

Coast to Coast

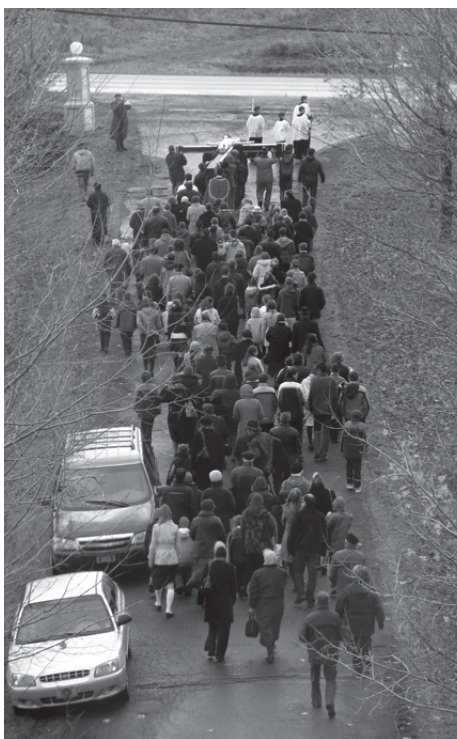
News and photos from the canadian district activities !!!



The most beautiful Calvary in the Region

By Abbé Vicent d'André Translation: Sr. Mary Raphael

The most beautiful, but also the oldest and one of the biggest. This describes the Calvary situated not far from



us, a Calvary that now makes up part of the history of our school and of our parish, since Sunday the 25th of October 2009, on the Feast of Christ the King. But let's start our story at the beginning.

On a lovely August day, the inhabitants of Saint-Joseph-de-la-Pointe-Lévis Parish are happy and proud to assist at the blessing of a grand Calvary, at the foot of which Mass will occasionally be celebrated. This Calvary is tru-

ly theirs: one has given a tree from his land to make the Cross, another for the gallery, this one has sculpted a life-sized Christ; we also see a beautiful statue of the Virgin and Saint John. We are in 1888, one hundred and twenty years ago. Since then, the years have passed and, with them, the seasons, the rain, the snow, the wind, the rigorous winters; each piece of the Calvary has needed to be replaced once or twice since the originals. There have always been generous souls found to repair, restore, and beautify it : in 1927, in 1941, in 1981 and in 1986. For many years, it was the Sisters of Our Lady of Good Counsel, residing in the hospice of Bishop Guay (which has since become the Holy Family School) who took on the task of caring for the Calvary, and repainting it every year or two, and they honoured the Calvary by taking the children to it on pilgrimages.

Then came the winter of 2008 during which the Calvary was felled by violent winds. The cross was recuperated by residents of Turgeon Road, where the Calvary is situated. This time again, a new team of volunteers, faithful from our chapel, went to work for

several months. A new cross had to be cut and sculpted, this time, in cedarwood : which goes to say that none of us will live to see it fall, and all of those who religiously restored it are hoping to die before having to do it all again! The three extremities of the cross were decorated with clovers, which had to be resculpted, since only one remained of the three. The Corpus fixed to the cross was a true work of art in metal, very much in demand by antique dealers, and so it was carefully hidden while waiting to be restored to its place. One of the hands of the Christ had been lost in the snow and needed to be replaced. A family man "lent a hand" for the mould for casting; there he was; hand in the air for the time it took; only to find out that the wrong hand had been offered!!! No worries, he also offered his other hand to Christ, proud to be able to say,





lics, submitted to the Pope! Thanks in particular to a vigorous sermon by Father, taking up with conviction the traditional teachings of the popes on the royalty of Jesus Christ according to the encyclical Quas Primas!

After the Mass, everyone assembled in front of the school, while the men went to get the cross. Each was clamouring for the honour of carrying it; and so they relayed each other along the way. The sky was grey, the weather menacing, but no matter; we are present for the triumph of our King!



Then we are before the balustrade which has also been renewed. The cross is attached with a strap and lifted with a hydraulic boom, then guided into its original base. A sunbeam pierces the clouds and beautifies our Calvary. Father proceeds with the benediction of the cross, sprinkles it with Holy Water, kisses it respectfully, and then all of the crowd kneels in silence for a few minutes, to venerate the Cross. The street then echoes with the chant of "Christus Vincit".

like Saint Paul : "I am attached to the Cross with Christ". To finish it all, the Corpus had to be entirely repainted, which was done by the hand of a master, following expert advice. And there we have it : the cross is ready to be reinstalled. Twenty-one feet high, 10 feet wide, it weighs about 500lbs and will be 27" high on its base. All that is left to do is to determine when the ceremony will take place.



The procession gets underway with the singing of hymns. We render all the honour possible to Jesus Christ our King : we walk down the center of highway 132, and the po-

Sunday of Christ the King seems to be the ideal feast to erect the cross, symbol of the reign of Christ over the earth. A team of strong men is trained to carry the cross; because it will be in a procession that we will go to the site of the blessing. The Mass is put forward an hour to 9 o'clock. Many neighbours decide to come, too; having been informed by pamphlets distributed to all the houses in the surrounding neighbourhoods. This excellent apostolate thus permitted many of them to rediscover the Mass of all time, that of their childhood.

One lady even told us what a relief it was for her to learn that, far from being "awful schismatics", we are real Catho-



lice escort us. Some local political personalities and representatives of the Regional Historical Society of Lévis are there. The population from the area and people from the houses we pass in front of are along the road to watch, and some of them join us in the procession.

There, the ceremony is finished; the sky has turned to blue and invites us to taste a good coffee and some donuts, to celebrate together. What a joy it is that God Almighty has permitted each one of us to participate, on this lovely day, in the glorification of the Cross of His Son! Thus come to mind, as of themselves, the words of Saint Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort, when he was prevented by enemies of Christ from erecting a grand Calvary like we were able to do : "Let us plant the Cross in the center of our heart : it will be better placed here than anywhere else!"

Deo Gratias!

A busy Fall in B.C.

By Mr. Jonathan Leung

On October 11th, we had a beautiful procession in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, since it was the Feast of her Maternity. Banners were deployed, and the statue was carried on the shoulders of two men. Rev. Father Patrick Girouard, who arrived in BC a month earlier (on Sept. 11th !!) directed the prayers, and the full Rosary was said. The procession lasted 45 minutes, and went along Fraser Highway, a major Langley thoroughfare. It was the first time we covered such a long distance in a procession, and this gave the occasion to many people to see what a Catholic procession looks like.



From October 21st to the 27th, we received Rev. Father Jürgen Wegner in Langley, and he visited with the priests, the Brother, and the faithful. He also assisted to a meeting of our League of Christ the King. Father also took the opportunity of his stay to go visit our chapel in Nanaimo, and he met with Rev. Fr. Greuter.

We had the joy to see him again a month later, as he accompanied His Excellency Bishop Tissier de Mallerais, who came to BC from Nov. 27 to Dec 1st. Indeed, the Bishop conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 29th November in Christ the King Church in Langley. This year we had six children being confirmed with two of them coming from Nanaimo. His Excellency also blessed the newly expanded and renovated Langley rectory during this visit. It has now become the SSPX Priory for BC, and Vernon a mission. Always on the move, the good Bishop, accompanied by the two



priests and Brother Henry Mary, traveled on the same day to the island of Vancouver, and the next day confirmed three adults at our chapel in Nanaimo, with the presence of Fr. Greuter, who celebrated this year his 55 anniversary of priestly ordination. Both in Langley and in Nanaimo, a plentiful banquet was served after the ceremonies. We thank the Lord for all his graces, and for giving us a faithful clergy.

Activities from St. Pius X Priory, Fall 2009

By Fr. Dominique Boulet, SSPX

Shawinigan

Over the past months, several retreats were preached in Shawinigan, two in French and two in English, notwithstanding the Oblate Sisters', skilfully preached by Fr. Peter Scott, from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Academy, Wilmot, ON. Then, in view of our land sale and development project (see October letter of Fr. Wegner to the faithful), there was some activity on our property grounds. The most visible was the cutting of a number of trees that had to come down to make space for a future street. For a few days, we could hear the noise of chainsaw and timber-jack. But don't worry; we still have plenty of trees on our 20 acres property! For the record, the city Council of Shawinigan gave their approval to the project only two days before the prologue in view of the Municipal elections of November 1st. That is a sensible proof

that Divine Providence always blesses works undertaken under obedience to lawful superiors.

Montreal

The feast of Christ the King is a special feast day for the faithful at St. Joseph Church as it is on this day that we have our yearly parish dinner. Some of our young people were proud to dress up like saints. As usual, we had a raffle, and

the money collected on that occasion was used to offer Masses for the souls in Purgatory. This year, the dinner was enhanced by a special guest of honour, Mr. André Frament, from Action Familiale et Scolaire (AFS) in France, who spoke about the great importance of the early years for the education of young children. By the way, Mr. Frament also gave very inspiring talks in Shawinigan and in Ottawa.

Ottawa

As in Montreal, our young and young-at-heart faithful dressed up like saints on the very day of the feast of All Saints. May they imitate the saints not only with what they wear, but also with the practice of virtue? Over the past few months, our priests had the joy of giving the sacrament of baptism to several children.



The Prairie Report

By Mrs. Randi Gage

It has not only been an unusual weather season here in Winnipeg, it has been a few months of unusual events at the Priory. We have 'fixed' things, 'broke' others, 'found' items that again



got 'lost', 'dusted, cleaned and polished' for visitors, and through it all we managed to smile, well, 90% of the time. After many years of service our old church sign has been replaced by a new one. It is a welcome change for the front of our church.

Our newly ordained and assigned priest, Father Raymond Lillis has settled into his new office and is learning the many duties of mission and Convictions work. Next, the lessons of packing a car for travel in prairie winters, and the making of a winter survival kit. Father Rusak has published a deluxe edition of his Christian Warfare book, as well as a reprint of the popular pocket edition. You can find ordering information on our website at, www.sspcx.ca or call us at: 204-589-4524 or email Father at: raphael1@shaw.ca

The priory has been busy with visitors the past few weeks. Father Frédy Méry from Toronto stopped in for a moment of rest as he drove across Canada on his vacation. Now, call me crazy, but in my mind 'vacation' means rest, not driving from sea to sea, but Father

Méry really looks like he enjoys such an adventure. Our next visitors were Bishop Bernard Tissier de Mallerais and District Superior Father Jürgen Wegner for the first week of December. They were

here to perform our Confirmation ceremony on December 2 for 12 of our parishioners. Father Wegner had promised Bishop Tissier that he was going to visit "Winterpeg" where December is cold and snow. But we had enjoyed 5° Celsius and no snow. Thankfully,

the day our guests arrived, as promised, snow fell and so did the mercury to -26°. The Bishop enjoyed brisk walks in our crisp Winterpeg afternoons.

The evening of our Confirmations the church was bathed in candle light with the altar dressed in the finest linens, with red and white bouquets in honour of the Mass of the Sacred Heart. Vestments were spectacular and for some in the audience, items they had



never seen before. During the ceremony, each of those who were receiving confirmation, had their confirmation name called by the Bishop and received the sacred unction. Mass was

celebrated by Bishop Tissier with Father Wegner and Father Rusak acting as deacon and sub-deacon, while Father Lillis was the MC and our Archconfraternity of St. Stephen filled the other functions. The evening was well attended and very beautiful for those receiving their confirmation as well as those who were there to support and welcome them into the family of Christ's Soldiers.

The next morning after Mass, Bishop Tissier gave a conference on Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre. The conference took us from Mgr Lefebvre's days of being a most ingenious child to his adventures as a seminarian, novice, teacher, missionary, to the 1988 episcopal consecrations and the excommunication that followed, to its lifting by the Holy See in January 2009. It was a wonderful and entertaining walk through the history of our Society of Saint Pius X. It was also a look at the gentle teaching style that Bishop Tissier possesses. The room was filled with 90 faithful of all ages, who listened intently to the Bishop's every word. I would be remiss to not thank Mrs. Rose Pommer, our housekeeper, Mr. Stan Zigarlisky, Sacristan, for all their hard work and support they gave to the Fathers as well as myself as we prepared not only for the visit but the preparation of the church for the ceremony.

Blessings and Love from the Prairies for 2009.

