REGINA COELI HOUSE, 11485 N. Farley Road, Platte City, MO 64079 Tel: (816) 753-0073 FAX (816) 753-3560

# ENHANCEMENTS AT LAKE WORTH CHAPEL



n a project that spanned nearly nine months, the interior of Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Chapel in LAKE WORTH (WEST PALM BEACH), FL, underwent an esthetic transformation.

Situated in southeastern Florida, in 1993 the SSPX purchased the present building that formerly served as an office for a telephone company's truck repair facility. As has been done around the world for centuries with mission chapels (even in the United States within the past one hundred years), though the building's exterior did not resemble a church, nevertheless its interior could be adapted to suit this purpose. When the initial renovations were completed, the chapel (which seats about 55 persons), combined with its large parking lot, could accommodate the entire parish at one Sunday Mass.

Starting in November of last year, the pastor, Fr. Joseph Dreher, began to renovate and embellish the somewhat plain interior of the Lake Worth chapel. His first focus was on the sanctuary, where a folding, portable altar still functioned as the high altar. Here the pastor was in luck, as Fr. Patrick Crane, who

resided and worked with Fr. Dreher at the Regina Coeli House, had just what he needed; the former altar of Queen of All Saints Church in Springfield, MO (*cf.* March 2008 issue for details). Constructed of darkly-stained oak, this small neo-gothic altar was suitably proportioned for the Florida chapel. With the help of Br. Rene of Mary from the District Office, the altar was moved by truck from Springfield to Lake Worth, where the parish men then began work on its installation.

Due to the chapel's relatively low ceiling, part of the reredos' upper portion and spires had to be removed. Added to the reredos was a changeable dossal curtain in the center panel, which gives prominence to the altar cross. Combined with matching tabernacle veils, this also aids the eye to focus on the altar. The sanctuary was further color-coordinated through the addition of pulpit veils. Other improvements included the installation of a new confessional, pews and Communion rail from a closed chapel in nearby Miami, and a pulpit, crucifix and statues from the Society's closed chapel in Vero Beach, FL.

#### **Society of Saint Pius X**

District of the United States of America

#### **REGINA COELI HOUSE**

**Fr. Arnaud Rostand**District Superior

Dear friends and benefactors,

11485 N. Farley Road Platte City, MO 64079 (816) 753-0073 FAX (816) 753-3560

J.M.J. SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

In DICI (N° 219—July 2010), the communication agency of the Priestly Society of St. Pius X (www.dici.org/en), Fr. Alain Lorans made a very interesting comparison; *The Compass and the Magnet*, which I would like to reproduce here.

In late August several clerics, former students of Professor Joseph Ratzinger, will meet at Castel Gandolfo to pour over the hermeneutic of Vatican II, in other words, to discuss the correct way of interpreting the documents of that Council. Last March the Lenten conferences at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris described Vatican II as "a compass for our times". This raises the naive question: can one interpret the direction that a compass indicates? If it points north, as every good compass can do, what commentary does it need? It furnishes precise information that should silence all discussion: here is north, and all the rest is superfluous!

Hence this second ingenuous query: why, for almost fifty years, has the Second Vatican Council been the object of so many divergent or even contradictory readings and re-readings? They talk about discontinuity and rupture, about renewal in continuity and continuity in change.... Opinions clash and disoriented minds seem to be all over the map!

The answer is provided by the fact that the needle of the compass no longer points north when it undergoes an extraneous attraction: a magnet can make it deviate or even cause it to behave crazily. While intending to be open to the spirit of the modern world, the Second Vatican Council subjected itself to the force of an attraction extraneous to the Church. In order to find north again, one would have to be freed from the influence of that magnet. And for that, there is no need whatsoever for a hermeneutic; St. Paul said it straightforwardly enough: "Do not be conformed to this world" (Romans 12:2).

"Nolite conformari huic saeculo." St. Paul expressed, indeed, in these few words, the opposition that exists between the world and the Church. Moreover, as Fr. Lorans puts it clearly with the comparison of the compass, the disorientation that we face today comes from the fact that Vatican II left aside the impossibility for the Church to conform with the world. On the contrary, the Council opted for an *aggiornamento*—an adaptation to the spirit of the world, a search of getting in harmony with the world. "The religion of the God Who made Himself man, has met the religion (for such it is) of man who makes himself God." This explicit but unbelievable statement of Pope Paul VI sets the new orientation. Vatican II had decided to make a compromise with the world and to accept the "signs of the times", to believe North and South alike. As North is not clearly indicated anymore, as people do not know which direction to go, people are confused. Because of the openness to the spirit of the world a new, a stranger influence affects the clergy and the faithful. Thus the actual disorientation, the North on the compass is lost!

However, why did they have to, or want to, open the Church to the world? It seems that one of the main reasons was that many were tired of fighting against the world; it would be so nice to make peace with the world and live together they thought. However, in order to make peace men needed to be accepted as they are. They decided to accept the world, human society and human nature as they are. This seems logical, however it is in itself a new principle. Actually, the Catholic Church has always taken men as they are, while not accepting them as they are. Since the Original sin, we cannot accept man as he is by nature, because man, human nature and therefore human society is corrupted. Our Lord calls this personal and social disorder, with its consequences of promoting evil, the World. The world understood as such is essentially opposed to Our Lord and His mission to bring everything back to God. The consequences of Original Sin, and of our own personal sins, are corruption, disorder, and evil. We all are born with an inner tendency toward evil, against which we have to fight our whole life. In order to "restore all things in Christ" we need the grace of God. The Catholic Church, indeed, can heal men of their corruption; fighting against these evil tendencies, saving their lives and their souls. To accomplish this work of salvation there is no other way than to fight, to oppose that tendency, to go up against the World. The Second Vatican Council tried and trusted the 'goodness' of the human race. It attempted to teach at the same time, the integrity of men and the dogma of Faith of Original Sin. A contradiction that leads to a disaster! "You cannot serve God and Mammon" (Matt. 6:24)

One of the effects of Vatican II compromising with the world is a decrease of expectations; some kind of a minimalism in religion, where the supernatural elements of our Faith shrink to a minimum—a minimum that might be acceptable to the world. The beliefs have been affected by the contact with the world, the doctrine mixed with ideas of the world… The moral has been influenced by the spirit of the world, its expectations ended or lessened simply because the North, not being clearly marked, everyone began to follow their own judgment or personal sense of right and wrong, choosing their own North. And forgetting that our conscience, affected by Original Sin, is not infallible and further more is inclined to error. The world as a magnet modifies the needle of the compass and the moral values have been modified.

The solution to this "aggiornamento" is nothing other than the restoration of the true principles within the teaching of the Churchmen. "If the world hate you, know ye that it hath

hated Me before you." "If you had been of the world, the world would love its own, but because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you." (John 15; 18-19) There is a radical opposition between the Spirit of Our Lord Jesus Christ and the spirit of the world. Let us free the compass from the influence of this magnet and then the North will be visible again.

All Christians have and will always have to protect themselves from the influence of the world. "For the flesh lusteth against the spirit: and the spirit against the flesh: for these are contrary one to another." (Gal. 5, 17) This is an important thing to remember. Let us protect ourselves from the spirit of the world. I would like to make here a practical application for our lives. When we speak about protecting ourselves from the spirit of the world we think of secluding ourselves away from the world. Surely there is a necessary protection and prudence but it means above all to understand our nature and God's supernatural plan. We ought to understand the dogma of Original Sin, that our human nature is affected, corrupted by the Original Sin and therefore we should not be surprised to be tempted or to be weak. We would like to be saints but at the same time, we think we cannot, because we are attracted by evil. We do not understand our real condition, that is, we are all sinners. We do not understand that Our Lord has come to redeem us from our sins. The grace of God gives us the strength to resist but does not suppress temptations.

As the Church needs to fight against the spirit of the world, we, at the level of our personal life, need also to oppose it. In addition, we will overcome it by fighting ourselves first, struggling against the tendency of our wounded nature. We cannot trust our nature but must ever be wary of it. As Fr. de Chivre would put it: "We must not be human, but super-human." Here we do not mean to say that our human nature is to be destroyed, certainly not. Our human nature exists and is necessary, but we cannot remain at the level of nature. If we do, then we will remain in our corrupt state, the corruption of sin, and the corruption of the Original Sin. We therefore, need to be super-natural, to elevate our souls, our activities—everything we do—to the supernatural level. "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever else you do, do all for the glory of God." (I Corinth. 10:31) Every time we forget, or we refuse to live up to that level, the tendency of our nature will bring us down to the level of nature, which is

dominated by passions; the lower instinct of our nature takes over our soul, step by step.

To come back to the precious comparison with the compass, our conscience must be directed and often corrected by the teaching of the Church; the true doctrine of the Church is the North. It is easy to let our own nature to lead us away from the direction we ought to go.

In other words, the grace of God must govern our life every aspect of our life. Our first preoccupation is therefore the state of grace. This does not mean that we will not be tempted, that there will not be any solicitation, for our wounded nature remains. It means that we will not follow these solicitations. Holiness does not consist in not being tempted; it resides in not giving in to these temptations. Holiness doesn't consist in destroying human nature but rather in not following our natural inclinations, and on the contrary, following supernatural motives based on the Revelation of God, on the teaching of the Church, on the advice of spiritual authors... Then the Spirit of Our Lord Jesus Christ will begin to take root and grace will dominate. However, if we think that grace can dominate in our souls without a spiritual combat, without denying our natural inclinations by penance and asceticism, we are just deceiving ourselves. To delude ourselves that we can make peace between our nature rebelling against God and the Gospel would just be a dream, the same dream that the Modernists had at Vatican II...

This is the work of sanctification that we are called to pursue. Holiness is not so much in *what* we do, but in *how we do it*; not so much the steps we walk but those we make in the direction indicated by the compass! The most ordinary things can be sources of great merits if we perform everything with a supernatural spirit and for the glory of God.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary enlighten us and help us to elevate our lives to the supernatural life that her Son has brought to us.

With my prayers and blessing,

In the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

mand Intant

#### **Accepting Mass Stipends**

The USA District Office is collecting Mass stipends for SSPX (or its associate) priests. The suggested donation is \$15.00 per Mass. NB: we cannot receive stipends for Gregorian Masses (e.g., 30 consecutive Requiem Masses). Checks should be made out to the SSPX (in US currency) and sent to:

Rev. Fr. Joseph Dreher, District Secretary REGINA COELI HOUSE. I 1485 N. Farley Road, Platte City, MO 64079

Please include a separate note outlining the Mass intention.

Please note: we cannot promise specific dates for the celebration of the Masses.

#### LAKE WORTH ..., continued from p.1

The final touches occurred in the overlapping last week of July and first week of August, when Br. Gabriel came from the Regina Coeli House and spent a week gilding the altar, and painting and gilding the new altar crucifix. The various labors exerted to improve the chapel's interior have had a pleasing result.

With the new assignments that began this August, the SSPX's care of souls in the Lake Worth area has now been transfered to Fr. Louis Alessio.



**BEFORE.** The Lake Worth chapel as it looked prior to the renovations.



**AFTER.** This view from the rear of the chapel shows the completed renovation, including the new pews, Communion rail and pulpit.

#### 2010 ANGELUS PRESS FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Gelebrating 40 Years
of the SSLX

# THE DEFENSE OF TRADITION AS TRANSMITTED BY ARCHBISHOP LEFEBVRE

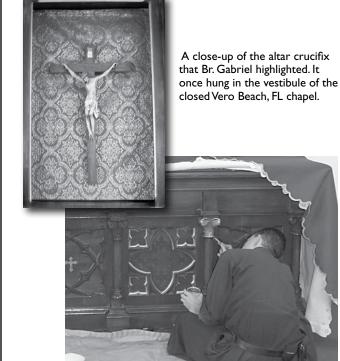
3-Day Weekend Conference October 15 - 17, 2010 Hilton Kansas City, MO Airport

Featuring Bishop Bernard Fellay, Fr. Arnaud Rostand, Fr. Cyprian, OSB, Fr. Michael McMahon, Fr. Juan-Carlos Iscara, Fr. Scott Gardner, Fr. Kenneth Novak, Dr. Andrew Childs, and John Vennari.

Go to www.angeluspress.org for details!



The new wooden gothic Communion rail, which the parish men modified to fit the sanctuary.



Here Br. Gabriel can be seen carefully gilding a capital on the altar frontal.



Situated in the sacristy, the small chapel now has a permanent confessional.

#### CELEBRATION WITH AN SSPX VETERAN; FR. GREGORY POST

Continuing the SSPX's anniversary celebrations, particularly of its chapel-mission apostolate, which essentially began in the United States (*cf.* the September 2009 issue for details); Our Lady of Fatima Church in SANGER, TX invited Fr. Gregory Post to offer a Mass of Thanksgiving for the 35th anniversary of its founding.

This was quite appropriate as Fr. Gregory Post was not only the first American priest ordained for the SSPX, but also the first to offer Mass for the fledgling Sanger mission in April 1975. At that time, the Sanger faithful did not have a permanent building; they would change Mass locations nearly six times before finally purchasing and remodeling the present structure, a former barracks for a World War II Japanese internment camp.

Just before offering the Saturday evening Mass, the various groups at the Sanger chapel crowned their patroness in a symbolic gesture by offering their apostolates to Our Lady, who Fr. Post crowned after the Holy Sacrifice. The faithful then gathered in the parish hall for a banquet, and an opportunity to view the "Wall of Fame", which consisted of a historical display of archived

photographs, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, correspondence and other memorabilia of the chapel's past 35 years. The meal was followed by an hour and a half presentation from Fr. Post who humorously recalled some history and his experiences with Archbishop Lefebvre in Europe and the United States.

The next morning, Fr. Post made the 50-minute drive east by car to Sanger's "sister chapel" of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in NORTH RICHLAND HILLS (DALLAS-FT. WORTH), TX. Despite having been a priest for 37 years, Fr. Post had never had the opportunity to offer Mass at North Richland Hills before then, making this occasion an honored first for both him and the parish.

After his visit to the SSPX's north Texas missions, Fr. Post then continued by car to St. Michael's Chapel in BETHANY (OKLAHOMA CITY), OK, which as of March, is once again being serviced by the Society of St. Pius X after an absence of many years.



The chapel's various associations honored Our Lady of Fatima by submitting their emblems to her care, such as the cords and medals of the Archconfraternity of St. Stephen, the medals of the Eucharistic Crusaders, rosaries from young men, flowers from ladies, and from others, lit votive candles at her feet.



Fr. Post prepares to give Holy Communion to a recent male convert from Judaism.



Fr. Post is toasted for his perseverance and foresight by current pastor, Fr. Kenneth Novak. Two couples also responsible for the chapel's establishment flank the priests.



The faithful take the opportunity to review the "Wall of Fame" prepared in the parish's adjacent hall during the jubilee banquet.



Three generations of Catholics from both chapels with Fr. Post in front Sanger's Marian grotto.

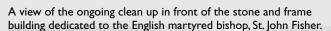
#### PARISH WORKDAY AT TULSA

When Fr. Kenneth Novak first arrived at his new pastoral assignment at St. John Fisher's Church in TULSA, OK (one of three missions he pastors), he was convinced that the chapel's exterior and surrounding grounds had not received any attention since the closing of the Second Vatican Council! The building that houses Our Lord, and is the pride of Tulsa traditional Catholics, was desperately overdue for an exterior facelift. In his usual enthusiastic manner, Fr. Novak announced a chapel work party and cookout to be held on Monday, May 31 (Memorial Day).

His cry for help received an energetic response from the parish and edifyingly, two families came from afar to assist; one from St. Mary's, KS (a four and half hour drive) and the other from Ft. Worth, TX (a five hour drive).

The 60-year old former Assembly of God building was surrounded with unsightly and overgrown foliage, dingy concrete sidewalks and curbing, and overgrown grass. The building had also suffered recently from teenage vandals (who were making themselves comfortable in the trees), resulting in graffiti and even broken window panes. New exterior paint will eventually cover the graffiti, but more importantly, through its restored appearance, it will announce the Real Presence of Our Lord.

The parking lot had also suffered greatly, having become overhung with jungle growth and poison ivy. Now cleared, new hedges can be planted and the asphalt power-washed and paint striped thereby contributing to the overall tidy look that every Catholic chapel should possess.







As seen in this picture, the front of the chapel was littered with unsightly trees and overgrown grass and weeds along the sidewalks and retaining wall.

Having removed the weeds, a parishioner power-washes the dirt-stained sidewalk at the foot of the chapel's front steps.



Here a husband and wife team from St. Mary's clear out the brush along the parking lot perimeter.



This image shows the chapel's determination to get the job done once and for all!

On duty too was the grill man, who prepared an edible reward for the hard day's work.

#### BAKERSFIELD, CA CELEBRATION OF SSPX'S 40 YEARS

On Pentecost Sunday, May 23, St. Michael the Archangel Chapel in BAKERSFIELD, CA, celebrated the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Society of St. Pius X with a parish barbeque that included a raffle, a game of SSPX Trivia (not available in stores yet!) and a free anniversary t-shirt! In attendance was their pastor, Fr. Grieg Gonzales, who services the chapel from Arcadia (Los Angeles), CA. Over the next several months we will be featuring further articles on jubilee celebrations being offered throughout the United States District.



The faithful enjoy the BBQ in the chapel's parish hall.



Fr. Gonzales announces the winning raffle entry.



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#### LA SALETTE ACADEMY

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The attendees of the chapel's celebratory event pose for a group shot in front of the specially-made banner; in the back center is Fr. Gonzales.

A couple of the men slice the barbequed meat before serving.

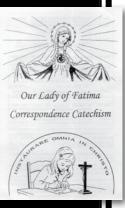
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Sacred Heart Novitiate 540 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Browerville, MN 56438 320-594-2944



#### RETREAT SCHEDULE

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

MEN: Nov. 15-20

**WOMEN:** Oct. 11-16, Dec. 13-18

#### OUR LADY OF SORROWS RETREAT CENTER 750 E. Baseline Road, Phoenix, AZ 85042

(602) 268-7673

<u>MEN</u>: Oct. 11-16, Nov.15-20 <u>WOMEN</u>: Jan. 17-22, 2011

OTHER: Oct. 27-30 (Matrimony Retreat),

Dec. 13-18 (Women's Marian)

#### ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA RETREAT CENTER 19101 Bear Creek Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033

(408) 354-7703

<u>MEN</u>: Oct. 11-16, Dec. 16-19 (Weekend) <u>WOMEN</u>: Nov. 1-6, Dec: 2-5 (Weekend)

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



#### MONTHLY INTENTIONS

September: Catholic schools and the

education of youth

**October:** The missions and the

conversion of the pagans

**November:** The souls in purgatory and

the grace of a good death

#### U.S. DISTRICT TREASURE (June 2010)

Daily Offering	10,243
Masses	3,634
Sacramental Communions	3,135
Spiritual Communions	8,580
Sacrifices	28,602
Decades of the Rosary	51,039
Visits to the Blessed Sacrament	2,624
15 minutes of silent meditation	4,660
Good Example	17,348
Number returned	391

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Space for this pilgrimage is limited. For more information, contact:

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## CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

These are the dates for chapels in the United States of America District

#### **BISHOP BERNARD FELLAY**

Denver, CO October 10
Ft. Worth, TX October 12
Albuquerque, NM October 13
Las Vegas, NV October 14

#### BISHOP ALFONSO DE GALARRETA

Post Falls, ID October 30