



Nouvelles Salésiennes

Salesian News

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EDMONTON. After a week or so to settle back in, our local schools all had their opening celebrations around mid-September. St. John Bosco Parish hosted a Salesian Cooperator retreat at Ephphatha House. About 15 people were able to attend. That parish is now open for all activities with the majority of their renovations complete.

On Sept. 18, Fr. Bernie Gilliece, Fr. Romano Venturelli, Ann Harding and Noel Salaysay flew to Surrey. Our arrival at Our Lady of Good Counsel coincided with Rector Major Fr. Pascual Chavez and Provincial Fr. Richard Authier's arrival. We were privileged to be able to participate in Mass, followed by lunch in the rectory. The confreres had a 2-hour meeting with the Rector Major and then supper was served to all of us. A very enjoyable evening was had at Don Bosco Youth Centre. The hall was packed with school children and their families. There was music, dance, skits and presentations. Fr. Chavez inspired us all by his words and dedication.

The next morning Mass was celebrated at 7:30 a.m. followed by breakfast with the Surrey Salesian Cooperators as well as the 2 Edmonton representatives. Again Fr. Chavez shared his thoughts with us and encouraged us to keep evangelizing. There was an opportunity for a group photo and then Fr. Chavez and Fr. Authier were off to the airport. The four of us left shortly afterwards as well for the Vancouver airport. It was a short visit but definitely worthwhile.

-- The Cooperators from St. Dominic Savio and St. John Bosco will meet in October to share ideas and plan future activities.

SHERBROOKE. Si vous voulez visiter les Cantons, c'est le temps! Nommez la couleur et

elle se trouve sur les feuilles d'érable. Un mois de septembre exceptionnel! Avec une telle température on pourrait se dispenser de l'hiver, au moins en partie. Ce ne serait peut-être pas le même son de cloche de la part des adeptes du ski et des autres sports d'hiver...

Le grand événement du mois fut la rencontre avec notre Recteur Majeur, p. Pascual Chavez, à Montréal. Il y eut tout d'abord la retraite prêchée par lui à Stony Point, NY, du 9 au 14 septembre. Cette semaine était réservée aux provinciaux, aux membres de leur conseil et aux directeurs des 3 provinces de l'Amérique du Nord : NY, San Francisco et Montréal. Les membres canadiens de cette rencontre furent les pp. Authier, Trottier, Harkins, Villaraza et le fr. Dubé. Les pp. Costamagna, Britschu et Venturelli n'ont pu y participer.

Samedi le 15, les pp. Authier et Trottier ont accompagné p. Chavez à Montréal, d'où il commencerait sa tournée canadienne, accompagné de son secrétaire, le p. Juan José Bartolomé et du p. Provincial. Il fut accueilli à l'Aéroport P.E. Trudeau par un groupe de jeunes accompagnés par le p. Mike Pace, de Maria Ausiliatrice. Après un léger repas partagé avec tous les confrères de Montréal, ce fut la rencontre avec les deux groupes de Coopérateurs de Montréal.

Le lendemain, il commença la journée par une rencontre avec les sœurs salésiennes à leur maison provinciale. Puis suivit l'eucharistie trilingue à *Maria Ausiliatrice* avec une église bien remplie et plusieurs concélébrants. Il prend le dîner avec les salésiens de Montréal et Sherbrooke et s'adresse à eux avant de se rendre au Restaurant Châteaubriand où l'attend au milieu de l'après-midi une assemblée de plus de 400 personnes. Les œuvres SDB du QC sont

for the Rector Major's historical visit: all that made September pass very quickly.

Fr. Dave arrived on the last day of August, but was initiated quickly to our Sunday Masses, distributing the Eucharist at all the Masses, hearing confessions, and the list goes on and on. WELCOME ABOARD OLGC Ship!

Insights of Fr. Dave reads as follows, and I quote... "Welcome BC! After almost three weeks of being 'home' in British Columbia I feel most welcome by the warm and generous people here, of course, first and foremost by my Salesian confreres. So much activity happens here every day! I am most impressed by the number of liturgies we have on the weekend (8 Masses on Sunday), and during the week. All services are well attended with uplifting music and participation.

"I am amazed at the youth ministry that is already in place at the Parish. From our well run parish grade school, to our regional high School, our religious education program, youth music ministry, Youth for Christ, etc.

"A highlight so far for me, is getting acquainted with PRAISE TEAM, which is a performing arts program within our youth ministry. Starting with pre-school aged youngsters, PRAISE TEAM involves young people into their 20's. The "Showcase" group (the oldest and most advanced group) has won awards for their performances, and will travel to Long Beach, California as the only non-US dance group invited to a national US dance competition. PRAISE TEAM directs their youthful energy in a positive way within the discipline of their 'art.' Their base and foundation is to give God praise and glory through their singing, dancing, and Christine witness. As a fund raiser for their California trip, PRAISE TEAM held a concert called "Souled Out." It was like a spiritual revival. With special guest Ray-An Fuentes, who is an award winning Pilipino singer-actor now living in Vancouver, PRAISE TEAM lifted our Lord high, much to the delight of the sold out crowd. (Check

PRAISE TEAM out on their website: www.praiseteamstudio.com).

"Much of what I am experiencing in my early days in B.C. is new and refreshing to me. I look forward of 'getting into' the life and culture of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, of learning from those around me, and to offer what I have to give to foster the community's growth in the Lord. It's good to be here!"

On the 15th Fr. Mario returned from New York after a 12-day absence for a visit to his family and for the SDB directors' retreat with the Rector Major at Stony Point, NY. On the following day the parish religious educators (CCD, RCIA, and Baptism class educators) were given their mandate at Mass. Fr. Mario reminded them of their primary duty of leading the children to Christ.

Our Celebration of Life really began as soon as Fr. Pascual Chavez stepped out the door of the vehicle at OLGC's porticos where the school greeted him with songs of welcome. The sun broke through the clouds, the rain stopped, and smiles lit the air that afternoon of the 18th. After that welcome, he, Fr. Juan (his secretary) and Fr. Richard said Mass privately. Our cook outdid herself with two outstanding meals. For the main meal at noon, Frs. Romano and Gilliece, plus two Edmonton Cooperators, joined us. At 3 p.m. Fr. Chavez spoke to all the Salesians in our community room and graced us with a souvenir medal of Don Bosco.

A light supper and then a packed youth center entertainment that not only delighted the eyes and the senses, but brought to light the wonderful diversity of cultures that graces our parish. Light snacks and goodies concluded this two hour event where the Rector Major and the provincial literally joined the male dancers on the gym floor to the howls of everyone. It was truly an enjoyable event presented by the young adults and various youth groups of the parish. A homemade quilt with symbols of our unity was given to the Rector Major as a farewell gift.

The next morning there was a concelebrated Mass with all the Salesian Family present; our

IN OCTOBER WE REMEMBER.....

Liturgical feasts:

- 5: Blessed Albert Marvelli
- 7: Our Lady of the Rosary
- 11: Blessed John XXIII
- 13: Blessed Alexandrina da Costa, SC
- 24: Blessed Louis Guanella

Happy Birthday!

- 9: G. Costamagna
- 24 Drago Gacnik
- 26: Jan Staszal

Religious Profession

- 21: G. Costamagna

Priesthood

- 9: Mike Pace

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