

Coast to Coast

News and photos from the canadian district activities !!!

Lévis (QC): An Unforgettable Day

Rev. Fr. Medard Bie Bibang
Translation: Sister Mary Raphael



Sunday, December 20th 2009. The city of Lévis wakes to an early morning frost. A few kilometres away there is a school containing a chapel within which a moving ceremony will take place. I will let you guess. Naturally, Sunday Mass! No... First Communion! Not that, either. A ceremony which brings to mind the great era of those who went to deliver the tomb of Christ, fallen into the hand of pagans: Engagements in the Eucharistic Crusade. Here we are. After having devoutly assisted at Sunday Mass, sixteen young children would commit themselves, some as Page, others as Crusader in the noble and valorous Eucharistic Crusade. These courageous children would, that Sunday afternoon, put into practice what Saint John the Baptist had cried to them in the Mass of the Day: "Prepare the way of the Lord..."

Everything started at 2 p.m. with a meeting summarizing the basis and the form of the Engagements about to take place. The assembly was composed of 26 children and some very attentive parents. After this half hour meeting, we made our way to the chapel, banners in the lead. The introduction to the ceremony was the invocation to the Holy Spirit, followed with a brief sermon by the Chaplain. The body of the ceremony was animated with Crusade hymns, the Engagement of twelve Pages followed by four Crusaders, concluded by the Consecration prayer for Crusaders. We cannot omit mentioning the very much appreciated presence of our district superior, Father Wegner, and of several parents, whose presence added a

touch of solemnity to the beautiful ceremony.

The soul was overflowing but the body also deserved its share of joy. To this end, an excellent snack prepared by our devoted Sisters awaited us in a welcoming room appropriately decorated for the occasion. There again, we were honoured by the charming presence of several parents. "Time flies..." observed many of the children, hesitating between prolonging the pleasures of the

generously laden table, and a speedy trip to the skating rink. Everyone was so happy that the parents and children agreed to add half an hour to the good times. After this prolongation, the truth that "Here below, all good things must come to an end..." had to be admitted. And so I watched my Crusaders leaving, and at each departure, a phrase echoed in my heart like a leitmotiv: "What an unforgettable day!"

Langley (BC): Making Rosaries

The Legion of Mary in the Philippines is very active and a great inspiration to us. They hand out many rosaries, scapulars, Miraculous and St. Benedict's medals to school children, prisoners and to the thousands of people who come to the Medical Mission in the summertime. We do not have the occasion to do this kind of apostolate over here, but what we can do is support them in what they are doing. Would you like a fun and useful activity to do with the kids or to fill some of your quiet time if you are perhaps elderly or shut-in? We have been making rosaries with our children for many years. They love to thread the beads and practice counting them, even those that are as young as two years! With a few rosaries going at the same time, the children can keep beading and the parents and older children can make the knots and bead the occasional decade. Either a lively discussion goes on or a music or conversational CD is playing as we work. You will be surprised how many rosaries you can make with a little group.

We have already had one rosary-making class at Christ the King Church. If you are outside of the parish, have a look at Our Lady's Rosary Makers for supplies and how-to instructions (www.olrm.org/publications/how_to_make_a_rosary/). If you have any questions, email us at legion@tojesusthroughmary.org. Fr Gerspacher has recently sent a package of these supplies to the Philippines. Toronto provided the handmade rosaries, an auxiliary in Vernon made the scapulars and Father bought the medals. If you would like to help support the cost of the medals and the shipping, which was over \$300, then it would be much appreciated as well as a perfect Lenten almsgiving. We will also need donations for future shipments, both to the Philippines and elsewhere like Gabon where the need is also great. If you would like to make a contribution, please see a Legionary in Langley or mail a cheque made out to Priestly Society of St. Pius X or SSPX to the Langley address on page 27 of this issue. Do make a note that it is for mailing sacramentals to the Missions. Thank you very much!

Winnipeg (MB): Prairie Report

By Ms. Randi Gage

The New Year has arrived with all of its splendour and majesty. Over the Christmas time our Church was dressed in her finest through the assistance of many Winnipeg decoration elves. From garland draped aisles to wise men resting on a wreath window, the joy of the season was felt throughout the sanctuary.

Our Archconfraternity of St. Stephen has seen its numbers grow as the young men study hard and learn how to serve the Mass. Their joy and pride seen during the Christmas Season only added to the enjoyment of the blessed time. With Lent and the Easter Season fast approaching our servers will be once again busy learning new duties to make our Mass beautiful.

The young women of our Parish have started their Guides of Mary Immaculate program. Everything is in the development stage, but with the excitement and youthful energy, spring should be a very active time.

January was such a busy month I think I missed it! We had a visit from our District Superior Father Jürgen Wegner who learned firsthand what it means to do Mission Travel in a Manitoba Winter. I do hope the two days of being snow

More news from British Columbia

By Rev. Fr. Gerspacher, SSPX

Dominic Linder married Zhongyang Liu on December 5th, 2009 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Nanaimo, BC. with Fr. Paul Greuter officiating. Fr. Greuter baptized Dominic in Vernon in 1982; Zhongyang is from Beijing, the Capital of China, and a week before she had received the Sacrament of Confirmation at our Nanaimo church, from Bishop Tissier de Mallerai's hands. We wish them the many blessings of God.

The community would like to thank all those who helped decorating our churches in Langley, Nanaimo, and Vernon for Christmas. Our teams indeed have been very imaginative and dedicated, and the results have been delightful and a great spiritual boost to our parishioners and to us. Thank you also for all those numerous and generous material and spiritual Christmas gifts we received. They have been a good sign our work among you was appreciated. Room doesn't allow us to show pictures of those decorations apart from those at Langley. Nevertheless, they can give a good idea of the quality that was attained in all three locations.

Fr. Dominique Boulet visited Beautiful British Columbia, spending a week visiting Nanaimo, Langley where he celebrated his 51st Birthday on January 18th, then went on to Vernon to visit the faithful as well as tumbling down the ski hills of Silver Star mountain for two days. He left, happy and rested (hopefully...), on Saturday 23rd.

bound in Welwyn gave him a chance to rest and enjoy the winter wonder land that surrounded him and Father Rusak.

We have a new baby boy born in December to Patrick and Melissa Mercier. Mom and baby are happy and healthy with very proud big sister Samantha watching over them both. Word has it that there are one or two more new arrivals due in the next few months.

Sadly we lost a very dear member of our community, Doris Seavers passed away during the Christmas Season. She was able to fix any rosary that had been prayed apart and with her sister kept the altar flowers well attended.

It is the time of the year when ceremonies are the order of the day. With Lent arriving on February 17th we are all moving at a new pace around the priory. Hot on the heels of removing the Christmas decorations, comes the preparations for Easter, where we will enjoy a visit from another of our guiding Fathers.

For now I will say all is well in Winnipeg, cold but beautiful, we have all made it through the colds and flu, the Rosary Crusade is growing by the day and our Fathers are busy-busy with both happy and healthy. A special Thank You to everyone who donated to our Beggar Lunches, last year we provided 2900 bag lunches to those who knocked on our kitchen door.

Happy New Year with Blessings from the Prairies.



Lévis

Addresses Pories

École de la Sainte-Famille (418) 837-3028
10425 Boul. de la Rive-Sud
QC G6V 9R6

Shawinigan

Prieuré St-Pie X, Maison de Retraite (819) 537-9696
905 Rang St. Matthieu
QC G9N 6T5

Toronto

St. Michael's Priory (416) 251-0499
45 Guthrie Avenue
ON M8Y 3L2

New Hamburg

Our Lady of Mt Carmel Academy (519) 634-4932
2483 Bleams Road
ON N3A 3J2

Winnipeg

St. Raphael's Priory (204) 589-4524
480 Mc Kenzie St.
MB R2W 5B9

Calgary

Immaculate Heart of Mary Priory (403) 233-0031
401, 8th Street NE
AB T2E 4G8

Langley

Christ the King Priory (604) 530-1583
22646, 48th Ave.
BC V2Z 2T6