



Roman Catholic Institute Newsletter

SECOND QUARTER 2026

Published by Roman Catholic Institute, 1711 Hampden Boulevard, Reading, Pennsylvania 19604. This newsletter is sent free of charge to all Institute benefactors who contribute \$100.00 or more annually. If you would like to be on our mailing list, please contact us by mail, or at contactform@rcinstitute.org. Please visit our website at romancatholicinstitute.org

UNITED STATES

Sacred Heart - Lawrence, Massachusetts



We were asked recently to assume the role of providing the Mass and sacraments to the faithful who attend Sacred Heart Church in Lawrence. It is a town which lies twenty-nine miles to the north of Boston. It is only a few miles from the New Hampshire line. The church itself is a beautiful, neo-gothic building, about one hundred years old, very large, able to hold at least five hundred people.

Above: Front view of the church.



Above: Fr. Reid Hennick carries the Blessed Sacrament beneath the canopy during the Corpus Christi procession in Lawrence.

Sacred Heart Church was honored to welcome Father Andrew Nowrouz, the second Roman Catholic Institute priest to offer Holy Mass at the church. Early in the morning before his departure, Father offered Mass at the side altar of St. Joseph. The faithful were grateful for the grace of his visit and for the opportunity to assist at the Holy Sacrifice. We look forward to welcoming him again and ask God's blessing upon his priestly labors.

Queen of All Saints Mission Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



For the External Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the faithful gathered to honor Our Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament with a Eucharistic procession through the surrounding streets. Beneath the canopy, Father Reid Hennick carried the monstrance while the congregation followed in prayer and hymn. It was a strong public profession of faith in the Real Presence—a reminder to the whole neighborhood of the One whom we adore. We thank God for the fine weather and the devotion of all who took part.



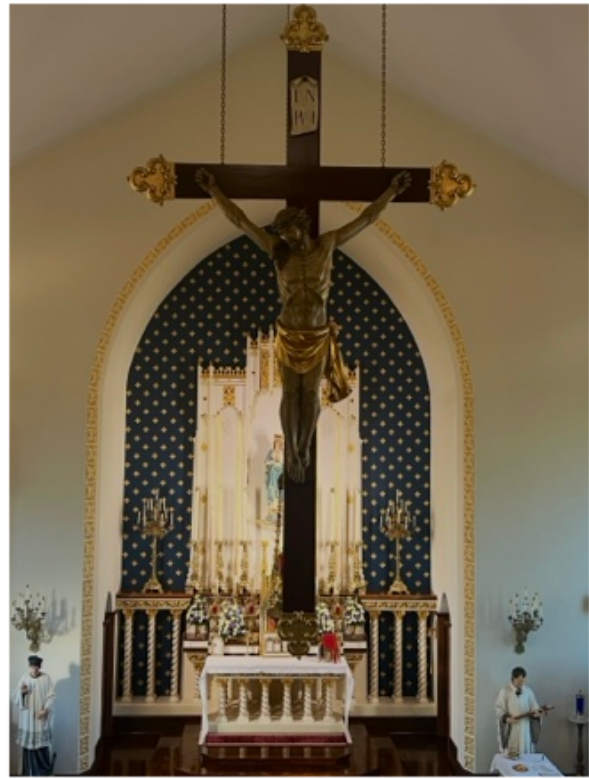
Above: Father Nowrouz offering Holy Mass at the altar of St. Joseph, in Lawrence.

With great perseverance, we continue to search and pray to acquire an appropriate church building for this mission. The piety and commitment of the faithful is most edifying.

Left: Father Bayer giving a monthly catechism class after Mass in Harrisburg.

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs - Fraser, Michigan

Newcomers to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs are often struck with awe when they enter the Church for the first time. They may have seen pictures of the interior, or even watched the live-streams, but usually these images and videos do not capture one of the Church's greatest treasures. They might show part of it, or even the whole thing, but until you are standing beneath it, it is difficult to grasp the true scale of what you see. Standing near the communion rail gives any Catholic a glimpse of Calvary, for suspended above them is a life-sized crucifix. Meticulously hand-carved from solid wood and beautifully painted, our crucified Savior is lovingly presented to all the faithful as they come to receive Him in Holy Communion. The cross itself is approximately 8 feet wide and 16 feet tall, tipped with gilded decorations and bearing the inscription *I.N.R.I.* The crucifix was generously commissioned by one of the families in the parish, and is cherished by all.



Above: crucifix above the sanctuary.

Queen of All Saints Chapel - Youngtown, Arizona

Our chapel in Youngtown, Arizona, is doing very well, with steady attendance. Several of the faithful drive considerable distances—some traveling up to four and a half hours—to assist at the Holy Sacrifice. We thank God that we were able to administer the sacrament of Confirmation to seven persons on June 7.

Below: Bishop Fliess and confirmands.



Queen of All Saints Chapel - Pottstown, Pennsylvania



In the past several months we have seen many new faces at our steadily growing chapel. A recent storm had damaged ten trees on the property, but local tree services cleared the broken limbs strewn across the property before the following Sunday. Bishop Fliess came to visit on the Fourth Sunday After Pentecost, and administered twenty-five Confirmations, including three seminarians.



*Above: Bishop Fliess giving the final blessing.
Right: Bishop Fliess recites the Ecce Agnus Dei.
Below: Bishop Fliess with the Confirmands and sponsors after the Mass and ceremonies.*



Queen of All Saints Mission - Vero Beach, Florida

This quarter, Queen of All Saints at Vero Beach has seen one reception of First Holy Communion and seven Confirmations, which Bishop Fliess administered on Holy Trinity Sunday. We added two new servers to our crew of servers, the adults and children participated in Q&A's and catechism, and the children competed in an energetic game of Catholic Tic-Tac-Toe. We continue to pray to St. Joseph for a permanent home for our chapel.

Queen of All Saints Mission - Richmond, Texas



Special Trips

As death and eternity approach a benefactor or faithful soul in a far-away place, special circumstances warrant sending a priest on quick trips to give him Last Rites, or to celebrate Mass to those most isolated. On a mere day's notice Father Barnes has recently traveled to Colorado, and Father Bayer to Illinois. Father Bayer also routinely visits Quebec, in Canada. Such short trips are demanding on the priest, since he must interrupt his schedule to focus on the one soul that needs most urgently the sacraments and spiritual consolation.

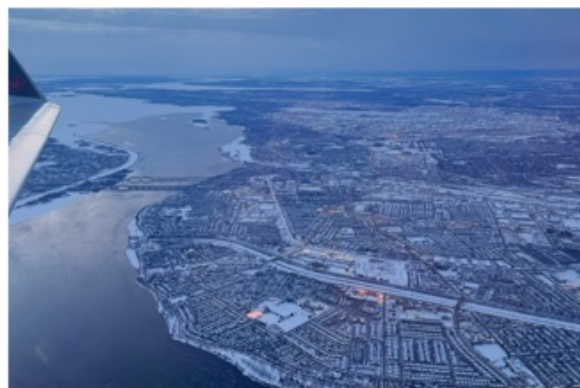


Above: Father Marshall and the family of a boy who just made his First Communion.

Father Bayer and Father Barnes have made an effort to give time to each individual family coming to the mission, by meeting them or going to bless their homes. The personal time helps understand each family's struggles and sacramental history, in order to more aptly guide them in the Faith. The half-hour catechism sessions after Mass are full of interesting questions from inquisitive minds.

Above: Father Bayer blesses the server at the end of Mass, in Richmond.

Below: aerial view of the snowy Île de Montréal, Canada.



Queen of All Saints Chapel - Brooksville, Florida

This quarter was particularly busy for Queen of All Saints Chapel, beginning with Easter and ending with the school concert and graduation ceremony. Queen of All Saints Academy has completed its 23rd academic year. This year is particularly special, as four of our graduates will be entering Most Holy Trinity Seminary in September. The school demands the efforts of the clergy, the Sisters of Saint Thomas Aquinas and many laypersons, recently also the faculty at the seminary. The online services of the school make our minor seminary possible, allowing boys to get a taste of seminary life while completing their high school education.



Above: Bishop Selway and several priests at the Academy's Graduation Concert.

ASIA AND AUSTRALIA



Mary Help of Christians Mission Brisbane, Australia

Brisbane had Mass on Easter Sunday, and then Father Eldracher officiated at a wedding shortly thereafter. Father Palma blessed a couple's silver wedding jubilee in early June.

Below left: Father Eldracher offering the Nuptial Mass.

Mary Help of Christians Mission - Sydney, Australia

Father Palma hosted a Lenten Day of Recollection for Women in Sydney, and the faithful there were able to attend Easter Sunday Mass, as well. The congregation continues to grow, with another convert's being received into the Church in early June.

Mary Help of Christians Mission - Wangaratta/Chiltern, Australia



We are very excited to be able to say that our Mass location in Northern Victoria has officially transferred from Wangaratta to Chiltern. With the generous assistance of the local parishioners, and a number of outside donations, we were able to purchase the historic church building there which we were pursuing. Father Palma offered the first Mass at the new chapel on Pentecost Sunday. As the second church building of the Australasian Apostolate that is truly "ours," meaning owned rather than rented, it is a momentous step forward.

Left: view through the church doors of the chapel set up for the first Mass.

Below left: Father Palma preaching during the first Mass in the new chapel.

Below right: Father Palma celebrating Mass.



Mary Help of Christians Chapel - Greater Melbourne, Australia

Both the Lenten Days of Recollection for men, and for women, at the chapel in Kallista were well-attended, as were the Holy Week Ceremonies, and the Sung Mass on Easter Sunday.



Above left: Father Palma blessed the Holy Saturday Fire.

Above right: Father Palma celebrates a Missa Cantata on Easter Sunday.

Right: Father Palma and servers recite the Holy Saturday Litany.

Below: Altar of Repose in Melbourne.



Mary Help of Christians Mission Christchurch, New Zealand

Father Eldracher visited the Christchurch Mass center for the first time in April. We continue to travel there monthly for the small community, that continues to grow, with multiple new expressions of interest.



Right: Father Eldracher preaching during Mass.

Mary Help of Christians Mission - Japan

Father Palma visited Japan in mid-June to provide Mass and the sacraments for the faithful there, which also included traveling into the mountains to bless the grave of a recently-deceased parishioner.

During the course of his visit, Father also hosted in Tokyo the CSC (Catholic Singles Connect), which was attended by twenty-seven young adults from four continents, excellently organized in advance by Father Eldracher.



Left: some participants of the CSC at dinner.

Below: Father Palma celebrates Mass for the CSC group in Tokyo.





*Above: CSC group at Lake Ashi in Japan.
Below: CSC group standing at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo.*



Europe

Our clergy is now getting ready for the very filled summer apostolate. We are organizing five spiritual retreats for the laity, a weeklong pilgrimage in Brittany, and a couple of camps for the youth. We are supported in this apostolate by the unwavering help of our religious Congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom.



The peak of our French apostolate in the last few months was perhaps the Corpus Christi procession, which we organize every year in Nantes. We witnessed to our faith by processing publicly in the streets with the Blessed Sacrament, singing and praying, while the children walked before their Eucharistic Lord, paving the way by throwing flower petals.

The Sisters of Saint Thomas Aquinas have worked very hard to find a house suited to start a novitiate and a boarding school for girls in France. To have a mother house in Europe will be a major development for the Congregation.

Left: Benediction after the procession.

Below: Public procession along the streets of the city of Nantes.





On the weekend of Pentecost, Bishop Sanborn visited the clergy and faithful in France. On this occasion, he conferred the sacrament of confirmation and gave a conference on the history of modernism. He was also able to meet a number of people who wanted to see him. He spent some time with the priests and two brothers-to-be to refine the religious rule. We hope to start the congregation of brothers in September. This would be a tremendous help for our apostolate.

Our missionary apostolate continues both in Portugal and in the island of La Réunion.

Left: Bishop Sanborn gives a blessing at the end of Mass.

Below: Father Dutertre, Bishop Sanborn and Father de La Chanonie with those confirmed at the chapel in Montauban-de-Bretagne.



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