

Regina Coeli

REPORT

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RETURN TO MOLOKAI

In the October 2005 issue, we featured an article entitled “A Visit to Fr. Damien’s Kalaupapa,” wherein in connection with Fr. Daniel Couture’s special visit, we elaborated on the history of the leper colony on the island of Molokai and of Blessed Fr. Damien de Veuster’s (1840-1889) efforts to work for the sanctification of the people there, to the point that he contracted and died of the now curable disease itself.

Recently this year, four other SSPX clerics were able to visit Molokai, which, under the control of the National Park Service, allows only a certain number of visitors a year. Accompanied by Mr. Carl Loando (long-time chapel coordinator of Our Lady of Lourdes Mission in Honolulu), Fr. Yves Le Roux (rector of the North American Seminary in Winona, MN) and Fr. Dominique Bourmaud (professor at Holy Cross Seminary in Goulburn, Australia), flew by charter plane to the island in May. In June, Mr. Loando escorted Bishop Bernard Fellay (Superior General) and Fr. Jacques Emily (prior of Los Gatos, CA) to the island to make a devotional visit.

These visits were well-timed, as the cause for Blessed Fr. Damien’s canonization is drawing closer, especially in light of a

spectacular and unexplainable complete cure of a stage 4 cancer victim who invoked for seven years the intervention of the Apostle of Lepers. This miracle was officially recognized by the Vatican on June 8th of this year.

Here we present a few pictures from both visits to Molokai, which continues to enshrine the great apostolic work of Blessed Damien who arrived there in 1873.



This deathbed picture shows Blessed Damien after he had succumbed to the deteriorating effects of leprosy, which he gladly offered up as his personal Calvary.



This aerial view of the Kalaupapa peninsula on the island of Molokai shows why the royal Hawaiian government choose this location for the leper colony; in 1865 it was approachable only from the sea and then only a few times a year.



Fr. Damien had a modern harbor pier constructed, but even today, a boat with supplies only docks twice a year; everything else arrives by air.



This close up picture shows where originally the lepers would be deposited on Molokai, in some cases, being thrown overboard as the ship could not approach any closer for fear of being broken upon the rocks.



This museum collage of pictures shows a few of the thousands of lepers, young and old, who Fr. Damien came to Molokai to care for.

The eastward facing sun dial that Fr. Damien built to keep accurate time on the island.



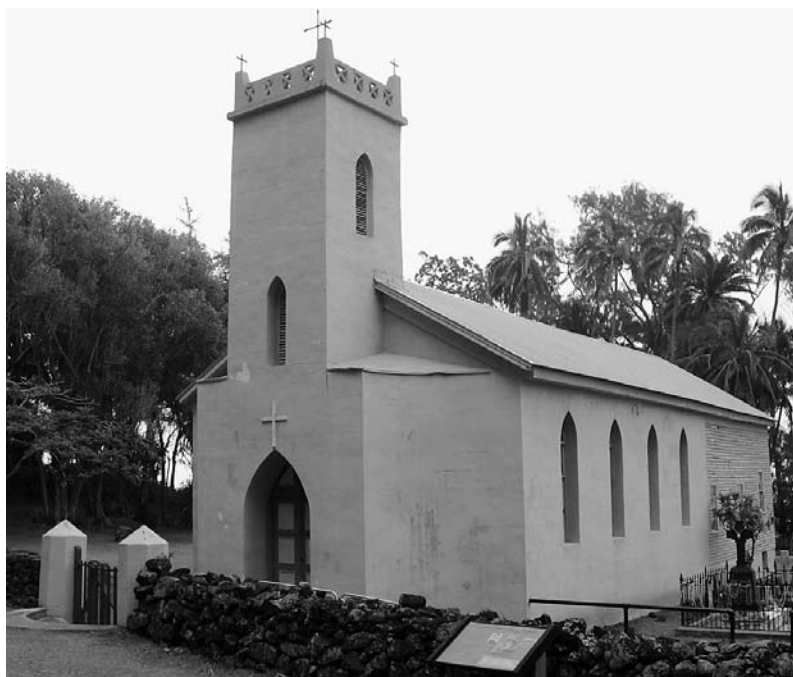
One of the first tasks that Fr. Damien undertook was to remind the demoralized (and often immoral) inmates of the dignity of their souls. To that end, he had this stone wall erected around the cemetery to keep scavenging animals from digging up the dead.



Fr. Damien labored hard to cultivate a culture of life on the island, especially through the Church's liturgy. Here an altar of repose was prepared by the colony and decorated with flags from around the world (perhaps in thanksgiving for numerous and generous donations received from these countries).



Another view of the same cemetery, which contains over 3000 graves: *requiescant in pace.*



St. Philomena's Church, was the heart and soul of the colony. Fr. Damien's grave can be seen on the right.



From left to right, Frs. Le Roux and Bourmaud stand in St. Philomena's Church which was expanded twice by Fr. Damien after its initial construction by Brother Victoria in 1872 (before Fr. Damien's arrival). The colony's parish transferred to a newer St. Francis Church in 1932.



Bishop Fellay prays at the gravesite of Blessed Damien of Molokai. In 1936, his remains were exhumed from here and reburied at Louvain, Belgium. In 1995 though, to the great joy of Hawaiians, his right hand was returned to his original grave.



A view of the other side of Fr. Damien's grave marker. The man standing on the left of the two men is Fr. Hendricks, the long-time pastor at Molokai.



From left to right, Mr. Loando, Bishop Fellay and Fr. Emily pose for a picture during their visit to Molokai.

PILGRIMAGES IN THE UNITED STATES

AURIESVILLE PILGRIMAGE

The 10-mile Pilgrimage of Catholic Tradition to the Shrine of the North American Martyrs at Auriesville in upstate New York was held from June 14-15. Dedicated to the eight Jesuit martyrs of the Huron Mission, respectively Sts. Jean de Brebeuf (martyred in 1649), Noel Chabanel (1649), Antoine Daniel (1648), Charles Garnier (1649), Rene Goupil (1642), Isaac Jogues (1646), Jean de la Lande (1646), and Gabriel Lalemant (1649), whose shedding of blood for Christ made possible the Church's future efforts in evangelizing the Native Americans.

Like the previous year, the event actually began on the evening of Friday, June 13, with Stations of the Cross and Mass followed by a holy hour. The next morning, Saturday, June 14, the usual rendezvous was made at Lock 10 where a kick-off sermon was given to energize the pilgrims for their 10-mile march. A break was taken for lunch, followed by a talk, then the pilgrims continued to walk until they reached the shrine where a Solemn High Mass was offered. For those pilgrims who wished to stay an extra night, an 8 o'clock High Mass was offered on Sunday morning.



A shot of the Syracuse Chapter (Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God Church) leading the pilgrimage. The front banner bears the logo of the important Heart of Mary Crusade that the SSPX has been recently promoting.



Fr. Adam Portugal (who was the celebrant during the Solemn High Mass) walking with some pilgrims.



Another view of the Syracuse Chapter carrying the bier with Our Lady's statue and flags of the Heart of Mary Crusade.



Frs. David Hewko and Geraldo Zendejas (prior at St. Ignatius Retreat House) prepare to give a kick-off talk before the pilgrimage begins.



Visiting the States from his missionary work in India, Fr. Joseph Pfeiffer gives a conference during the brief lunch stop.

SANTA FE PILGRIMAGE

From July 25 to 26, the 11th annual Santa Fe Pilgrimage to the Padilla Cross situated just outside of Lyons, KS took place with 50 male pilgrims, young and old, with over 90% of them making all 33-miles of the *camino* for the *Reconquista* of America from the early evening until the early morning hours.

Accompanying the pilgrimage this year were Frs. Kenneth Novak (Angelus Press) and Samuel Waters, a former Air Force chaplain and priest of the Philadelphia archdiocese who has been part of the United States District's priests' program in Kansas City, MO for several months. This was his first attendance at the Santa Fe Pilgrimage and he remarked how edifying it was to see so many young men making the strenuous (and often painful) effort to complete the trek.



With an overcast sky in the background, Fr. Novak (by the cross) announces the intentions of the pilgrimage having blessed the pilgrimage script (small square nails) and given a pilgrims' blessing. Fr. Waters stands on the left, in his old military chaplain fatigues; quite appropriate for the *Reconquista* of America!



This shot was taken in the middle of the night during one of the rest stops made approximately every 3 miles for the relief of the pilgrims during the 33-mile walk. The pickup truck is one of 3 support vehicles used to ensure a well-coordinated pilgrimage.



A twilight photo of the pilgrimage group just before stopping at a local farmer's Quonset hut for some dinner, which consisted of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches!



Just over the crest is the goal of the pilgrimage: the Padilla Cross, which marks the site of the Quiveran Indian village where Fr. Juan de Padilla planted a wooden cross in 1638. The stone markers to the left outline "Ralph's Ruts," one of the most visible wagon wheel marks remaining on the entire Santa Fe Trail which was formerly a Spanish *Camino Real* (King's Highway) and before that, an Indian trading trail.



One of the Santa Fe Pilgrimage's traditions is to kiss the granite Padilla Cross upon ascending the hill it rests upon. This year, the cross was partially shrouded in the back in an attempt to prevent wind drafts from disrupting the altar.



The climax was the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass featuring the votive propers of St. James the Apostle, the patron of the pilgrimage. St. James was also chosen because he is also the patron of Church Militant and of Spain, from whence the example of the *Reconquista* (and the original source of the Catholic Faith for our country) comes.

SURVIVING HURRICANE IKE

Dickinson, TX: The Galveston-Houston area which encompasses Dickinson was hit by Hurricane Ike from about 10:00 pm until 6:00 am of September 12-13 (Friday-Saturday) affecting the SSPX's Queen of Angels Church. The city of Dickinson was under an optional evacuation notice while the priory is situated on some of the highest ground in the township. So the prior, Fr. Stephen Stanich, and Br. Gregory decided to weather out the storm in the church's sacristy which they did without incident. A few days before, Fr. Stanich had the other resident priests leave earlier than usual to ensure that they could cover their Mass circuits. Meanwhile, a holy hour was held on Thursday and Friday before the hurricane to ask for God's deliverance from the forthcoming storm.

Despite the noise of the high winds, some rain, and experiencing the nearly hour-long calm as the hurricane's eye passed directly over Dickinson from about 2:15 am until 3:15 am, compared to what other local areas had experienced, the chapel complex suffered very little damage, though they were without electrical power for three and an half days. Parishioners, who mostly lived northwards inland, fared rather well compared to coastal hurricane victims, though they also experienced some hurricane damage such as blown down trees and shrubbery, damaged roofing, and loss of electrical power.

On Sunday, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Masses were held as usual, though without electric lights and air conditioning, while Fr. Stanich elaborated during his sermon that the hurricane is just another temporal burden that we must bear.



The historic parish hall (the original mission church) suffered some damage to its tar-composite roof, but otherwise survived, as it has every hurricane since its construction in 1909.



Some of the cyclone fencing was detached from its posts by the high winds.



Fr. Stanich stands in front of the parish bookstore. Shingles from the parish hall litter the foreground, while on the grass can be seen a statue blown down by the wind.



Here Fr. Stanich attempts to right this tree back into position, though in the end, it had to be cut down.

San Antonio, TX:

A New Grotto for Our Lady

A new stone grotto was just built in honor of Our Lady at St. Joseph's Chapel in SAN ANTONIO, TX. Begun over a year ago, monetary donations were first obtained as were cinder blocks and facing stones from a local construction company, and the then men of the parish constructed the grotto. Work on the Marian grotto was completed just in time for this year's May Crowning.



Here men of the parish can be seen completing the grotto. The underlying cinder blocks can be seen on the right side.



The finished grotto complete with trellises and a statue of Our Lady of Grace is situated at the of the classroom wing of the parish complex.



A girl dressed in white places a wreath of flowers on Our Lady's brow during the May Crowning.



EUCCHARISTIC CRUSADE

MONTHLY INTENTIONS

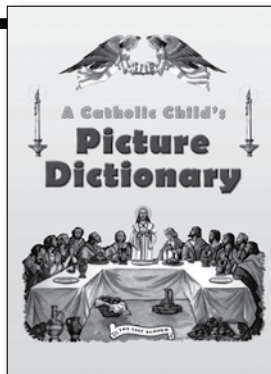
November: That God will save many of the dying, and for the dying.

December: That Crusaders will be on fire for the Crusade.

U.S. DISTRICT TREASURE

August 2008

Daily Offering	7,351
Masses	2,742
Sacramental Communions	2,454
Spiritual Communions	5,440
Sacrifices	19,937
Decades of the Rosary	34,838
Visits to the Blessed Sacrament	1,688
15 minutes of silent meditation	2,577
Good Example	12,399
Number returned	267



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MEN: Dec. 15-20

**ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA
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19101 Bear Creek Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033
(408) 354-7703

MEN: Dec. 11-14 (Weekend)

WOMEN: Dec. 4-7 (Weekend)

OUR LADY OF SORROWS RETREAT CENTER
750 E. Baseline Road, Phoenix, AZ 85042
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WOMEN: Dec. 15-20, May 28-31 (3-day Virtue)

MIXED: Dec. 27-Jan. 2, 2009 (Marian—tentative dates)

**Please contact the retreat house in question to
ensure availability before making any travel plans**

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OF
REV. MR. BENJAMIN CAMPBELL

BY BISHOP RICHARD N. WILLIAMSON

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 9:00AM



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Kansas City, MO

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FR. BENJAMIN CAMPBELL'S FIRST MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec. 31: Kansas City, MO: 10:00am

Thursday, Jan. 1: St. Mary's, KS: 12:30pm

Sunday, Jan. 4: Orlando, FL: 9:00am

Sunday, Jan. 11: Winona: 10:00am

Sunday, Jan. 18: Nicholville, NY: 9:00am