIS

Here is an update on the progress of the preparation for the Notre Dame de LaSalette Academy in **OLIVET**, **IL**. Building on the major work party that took place from August 1-14,

another work session, albeit on a smaller scale, was held from October 24-31 to continue the efforts to have the complex readied for the 2005-2006 school year.



The very dirty task of tearing down old plaster and removing the debris still continues. Here through the spotted lenses we can see to the right, Fr. John Fullerton, District Superior, and to the left, Fr. Michael McMahon, while holding the clipboard is the ever-busy project-supervisor-contractor, Mr. Jim McMahon.



Remember that pesky plaster? Well, after it has been removed, new up-to-code wiring can be installed, a project that is still ongoing, as well as new plumbing and air ducts.



A view of the 5-star accommodations that await any willing volunteer: a mattress of your choice (no exceptions made) and floor space on which to stake your "claim" (on a firstcome, first-served basis).



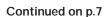
The statue of the Sacred Heart situated just behind the main buildings gets a cleaning and a new coat of paint. Meanwhile in the background, the former boiler house is being torn down.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

PHILIPPINES

The SSPX began irregularly visiting the city of Illoilo (pronounced: ee-low-ee-low) on the island of Panay in the expansive chain of islands (there are over 7000) that comprises the Philippines. since 1992, and in 1995 the priests of the Society came monthly. In March 19th of this year, construction began on a church, and on August 7th, Bishop Richard Williamson blessed and installed the commemorative cornerstone. Finally on October 17th, the church was blessed and dedicated by Fr. Daniel Couture, the District Superior of Asia, and titled Our Lady of Consolation and St. Joseph.

The exterior of this magnificent Filipino-Spanish Colonial style structure is 66 feet long by 46 feet wide and 23 feet at the peak, while the walls and details are elegantly trimmed in a combination of beige, white and chocolate brown, with rounded, glazed red brick





famous Spanish missions in the United States.



During the ceremony of dedicating the church, the Litany of the Saints resounds for the first time within the vaulted and tastefully decorated confines of the new House of God.

> After the dedication ceremonies and the Solemn High Mass, the Sacred Ministers posed with the church architect for a historic photograph. From left to right, Fr. Emeric Baudot (General Bursar of the SSPX), Fr. Daniel Couture, Mr. Raphael Losaria and Fr. Loren Gerspacher. In the background, one can see that even the exterior was decorated for the occasion with flowers.

Fr. Couture gives the sermon from the expansive pulpit constructed of carved wood and stone. Also visible are the marble columns and wrought iron lamp brackets.





Continued from p.6

columns flanking the front corners. Inside the church, local marble and limestone grace the floors of the sanctuary and nave and were used to construct the altar (faced also with tea-rose limestone to add to its visible predominance), predella, and communion rail, the materials of which alone cost \$10,000, quite a large sum for such a small parish in an economically impoverished country. The church can seat up to 240, which is just right, as the parish has grown to 200 faithful.



A view of the "cornerstone" that was blessed and inserted into the brick column on the east side of the church by Bishop Williamson. Also visible in this shot are many of the fine architectural details of the church.

EUCHARISTIC CRUSADE

MONTHLY INTENTIONS: January - March

January That civil authorities will respect the

commandments of God

February That the slaughter of the Innocents

will cease

March For Catholic schools

U.S. DISTRICT TREASURE—September 2004

Treasure sheets returned	510
Morning offerings	11,565
Masses	4791
Sacramental communions	4235
Spiritual communions	10,676
Sacrifices	29,995
Decades of the Rosary	53,893
Visits to the Blessed Sacrament	3445
15 minutes of silent meditation	4000
Good examples	13,016

RETREAT SCHEDULE

ST. IGNATIUS RETREAT HOUSE 209 Tackora Trail, Ridgefield, CT 06877 (203) 431-0201

MEN: January 17-22, March 7-12 (Marian), March 28-April 2, May 16-21, July 4-9, September 12-17, October 24-29, December 12-17

WOMEN: February 21-26, April 18-23, June 13-18, July 18-23, August 8-13 (Marian), October 10-15, November 14-19, January 16-21, 2006

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

19101 Bear Creek Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033 (408) 354-7703

MEN: January 17-22, February 14-19, June 13-25 (Vocations), October 17-22, November 28-December 3

WOMEN: February 7-12, May 9-14 (Virtues), October 10-15, November 7-12

MIXED: January 26-30 (Marian), March 30-April 3 (Teachers), April 27-30 (Matrimony), November 16-20 (Matrimony), December 26-31 (Marian)

OUR LADY OF SORROWS RETREAT CENTER

750 E. Baseline Road, Phoenix, AZ 85042 (602) 268-7673

MEN: March 14-19 (Lenten), April 25-30, May 23-28 (Marian), July 11-16, August 22-27, October 3-8, November 10-13 (weekend)

WOMEN: February 14-19 (Lenten), April 11-16, May 9-14 (Marian), June 6-11, July 25-30, September 12-17, October 20-23 (weekend)

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SEMINARY 21077 Quarry Hill Rd., Winona, MN 55987 (507) 454-8000

MEN: Dec 27, 2004 - Jan 1, 2005 (Ignatian)

Saint Pius X Pilgrimage Co.

(accompanied by a SSPX priest)

LENTEN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND (MARCH 7 - 18, 2005)

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Tabgha • Cana • Mt. Tabor • Sea of Galilee • and more.

\$2495.00 all included from N.Y. Space is very limited on this pilgrimage.

PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION IN FATIMA (ALSO VISITING LOURDES AND PARIS) (AUGUST 19 - AUGUST 30, 2005)

In connection with Bishop Fellay's act of reparation that is being made in August 2005 in Fatima, the pilgrimage will include a visit to some of the shrines in:

Burgos (Spain) ● Lourdes ● Paris ● Avignon ● Ars, • Nevers ● Pary-le-Monial ● Lisieux

\$2495.00 all included from N.Y. (Califorinia departure also available) Space is very limited on this pilgrimage.

◆ Daily Mass ◆ 4-star or better accommodations
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For itinerary brochure, reservations contact: Saint Pius X Pilgrimage Co., Robert & Christine de Cecco, 38 Ten Coat Lane, Shelton, CT 06484; telephone 203-922-0096; fax 203-922-0097; or e-mail: christine.dicecco@sbcglobal.net

For more information on our pilgrimages, please visit our website: www.stpiusxpilgrimage.com

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME May 9 - 21, 2005

Led by Fr. Paul Tague. Reservations accepted only till February 2, 2005. Price: \$1950 (includes flight, transfer, public transportation, room and breakfast).

For more information, please contact Fr. Tague: 915-544-7385.

Orbis Vacations

(accompanied by a SSPX priest)

SSPX ACT OF REPARATION IN FATIMA (AUGUST 2005)

The following pilgrimages will be made in conjunction with the SSPX's act of reparation to be held in Fatima by Bishop Fellay in August 2005.

From Rome to Fatima, Marian Shrines of Italy,
France, Spain and Portugal.
August 12 - 23

Rome ● Barcelona ● Lourdes ● Zaragoza ● Guadalupe ● Fatima ● Our Lady of Genazzano ● Santa Maria Maggiore ● Our Mother of Perpetual Help ● Santa Maria in Aracoeli ● Our Lady of Montserrat ● Our Lady of Lourdes ● Our Lady of the Pillar ● Our Lady of Guadalupe ● Our Lady of Fatima ● and more.

SHRINES OF PORTUGAL. AUGUST 19 - 28

Fatima ● Coimbra ● Guimaraes ● Porto ● Santiago de
Compostela ● Aveiro ● Lisbon ● Eucharistic Miracle at Santarem
● Convent of Christ at Tomar ● Our Lady of Fatima ● Monasteries
of Alcobaca and Batalha ● Saint Isabel of Portugal ● Sister Lucy's
Convent ● Good Jesus Shrine ● Our Lady of the Agony ● Saint
James Apostle ● Saint Jane ● Shrine of Our Lord of Stone
● and more.

CENTRAL PORTUGAL AND CASTILE, SPAIN. AUGUST 19 - 28

Fatima ● Coimbra ● Salamanca ● Avila ● Segovia ● El Escorial ● Madrid ● Toledo ● Eucharistic Miracle of Santarem ● Convent of Christ in Tomar ● Our Lady of Fatima ● Monasteries of Alcobaca and Batalha ● Saint Isabel of Portugal ● Sister Lucy's Convent ● Saint Therese of Avila ● Saint John of the Cross ● Saint Isidor the Farmer ● and more.

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