

# One Heart, One Spirit

CONGREGATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Newsletter for the Province of the United States



November - December 2016

Volume XLIV, No. 6



## Two Spiritans Among 17 New Cardinals; First Ever in Congregation

Pope Francis installed 17 new cardinals at a consistory on November 19, 2016, the evening prior to the close of the Jubilee Year of Mercy at St. Peter Basilica on Sunday, November 20. Among the cardinals were the first ever from the Congregation of the Holy Spirit in its more than 300-year history: Cardinal Dieudonné Nzapalainga C.S.Sp., and Cardinal Maurice Piat C.S.Sp.

In his homily during the consistory, Pope Francis welcomed the new cardinals with the greeting, “My dear brothers, newly created Cardinals, the journey towards heaven begins in the plains, in a daily life broken and shared, spent and given. In the quiet daily gift of all that we are. Our mountaintop is this quality of love; our goal and aspiration is to strive, on life’s plain, together with the People of God, to become persons capable of forgiveness and reconciliation.”

*(continued on p. 2)*

Out of the pope's new nominations, seven come from countries that have previously never had a cardinal, including: the Central African Republic, Bangladesh, Mauritius Island, Papua New Guinea, Malaysia, Lesotho and Albania.

With the 17 new cardinal-elects included, the number of voting cardinals comes to 121, and the number of non-voters to 107, for a grand total of 228. In elevating the two new Spiritan cardinals, Pope Francis recognized their lifetime of service to the Church:

### **Cardinal Dieudonné Nzapalainga C.S.Sp., Archbishop of Bangui (Central African Republic)**

*He was born on March 14, 1967 in Mbomou, in the Diocese of Bangassou, Central African Republic. After primary school, he entered the junior seminary of St Louis of Bangassou and, afterwards the senior seminary, the Holy Apostles of Otélé, Cameroon, to study philosophy. He then continued his theological studies at Daniel Brottier Senior Seminary, in Libreville, Gabon.*

*He took his first vows with the Congregation of the Holy Spirit on September 8, 1993, and his final vows on September 6, 1997. He was ordained to the priesthood on August 9, 1998. Following ordination, he completed a license in theology from the Jesuit college, Sèvres Centre, France. He then returned to the Central African Republic to become the regional superior of the Spiritans there.*

*When he was in France, from 1998-2005, he was chaplain to the orphans in the Auteuil Foundation as well as a curate in St. Jeronimo's parish, Marseille. After returning to the Central African Republic, as well as becoming regional superior of the Spiritans, he was also parish priest in Bangui from 2005-2009. During his final year, 2008-2009, he was president of the Conference of Major Superiors of Central Africa.*

*In 2009, he was appointed as apostolic administrator of Bangui, and on May 14, 2012, Pope Benedict XVI appointed him metropolitan archbishop of Bangui. He received his episcopal consecration on July 22 of the same year.*

*In July, 2013, he became the president of the Episcopal Conference of the Central African Republic, and as such, in October, 2014, attended the III Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the Family.*

*In November, 2015, he received Pope Francis in his diocese, who, in Bangui, opened the first holy door of the Holy Year of Mercy.*

*In 2013, being personally committed to the peace process in his country, together with the president of the Islamic Council and the president of the Evangelical Alliance, he participated in the foundation of an inter-religious platform in Bangui for peace in the Central African Republic.*

*Cardinal Dieudonné is the youngest among the new class of cardinals, and the first ever from the Central African Republic.*



## **Cardinal Maurice Piat C.S.Sp., Bishop of Port-Louis, Mauritius.**

*Cardinal Maurice Piat was born in Moka, in the Diocese of Port-Louis, on July 19, 1941. After secondary studies in Holy Spirit College, in Quatre-Bornes, Mauritius, he entered the novitiate of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit in Ireland, where he made his first religious profession on September 8, 1962. After obtaining a bachelor's degree from University College-Dublin, he was sent to the Pontifical French College in Rome and completed a license in theology at the Pontifical Gregorian College in 1972.*

*He was ordained to the priesthood on August 2, 1970.*

*On the completion of his theology studies in 1972, he spent three months in pastoral ministry in Bangalore, India. Returning to Mauritius, he was appointed as professor and catechist at the Holy Spirit College in Quatre-Bornes. Up to 1982, he was responsible for the Spiritan aspirants at Foyer Mons. Murphy, Vacoas. From 1977-1979, he spent two years in Paris pursuing a course at the Institut pour la Formation des Educateurs du Clerg. Returning to Mauritius, in 1979, he also participated in Sunday ministry in the parish of Saint-François-d'Assise in Pamplémousses until 1985 after which, in 1986, he was appointed parish priest of the Coeur-Immaculé-de-Marie parish in Rivière-du-Rempart.*

*From 1981, he was also responsible for the diocesan pastoral project for the care of basic Christian communities as well as episcopal vicar for the formation and coordination of diocesan pastoral ministry. During those year, he contributed towards the creation of a formation center in Thabor, Beau-Bassin.*

*On January 21, 1991, he was appointed as coadjutor to the then bishop of Port-Louis, Cardinal Jean Margéot, and was ordained a bishop on May 19 of the same year. On March 15, 1993, he was appointed bishop of the Diocese of Port-Louis.*

*He was president of the Episcopal Conference of the Indian Ocean (C.E.D.O.I) from 1996-2002, and again from 2013 until September of this year (2016).*

*Since 2000, he was a member of the Permanent Committee of the Symposium of Episcopal Conferences of Africa and Madagascar (S.C.E.A.M.)*

*In October, 2015, he participated in the Synod of Bishops on the Family.*

In concluding his remarks to the 17 new cardinals, Pope Francis enjoined them to be like Jesus, “who constantly desires to enter the crossroads of our history to proclaim the Gospel of Mercy. Jesus continues to call us and to send us to the ‘plain’ where our people dwell. He continues to invite us to spend our lives sustaining our people in hope, so that they can be signs of reconciliation. As the Church, we are constantly being asked to open our eyes to see the wounds of so many of our brothers and sisters deprived of their dignity, deprived in their dignity. Today each of you, dear brothers, is asked to cherish in your own heart, and in the heart of the Church, this summons to be merciful like the Father. And to realize that if something should rightly disturb us and trouble our consciences, it is the fact that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life.”



## Founders Inspire “Care for our Common Home” and Lifestyles of Sufficiency

By Rich Gosser

Lay Spiritan Associate

Spiritan spirituality in the 21st century means an increasing awareness of the human causes of environmental destruction and damage to the ecological systems which make life on earth possible. Lay Spiritans, out of concern for their children and grandchildren, are particularly sensitive to the question posed by Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'*, his encyclical on the environment: “What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?” (LS, 160).

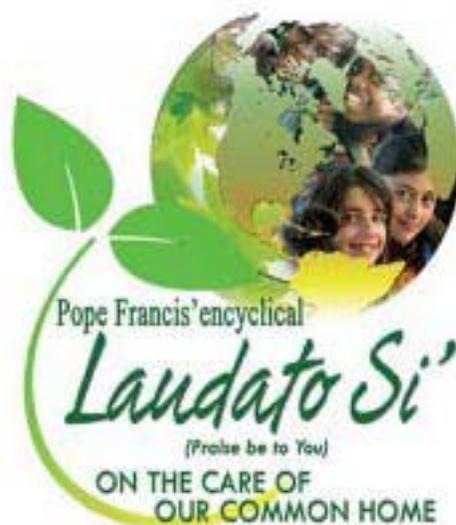
Our founder, Francis Mary Paul Libermann, in taking the baptismal name “Francis” linked himself to the 13th century St. Francis – patron saint of ecology and the environment – and to 21st century Pope Francis who, as a modern day “missionary disciple”, gives us an example of contemporary missionary engagement by opening a “dialogue with all people about our common home”. (LS, 3) What Spiritan could fail to be moved by Pope Francis’ declaration that “... the earth herself, burdened and laid waste, is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor” (LS, 2)?

Libermann gave this timeless advice to Spiritans: “Today new needs are making themselves felt. Each priest without actually having the job assigned to him, should study these needs, identify the wounds of society, and take every opportunity offered him in his situation to bring relief to these needs, remedy these wounds.”

Pope Francis asserts that “Mary who cared for Jesus, now cares with maternal affection and pain for this wounded world. ... [S]he grieves for the sufferings of the crucified poor and for the creatures of the world laid waste by human power” (LS, 241). Two wounds cry out for remedy in our age: the wound of poverty and wretchedness and the wound of the systematic assault on the earth. As Pope Francis says we “... must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” (LS, 49).

Pope Francis points out that consumption “on the part of some rich countries has repercussions on the poorest parts of the world, especially Africa” and that “a true ‘ecological debt’ exists, particularly between the global north and south” (LS, 51). Claude Francis Poullart des Places, growing up in France, was – like St. Francis – a privileged son of one of the richest merchants in his home town. He voluntarily relinquished a lifestyle of high material consumption to respond to the Holy Spirit, to learn from the “magisterium of the poor” and – in justice – to make resources available to the needy. His life is both an example and a challenge to those of us from the “rich countries” of the “global north” who want to model the “abundant life” based not on consumerism, but on sufficiency in response to the “signs that things are now reaching a breaking point” (LS, 61).

Commitment to greater protection of the environment and care for our common home was one of the outcomes of the “Spiritans Beyond Borders” convocation held in Granby, Quebec among Spiritans from the provinces of Canada, TransCanada and the United States. The inspiration of our founders and the examples of our confreres – both professed and lay – can both motivate and sustain us in embracing the 21st century challenge to defend Mother Earth, who is among the most abandoned and maltreated of our poor. (LS, 2)



Perhaps out of concern for their children and grandchildren and generations after, some Lay Spiritans are at the forefront of concern for “our common home” – the environment and the ecosystems that drive our planet. Joy Warner, JPIC coordinator for the TransCanada province, and her fellow Lay Spiritan husband, Gary, have spent their lives advocating for justice for poor, marginalized, and vulnerable populations. Committed to voluntary simple living, they are strong activists for economic and environmental justice and proponents of the “St. Francis Pledge” to pray, act, and advocate for care of creation and the poor (see <http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/pledge> ). Anne and Frank O’Neil, also Lay Spiritans from TransCanada, have endeavored to create an “ecoholic” home which models energy efficiency and freedom from unnecessary, expensive, and harmful chemicals.

Lay Spiritans in the US Province have also moved to the forefront of “care for our common home”. Ian Nettleship, engineering professor at the University of Pittsburgh, is passionate about the primary importance of fresh drinking water and the quality of water available to the poor (see LS, 28 and 29). His Ceramic Filter Project engages students in all aspects of point-of-use water treatment technologies that empower poor communities to protect themselves from waterborne diseases. Carmen Accetta recently established a Pachamama Alliance Community in Pittsburgh to “integrate indigenous wisdom with modern knowledge to support personal, and collective, transformation that is the catalyst to bringing forth an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, socially just human presence on this planet.”



*Rich Gosser (center, right) at the installation service for a new group of Lay Spiritan Associates in October. Among the new Lay Spiritans were Ian Nettleship (center, far left), Carmen Accetta (center, far right, behind Gosser’s right shoulder) and Deacon Tom Berna (center) with candles in procession.*

Lay Spiritan Rich Gosser, a member of the provincial JPIC committee, and his fellow Lay Spiritan Associate wife, Daneen, are co-founders of the “Rich in Mercy Institute” (RIM) that promotes “global solidarity with the poor for a more just and sustainable world” ([www.RIMIN.org](http://www.RIMIN.org)). At their home in Ligonier, Pa., they attempt to model an “abundant life,” based on sufficiency rather than consumption. Their bio-intensive gardens produce much of the food they consume, preserve, and share with friends and neighbors. Energy efficient appliances reduce their household consumption of electricity. Solar panels on the south-facing roof of their modest, 2-bedroom house generate a portion of the electricity which powers it. Cooking from scratch and composting all available organic matter contribute to “making peace with the land” and “care for our common home.”

## Go Green! Receive One Heart, One Spirit via Email!



In an effort to conserve paper and cut costs of printing, we are offering the option to receive our newsletter via email. If you would like this option, please email [uscommunications@spiritans.org](mailto:uscommunications@spiritans.org) or call 412-831.0302 x421 to let us know. We appreciate your help in saving our environment.

# Lay Spiritans Assist in Haiti Recovery After Hurricane Matthew Devastation

By Rich Gosser

Lay Spiritan Associate

In early October Hurricane Matthew ravaged vast landscapes in the southern interior of Haiti. Sustained winds up to 145 mph blasted more than eight hours through the night uprooting trees, ripping off roofs, and collapsing houses. Massive rains produced severe flooding that destroyed every sort of personal property from birth certificates and school uniforms to mattresses and food supplies.

Lay Spiritan, Rich Gosser, executive director of the Rich in Mercy Institute (RIM), spent two weeks visiting current RIM project sites in Haiti in late October and early November. Together with Fr. Patrick Eugene, C.S.Sp., Gosser also visited several areas of the southern department that were devastated by hurricane Matthew.



Rich in Mercy is targeting recovery assistance in Fr. Patrick's home village of Ducis through St. Pius X Parish and through communities of Haitian religious women and the Foyer de la Misericorde lay community agricultural center in Fonfred. More than a dozen houses of single mothers, widows, and similar persons who are without resources, have been identified in Ducis and prioritized for repair or reconstruction based on the extent of damage and degree of need. Reconstruction and repairs will proceed as funds become available and 100 percent of all contributions received towards "Hurricane Matthew Recovery" will be used directly to meet that need. Additionally the RIM "Education for Change" scholarship program will be expanded to provide assistance to families who are suffering severe financial hardship as they struggle to recover from the hurricane.



While in Haiti, Gosser was able to deliver emergency assistance on behalf of the Little Sisters of St. Therese, a native Haitian community of religious women with more than 40 missions in some of the most remote parts of Haiti who lost seven houses in the hurricane. Additional emergency funds were delivered to the Little Sisters of St. Antoine in Fondwa, whose "temporary" house (built following the massive earthquake of 2010) was destroyed in the hurricane.

Through its "Education for Change" fund, Rich in Mercy provides elementary, secondary, and university scholarships based on merit and need to approximately 100 students – mainly from the Solino neighborhood of Port au Prince where the former Spiritan minor seminary is located. The "Skip a Lunch, Save a Child" fund supports pre-school nutrition and early education in the St. Louis de Montfort parish in the Delmas section of Port au Prince. The "Fondwa Women's Fund" provides scholarships to the vocational

school for women, managed by the Little Sisters of St. Antoine, where more than 30 students develop skills in sewing, cooking and small business management that lead to their greater independence and to earning livelihoods that will help support them and their families.



*Matthew Nestler puts the finishing touches on staining the deck for his Eagle Scout Project.*

## Eagle Project Completed at Provincial Offices

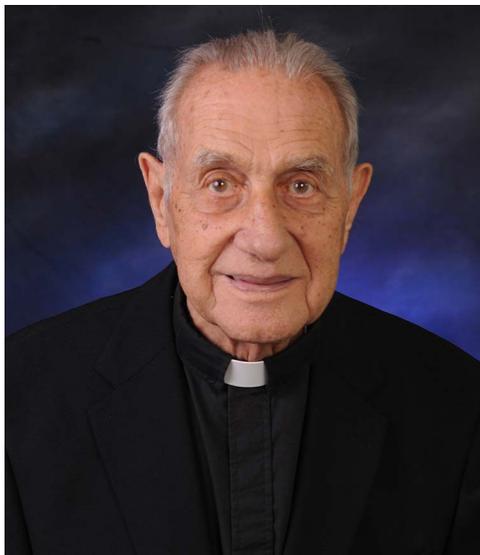
By Jennifer Nestler  
Provincial Office

Matthew Nestler of local Boy Scout Troop 228 led a project for his Eagle Scout badge at the provincial offices in Bethel Park, Pa., the weekend of October 15-16. Matt and 30 other members of Troop 228 spent two days extending a deck, building ramps on the deck to enable a landscaper to transport a tractor/mower to an interior courtyard; painted the window frames and cleaned the windows of the office of Provincial Fr. Jeffrey Duaine, C.S.Sp.; and power washed and stained the deck. They also cleaned out two flower beds, and transported and burned brush from around the property in preparation for winter.

Matthew planned the project -- which had to be approved by troop leaders and the province -- solicited several local businesses to donate the necessary materials to complete the work and raised funds to pay for some of the materials and for food for the volunteers, some of which was also donated. Matthew chose to help the province since his mother, Jennifer, works in the provincial offices as a bookkeeper, and he has gotten to know some of the priests and staff while delivering holiday treats the family makes. He wanted to enhance the property to make it more user friendly for the staff and priests.

Matthew is a junior at Bethel Park (Pa.) High School, where he plays tenor sax in the school's marching band. He is also head soundperson for the stage crew for the fall play and spring musical, attends the Westinghouse Science Honors Institute and just finished a year-long term as the senior patrol leader for Troop 228. Matthew and his family are members of Westminster Presbyterian Church, in Upper St. Clair, Pa. Matthew plans to study biotechnology (such as genetics or bioengineering) or pre-med upon graduating from high school. He is also interested in studying abroad at some point.

## Fr. Adrien Hebert, C.S.Sp., Returns “Home” After Decades in Africa



“Welcome home!”

Those were the words that Fr. Lou Perreault, C.S.Sp., emailed in a message to Fr. Adrien Hebert, C.S.Sp., upon learning that Fr. Adrien was on his way to retirement at Libermann Hall, after nearly 56 years as a missionary in Africa.

Born in 1931, in Acushnet, Mass., and ordained in 1958, Fr. Adrien requested life and service as a missionary, and his first assignment was to the District of Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, East Africa.

“I never regretted my decision for one moment,” said Fr. Adrien. “Even in those early days of my priesthood, I never doubted that I should be serving somewhere else as a Spiritan.. It has been a rewarding experience.”

Fr. Adrien credits a young Spiritan seminarian, whom he met while attending daily Mass as a 15-year-old student, for inspiring his vocations as a Spiritan and a missionary.

Mostly he taught in local diocesan seminaries in Tanzania, and later South Africa, training young priests, some of whom would later join him among the Maasai in Tanzania and the Zulu and Sutu in South Africa. Fr. Adrien said the Maasai are very prayerful and devout people, who embrace their Catholic faith once converted and instill it in the generations that follow.

During his time in Tanzania, he established 16 small mission outstations, built three churches, two mission houses and two small medical dispensaries. Two years after South Africa received its independence in 1994, Fr. Adrien was the only priest from the U.S. Province sent to help there when the German Province requested assistance, again teaching at local seminaries and celebrating Mass and dispensing the Sacraments to the local natives, mostly Zulu and Sutu.

“The process of evangelization takes time,” said Fr. Adrien. “Often, you may not be a direct witness to the fruits of evangelization and conversion that you helped to establish among peoples who have their own customs and traditions.”

Along the way, Fr. Adrien was able to work with fellow Spiritan missionaries in both Tanzania and South Africa, such as Fr. Ned Marchessault, C.S.Sp. -- who still serves in Tanzania among the Maasai -- and Fr. Joe Kelly (deceased). Though their mission work was far-flung and they only saw each other on rare occasions, the Spiritan missionaries Fr. Adrien knew “were great priests of faith, who were proud to be Spiritans and proud of their vocations.”

Towards the end of his time as a missionary in South Africa, Fr. Adrien served as chaplain to the Sisters of St. Paul at Mmabahloki Clara Home. There the sisters minister to and care for about 60 elderly and infirm people, many of whom are of different faiths and have debilitating illnesses and conditions.

Fr. Adrien said that, in retirement, he will miss the people to whom he ministered, and that the best way to make an impact as a missionary is to “respect the customs and the culture of the people; to become comfortable with their traditions and lifestyle and embrace it as your own.”

## A Day of Beautiful Color

By Mary Kay Hindes  
Activities Director

On a lovely fall day, we loaded into the van and took off for an adventure. Fr. Ned Marchessault, C.S.Sp., would be returning to Africa soon after a visit to Libermann Hall, and we wanted to show him Western Pennsylvania's finest time of year!!

As we traveled down the highway, we could see the large hills looming ahead of us. Fr. Ned said, "We aren't going up those mountains are, we?" Yes, that is exactly where we were headed!

With ears popping, we traveled up the hill to the very top of Chestnut Ridge in Fayette County, Pa. Our first destination was just to the right as we reached the crest. We had arrived at the historic Summit Hotel!!

This hotel was built in 1907, and is on the National Register of Historic Places. As we entered the building, we were treated to a grand lobby that was adorned with beautiful chandeliers and all the décor fit to impress the elite of yesterday and today. We knew from our information that we were standing in the exact place that had welcomed such men as Henry Ford, Harvey Firestone, and Thomas Edison.



*At Ohiopyle State Park, (l-r) Fr. Tom Byrne, C.S.Sp., Fr. Joseph Seiter, C.S.Sp., and Fr. Ned Marchessault, C.S.Sp., enjoy the fall foliage.*

We quickly found Mae's Dining Room for a bite of lunch. What a treat that was!! Not only was the room so warm and welcoming, with its large stone fireplace and windows all around, but the food was fantastic!



After visiting the terrace for a spectacular view of the surrounding area, we got back in the car and drove to Ohiopyle State Park! The color of the leaves, the sound of the water rapids and the awesome activity from below the observation deck was just amazing!!

After finding the local ice cream shop for a quick treat, we headed home. It was a wonderful day! And we were so happy to share it with Fr. Ned!

God's grand painting created quite a masterpiece, and we are all lucky enough to enjoy it!!

## ***Recent Appointments/Transfers:***



*Fr. Joao Barros, C.S.Sp.*

- Fr. Joao Barros, C.S.Sp, (photo, left) from the Cabo Verde province took over for Fr. Arlindo Amaro, C.S.Sp., at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Rhode Island. He has just completed nine years of service as District Superior in Cabo Verde after having served in Guinea-Bissau as a missionary for seven years. His email is [baptistafrederico.jb@gmail.com](mailto:baptistafrederico.jb@gmail.com). We welcome him to our province.
- Fr. Adrien Hebert, C.S.Sp., has returned from South Africa and now resides at Libermann Hall (see related article earlier in this edition).
- Fr. Gregory Olikenyi, C.S.Sp., has left Duquesne University to become Provincial of Nigeria South East in October 2016.
- Fr. Duc Luong, C.S.Sp., moved from the Philippines to Vietnam as of September 2016

- Fr. Joseph L. Nguyen, C.S.Sp., transferred from SOMA to Vietnam as of September 2016
- Fr. Dave Cottingham, C.S.Sp., is assigned to SOMA as of September, 2016
- Fr. Chris Promis, C.S.Sp., is reassigned to the Chicago community as formation director as of September, 2016.

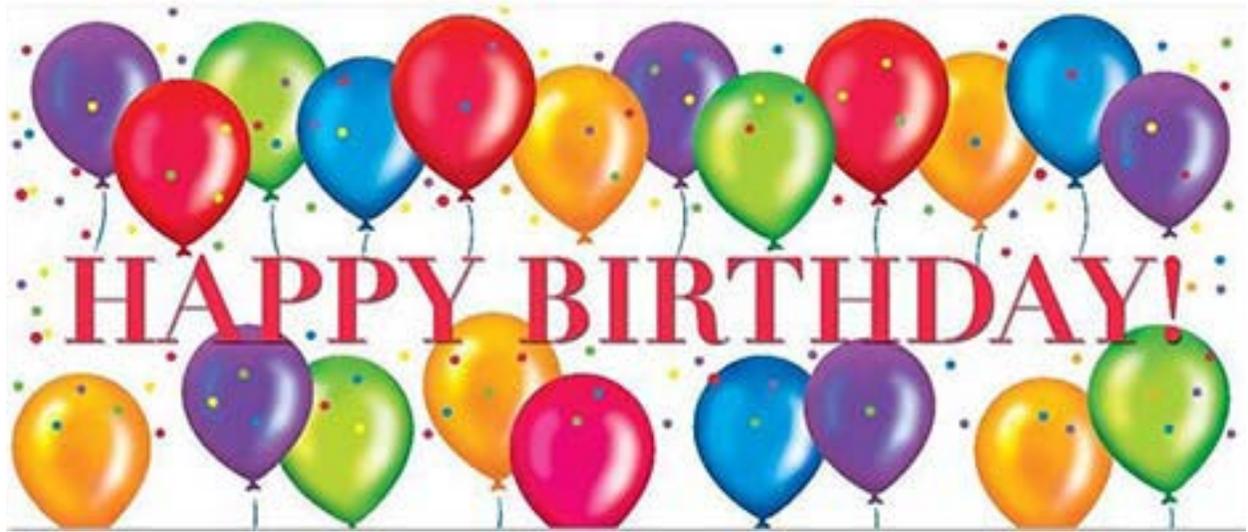
## ***Students in the Province:***

- Fr. Emmanuel Ahua, C.S.Sp., completed his course work at Duquesne University in May, and is working on his dissertation in Great Britain.
- Fr. Venantius Eze Umannakwe, C.S.Sp., has finished his studies in Illinois and begun work as pastor of St. Claire and two other parishes in Iowa. His new address is St. Claire Parish, 300 E. Lincoln St. Clarinda, IA 51632.
- Fr. Toochukwu Agha, C.S.Sp., from the Province of NSE is studying at the University of Notre Dame. His address is 835 N. Notre Dame Ave, Apt 3C, South Bend, IN 46617
- Fr. Habens Simon, C.S.Sp., from the Haiti Province is studying at St. John Vianney College Seminary . His address is St. Brendan Catholic Church, 8725 SW 32nd St., Miami FL 33165
- Fr. Chika Kamalu, C.S.Sp., is from the Zambia Province is studying at Boston College. His address is 179 Summer Street, Somerville Mass. 02143.

## ***Membership Directory Updates & Changes:***

- Pg. C-10, Fr. Huy Dinh's new email address is [huydinhq@gmail.com](mailto:huydinhq@gmail.com)
- Pg. C-26, Fr. Gilbert Tairo's new email address is [gilbertamani66@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertamani66@gmail.com) and new cell phone number is (870) 753-8634.





Best wishes for a very Happy Birthday to these Spiritans who celebrate birthdays during the months of December, January and February.

### Happy Birthday!

<b>December 2016</b>		<b>January 2017</b>		<b>February 2017</b>	
5	Fr. Simon T. Nguyen	3	Fr. Donald S. Nesti	3	Fr. Philip D. Evanstock
12	Fr. Simon Lobon	4	Fr. Matthew Amoako-Attah	6	Fr. Benoit K. Mukamba
12	Fr. Thomas P. Tunney	4	Fr. Wayne T. Epperley	8	Fr. Martin T. Vu
14	Fr. Joshua Otusafo	19	Fr. Clement Uchendu	12	Fr. Timothy J. Hickey
15	Fr. Gilbert Tairo	27	Fr. Trinh Q. Le	15	Fr. Michael Onwuemeli
18	Fr. Jeffrey T. Duaiame	31	Fr. Pierre L. Deglaire	16	Fr. Anthony J. Gittins
21	Fr. David T. Cottingham			22	Fr. George J. Spangenberg
				25	Fr. Joseph A. Seiter
				26	Fr. James P. McCloskey

### *Prayer Requests - for the recently deceased:*

- Fr. Hugh Stout, 85, this past May, in Cherry Hill, N.J. Fr. Scott, a diocesan priest from Camden, N.J., had resided at Spiritan parishes in Louisiana during the 1970s and 1990s, while at Xavier University in New Orleans as chairman of the Department of Sociology. Fr. Stout retired in 2002, but continued to lecture until 2007.
- Timothy J. White, 96, the father of Fr. Michael T. White, C.S.Sp., who passed from this life on Friday, November 25, 2016. Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Riverside, CA on Friday, December 2, 2016. Letters of condolence can be sent to Fr. White at the University of San Diego, 5998 Alcala Park #7184, San Diego, CA 92110.

### *Welcome:*

- Matt Broeren was accepted into the pre-novitiate formation program with residence at Laval House. Matt is from Mt. Lebanon, Pa., and is currently a fourth-year student in Duquesne's School of Pharmacy while taking classes in Philosophy.

### *Save the Date:*

- Annual province retreat will be at the Holy Name Retreat House in Houston, Tx., on June 12 -16, 2017, with Fr. Tony Gittins, C.S.Sp., as retreat director.



## Holy Spirit Parishioners Pilgrims for Mercy

By Fr. Mike Onwuemeli, C.S.Sp.  
Pastor, Holy Spirit Parish

Holy Spirit Parish in Hemet, Calif., embarked on a Holy Pilgrimage to St Catherine of Alexandria Church in nearby Temecula, Calif., on November 12, 2016, to pass through the Holy Door of Mercy there. The site was designated by Bishop Gerard Barnes, Diocese of San Bernardino, Calif., for the Vicariate of Hemet. It was a very solemn ceremony with 120 members from Holy Spirit travelling in two busses for the journey to Temecula from Hemet. During the journey, the pilgrims recited Morning Prayer of the Liturgy of the Hours, the prayer before a pilgrimage and the rosary. On arrival at St Catherine, the group gathered in front of the church with pilgrims from a neighboring parish of St Anthony in San Jacinto, Calif. Along with their pastors, the two groups said prayers before passing through the Holy Door. All solemnly passed through the Holy Door led by their pastors, Fr. Mike Onwuemeli, C.S.Sp., (*center left in photo*) and Fr. Chris Subosa (*center right in photo*). We then prayed for the intentions of the Holy Father, followed by a short adoration of the Eucharist, Benediction, confession and Holy Mass. After the Mass, the two parishes had lunch together before returning to their parishes. It was a very grace-filled occasion, and all who participated felt the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The Jubilee Year of Mercy has been a year of grace for us all at Holy Spirit Parish, as it helped us to care for our less-privileged brothers and sisters, and to work more closely together as a faith community. Many of us found the Year of Mercy very fulfilling, because it gave us the opportunity to live out our faith and to experience the love and mercy of God and others.

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