



Roman Catholic Institute Newsletter

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ASIA

Mary Help of Christians Mission - Christchurch, New Zealand

Snow in August is probably not the first thing that comes to mind for those in the Northern Hemisphere, but it is a real possibility around Christchurch, the "Gateway to the Antarctic." When visiting our Mission in Christchurch, it is important for the priest to check the weather beforehand: while New Zealand is "just off" the coast of Australia, the distance is roughly the equivalent of traveling from Seattle to Anchorage, or from New York to Cuba, so the weather between Melbourne and Christchurch can be quite different.

Right: the Avon River - not the one in England - viewed from the plane.



AUSTRALIA

Mary Help of Christians Chapel - Greater Melbourne

Fr. Eldracher celebrated his tenth anniversary of priestly Ordination in June this year, which was marked by a celebration after a Sunday Mass in Kallista.

Right and Below: Father Eldracher's 10th



Mary Help of Christians Mission Sydney

Preparations are underway in Sydney for their first-ever parish All Saints' Day party, as well as for First Holy Communion in the "Spring."

Left: Fr. Palma distributing communion at Mass in Sydney.

Mary Help of Christians Mission - Brisbane

Father Palma has done most of the traveling to Brisbane in recent months, giving our newly-trained servers there and in our other Mass Centers a great deal of practice. We have, in total, added sixteen new servers to the roster this year across the Australasian Apostolate.

Right: Father Palma celebrating a Sunday Mass in Brisbane.



St. Joseph's Chapel - Chiltern

Over several weeks, a group of very-dedicated parishioners helped us to remove the old worn carpet that had been covering the floor of our new chapel in Chiltern, and then to sand and refinish the beautiful 150-year-old native timber floor beneath.

Before (below left) and after (below right) refinishing of the floor in Chiltern.



EUROPE

France

The summer was filled with activities in our French apostolate. As we do each year, we preached four Ignatian retreats for the French laity. These retreats are very popular, and rightly so, for they make one think deeply on our last end, and they help to practice meditation on the mysteries of the life of Christ. For many people, these retreats are life-changing. Our French nuns, the Daughters of Wisdom, help our clergy to make this possible. This year, Father Bayer joined us, to preach a retreat in English, which included men from Poland, the United Kingdom, the United States and Norway.



Above: Procession on the Feast of the Assumption.



Above: "Tro Breizh" Pilgrimage around Brittany.

On September 2nd, we welcomed Father Andrew Nowrouz, a priest of our Institute, who will assist us in our European apostolate. Father is very gifted with languages, and we think that he will master French soon enough, and be of great help in France, England, and Portugal.

In October, we shall start the postulancy for three men who aspire to become teaching brothers. We have worked hard to establish this congregation. Please pray that it be successful. The new congregation will be known as the "Institut Marie-Médiatrice" (*Institute of Mary Mediatrix*) and will follow a rule very similar to what were the Brothers of Saint Gabriel, founded by Father Deshaves, in the spirit of St. Louis of Montfort.

Right: Father de la Chanonie, Father Dutertre and Father Nowrouz pose for a picture in Nantes.



UNITED STATES

Sacred Heart Lawrence, Massachusetts

For many years, His Excellency Bishop Sanborn kept a tabernacle in storage, awaiting the right place for it to be used. It has now found a permanent home on the altar at Sacred Heart Church, where its dimensions and design suit the space so precisely that it might have been built for it.

Right: Main altar with new tabernacle in Lawrence.



Queen of All Saints Mission Vero Beach, Florida

Queen of All Saints Chapel in Vero Beach saw some of the faithful travel north for the summer as usual. Despite a slightly lower attendance, we continued to have lively catechism classes for children and adults. We recently had a Q&A on events in the news, which included the 25th anniversary of 9/11. We continue to pray to St. Joseph for a permanent chapel and look forward to the Feast of All Saints.

*Above: Father Marshall and servers at the
Ecce Agnus Dei.*

Queen of All Saints Chapel - Brooksville, Florida

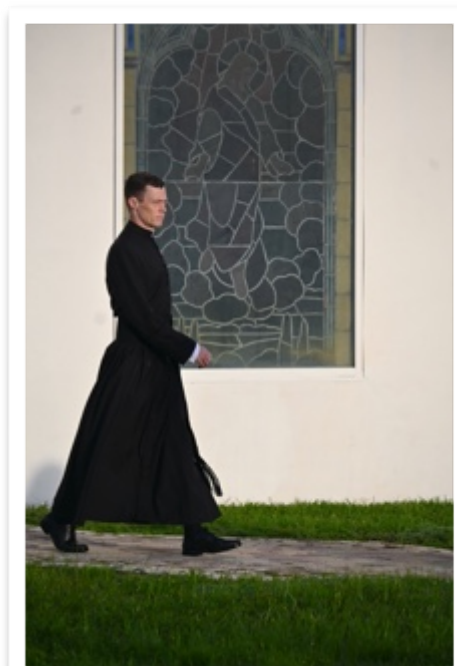
Over the summer, the campus of Queen of All Saints Academy in Brooksville underwent an extensive renovation in order to accommodate the increased enrollment. Having served the seminary faithfully for many years, the property needed to be updated in response to the growing demands of a daytime school environment. Former seminarian rooms were converted to large state-of-the-art classrooms, complete with new lighting, new flooring, new windows, new doors, and central air conditioning. The cafeteria space was expanded, and the kitchen adorned with new cabinets and fixtures.

New students were welcomed at the beginning of September. We are excited to begin the academic year in this new environment!

Right: Father DeSaye in the school courtyard.

Bishop Selway is busy with administrative responsibilities for the Sisters of St. Thomas Aquinas. Bishop Fliess continues teaching at the seminary whilst residing in Brooksville and offering assistance at QAS Chapel. Father DeSaye has been appointed pastor of QAS Chapel, all the while continuing his teaching duties. Father Ingham likewise is combining teaching and pastoral work.

Below: Father DeSaye celebrates the school Mass.



Queen of All Saints Chapel - Pottstown, Pennsylvania

Many improvements continually improve the beauty of our chapel, mostly due to a very talented parishioner who is very generous with his time. A refurbished pulpit was added, enhancing the sanctuary. In May, a terrible wind storm knocked down several trees. One large tree limb was found leaning against the side of the building, but fortunately did no damage beyond a bent gutter. With several new families coming to the chapel, and another infant baptism in September, the chapel boasts over seventy parishioners — steadily growing.

Currently two boys of the parish are seminarians. The Catechism sessions are being resumed this September, which were greatly missed during the summer hiatus.

Right: Bp. Sanborn celebrating Mass as he puts on the maniple after the confiteor.

Below: Bishop Sanborn delivering a sermon.



Below: Fallen trees and branches due to a wind storm which caused minor damage.



Queen of All Saints Chapel Phoenix, Arizona

Because Bishop Fliess will teach the seminarians full time this academic year, Father Barnes has been appointed as the new pastor. We launched a building fund in September since the current chapel is too small. More than eighty parishioners attend each Sunday, yet the space accommodates only about thirty-five comfortably during Mass. We expect to secure a suitable site soon, but in the interim we have raised the number of Sunday Masses from two to three.



Above left: Exterior of the church building in Phoenix.

Queen of All Saints Mission - Daleville, Alabama



Father Bayer made the inaugural visit to our new Alabama mission in June. Since then we have been contacted by several people within a few hours' drive from Daleville, where Father Barnes will meet them for the second mission trip on November 22nd.

Left: Father Bayer preaching at the inauguration of the mission in Alabama.

Queen of All Saints Mission Richmond, Texas

The Texas mission is doing quite well. It was founded in the spring of 2025 and there are about forty monthly attendees. Some of the parishioners drive many hours to attend Mass and stay afterwards for a catechism Q&A with the priest.

Right: Father Bayer leading thanksgiving prayers after Mass in Texas.



Queen of All Saints Mission Hammond, Louisiana

The Louisiana mission has seen some growth in the last quarter, including the birth of our newest parishioner. We have been servicing Louisiana for about 16 months.

Right: Father Barnes preaching during Mass.



Our Lady Queen of Martyrs - Fraser, Michigan



Above: Baptismal Font at Fraser.

Since the opening of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church in Fraser, Michigan, in December 1998, many beautiful treasures have been added to enhance our church. In a previous issue, we looked at our life-size crucifix. Today, we highlight another cherished feature: our exquisite baptismal font. Purchased from a dealer specializing in antique church furnishings, it needed extensive restoration before dedicated parishioners restored it to its current beauty.

For nearly thirty years, many infants, children, converts, and adults have received the sacrament of Baptism at this sacred font. Notably, during the solemn Easter Vigil, converts are welcomed into the Holy Catholic Church and reborn in water and the Holy Ghost. More than a decorative piece, the font silently witnesses generations of Catholic families. It marks the moment when souls become children of God and heirs of Heaven, beginning a lifelong relationship with Our Lord and His Church. At Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, this treasured font serves as both a beautiful reminder of our history and the sacred place where many spiritual journeys begin.

Queen of All Saints Mission - Harrisburg, Pennsylvania



Above: Father Bayer preaching at Harrisburg.

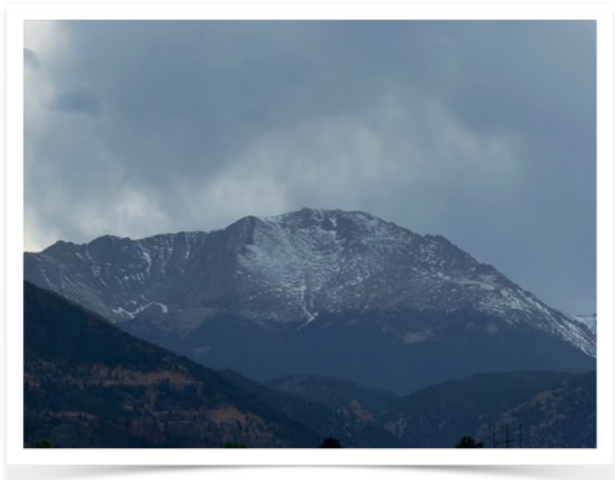
As summer draws to a close, the Harrisburg Mission looks forward to the return of our monthly Q&A catechism and social. It is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen our faith and connect with our priests and fellow parishioners.

And as we continue to pray for a church, we are also grateful that we can attend Holy Mass and receive the sacraments every Sunday. Two new families have recently joined!

SPECIAL TRIPS

Australia

Right: sort of road sign the priests might see at one of their stops along the way to the Mass Centers.



Colorado

Father Barnes started making monthly trips to Colorado Springs for a sick call and has also made other visits and sick calls in Denver and Boulder during his last trip.

Left: view of Pike's Peak in Colorado.

Netherlands

En route to visit our clergy in France, Father Bayer visited and celebrated Mass for a family he had baptized years previously who were now living in the Netherlands. It was a happy occasion to reconnect, bless their home and encourage them in the practice of the Faith.

Right: thanksgiving after Mass in Maastricht.



During the annual mission trip to South America, Father Bayer conferred three Baptisms, one First Holy Communion and officiated at one wedding. The local faithful made quite the edifying effort to attend daily Mass, averaging ten to thirty every day. The local culture is still pious, where even strangers would ask for a blessing and prayers.

Left: Father Bayer poses with thirty faithful after Mass his last day in the city of Armenia.

Ecuador

In Quito, Father Bayer visited and celebrated Mass for three families, who had not been able to receive the Sacraments in over a year.

Right: Father Bayer and an Ecuadorian seminarian walk in the historic center of Quito.



Canada

A devout man asked for the spiritual consolation of Mass, saying: “bring me Jesus!”

The desire of yearning for the frequent reception of the sacraments is itself a very special grace, meant to strengthen our souls for a pious life and a holy death.

Right: private home altar in Montreal.



IHS Events - Pilgrimages

Interested in visiting Catholic France with Father Andrew Nowrouz next year? Visit www.ihsevents.org/brittany for more information.

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