

Regina Coeli

REPORT

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UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN!

Across the United States District, the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord was celebrated within the SSPX's chapels in a variety of ways, and here we present a collage of pictures as a sample.

ASSUMPTION CHAPEL, ST. MARY'S, KS



The annual outdoor Nativity scene, a public manifestation OF Our Lord's Incarnation, something that more cities across the United States are banning in the spirit of "religious tolerance" demonstrating the true, anti-Catholic bias behind such political agendas.



During the Nativity's Octave on St. John's Feast Day (Dec. 27), after the Last Gospel wine is blessed by Fr. Paul Robinson according to the *Rituale Romanum* "in remembrance and in honor of St. John who without any ill effects drank a cup of poisoned wine." In connection with this custom, children would be granted a little of the blessed wine during the principal meal, which not only taught them the proper usage of such "Catholic beverages" but also have a salutary effect upon them.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH, KANSAS CITY, MO



During the Midnight Mass, Fr. Jean Violette intones the *Gloria* during which the church's bell and altar bells were rung to joyfully announce the message of the Angelic Hymn.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH, MT. HOLLY (CHARLOTTE), NC



Just prior to the Midnight High Mass, Christmas Matins was sung per the simple form (*i.e.*, without the celebrant in cope and the use of candles and incense), properly anticipating the festive joy with the Divine Office. Here we see a cantor chanting in Latin one of the 9 lessons to the listening members of the schola, altar servers and faithful.

A view of St. Vincent's dramatic candlelight Midnight Mass, consisting of nearly 1000 candles burning in specially-constructed chandeliers to honor the birth of Our Savior, the Light of World.



QUEEN OF ANGELS CHURCH, DICKINSON (HOUSTON), TX

Properly awaiting the Christmas season, the parish held its celebratory school plays and other performance during the Octave of Christmas on December 21st. Several weeks of practice went into the various performances that were well received by the standing-room only crowd in the parish hall.

“The Birth of Our Lord” by the Lower Grades



To the sound effects of howling wind, St. Joseph attempts to find shelter for the Blessed Virgin and her Divine Child, accompanied by an angel. Thanks to an ingenious setup, St. Joseph could even lead the donkey across the stage!



At the cave, the angels sing in jubilation at the birth of the Savior, after which they prostrated themselves in adoration of their King.

“Randolph in Snakebite, Texas”



Complete with live cap guns and damsels in distress, shy Randolph becomes Snakebite's sheriff. While keeping keep law and order, he attempts to bring Miss Lilly, a rich fallen-away Catholic, back to the Faith, and the bad guys (who are coming out of the woodwork) at bay from doing her harm and stealing her money.



In the end, Randolph saves the day, Miss Lilly returns to the Faith and donates her riches to her brother, a priest, so that he can build a church.

Musical Ensembles



While a 3-piece chorus was performed during the Nativity play, other various duets were performed by the older students.



Society of Saint Pius X

District of the United States of America

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Father John Fullerton
District Superior

J.M.J.
FEBRUARY 1, 2007

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

This month let us return to our consideration of developing resourcefulness in our children.

Recall that a resourceful person is one who is capable of dealing with real-life situations and difficulties.

In dealing with this subject, we first considered how important it was for parents to give their children what they truly need and not necessarily what they simply want. By doing this parents help their children not only to control their desires but they also teach them how to deal with real life.

Parents, however, must also strive to remove any obstacles which might prevent or destroy this quality in their children. After all, no one can finish a work if he tears down with one hand what he tries to build up with the other. And among the most prevalent obstacles to developing resourcefulness in today's world is television.

If you have ever had the opportunity to watch children as they watch television, you would notice how they sit with their mouths slightly open, eyes glazed, oblivious to everything around them. Nothing short of the TV blowing up can get their attention. They become passive, incommunicative "zombies" who cannot play, create, or think clearly. This effect is especially noticed in younger children who unfortunately are usually the ones put in front of the television by parents hoping to keep them "occupied". Many a teacher, and not only in our schools, has lamented the fact that they must constantly struggle against these "zombie-like" effects in their students.

One study showed that, on the average, children watch 4 hours of television per day. This amounts to nearly 1500 hours of television per year. "But my child only watches 2 hours of television each day." Well this may be well below the national average, but think of the time that is wasted with even 2 hours. If before attending school, a child watches an average of 20 hours of television a week, which is still below the national average, he will have viewed nearly 4000 hours of television before entering school. 4000 hours! Is it any wonder that such children, spending so much time staring at flickering visual field, have problems with their key neural skills? This may well explain why, in comparison to other countries, we have such a problem with learning disabilities and attention deficit disorders.

Considering this, it should be no wonder that so many children, and later adults, cannot deal with real life problems. Rather than making the effort, it is much easier to plop down in front of the television where the electronic drugging helps to push these problems aside. It is like a narcotic which dulls the brain, inducing a stupor, a sort of sleep, preventing the pain from registering. The hypnotic effect produced as the attention is focused on the screen, while at the same time pictures are racing through the mind, virtually suspends the power of thinking, the contact of the mind with reality.

According to Rutgers University psychologist and TV-Free America board member Robert Kubey, millions of Americans are so hooked on television that they fit the criteria for substance abuse as defined in the official psychiatric manual. Heavy TV viewers exhibit five dependency symptoms – two more than necessary to arrive at a clinical diagnosis of substance abuse. Among the various symptoms are: using TV as a sedative; indiscriminate viewing; feeling loss of control while viewing; feeling angry with oneself for watching too much; inability to stop watching; feeling miserable when kept from watching.

Author, Jerry Mander, in his book *Four Arguments for the Elimination of Television*, says:

When you are watching TV, you are experiencing mental images. As distinguished from most sense deprivation experiments these mental images are not yours. They are someone else's. Because the rest of your capacities have been subdued, and the rest of the world dimmed, these images are likely to have an extraordinary degree of influence. Am I saying this is brainwashing or hypnosis or mind-zapping or something like it? Well, there is no question but that someone is speaking into your mind and wants you to do something. First, keep watching. Second, carry the images around in your head. Third, buy something. Fourth, tune in tomorrow.

Nor is the impact of television felt only by the individual; it is felt by all society. Dr. John Nelson of the American Medical Association said that 2,888 out of 3,000 studies show that TV violence is a causal factor in real-life mayhem, "*it's a public health problem.*" The American Psychiatric Association addressed this problem in its endorsement of National TV-turnoff Week, stating: "*We have had a long-standing concern with the impact of television on behavior, especially among children.*"

Yet these warnings go unheeded just as they did several decades ago when television was first introduced as a new technology.

Pope Pius XII recognized the powerful influence television could have on men's minds and so warned of its misuse in his encyclical *Miranda Prorsus*:

For these new possessions and new instruments which are within almost everyone's grasp, introduce a most powerful influence into men's minds, both because they can flood them with light, raise them to nobility, adorn them with beauty, and because they can disfigure them by dimming their luster, dishonor them by a process of corruption, and make them subject to uncontrolled passions, according as the subjects presented to the senses in these shows are praiseworthy or reprehensible.

In the past century, advancing technical skill in the field of business frequently had this result: machines, which ought to serve men, when brought into use rather reduced them to a state of slavery and caused grievous harm.

Likewise today, unless the mounting development of technical skill, applied to the diffusion of pictures, sounds and ideas is subjected to the sweet yoke of the law of Christ, it can be the source of countless evils, which appear to be all the more serious, because

LETTER..., continued from p.3

not only material forces but also minds are unhappily enslaved. And man's inventions are, to that extent, deprived of those advantages which in the design of God's Providence ought to be their primary purpose."

Their primary purpose is of course to serve truth and justice, which Pius XII says demands "*that all refrain from error, from lies, from deceit of all kinds but also that they shun everything that can encourage a manner of living and acting which is false, imperfect, or harmful to another party.*" If they do not serve this purpose but rather "*embark on a downward and uninhibited path, they will certainly restrict the people's true development and weaken their morals.*"

The pope was aware, even in his time, of the intentional misuse of television to entice men: "*Should we not shudder if we reflect attentively that by means of television shows, even within home surroundings all can inhale that poisoned air of 'materialistic' doctrines which diffuse notions of empty pleasures and desires of all kinds?*" And drive them from God: "*We are fully aware, alas, that in some nations amid which atheistic communism is rampant, these methods of telecommunication are directed in the schools to root out all religious ideas from the mind.*"

Many today do recognize the problems caused by the misuse of this technology, and unfortunately they turn away from the only solution, which the pope also gave over 50 years ago: our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is no doubt intentional on the part of some, as evidenced by several excerpts from a recent article written by a science correspondent in the newspaper *The Guardian* labeled "No Religion and An End to War: How Thinkers See the Future."

The article begins: "*People's fascination for religion and superstition will disappear within a few decades as television and the internet make it easier to get information, and scientists get closer to discovering a final theory of everything, leading thinkers argue today.*" The article says that the web magazine *Edge* asked more than 150 "*scientists and intellectuals*": "*What are you optimistic about?*" Some of the responses show just how far modern technology has perverted us.

A "philosopher", Daniel Denett, is quoted as saying that the spread of information through the internet and mobile phones will "*gently, irresistibly, undermine the mindsets requisite for religious fanaticism and intolerance.*" A "biologist", Richard Dawkins, said that physicists would give religion another problem: a theory of everything that would complete Albert Einstein's dream of unifying the fundamental laws of physics. "*This final scientific enlightenment will deal an overdue death blow to religion and other juvenile superstitions.*"

"Absurd!" Well, let us hope so. But if we, especially as traditional Catholics, continue to welcome the corrupting influence of television into our homes, we will also quickly succumb to its materialistic and immoral messages. And our children will never learn how to deal with life's problems, which is so necessary to the salvation of their souls.

Fr. John D. Fullerton

Sincerely in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior,
Fr. John D. Fullerton

20 YEARS AS ALTER CHRISTUS

Fr. Juan-Carlos Iscara celebrated his 20th priestly anniversary on November 30th at St. Thomas Aquinas Seminary in WINONA, MN, where he has labored in this country since 1993 to help form young men into future priests. Presently Fr. Iscara is engaged at the seminary in teaching history and moral theology, though in the past, he has also taught liturgy.

Fr. Iscara though is perhaps better known *outside* of the seminary for the comprehensive and practically helpful articles he has written over the years for *The Angelus* magazine, ranging from such moral issues as "The Immorality of Stem Cell Research" and "Just War" (and which included as follow-ups "Might is Not Right" and "Humanist Pacifism"), to historical ones like "Christendom and Revolution" (these and others are available on the District's website, WWW.SSPX.ORG).

Fr. Iscara offered a Solemn High Mass in celebration and thanksgiving for 20 years as *alter Christus*, during which his friend, Fr. Alain-Marc Nely (the Second Assistant to the SSPX's Superior General) gave the sermon. Also present were Frs. Dominique-Marie, OP (prior of *Couvent De St. Dominique* in Avrille, France), John Fullerton (District Superior), Gerard Beck (First Assistant to the District Superior), Fr. Joseph Dreher (District Secretary), and Fr. Jean Violette (pastor of St. Vincent's in Kansas City).

After the Mass, a banquet was held in Father's honor, during which various gifts were given and a music program was presented by the seminarians.



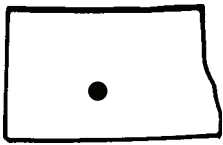
For 20 years Fr. Iscara has been offering the Precious Blood of Our Savior for the salvation of souls, and this time on his anniversary was just as significant.



Fr. Nely's holds up the *Summa Theologica* printed in Paris in 1663 that was given to Fr. Iscara by the General House in Menzingen. Other gifts included an 18th century icon from the seminary, and from the District Office, a classic 4-volume set of *Histoire de la Revolution Francaise*, betraying Father's passion for the historical.



Here the seminarians conduct a sing-along, which included such Argentinean folk songs as *Le Virgin Argentine* (The [Blessed] Virgin of Argentina) and *Cielito Lindo* (The Beautiful Sky of Argentina).



NORTH DAKOTA

St. Michael's Church in MANDAN (BISMARCK), ND, presently under the pastoral care of recently-ordained Fr. Paul Robinson, had some noteworthy activities throughout the year of 2006, and here we present them as a photo collage.



On Sunday, October 1st, Fr. Gallagher and the faithful of St. Michael's participated in the annual International Rosary March by holding a public procession in Our Lady's honor. Here they are processing down a street in Mandan.



The new pastor, Fr. Paul Robinson, having been ordained on June 23, 2006, gives his first blessing to some of the parishioners now under his pastoral ministry.

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All contributions to the SSPX are tax deductible and are recognized as such under the IRS Code.

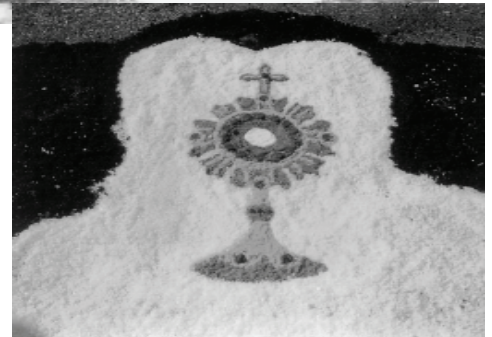
www.sspx.org/donate.htm



On the Feast of Corpus Christi (solemnized on Sunday), the former pastor, Fr. Francis Gallagher, carries Our Eucharistic Lord to the outdoor altar that has been prepared on the side of the church.



St. Michael's outdoor altar was an edifying example of liturgical correctness, complete with antependium, dossal curtain, altar canopy, flowers and candles. In the foreground one can see the pavement motif of a monstrance.



Even St. Nicholas (of Myra) came to visit and give gifts to the good children at St. Michael's!



TEXAS

On December 12th, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Queen of Angels Church in **DICKINSON (HOUSTON)**, TX, celebrated by having a combined parish and school program of Mexican culture in the parish hall to honor the Empress of the Americas.

Over 60 parishioners attended the event, which consisted of various ethnic Mexican dances that the students practiced for several months after school and on Saturdays. The dances were complete with a mariachi band and the girls wearing effusively bright dresses, while the boys wore customs resembling those worn by the *charros* (the horsemen of Jalisco, a southern state in Mexico where the mariachi style originated).



Here the boys perform the *Maculele*, a traditional Brazilian folk dance that came from the sugar cane plantations. The dance is performed with machetes (not real ones here) to rhythmic movements that imitate the chopping of sugar cane.



Fr. Stanich poses with the 2 groups of academy girls and their teacher, Miss Grisell Rolon (center with the girls in white blouses).



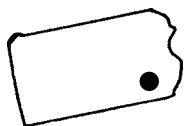
With the mariachi band in background playing the *Chicken Dance*, the girls have some Mexican-style fun.



Here the girls dance the *Chappa Negras* showing off their bright green, pink and blue dresses striped with even more colors.



To the surprise of Frs. Gregory Post (left) Stephen Stanich (standing, the pastor) and Stephen Zigrang (sitting on the right and joining in the fun!), a 3rd grader intrepidly performs the *Old Lady* dance.



PENNSYLVANIA

St. Jude's Church in **EDDYSTONE (PHILADELPHIA)**, PA held its first Catholic Family Camp from September 15-17 for the central East Coast parishes at Hickory Run State Park (near Scranton, PA) located in the scenic Pocono Mountains. The campers came from 4 chapels of the SSPX, the Child Jesus Chapel in Pittston, PA, St. Anthony of Padua Chapel in North Caldwell (Paterson), NJ, St. Michael the Archangel in Farmingville (Long Island), NY, and of course, St. Jude's.

The camp consisted of outdoor activities such as hiking, nature treasure hunts, baseball, archery and orienteering. Other events such as group skits, catechism, the public recitation of the rosary, a bonfire to honor the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows (September 15) were held, while on Friday and Saturday, Fr. Louis Alessio offered Mass for the campers, who lodged overnight at the park's rustic cabins. In all, there was much camaraderie present, and the camp served as wonderful chance for families to spend time amongst themselves, as well as with other traditionally-minded families, and it is hoped that it will be held again in mid-September of 2007.



A group shot of the happy Catholic Family Campers with Fr. Alessio.



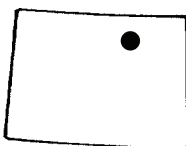
The Pocono Mountains offered such beautiful settings for hiking as this one, complete with streams (seen on the right).



Here the orienteers check their maps to make sure that they are leading everyone in the right direction.



Here a group of boys present one of many skits that were creatively enacted during the camp.



COLORADO

Winter is in full force across the United States, effecting some states differently than others. On the week preceding Christmas, the Annunciation Chapel in **FORT COLLINS, CO**, was the recipient of a large blizzard that eventually shut down the nearby Denver International Airport, and closed down roads across the state of Colorado.

Southwards of Fort Collins, some of the Benedictines from Our Lady of Guadalupe Monastery in Silver City, NM, who were at the St. Isidore Mission in Watkins (Denver) constructing pews for the church, were delayed in their departure due to the closed roads.

Providentially, because the blizzard hit in the middle of the week, none of the Sunday Masses at the SSPX's chapels in Colorado (Denver and Fort Collins) had to be cancelled (as Fr. Joseph Lester from Phoenix, AZ services these chapels). We are told that *"when the blizzard was over, the sun came out and the weather was beautiful, in typical Rocky Mountain form"*. Here we present a few pictures of the snow removal, a reminder of the practical aspects involved in maintaining our chapels.



A view of the brick Annunciation Chapel amongst all the snow, with the new-looking front loader that was used to clear the parking lot.



Some of the boys who helped with the clearing of the parking lot and sidewalks, making the chapel safely accessible for the faithful.

RETREAT SCHEDULE

ST. IGNATIUS RETREAT HOUSE

209 Tackora Trail, Ridgefield, CT 06877
(203) 431-0201

MEN: March 26-31 (Virtues), May 7-12, July 9-14,
Aug 6-11, Oct 15-20, Dec 10-15

WOMEN: March 12-17 (Virtues), April 9-14, June
25-30, July 23-27 (Marian), Sept 17-22, Nov 12-17,
Jan 14-19, 2008

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

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

MEN: March 5-10 (Lenten), April 30-May 5,
June 18-23, Sept. 10-15, Oct. 22-27, Nov. 29-Dec 2

WOMEN: March 26-31 (Lenten), May 21 or 28?-Aug.
20-25, Oct. 1-6, Nov. 12-17, Dec. 13-16

OUR LADY OF SORROWS RETREAT CENTER

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

MEN: June 11-16 (Vocations),
Sept. 10-15 (Virtues), Nov. 12-17

WOMEN: March 5-10, May 7-12 (Virtues),
Oct. 8-13, Dec. 17-22

MIXED: May 23-27 (Matrimony),
Dec. 27-Jan. 1 (Marian)

EUCCHARISTIC CRUSADE

MONTHLY INTENTIONS

January For the Eucharistic
Crusade for Children

February For the forgotten,
the naked and the poor

U.S. DISTRICT TREASURE—November 2006

Daily Offering	17,021
Masses	7,465
Sacramental Communion	6,138
Spiritual Communion	15,234
Sacrifices	27,709
Decades of the Rosary	64,750
Visits to the Blessed Sacrament	6,833
15 minutes of silent meditation	12,116
Good Example	16,814
Number returned	609

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swaddling clothes of the Infant Jesus ● the cloak Our Lady ● and the
cloth where the head of St. John the Baptist was placed after his
beheading.

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the lives of the cornerstone saints of Catholic Germany:

● St. Boniface ● St. Henry II ● St. Peter Canisius ● St. Elizabeth of
Hungary ● St. Albert the Great ● and more!

Space is limited. For more information please contact:

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