

Regina Coeli

REPORT

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THE SSPX MULTIPLIES ITS PRIESTLY FRUITS

With the onset of the Second Vatican Council, the sense of the priesthood was immediately shaken and priests began to wonder what they were, while a Modernist orientation began to make itself known within seminaries throughout the world exacerbating the priestly crisis. As a result, many (clergy, seminarians, and laity alike) began to plead with Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, famous for his defense of Catholic Tradition during the Council, to do something about the situation.

Indeed, all the years the Archbishop spent either as a seminary professor in missionary Africa, Dakar's Apostolic Vicar, Apostolic Delegate to 18 countries in Africa, first Archbishop of Dakar, Superior General of the Holy Ghost Fathers and finally for a short time, the bishop of Tulle in France, were in preparation for the greatest task that God would give to him to fulfill: the founding of the Priestly Society of St. Pius X, whose purpose would be the priesthood and that which pertained to it.

The timing of the Society's foundation was likewise providential, because with the implementation of the *Novus Ordo Missae* (which was focused upon man and not God and emphasized the Mass as a community meal rather than a propitiatory sacrifice), the crisis of the priesthood was only worsened as time has played out to the present day.

Ascending over the Alps into BAVARIA, GERMANY, we come to *PRIESTERSEMINAR HERZ JESU* in the town of Zaitzkofen, where this year on June 30th (the Commemoration of St. Paul and St. Peter), two new priests were ordained, Frs. Christof Pfluger and Pirmin Suter, both from Switzerland. There are presently 20 seminarians at Zaitzkofen, with six first-years having entered just this year.



The classical yellow-white and red-roofed main building of the *Priesterseminar Herz Jesu*, a manor that once belonged to an anti-clerical, Freemason, an irony that the German seminarians take delight in!

Though persecuted over the years for its firm anti-modernist stance, nevertheless, the SSPX continues in its apostolic work of forming and ordaining new priests, thereby adding to the ecclesiastical life of the Church as well as harvesters for work in the Lord's vineyard.

This year saw several priestly ordinations at several of the Society's seminaries throughout the world and we start with the *Seminaire International Saint Pie X* in Ecône, Switzerland, the Society's "mother house" so to speak, nestled in an Alpine valley.

There on June 6th (Tuesday in the Octave of Pentecost), Bishop Bernard Tissier de Mallerais ordained four priests (Frs. Louis Turpault, Benoît Martin de Clausonne, Renaud de Ste Marie and Benoît de Villemagne, all from France) and nine deacons (Revs. David Aldalur, Christophe Cailler, Antoine de Lestrang, Etienne de Mornay, Jean Guillon, Louis Julien, Xavier Lefebvre, Romain Pons, all from France, and David Sherry of Ireland).

For more on the inspiring life story of Archbishop Lefebvre, see Angelus Press' books, *Marcel Lefebvre: The Biography* and newly available *The Horn of the Unicorn* by Dr. David A. White.



Ingeniously, the seminary has used the ornate front entrance as part of the altar reredos, while the tent eaves have been decorated with pine boughs, a typical German custom.

Crossing the Atlantic into the New World, we arrive at **ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SEMINARY** on a hill nearly overlooking the Mississippi River just outside **WINONA, MN**, where on June 23 (the feast of the Sacred Heart), one deacon, Rev. Frank Riccomini (St. Mary's, KS) and four priests were ordained; Frs. Stephen Arabadji (Queens, NY), Paul Robinson (Louisville, KY), Dominic May (Canada) and Mark Stafki (St. Paul, MN). The seminary is presently occupied with 84 seminarians, and of this, 12 entered directly into the first year, called the Year of Spirituality (as it concentrates on laying the groundwork for the spiritual life of the future priests), while 14 others entered into the Humanities Year, a pre-first year that covers basic liberal arts, which will aid them in their future pastoral duties.

Bishop Fellay admonishes the ordinands at Winona as to the importance and responsibilities of the priesthood.

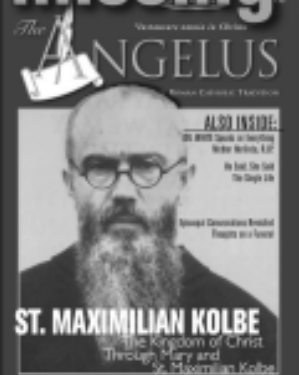


After the ceremonies, the newly ordained pose with Bishop Fellay in front of the seminary's chapel portico, along with the various ministers and the large group of clergy who were present.

Though reported in our March 2006 issue, nevertheless, it is appropriate here to travel once again "down under" to **HOLY CROSS SEMINARY** located in **GOULBURN, AUSTRALIA**, where being on a different seasonal schedule, the first priestly ordinations ever held there were administered to four deacons on December 27th (Feast of St. John the Evangelist), beginning a new chapter in the priestly life of the SSPX.

As the academic year progresses, please continue to pray for the perseverance of those young man who have answered Our Lord's call of the Lord to assist in His priestly ministry, as well as for an increase of vocations for the Church's great work of salvation.

Look what you're missing this month:



The Angelus is America's premier magazine of Catholic Faith and Culture. Every month, **The Angelus** brings you the best in Catholic history, literature, theology, analysis of the Crisis in the Church, family life, liturgy, news of the work of Catholic tradition, Questions & Answers, and much more. \$29.95/year: it's worth it.

- Can there be a **vocation to the single life**?
- If **St. Maximilian Kolbe** gave a conference today, what would the topic be? Auschwitz? or "The Universal Reign of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary."
- Second cousin twice removed of General Robert E. Lee, **Foundress of the Traditional Franciscans of Christ the King** and Warriorress for Tradition, Mother Herlinda dies at the age of 95. Read her fascinating life story.
- **Thoughts at a Funeral**: "It was as though they were determined that nothing, not even death, would be permitted to shake their complacency." Are we much better?
- **He Said; She Said**: "Reality check: God gave many gifts to men, but intuition wasn't one of them. If a man wants or needs something, he will ask for it." **How to understand your spouse.**
- **StSiWoNo** tackles the "optimistic" view of **Benedict XVI**. Highly readable and informative.
- Bishop Mazzolari speaks of the **horrible conditions of Catholics under Muslim domination**. His utterly unecumenical insights are borne not of V2 but of the reality of living in the **Sudan**. His message: "Europe! Wake Up!" Riveting.
- **Q&A: Third Confiteor** and Confession during Sunday Mass
- **Dr. David Allen White interviewed**: Islam, Universities, Movies & TV, Great Literature, the day the "power goes out," writing *Horn of the Unicorn*, Alfred Hitchcock, and MUCH more!
- Fr. Cekada rebutted.

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NORTH CAROLINA

The historic Southern city of WILMINGTON, NC was

once again the massing point for traditional Catholics, starting (and for the first time) on the Battleship North Carolina Museum and ending within the former St. Thomas the Apostle Pro-Cathedral (now also a museum; cf. our October 2003 issue for historical details).

Beginning on Saturday evening of August 5th, Fr. Kenneth Novak (the pastor of the SSPX's chapels in North Carolina) offered an evening Requiem Low Mass on the stern of the former United States Navy Battleship, *North Carolina*. Her construction began in 1937 and she was formerly launched in 1940, remaining a commissioned naval vessel until 1961 when ownership was transferred to her namesake state.

The *North Carolina* is 728 feet long with a maximum width of 108 feet on her beam, and when fully loaded displaces 44,800 tons. While active in the Pacific during World War II, she earned 15 battle stars, was torpedoed once by a Japanese submarine, downed 24 enemy aircraft, and employed its 9 massive 16-inch cannon (contained in 3 gun turrets and have an effective range of 20 miles) and its 20 secondary 5-inch guns (located in 10 twin mounts) in ship and shore bombardments (sinking one enemy ship).

During her commissioned years, the spiritual needs of the Catholic crewmen (there were over 2300 personnel on board) had to be attended to, and so Mess Deck #1 (just one of the sections where the crew ate) would be converted on Sundays for use as a chapel. As is usual in the United States military, the "chapel" was "non-denomination", as non-Catholic groups also used it for their services.

One of the interesting points of the *North Carolina's* "chapel" was the beautiful triptych created in 1941 for the ship's "chapel" (depicting the Last Supper and other symbols), the first made for the Navy. The museum still possessed this religious naval treasure, but the original wooden altar was missing; albeit no longer.

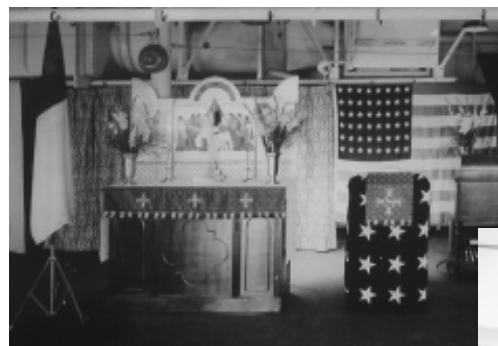
In preparation for the Requiem Mass on board the battleship (which was said for the deceased, Catholic sailors), Fr. Novak organized from period pictures the reconstruction of the original altar, complete with a partial frontal and altar linens, which were then presented and gratefully received by the museum curators after the Mass.

Following on the Lord's Day, newly-ordained Fr. Paul Robinson offered one of his first Solemn High Masses within the historic walls of St. Thomas the Apostle, an event that is now in its third year. Mass was followed by a Eucharistic Procession that traveled 3 blocks to St. Mary's Church, where benediction was given on its front steps, then returned to St. Thomas for the final benediction.

The itinerary of events came to a close on Monday morning for those who remained in Wilmington for the chanting of the Divine Office of Prime followed by a Low Mass also at St. Thomas.



A shot of the *North Carolina* in her berth adjacent to Cape Fear River, just across from Wilmington. The circled portion of the stern shows where the Requiem Mass was offered (attesting to the sheer size of the ship).



A period photo of how the altar would have looked in the "chapel" on the mess deck. Note the triptych on the altar.

The reconstructed altar, minus its triptych, but with a violet antependium and altar cloths. To obtain a complete effect, a similar cross and candlesticks were also used.



The Elevation of the Precious Blood offered as a recompense for those Catholics who died fighting in the name of their country.

Taken from the choir loft, the procession makes its way into the sanctuary at St. Thomas the Apostle Pro-Cathedral. Fr. Novak assisted as deacon, while newly-ordained Rev. Matthew Zacharias assisted as subdeacon.



IN MEMORIAM...

As we enter the month of the Poor Souls, please remember to keep in your prayers the repose of these two faithful warriors for Catholic Tradition, who recently passed away.

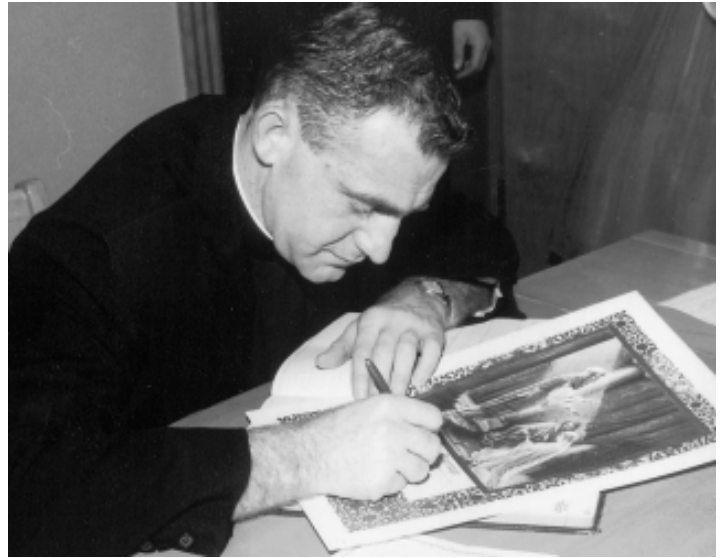
Fr. Eugene Heidt

After a lengthy illness due to the combination of a stroke and then cancer, Fr. Eugene Heidt, a long-time friend and associate of the SSPX, passed away on October 20th at the home of his niece in Lebanon, OR.

Though Fr. Heidt gives a brief, but good account of his return to the Mass of his ordination and his strident defense of Catholic Tradition in the book, *Priest Where is Thy Mass? Mass Where is Thy Priest?* (available from Angelus Press), and in the April 1992 and July 1993 issues of *The Angelus* magazine, suffice us to say a few words about him.

Father was born on August 31, 1933 in Dickenson, ND, one in a German immigrant family of 9 siblings, though his family moved several times, eventually settling at Woodburn, OR. He began his priestly formation in 1947 during his freshman high school year when he entered the minor seminary program at the Benedictine Mt. Angel Abbey and Seminary, where he spent 8 years in training. Afterwards, between 1955 and 1959, Father attended the Salesian Fathers' St. Edward's Seminary in Seattle, WA. On May 23, 1959, Fr. Heidt was ordained to the priesthood for the archdiocese of Portland, OR wherein he was assigned to various parishes.

When the *Novus Ordo Missae* was implemented, Fr. Heidt said it, though "I didn't like it, but I thought I had to do it." Eventually, Father began to say the traditional Mass again, and as a result, he was removed from pastoral care and put on sabbatical. He was later illegitimately suspended by his bishop, Archbishop (now Cardinal) William Levada, for refusing to cease saying the traditional Mass and for assisting the SSPX at its Oregon chapels in Portland and Veneta.



A picture of a middle age Fr. Heidt signing the certificate of matrimony for the first marriage he performed.



Full to capacity as usual, Fr. Heidt's simple chapel dedicated to St. Pius X in Silverton, OR.



Fr. Heidt (in cope) posing with newly-ordained Fr. Christopher Darby (center in bottom row), after having assisted at his spiritual son's first Solemn Mass as the Assistant Priest...



...and a couple of years later with his spiritual daughters, the teaching Franciscan sisters (he is supporting Mother Herlinda).

FR. HEIDT., continued from p.4



Vested in violet vestments, Fr. Heidt lays in state during the wake held at the funeral home the day previous to his burial.



Before taking Fr. Heidt's earthly remains to the cemetery, Fr. Darby performs the absolution ceremony and here he circles the casket and sprinkles it with holy water which he repeated with blessed incense. Bishop Steiner watches from the far right.

Ostracized by his diocese, Fr. Heidt continued his pastoral care of souls as an “independent” priest, building his own chapel under the patronage of St. Pius X in Silverton, OR. Over 200 faithful regularly came to be fed with Catholic Tradition, and while still possessing good health, he would also travel on Sundays to say Mass at the SSPX's chapels in Portland and Veneta.

In late 1999, Fr. Heidt was instrumental in encouraging Sister Mary Herlinda, a “Wheaton Franciscan” to found a community of teaching sisters, subsequently becoming “Mother” to the Franciscans of Christ the King in Kansas City, MO, thereby continuing in the restoration of traditional religious life. As can be read within this issue, just over a month previous to Fr. Heidt's death, Mother Herlinda herself passed away.

In September 2003, Father underwent back surgery, during which he suffered a stroke that confined him to a wheelchair for the remainder of his life. Needing constant medical attention, he eventually moved to the house of his niece in Lebanon, OR, continuing to offer the traditional Mass in private until the last few months of his life.

The Requiem High Mass of Burial was offered on Thursday, October 26th by Fr. Christopher Darby (who had been influenced into considering a priestly vocation as a parishioner of Fr. Heidt) at St. Thomas Becket Church in Veneta, OR. In addition to the many family members and faithful in attendance, also present was Bishop Kenneth Steiner (auxiliary for the Portland archdiocese), some diocesan priests, Fr. Daniel Cooper (the SSPX's prior at Veneta), Fr. Brendan Dardis, OSB (pastor at St. Benedict's Church in Louisville, KY), and Sisters Mary Joseph and Mary Bonaventure (of the Franciscan Sisters). Following the funeral Mass, Fr. Heidt was buried at St. Luke's Cemetery in Woodburn, his childhood home.

Mother Herlinda, OSF

Though a short, but wonderful biography of Mother Herlinda's life can be found in the November issue of *The Angelus* magazine, nevertheless, it is appropriate to cite some details of this modern day Susanna of the Old Testament.

She was born as Linda McCarthy in Chickasaw, OK on January 22, 1911 and had a rugged upbringing amongst the Colorado prairies. At her own insistence, she was baptized into the Catholic Faith on May 19, 1923 when she was only 10 years old, taking the name of Theresa Amata. She was confirmed just 2 days later taking the name Fidelis (Faithful), which later would show to be more than just coincidental.

Before completing her high school education, she entered the Franciscan Daughters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, also known as the “Wheaton Franciscans” (a German congregation whose American motherhouse was in Wheaton, IL, and were immortalized in Gerard Manley Hopkins' poem *The Wreck of the Deutschland*, which related the drowning of their sisters who were fleeing Bismarck's anti-Catholic *Kulturkampf*

Continued on p.6

Taken in her early years as a sister, Sister Herlinda poses in the Franciscan-style habit of her secular religious congregation that followed the Third Order Rule of St. Francis.



in 1875), and was given the name of Sister Herlinda. She served in a variety of teaching capacities and as a religious superior several times over, thereby preparing her for what the future held.

The implementation of the Second Vatican Council wrought within her beloved religious family the devastation that unfortunately was so typical of other congregations: the triumph of individualism over the community life, the rejection of the habit, and of course, liturgical and spiritual novelties.

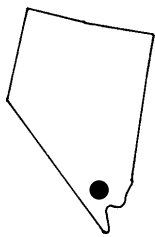
Finally in 1996, having already been introduced to the SSPX via its chapel in Oak Park (Chicago), IL, where she was attending Mass, she left her community and took asylum at the Society's priory in Dickinson, TX. While there, Fr. Carl Pulvermacher (a Franciscan himself), urged Sister to form a congregation of Franciscan teaching sisters, and having been put in contact with Fr. Heidt, moved in 2000 to Silverton, OR, and became (once again) "Mother" to a small group of woman dedicated to religious life and Catholic education. In November 2002, the Franciscan Sisters of Christ the King took up residence in Kansas City, MO.

Mother Herlinda passed away at the age of 95 on September 17th, the feast of the Stigmata of St. Francis of Assisi, her father and model in religion, and after a Solemn High Requiem Mass at Christ the King Convent in Kansas City, MO, was taken to be buried at Our Lady Queen of Peace Cemetery in St. Mary's, KS.

Resting just above her burial spot and surrounded by the sisters of her own community (on the left in brown habits) as well as those of the SSPX (those in the middle in black), Mother Herlinda is given the Church's final funeral blessings.



Incapacitated and finally bedridden during her last few years, Mother Herlinda is seen here contemplating in the beautiful Romanesque chapel that is part of the former Benedictine convent which the sisters purchased in Kansas City.



NEVADA

Over the year, various events have been occurring at Our Lady of Victory Church located on the outskirts of **LAS VEGAS, NV**. In February, several men were enrolled into the chapel's chapter of the Holy Name Society and on Sunday, May 28th, 9 children made their First Communion. While after a lengthy search, a nearly life-size, outdoor resin statue of *Notre Dame de Paris* (a famous 14th century statue of Our Lady situated on one of the pillars at the famous cathedral in Paris, France) was enshrined and blessed.

On the practical side, the parish has recently completed a 40 x 40 foot building that serves the triple purpose of a rectory garage, storage and a meeting room. While inside the church, the sanctuary has been embellished with the addition of 2 large icons of Our Lord and Lady on either side of the high altar and those of 4 Evangelists and various archangels to the side altars. The chapel plans to continue its improvements to its sanctuary with the construction of a new communion rail, a new altar reredos and marble tile flooring.



After Sunday Mass, the members of the Holy Name Society and the altar servers pose with their pastor.



The group of First Communicants (which for a small chapel is a rather large number) attests to the parish's steady youthful growth.



Fr. Otto solemnly blesses the statue of Notre Dame de Paris that now graces the chapel's outdoor shrine.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



MEXICO

From May 22-26, five Americans traveled south of the border to the province of Durango in Mexico from various parts of the United States to host a medical clinic for children from the poorer, outlying *rancho* (farming) communities. Teaming up with six Mexican young adults, this apostolate (led by two of the Americans who are nurses) taught the children basic hygienic practices, from hand-washing and brushing one's teeth, to what a proper, balanced diet should consist. The conferences were prepared in English and then translated into Spanish in advance, so that the children could fully understand.

However, not all of the apostolate was serious! In addition to catechism, a rosary procession and an overall theme of *Viva Cristo Rey!* (the banner cry of the *Cristeros* who combated the Freemasons in Mexico from 1926 to 1929 which instructed the children in their country's profoundly Catholic roots), there were also games, art classes (one focused on making sacrifice beads after which the children were instructed on how to use them) and prizes.

During the five-day camp, 60-80 children regularly attended, while in the middle of the week, on Wednesday, 100 were

present, attesting to the success of the apostolate, which was inspired by a spiritual retreat that the nurses attended in 2005. Hopefully, this charitable labor, based upon the corporal works of mercy, will bear much fruit for the children, who are the future of a Catholic society.



Here we see the children being instructed during one of the hygienic courses.



One of the games played was "Mexican Dodgeball", along with high-rope jumping, and singing (with hand-clapping!), while at one point, ice cream (a great treat for many) was also distributed.



A few of the children who attended the clinic pose with Fr. Novak and the American and Mexican clinical staff.

RETREAT SCHEDULE

ST. IGNATIUS RETREAT HOUSE

209 Tackora Trail, Ridgefield, CT 06877

(203) 431-0201

MEN: December 11-16

WOMEN: Presently none

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

19101 Bear Creek Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033

(408) 354-7703

MEN: Presently none

WOMEN: Presently none

OUR LADY OF SORROWS RETREAT CENTER

750 E. Baseline Road, Phoenix, AZ 85042

(602) 268-7673

MEN: December 4-9

WOMEN: Presently none

MIXED: December 26-31 (Marian)

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EUCCHARISTIC CRUSADE

MONTHLY INTENTIONS

November For the dying and the souls in Purgatory
December For the heads of states

U.S. DISTRICT TREASURE—August 2006

Daily Offering	8,276
Masses	2,425
Sacramental Communion	2,016
Spiritual Communion	12,040
Sacrifices	17,931
Decades of the Rosary	38,166
Visits to the Blessed Sacrament	2,608
15 minutes of silent meditation	3,275
Good Example	12,205
Number returned	333